

The Weekly Register.

VOL. LXII

RALEIGH WEDNESDAY MORNING, MARCH 12, 1862.

NO 10

The Raleigh Register.

"Ours are the plans of fair delightful peace,
Unsway'd by party rage to live like brothers."

RALEIGH, N. C.

SATURDAY MORNING, MARCH 8, 1862.

MORE CARPING AND FAULT-FINDING.

If a feeling of dissatisfaction against the Confederate authorities, both State and general, is not created in this State, it will not be for lack of efforts by the Editor of the Raleigh Standard to foment it. The feelings which animated him on the 17th of last April, when he deliberately threw the responsibility of the war on the South, still rankle and fester in his bosom, in the full force of their original malignity. Knowing what he knows, if he is capable of morally understanding or appreciating anything in an unselfish point of view, he must know that this is no time for the repetition of his assaults upon those whom he terms "original Secessionists"—no time for men who are not willing to bow their necks to Yankee domination to be fomenting discord and strife among those who should be united as one man to work out our deliverance from the grasp of the invader and spoiler. It was but the other day that the Editor of the Standard threatened to advocate the withdrawal of all the troops from this State from the soil of Virginia, as if Virginia was not at this moment as much a battle-ground for this State as for Virginia; and in his last number we find the following article:

COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—We publish to-day a list of the committees appointed in the two houses of Congress, at the commencement of the permanent government. It will be seen that of the thirty-three committees North Carolina has two chairmanships, and these of committees of an ordinary character. The chairmanships of all the important committees have been given to the members from this State have been appointed, they have been placed last, or nearly last on the list. We do not mention this by way of complaint, but to show that those who, with President Davis, are still commending secession at will as a "peaceful remedy," are determined to monopolize all the honors of the government. It is a "peaceful remedy" with many who were so anxious a year ago to plunge the country in war, and they illustrate the fact by remaining at home in the peaceful offices, while the war rages.

Here is a deliberate attempt to make the people of North Carolina believe that their State has been snubbed and slighted in order to give prominent positions to the representatives of the "Cotton States." What benefit does the Editor of the Standard propose to derive from this course of conduct? Who is he trying to curry favor with? While he was trying to alienate the people of this State from the Confederate Government, why did he not tell them that the State of Virginia has not the chairmanship of a single committee of the Senate, and in the House has but two chairmanships, one on Claims, and the other of the awfully onerous (!) Committee on "a Flag and Seal." Nay, more—the list as published in the Standard shows that Virginia, with sixteen members in the House, has eighteen committee appointments, while this State, with ten members in the House, has thirteen committee appointments. We do not, however, hear any complaint from the Virginia press on this subject, nor do we expect to hear any, inasmuch as it will never enter into the head of a single member of it to imagine that any man or body of men would slight or snub the State. Look, too, at Georgia, the Empire "Cotton State." She has two chairmanships, one in the Senate, on the Judiciary, and one in the House on the same subject, and with ten members in the latter body, has twelve committee appointments, or one less than this State. With what face and propriety, then, can the Editor of the Standard insinuate or assert that North Carolina has been slighted in the appointment of the Committees in the Confederate Congress? We have demonstrated the utter falsity of the charge or insinuation, and we denounce it as mischievous as well as untrue. It is a part of a policy which every man who lives in the South should frown upon and denounce. We have egregiously mistaken the feelings of the people of the State, if now, when the enemy is in the act of springing at our throats, they will join the Editor of the Standard, and quarrel with the Confederate Congress over committee appointments!!!

CHATHAM RAILROAD.
This city by a vote of 154 for, to 70 against subscription, agreed, on Tuesday, to subscribe for \$50,000 worth of the Chatham Coalfields Railroad Stock. Owing to the absence from the city of a good many voters, the vote was a thin one. This Road when made will be of inestimable value to this city, and to the State. It will be continued from the Coalfields to Cheraw, and thus will be obviated the injury which may accrue from the construction of the Road from Danville to Greensboro.

COL. CORCORAN AGAIN IN TROUBLE.
Col. Corcoran is surely one of the most unfortunate mortals. He gets out of one scrape in order that he may forthwith plunge into another. The following article from the Petersburg Express shows that the last scrape in which the Colonel finds himself will perhaps be the worst into which he has yet got. If he has broken his parole by attempting clandestinely to carry off important information to the Yankees, he ought to be hung, inasmuch as he is guilty of the double offense of breaking his word of honor and acting the part of a spy.

PRISONERS DETAINED.
We learn from the Richmond Enquirer that Col. Corcoran and one hundred other Yankee prisoners of war, who reached that city on Friday afternoon from Petersburg, have been detained. They were taken under flag of truce, but certain facts having reached Gen. Winder, he has postponed indefinitely the departure of these Yankee prisoners, and prohibited all communication between citizens and the prisoners during the stay of the latter in Richmond.

THE CONFEDERATE TAX.
We shall publish in our next the Ordinance passed by the Convention making provision for paying the Confederate tax. We learn that Mr. Treasurer Courts has sent circulars to the Banks, and to various other points in the Confederate States, containing propositions for an exchange of State bonds for Confederate Treasury notes. The tax must be paid by the State in these notes on the first of April.

THE WEATHER.
The present month of March has attained the reputation of its most disagreeable predecessors. The weather has been as disagreeable as can be imagined. There was a slight fall of snow here on Thursday night.

MARTIAL LAW IN PETERSBURG.
The citizens of Petersburg in public meeting assembled, appointed a committee to wait on President Davis, and request him to proclaim martial law in that city.

"ORIGINAL SECESSIONISTS."

Of all the unprincipled and inconsistent men ever connected with the press, the Editor of the Raleigh Standard takes the lead. It would never occur to one, unfamiliar with his history, who sees the sneers at the "original Secessionists" with which the Standard has abounded for the last year, that its Editor was himself a secessionist, as the following extract from his paper will abundantly prove:

(North Carolina Standard, December 4, 1860.)
"We have heard the idea recently expressed that a State has no right to secede from the Union—that there is no help from oppression except by revolution. In other words, that the States are the creatures of, and dependants on, the Federal Government, and of course subject to physical coercion. Such an assumption we haughtily submit is unsupported by any testimony derived from the Constitution itself or from any single circumstance attending its formation or adoption. It is moreover at war with all regular ideas of free republican government. * * * We hold that as no state could originally have been forced into the Union, none can be forced to remain in, or rather be prevented from going out."

Can anything be more plain than this, and is it not the height of audacity and impudence for the author of it to sneer at "original secessionists?" But later still—as late as June, 1860, the Editor of the Standard was a secessionist. Look, reader, and see for yourself:

(North Carolina Standard, June 2, 1860.)
"But it is said the Supreme Court may be in the future an unsafe tribunal for the South; that the Black Republicans will obtain control of it and turn its decisions against the slaveholding States. That may be so. At present it is certainly a safe tribunal for the South. It may be changed, and no doubt will be, if Black Republicans should obtain possession of the Government. But what of that? Must we wait until this change is made. Shall we permit Lincoln to pervert the whole power of the Government, and in addition to turn the Supreme Court against us? We are for meeting the enemy at the threshold—for vanquishing him or for vanquished long before his law, his adjudications against us are made. If the people of the South are true to themselves, they will never be troubled by the decisions of Black Republican judges. BUT IF THEY SUBMIT TO THE INAUGURATION AND RULE OF BLACK REPUBLICANS, THEY WILL BIND THEMSELVES TO SUBMIT LIKEWISE TO THE DECISIONS OF AN ABOLITION COURT. IT WILL BE TOO LATE TO RESIST THE COURT AFTER HAVING SUBMITTED TO THE PRESIDENT. That is our view of it."

Yes, this was your "view of it." You wished, in the event of Lincoln's election, either to secede, or to prevent his inauguration by violence. And yet, you have the effrontery to say "Shame, where is thy blush?"

We are authorized by the Public Treasurer to state that he has appointed Mr. Samuel H. Young, of this city, to sign for him the N. C. Treasury Notes of the denominations of five, ten and twenty dollars, authorized by the late Convention. And we are authorized by the Comptroller to state that he has appointed Mr. W. T. Womble, of this city, to countersign the said notes for him. Both these appointments have been made by and with the advice and consent of the Governor.

THE BATTLE AT FORT DONELSON—GEN. PILLLOW'S REPORT!

From the Memphis Appeal.
Memphis, Feb. 25, 1862.
EDITORS APPEAL:—There is so much anxiety felt by the country, so much misapprehension in the public mind as to the results of the battle fought at Fort Donelson, and so much excitement among the friends and relatives of those surrounded, that I deem it proper to lay before the public my official report of the several conflicts. This I am aware is irregular, and in violation of the usages of the government, but feel that the extraordinary circumstances of the case justify a departure from usage so far as to publish the report, not doubting but that the government will approve of the motive which induces its publication.

GID. J. PILLLOW, Brigadier-General.

COLUMBIA, TENN., Feb. 18, 1862.

Capt. Clarence Darrick, Asst. Adj. General:
On the 8th inst., Gen. A. S. Johnston ordered me to proceed to Fort Donelson and take command of that post. On the 9th inst., I arrived at that place. In detailing the operations of the forces under my command at Fort Donelson, it is proper to state the condition of that work, and of the forces constituting its garrison. When I arrived I found the work on the river battery unfinished and wholly too weak to resist the force of heavy artillery. I found a ten-inch columbiad and thirty-two pound rifle gun had not been mounted. Deep gloom was hanging over the command, and the troops were greatly depressed and demoralized by the circumstances attending the surrender of that place. My first manner of retiring from the necessity of strengthening this work, and mounting the two heavy guns, and to the construction of defensive works to protect the rear of the river battery. I imparted to the work all the energy which it was possible to do, laboring day and night with the whole command. The battery was without a competent number of artillerymen, and those that were there, were not well instructed in the use of their guns. To provide for this want I placed the artillery companies under active course of instruction in the use of their guns. I detailed Capt. Ross with his company of artilleryists to the command of one of the river batteries. These heavy guns being mounted and provision made for working them, and a proper supply of ammunition having been procured by my orders from Nashville, I felt that the need of more heavy guns was imperative.

The armament of the batteries consisted of eight 32-pounders, three 24-pound cannons, one 10-inch columbiad, and one rifle gun of 32-one inch columbiad. The location of the site for the pound battery, and the location of the site for the rifle gun were unfavorable. While its command was by the heights above and below on the river, and by a continuous range of hills all around the work to the rear.

A field-work of very contracted dimensions had been constructed for the garrison to protect the battery, but this field-work was commanded by the hills alluded to, and lay open to a fire of artillery from every direction except from the hills below. To guard against the effects of a fire of artillery from these heights a line of defense works, consisting of rifle pits and abatis for infantry, detached on our right, but contiguous on our left, with defenses for the light artillery, were laid off by Maj. Gilmer, Engineer of Gen. A. S. Johnston's staff, and the battery and on the post—around the rear of the battery and on the heights from which the artillery could reach our battery and inner field work, enveloping the inner work and the town of Dover, where our principal supplies of quarter and commissary stores were in deposit.

These works, pushed with the utmost possible energy, were not quite completed, nor my troops all in position, though nearly so, when Brig. Gen. Floyd, my senior officer, reached that station. The works were laid off with judgment and skill by Maj. Gilmer, were well executed, and designed for the defense of the rear of the work, the only objection being to the length of the line, which, however, from the surroundings, was unavoidable. The length of the line, and the inequality of the forces for its defense, was a source of embarrassment throughout the struggle which subsequently ensued in the defense of the position.

I had placed Brig. Gen. Buckner in command of the right wing, and Brig. Gen. Johnston in command of the left. By extraordinary efforts we had barely got the works in a defensible condition when the enemy made an advance in force around and against the entire line of outer works.

THE BATTLE OF THE TRENCHES.
The first assault was commenced by the enemy's artillery against the centre of our left wing, which was promptly responded to by Capt. Green's battery of field artillery. After several hours of firing between our infantry advanced to the line, the enemy's infantry advanced to the line and increased in volume from one end of the line to the other for several hours, when at last the enemy made a vigorous assault against the right of our left wing, the position assaulted being light commanded by Col. Helman, and defended by his brigade, consisting of the 10th Tennessee, and Capt. McGavock's, Col. Hughes' Alabama, and Voochie's Tennessee, Col. Hughes' Alabama, and Col. Head's Tennessee regiments of volunteers, and Capt. Maney's field battery.

This assault was vigorously made, and the position was vigorously defended, and resulted in the repulse of the enemy here and everywhere around the line. The result of the day's work pretty well tested the strength of our defensive line of the established, beyond question, and showed well at every point of the line. The loss sustained by our portion of this engagement was not large, our men being mostly under the shelter of the rifle pits; but we, nevertheless, had quite a number killed and wounded, but owing to the continued fighting which followed, it was impossible to get any official report of the casualties of the day. On the same day our battery on the river was engaged with one of the enemy's gunboats, which occasioned quite a lively cannonading for more than an hour, in which the gallant Captain Dixon, of the Engineer corps, was killed instantly at the battery. This officer had been on duty for some months at the post, and had showed great energy and professional skill; and, by his gallant bearing on that occasion, while directing the operation of the day under my orders, had justly earned for himself high distinction. His death was a serious loss to the service, and was a source of no little embarrassment to our after operations.

On the 23rd we had quiet, but we saw the sparks of a large number of gunboats and steamboats at a short distance below. We also received reliable information of the arrival of a large number of fresh troops, greatly increasing the strength of the enemy's forces, already said to be from 20,000 to 30,000 strong.

THE BATTLE WITH THE GUNBOATS.

On the 13th these reinforcements were seen advancing to their position in the line of investment; and, while this was being done, six of the enemy's iron cased gunboats were seen advancing up the river, five of which were abreast and in line of battle, and the sixth some distance to the rear. When the gunboats arrived within a mile and a half of the fort, they opened fire on the batteries. My orders to the officers, Capt. Shaver and Stankovich, who commanded the lower battery, of eight guns, and Capt. Ross, the upper battery, of four guns, were to hold their fire until the enemy's gunboats should come within point blank range. This they did, though the ordeal of holding their fire while the enemy's shot and shell fell thick around their position, was a severe restraint upon their nervous impulses. Nevertheless, our batteries made no response till the gunboats got within range of their guns. Our entire line of batteries then opened fire. The guns of both parties were well served. The enemy constantly advancing, delivering direct fire against our batteries from his line of five gunboats; while the sixth boat, moving up in the rear, kept the air filled with shells, which fell thick and fast around the position our batteries occupied. We had given two or three well directed shots from our heavy guns to one of his boats, when she instantly struck and drifted helplessly below the line. Several shots struck another boat, tearing her iron case and making her timbers crack, and splintering them as by a stroke of lightning, when the two fell back. Then a third received several shocks, making her metal ring and timbers crack, when the whole line gave way and fell rapidly back from our fire until she passed out of range. This ended the first and closest conflict of our heavy guns and the enemy's gunboats, testing their strength and the power of heavy guns to resist them. The shot from our 32-pound guns produced but little effect; they struck and rebounded, apparently doing but little damage; but I am satisfied from close observation that the timbers of the framework did not, could not withstand the shock and determined that these gunboats never renewed the attack.

I learn from citizens living on the river below, that one of the injured boats was sunk, and that others had to be towed to Cairo. This information may or may not be true, but it is certain that all of the boats were repulsed and driven back after a most vigorous and determined attack, and that two of the boats were badly injured, and that a third was more or less injured and damaged.

On the evening of this day we received information of the arrival of additional reinforcements of infantry, cavalry and light artillery, by steamboat, all of which were disembarked a short distance below our position.

THE BATTLE OF DOVER.
On the 14th inst. the enemy were busy throwing his forces of every arm around us, extending his line of investment entirely around our position, and completely enveloping us. On the evening of this day we ascertained that the enemy had received additional reinforcements by an iron steamboat. We were informed that the command of our extreme left, commanding the two roads leading into the interior, one of which we must take in leaving our position. We knew that he had massed in encampment another large force on the Union Ferry road, in front of the left of our left wing. His fresh arrival of troops being our right wing, on the bank of the river, two and a half miles below us, from which latter encampment a stream of fresh troops was continually pouring around us on his line of investment, and thus strengthening his general encampment, the extreme right. At each of his encampments, on and on each road, he had in position a battery of field artillery, and twenty-four pound iron guns on siege carriages. Between these encampments on the roads, was a thick undergrowth of bush and black jack, making it impossible to advance or manoeuvre any considerable body of troops.

The plan of attack agreed upon and directed by Gen. Floyd, to be executed was that, with the main body of the forces of our left wing, I should attack and resting upon the heights my occupying the bank of the river, accompanied by Col. Forrest's brigade of cavalry; and Brigadier-General Buckner, with the forces under his command, and defending the right of our line, should strike the enemy's encampment and force on the Winn's Ferry road; that the forces under Col. Helman, should hold the trenches and that each command should leave in the trenches troops to hold them.

In this order of battle it was easy to be seen that if my attack was successful, and the enemy routed, that his retreat would be along his line of investment toward the Winn's Ferry road, and thence toward his reserve at the gunboats below. In other words my success would roll the enemy in front of our right wing, and we would cut up by his attack in flank and rear, we would cut up the enemy's dispositions were made to attack the enemy at five o'clock A. M., of the 15th, I moved out of my position to engage him. In less than one half hour our forces were engaged, and he did not meet me before I had

assumed line of battle and while I was moving against him without any formation for the engagement. For the first half hour of the engagement I was much embarrassed in getting the command in position properly to meet the foe. Having extricated myself from the position and fairly engaged him, we fought him for nearly two hours before I made any decided advance upon him. He contested this field most stubbornly. The loss of both armies at this portion of the field was heavy. The enemy's particularly, as I discovered by riding over the field after the battle with Gen. Floyd. The enemy having been forced to yield this portion of the field, retired slowly toward the Winn's Ferry road, Buckner's point of attack. He did not retreat but fell back fighting us, contesting every inch of ground.

The fight was hotly and stubbornly contested on both sides, and it continued the day till twelve o'clock to drive him back as far as the centre where Gen. Buckner's command was to flank him. While my command was advancing and slowly driving him, I was anxiously expecting to hear Gen. Buckner's command open fire in his rear, which not taking place, I feared some misapprehension of orders, and came from the field to battle within the works to learn what was the matter. I there found the command of Gen. Buckner massed behind the ridge within the work, taking shelter from the enemy's artillery on the Winn's road, it having been forced to retire before the battery, as I learned from him. My force was still slowly advancing, driving the enemy towards the battery. I directed General Buckner immediately to move his command round to the rear of the battery, turning its left, keeping in the hollow, and attack and carry it.

Before the movement was executed, my force forming the attacking party on the right, with Forrest's regiment (cavalry), gallantly charged the battery, supported by a body of infantry, driving it and forcing the battery to retire, taking six pieces of artillery, four brass and two twenty-four pound guns. Gen. Buckner's forces became united with mine and engaged the enemy in hot contest of nearly an hour with large forces of fresh troops. At had now met us. This position of the enemy being carried by our joint forces, I called off further pursuit, after seven and a half hours of continuous and bloody conflict. After the troops were called off, orders were immediately given to the different commands to form and retire to their original position in the trenches.

The operations of the day had forced the entire command of the enemy around to our right wing, and in front of Gen. Buckner's position in the trenches, and when his command reached his position he found the enemy rapidly advancing to take possession of this portion of the work. He had a stubborn conflict, lasting one and a half hours to regain it, and the enemy actually got possession of the extreme right of his position, and held it so firmly that he could not dislodge him. The position thus gained by the enemy was a most commanding one, being immediately in the rear of our river battery and field work for its protection. From it he could readily turn the entrenched work occupied by Gen. Buckner, and attack him in reverse or advance under cover of an intervening ridge upon our battery and field work. He held this position, it was manifest we could not hold the main work or battery. Such was the condition of the armies at night fall after nine hours of conflict on wounded on the river, and nearly all his wounded, because they could not move them. We left his dead unburied because we could not bury them. Such conflict and desperate conflict. Where all did their duty so well, it is almost impossible to discriminate. The captains already named, and the Lieutenants (whose names for want of official reports I cannot give) all deserve the highest commendation.

Lieut. G. S. Martin, (whose company is now at Columbia, Ky., but who was ordered to that post by Major General Polk), commanded one of the guns, and particularly attracted my attention by his energy and the judgment with which he handled his gun. The wadding having been exploded, he pulled off the top of the gun, and rammed it down as wadding, and thus kept up the fire till the enemy was finally repulsed.

On the evening of this day we received information of the arrival of additional reinforcements of infantry, cavalry and light artillery, by steamboat, all of which were disembarked a short distance below our position.

On the 14th inst. the enemy were busy throwing his forces of every arm around us, extending his line of investment entirely around our position, and completely enveloping us. On the evening of this day we ascertained that the enemy had received additional reinforcements by an iron steamboat. We were informed that the command of our extreme left, commanding the two roads leading into the interior, one of which we must take in leaving our position. We knew that he had massed in encampment another large force on the Union Ferry road, in front of the left of our left wing. His fresh arrival of troops being our right wing, on the bank of the river, two and a half miles below us, from which latter encampment a stream of fresh troops was continually pouring around us on his line of investment, and thus strengthening his general encampment, the extreme right. At each of his encampments, on and on each road, he had in position a battery of field artillery, and twenty-four pound iron guns on siege carriages. Between these encampments on the roads, was a thick undergrowth of bush and black jack, making it impossible to advance or manoeuvre any considerable body of troops.

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giving me detailed information of the conduct and bearing of officers and men. I will make a supplemental report. The absence of official reports deprives me of the means of giving lists of the killed and wounded of the different commands. I am satisfied that in such a series of conflicts our loss was heavy. I know the enemy's was, from passing over the battle-field with Gen. Floyd in the evening immediately after the battle. His loss in killed and wounded was terrible, exceeding anything I have ever seen on a battle field. Our force in the field did not exceed ten thousand men, while from what I saw of the enemy's force, and from information derived from prisoners, we are sure he had from thirty to forty thousand on the field. I must acknowledge my obligations to Major Gilmer, engineer, for the special and valuable services rendered me in laying off the works, and the energy displayed by him in directing their construction, and for his counsel and advice. I likewise acknowledge my obligations to Col. John C. Burch, my aide-camp; Captain Gus. A. Henry, Major Field, Lieut. Nicholson, Lieutenant Chas. F. Martin, and Col. Brandon, my volunteer aide-camp, to Major Hays, my assistant commissary, Major Jones, my assistant quartermaster, for the prompt manner in which they executed my orders, under trying circumstances throughout the long and continued conflict, and to Major Gilmer, who accompanied me throughout the entire day—Also to Capt. Parker, of my staff, whom I assigned to the command of Capt. Ross's field battery with new recruits as gunners, and who fought and served them well. Col. Brandon was severely wounded early in the action. Colonel Baldwin's command constituted the front of the attacking force, sustained immediately by Col. Wharton's. These two brigades deserve special commendation for the manner in which they sustained the first shock of battle, and under circumstances of great embarrassment threw themselves into the position and followed up the conflict throughout the day.

Being mostly with these two brigades, I can speak from personal knowledge of their gallant bearing. I must also acknowledge my obligations to Brig. General Johnston, who assisted me in command of the forces with which I attacked the enemy, and who bore himself gallantly throughout the conflict, but having received no official report from him I cannot give detailed operations of his command. I have pleasure in being able to say that Col. Forrest, whose command greatly distinguished its commander as a bold and gallant leader, and reflected distinguished honor upon itself—passed safely through the enemy's line of investment, and trust it will yet win other honors in defence of our rights and the just cause of our country.

GID. J. PILLLOW, Brig. Gen. C. S. A.

WESTERN N. C. THREATENED.
We make the following extract from a letter of Lieut. Parker, of Col. R. H. Vance's regiment, published in the last Asheville News, and dated Strawberry Plains, Tenn., Feb. 17, 1862. It will be seen from this that Western North Carolina is in danger:
"A friend, who has had from his position heretofore the opportunity to know, just told me that fifteen or twenty thousand in this country will fly to the Federal standard the moment it reaches Tennessee proper. This I firmly believe; indeed they are constantly going now. And when the disaffected citizens of this country feel that their cause is just and snuggly housed in Abraham's jacket, I cannot, in good faith to my beloved Buncombe hills, close this paper without giving you and our fellow countrymen one more hint. It is this: I have it from the lips of some of the Union leaders, that the Federal forces intend to sack Asheville, N. C., as soon as they can possibly get there. They actually take Asheville, and will fly to the Federal standard the moment it reaches Tennessee proper. This I firmly believe; indeed they are constantly going now. 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