

THE LATEST NEWS.

FROM SUFFOLK.

The latest accounts from Suffolk represent everything as quiet. The flag of truce hoisted on City Point brought up, among other things, prisoners on Wednesday, 118 of the men belonging to Captain Stribling's company and the 24th Alabama Regiment, who were surprised and captured on the Nansemond river on Sunday night last. The battery captured by the Yankees consisted of three twelve pound Napoleons and two 24 pound howitzers. The commissioned officers captured at the same time have been confined in Fort Monroe.

FROM THE UNITED STATES.

IMPORTANT FROM MEXICO, &c. &c.

The Richmond Enquirer has received the New York Herald of the 20th April, from which it makes the following interesting extracts: ESCAPE OF GENERAL POSTER FROM WASHINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA.

Gen. Postor arrived in Newbern at nine o'clock P. M. on Wednesday, from Washington, N. C., which place he left on Tuesday morning at half-past five o'clock.

He ran the rebel batteries in broad daylight. He was hit at the wheel. Only one other man, a negro cook hand, was wounded, having his arm shot away. Over two hundred shot and shell were fired at his vessel, besides the volley of musketry and small arms. Sixteen cannon took effect in the steamer.

The reinforcements at Washington consist of the Fifth Rhode Island.

Gen. Heckman's brigade was arriving at Newbern when the ferry left.

The transport fleet ran the blockade from Newbern to Washington and carried reinforcements to the beleaguered city.

Gen. Foster was on her and safely reached Newbern.

The troops from Hilton Head are arriving at Newbern. Part of Heckman's brigade, from Hilton Head, has arrived at Newbern.

Gov. Johnson, of Tennessee, has been authorized to raise twenty-five hundred troops for special service in the Eastern part of the State.

FINANCIAL.

Gold was very large and weak last week. It sold on the market of the Republic of Depout at high as 158 1/2 but fell almost immediately, and closed yesterday at 151.

FROM MEXICO.

By the steamer Sonora, from Acapulco, dates from the city of Mexico to the 1st of April have been received.

The French bombarded Puebla ten days, and were repulsed twice. The fortifications of San Javier were rendered untenable by shells from the city.

The Mexicans withdrew, and the French occupied them on the 31st of March, taking one hundred and fifty prisoners. The French hold the outside fortifications round all the city. The bombardment was continued at the latest.

The principal fortifications still hold out. French's headquarters were at the Church of Santiago, inside the Garita.

Companfort was at St. Martin with 10,000 troops.

Ortega is in Puebla with 25,000.

The French have cut the communications between Ortega and Companfort.

The French strength is 20,000, with 5,000 Mexas under Marquez. Their base of supplies is Amozac.

Reinforcements daily arrive from Vera Cruz. There are 20,000 Mexican troops in the city of Mexico.

DEATH OF LIEUT. COL. KIMBALL.

Gen. Corcoran has published a notice on the late collision at Suffolk, which terminated in the death of Lieut. Col. Kimball. The General gives a full statement of the occurrence, and says that Lieut. Col. Kimball was not on duty at the time, and was not justified in violently attempting to arrest the progress of his commanding officer, who was in the performance of his duty, in visiting the outposts.

Gen. Corcoran, while regretting the disaster, states that the attack made upon him rendered the action which he took an imperative necessity.

From the Daily Progress.

GALLANT BEHAVIOR OF NORTH CAROLINA TROOPS.

We take pleasure in publishing the following tribute to the gallantry of certain soldiers belonging to Gen. Danje's Brigade, and Nethercott's Battalion. We are glad to see that Gen. Hill has an eye to the rights of the private soldier. Some officers consider them but machines:

The Editor of the Progress will oblige me by publishing this list of gallant men. It is desirable to promote and encourage gallantry. Besides, the private is just as much entitled to credit for good conduct as the Commanding General.

D. H. HILL, Major General.

HEADQUARTERS, KINSTON, N. C., March 23, 1863.

Major A. Anderson, Asst. Adj. General, Goldsboro', N. C.

MAJOR:—I have the honor to call the attention of the Major General Commanding to the following named officers and men, who acted with conspicuous gallantry in the skirmish with the enemy at Deep Gulch, on the evening of the 13th instant:

Private Sykes, Tallent and Sneed, Co. K, 43d N. C. T.

Private J. Allen and Robt Allen, Co. I, 43d N. C. T.

Private Hunley and Conroy, Co. G, 43d N. C. T. (Others wounded severely.)

Private Therell, Co. B, 43d N. C. T., wounded severely.

Second Lieut. R. B. Collins, Co. B, 20th N. C. T.

Drum Major Henry Nutt, 50th N. C. T.

Sergeants W. V. Venters, J. Kinney, L. Harper and R. B. Brown, and Privates S. Hervey, Shoulters, L. H. Wood, R. Goodwin, J. B. Turner, E. Jones, K. Whitney, wounded and slightly cut, all of the 8th N. C. Battalion (Nethercott's).

Capt. John Keller, 63d Regt. N. C. Troops.

I am, Major, very respectfully, Your obedient servant, JUNIUS DANIEL, Brig. Gen.

GALLANT EXPLOIT.

On the 8th instant, Mr. G. Andrews, of New Orleans, as Acting Master in the Confederate States Navy, John Mobile, with a party of fourteen men, and on the 13th inst., captured the enemy's steamer Fox, in the Mississippi river, and carried the vessel and her crew, consisting of twenty-three prisoners, safely into Mobile, and through the enemy's fire, on the 14th instant.

MECKLENBURG.—The patriotic citizens of this glorious county have gone to work in earnest in collecting supplies for the Government. The central committee have agreed on the following prices for corn and bacon, viz: corn, three dollars per bushel, and bacon, one dollar per pound, both to be delivered to the Quartermaster at Charlotte without further charge.

PROGRESS OF THE WAR.

A FULL AND INTERESTING ACCOUNT OF THE ATTACK ON CHARLESTON.—A "SHAMEFUL ABANDONMENT OF THE BIDGE."

The Yankees have given up the "roundabout" dog, and now confess that the assault on Charleston was the attack and resulted in a disastrous failure. The New York Herald says that the regular, though almost boundless in its results, may be classed among our most disastrous military disasters. The Baltimore American denounces it as a shameful abandonment of the siege. A correspondent of the New York Herald, who was in the fight, gives that paper the first minute account of the engagement which we have seen. We take some extracts from the letter.

The great struggle is over. The enterprise on which so many months of preparation have been bestowed, and to which the eyes of the whole American people, loyal and disloyal, have been directed with the most intense interest, has proved a failure. The rebel flag still waves over Charleston, and the iron clad feet has withdrawn from the conflict, baffled and in part disabled. Now that the smoke of battle has cleared away, the maddening excitement of yesterday, and some chance afforded of learning all the incidents of a never to be forgotten scene, let us endeavor to group together such of the main features of the day as present themselves to my mind, and to write as clear and succinct a narrative as I may be able to do of the battle between the pigmies and the giants—between the iron-clad vessels and the iron-clad feet which withdrew from the conflict, baffled and in part disabled.

On the morning of Monday everything was ready for the movement. The captain of the vessels had been already furnished with the plan of attack and order of battle, as follows:

The bar will be buoyed by the Keokuk, Commander Rhind assisted by C. O. Boutelle, assistant United States Coast Survey, commanding the Bibb; by Acting Ensign Platt and the pilots of the squadron. The commanding officers will, previous to crossing, send themselves acquainted with the value of the buoys.

The vessels will, on signals being made, form in the prescribed order ahead, at intervals of one cable's length. The squadron will pass up the main ship channel without returning the fire of the batteries on Morris Island, unless signal should be made to commence action.

The ships will open fire on Fort Sumter when within easy range, and will take the ground in the order of the sea and westward of that fortification, engaging its left or right-hand face at a distance of from one thousand to eight hundred yards, firing low and aiming at the iron-clad batteries.

The commanding officers will instruct their officers and men to carefully avoid wasting a shot, and will adjust upon them the necessity of precision rather than a rapidity of fire.

Each vessel is to be prepared to render every assistance possible to vessels that may require it.

The special code of signals prepared for the iron-clad vessels will be used in action.

After the reduction of Fort Sumter, it is probable the order of attack will be the batteries on Morris Island.

And will be in readiness to support the iron clads when they attack the batteries on Morris Island.

Comd'g South Atlantic Block'g Squadron.

The correspondent then proceeds to give a description of the fight prefacing it with the fact that the same confidence of success which seemed to have taken possession of the people and even the Government did not find itself fully reflected in the minds of the Admiral and his officers.

And, therefore, with no trepidation, no shrinking, no calculation of defeat, no hesitating, no wavering, the confidence which unprofessional persons seemed to possess, the gallant Dupont and his officers prepared to move forward and test the great question whether the rebel forts were or were not a match for the forts and batteries. The attack was commenced at an hour or two earlier than it had been intended that the Admiral was advised to wait for the ebbside rather than sail up with the flood tide, as the former would be more apt to disengage the batteries from obstructions in the channel, and the tide turned at 11 o'clock. During these hours of suspense the eye had an opportunity of taking the features of the scene on which the great contest was to be played. The blue water dappled in the bright sun, and flocks of water birds dashed their white wings in the waves and uttered their shrill cries as they swooped downward after their prey.

Small detachments of Fort Sumter and Moultrie the rebel defenders were watching our movements and signaling them; and even on the roofs and steeples of the distant city we could see hundreds of spectators. In the view were the numerous batteries, extending from the water's edge, on the Ashley river, following the contour of James Island, down to the Light-house battery, on the South point of Morris Island. On the other side they were more numerous still. Behind the battery on the lower end of Sullivan's Island; Fort Beauregard, and on up to Fort Moultrie, while in the center of the picture, rising as it were from the water, stood Fort Sumter, displaying its flag on one angle, and the Palmetto flag on the opposite angle. Beyond Fort Ripley and Castle Pinckney, the city rising up the background.

Meanwhile the attacking vessels sail at anchor in the main ship channel, within a mile of the batteries on Morris Island, without exchanging a hostile shot. The Washewank was in the van, and the other vessels in the order in which they are named in the plan of attack. Precisely at half past 12 o'clock the fleet commenced to move. The distance to the positions as which the vessels were to engage was about three miles, and for all that distance they were in range of the enemy's batteries. But again there is a delay. Grappling lines attached to the Washewank have got into the water, and without provoking a hostile shot, she is sent matters right. At last the difficulty is got over, and once more the vessels are under way. Slowly they move up the ship channel. They pass in easy range of Fort Wagner, on Morris Island; but not a shot is fired until they are past the battery at Cummings' Point—named I believe, Battery Beauregard, but still not to discharge from a rebel gun. And it is not till the vessels have got fairly between the two points of the van, that the firing commences. The shot which are about a mile apart—and are rounding to make the entrance of the harbor, that the ominous stillness is broken. Fort Sumter opens the ball with her barbets guns, Fort Moultrie takes up the loud refrain, and the volley, which is to be a deafening chorus, and the ironclads find themselves within circle of fire, concentrated from all the rebel guns that can be brought to bear upon the point.

Not that all that these little floating towers have to do is to fire. If it were not for the shells which they send flying so defiantly and so far, the shells of all the batteries that stood between them and Charleston. The west side of Fort Sumter is well known to be its narrowest front. That was the point against which our guns were directed; but that was so the point which the rebel engineers were determined that we should not get at. From the northeast angle of the fort, across the channel to Fort Moultrie, were supported, floating from barrets and kept alive by regular heavy shot and constant rattle of toping, so fixed as to be as good as entangled in the propelling apparatus of vessels, and also connect ed with torpedoes. Into this net the Washewank, which led the van, fell, and for a long time her machinery was useless, and she drifted with the current. At last, after great exertion, she extricated herself. The other vessels sheered off and avoided the same peril. There was no getting into the required position until the van had passed, and the vessels in that course would have rendered the fleet unmanageable and exposed to destruction. Baffled in the attempt to get round or past Fort Sumter in that way the bold Montrose sought another opening; but even the cotton galleon, which was the only vessel of her kind, was barred up with piles. In fact Fort Sumter was found to be the apex of a triangle, the two sides of which were impenetrable to our vessels, and at the base of which they were exposed to a concentric fire from Fort Moultrie, the Redan Battery, Bee, and Fort Beauregard. Thus brought to a stand, and nothing being left us either to better down Fort Sumter or retire, these clads went resolutely to their work. Struck by the van in a line between Sumter and Moultrie, and by firing at occasional shots to the latter work, they piled the guns upon the walls of Sumter.

The Keokuk struck up to within three hundred yards of the fort, while the other vessels lay at intermediate distances between that and six hundred yards. The van, however, was so close that the Admiral's flagship—had she not been entirely unmanageable—would have been within range, so that, with the exception of one broadside which she poured into Fort Moultrie, she took no

part in the attack, although she was herself the target for many of the enemy's largest guns, and was hit some sixty or seventy times, sustaining, however, no serious damage. The vessel had a full complement of men in the position I have described, the commanding was of the most gallant and grand and terrible character. No words of mine, no words of any man can convey a faint idea of it. It was suitably terrific. No less than three hundred guns of the largest calibre concentrated their fire upon the eight assailants who had but six guns with which to respond. The Keokuk was soon badly damaged. The turret of the vessel, as she was being fired, was prevented from turning. The Palmetto, the only vessel that was not disabled, and, besides, night was coming on. The Admiral therefore signalled the fleet to retire, and all the ships fell back to a contest in which they were to be tremendously overmatched; not, however, without leaving their mark behind. The northeast front of Fort Sumter, which was the only one exposed to our fire, was badly damaged. No less than eight hundred shells of three feet wide and two centimetre thick, were shot into the fort, and the parting shot being fired by the Montpelier, as the passed Fort Wagner.

And thus ended the most remarkable conflict that has ever taken place between vessels and land fortifications—no less than three hundred guns of the largest calibre, numbered by ten to one those of the vessel. And yet, after all, it is our failure to be attributed to the impregnability of the land batteries or the slight disability of the enemy's fleet. It is to be attributed to the apparently insignificant and contemptible barrier of rope work and netting suspended across the channel, and which kept our vessels at a point on which they were so completely overmatched.

Fort Moultrie has been passed, and batteries silenced, but these trying enemies, which, like the water, were everywhere, were not to be got of by force. And therefore the unfavorable result of the enterprise is not to be accepted as any test of the relative power of iron-clad and land batteries. Without those obstructions, the result would have been different. It is not to be accepted as any test of the relative power of iron-clad and land batteries. Without those obstructions, the result would have been different. It is not to be accepted as any test of the relative power of iron-clad and land batteries. Without those obstructions, the result would have been different.

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COL. MALLETT'S REPORT OF THE FIGHT AT KINSTON.

FATHERVILLE, N. C., Feb. 20,