

THE RALEIGH REGISTER. WEDNESDAY MORNING, JUNE 17, 1863. THE LATEST NEWS.

From the Richmond Sentinel. VERY LATE FROM THE UNITED STATES.

We return our thanks to the gallant officer of Pender's division for a very late United States paper—the Washington Chronicle, of the 13th instant. We extract what follows:

SUMMARY OF NEWS. Gen. Couch has assumed the command of the Department of the Susquehanna, and issued an order calling on all the citizens of Pennsylvania between eighteen and sixty years of age to take up arms immediately.

While the steamer Maple Leaf was conveying three hundred rebel officers from Fort Monroe to Fort Delaware, on Wednesday, the prisoners overpowered the guard and captured the vessel. They ran her in the Virginia shore where all but twenty six escaped. Gen. Dix sent cavalry after them, but up to the latest advice they had not captured them.

All is quiet along the Rappahannock. It is positively known that Lee's army is twice as strong now as it was at the battle of Chancellorsville, and that a movement is on foot. These facts are known to our authorities, and we feel confident they have taken such measures as will thwart the enemy's intentions.

A Cincinnati dispatch says that a Union force under Col. Kontz drove the rebels out of Monticello, Kentucky, but the latter, owing to the close siege, retreated and were followed by the rebels. The rebels were, however, defeated, our loss being 37 killed and wounded.

Gov. Morton has issued an address warning all persons against resisting the Government. It is said Vallandigham contemplates running the blockade to proceed to Nassau.

The news of the surrender of the Mexicans at Puebla has again been confirmed. They did not surrender until all their provisions had been exhausted and the horses and mules eaten. It is said that Ortega, with several other high officers, has succeeded in escaping from the French.

The defenses of Port Hudson are immensely strong, consisting of the fortifications, and every artillery on the town, but of outer works composed of entrenched abatis, stretching out for nearly ten miles in a semicircle, bristling with cannon of heavy calibre. The water defenses consist of ten batteries, numbering between 30 and 40 guns, some of them being eleven inches and others thirteen inches bore.

The following is an extract from a private letter from Pernambuco, dated April 30: "We have striking news on this coast. That fine fellow, Sammes, the British pirate, has taken a number of North American vessels on this coast; six we know of as burned off Fernando, and the crews sent in. This morning, the Florida has been sent by a French vessel towards two vessels—the Onaida, homeward bound from China, with a cargo worth \$350,000, destroyed; and the other, the Philipp Henrietta, with three hundred barrels of flour, bound to Rio de Janeiro. They have armed two vessels taken by them to serve as tenders, and they will pretty well cut up the East India and China trade."

A correspondent of the New York Tribune, at St. Johns, N. B., discloses the citizens of that town that most of the contraband trade from there is done by Americans who pretend to be loyal. Steamers are sent from Boston and New York to St. Johns, their names changed, contraband goods are put on board by Yankee, and the boats clear under a British register for Nassau, the common rendezvous for pirates and thieves of all nations.

All the linen mills, nine of the eleven cotton mills, and three print works in Fall River, Mass., are standing idle. The cause is said to be an overstocked market and the decline of cotton goods below the cost of the raw material.

OHIO STATE POLITICS. Vallandigham Unanimously Nominated by the Democrats for Governor—Ex-Senator Pugh Nominated for Lieutenant Governor.

New York, June 12.—A special dispatch says that the Democratic State Convention at Columbus, Ohio, have unanimously nominated C. L. Vallandigham for Governor, and Ex-United States Senator Pugh as a candidate for Lieutenant Governor.

The resolutions adopted denounce the arrest and banishment of Mr. Vallandigham, and provide for the appointment of a committee to demand his restoration.

Mr. Pugh made a fiery speech, spurring and detying General Burnside's order No. 38.

LATER FROM HAVANA. New York, June 12.—The Express has a Havana letter stating information has reached there from the contraband colony on the south side of San Domingo, that fully one half of the five hundred negroes sent there from Norfolk, Virginia, have died among the malignant swamps. The remainder, it was learned, would soon follow the same end.

Havana advices state that President Juarez, of Mexico, has removed General Comonfort from command of the Mexican army of the center, for failing to succor Puebla, and that La Ganza has been put in his place, and would at once take command at the capital, and make every disposition for its defence.

FROM VICKSBURG. The Fight at Milliken's Bend—Desperate Fighting of the Negroes—A Battle Expected in our Rear—The Rebels Cry no Quarter—They Murder our Wounded.

Cairo, June 12.—The steamer St. Cloud, from Vicksburg Monday morning, has arrived. Heavy storming was heard up the Yazoo when the boat left, in a part which was not known. Her officers say it is believed in the camps that a battle in our rear is high probable. No one believes Johnston able to raise the siege.

In the light at Milliken's Bend, on Saturday, our force was less than 1,000, over 500 of whom were negroes. The rebels at first drove our forces some distance, nearly surrounding them.

The fight was conducted with energy and desperation by our forces, and the rebels were held at bay until a gunboat came to assist us.

Eye-witness report that our loss in killed was 124, 100 of whom were negroes. The wounded is about the same number. The list of killed is very large, in consequence of many wounded being killed under the no quarter cry.

The rebels left 100 dead on the field, and took away several wagon loads of wounded.

The negroes fought better than their white officers, many of whom, it is said, skulked. About the time the battle was over, a column of rebels made their appearance at Young's Point—all the officers and transient persons having been put under arms. No attack had been made when our informant left.

CALL FOR MILITIA IN VIRGINIA.—The President has called upon the State authorities of Virginia for eight thousand Militia for local defence and to be ready for active duty by the 1st of August, and the Adjutant General of the State has issued orders for their enrollment and organization.

THE WAR. The dispatches from the Southwest which we publish to-day will encourage hope without concealing confidence in a successful result at Vicksburg and Port Hudson. Thus far our gallant troops have successfully repelled or withstood the most attempts of the enemy. But the latter are still pressing the siege with a powerful force. We have a strong faith in our triumph there, but it is still mingled with solicitude. "Night or Blucher,"—the yellow fever among the enemy, or General Johnston and Kirby Smith as parties to the fray, form interesting elements in our calculations and anticipations.

From Frederickburg the news is that the enemy on Saturday recrossed the forces to the North side of the river, and took up their pontoon bridges after them. Thus ends the third crossing. About twenty soldiers who failed to keep up with the retreating party were captured by our men, and were brought to this city yesterday. They say their position on this side was a sentence of death, and that they were saved by the position opposite Frederickburg, which is now accomplished. It is true, Hooker and his whole army are up and away. We think it probable that he is moving towards Manassas or Washington.

It is reported that Milroy has evacuated Winchester, under the pressure of General Jackson. We are sorry to lose that he has got away without having done us any good. Some men do manage to defraud judges of her dues!

The forces of the enemy which lately showed themselves on the lower Chickahominy are now reported to have fallen back.—Richmond Sentinel.

PARTICULARS OF THE FIGHTING PREVIOUS TO THE INVESTMENT OF VICKSBURG. The details of the fighting which preceded the investment of Vicksburg are coming to light. A participant in the recent battle of Baker's Creek furnishes to the Appeal the annexed account of the affair, which is the first connected narrative yet published from a Southern source.—The writer dates at Jackson, Miss., May 24:

On Friday afternoon, the 16th inst., three divisions of the army under Lieut. Gen. Pemberton, (Loring's, Bowen's, and Bowen's,) advanced from Edward's depot in the direction of Raymond, and stopped that night about six miles from the starting point, and on what is known as the middle Raymond road. At eight o'clock the next morning, Saturday, just as we were preparing to move forward, the enemy opened upon us advance guard and main body, indicating that they had found out our movements and had determined to give us battle.

We immediately fell back a mile to an eligible position, and formed in line of battle, to be in readiness for an advance or to receive their attack. We had not long to wait. Our line was formed in a shallow curve, and upon a right angle, being posted in a position to use a ford in the crossing of the creek in case we were overwhelmed, and our left equally convenient to a bridge over the stream, which, it was expected, would furnish safe passage for our army in such a contingency.

Nonwithstanding our right coast as we fell back to this point, and a distinguished officer remarked at the time that the attack on our right was a feint; that, in his judgment, the left of our line would have to receive the shock of their advance. An hour's time revealed the truth of his statement; the enemy having massed a large force against the left, and opened upon us with an earnestness which betokened the most serious determination.

Aware of our position, it seemed to be their purpose to turn our left, so as to get possession of the bridge over Baker's creek, (referred to above), and move between us and Edward's depot.

As their line of the enemy was mowed down by the deadly fire of our brave troops, myriads of fresh men fell into their places, and slowly, but steadily, drove our left and centre back, foot by foot, until Stevenson's gallant division was almost in rear of the line. A brigade of Bowen's division was ordered up to the support of Stevenson—then another brigade, and finally the entire division.

Continuing the most desperate fighting, (portion of it hand-to-hand, and with clubbed muskets,) a brigade (Buford's) of Loring's division from the right was sent to the rescue. Gen. Loring immediately followed with another of his brigades (Featherston's) by a short route, and reached us just as their line was giving way, leaving Tilghman with his brigade to hold his position on the right.

Having succeeded, with great tact, in covering the retreat of the worn out forces who had so nobly and bravely stood the shock for six hours, Gen. Loring moved back to the right in time to see the line of the enemy mowed down on his front and flank. The enemy were gallantly met and driven back with great slaughter. It was at this point that Brigadier General Lloyd Tilghman, one of the bravest and best officers in the Confederate army, fell, pierced through his manly chest with a fragment of a shell. He was carried with his own hands a two-pound howitzer, trying to dislodge a piece which was annoying us.

At this time two brigades of Bowen's division were planted, one at the bridge across Baker's Creek and one at the ford, to guard the crossing, while Gen. Loring, with his division, engaged the enemy from front and rear, and drove him back to front and flank. The enemy were gallantly met and driven back with great slaughter. It was at this point that Brigadier General Lloyd Tilghman, one of the bravest and best officers in the Confederate army, fell, pierced through his manly chest with a fragment of a shell. He was carried with his own hands a two-pound howitzer, trying to dislodge a piece which was annoying us.

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FROM THE RALEIGH STANDARD. THE SIXTY-SIXTH COMMENCEMENT AT CHAPEL HILL. JUNE 4, 1863.

In spite of "blockades" and "enemy's lines," Commencement got to Chapel Hill last week at the appointed hour. Fourteen hundred more than it did one year ago, but it brought more trust with it. Gov. Vance came, and so did his predecessors, Govs. Manly, Morehead and Graham. Gov. Swain was at home waiting for them, and so Judge Battle welcomed his colleague, Judge Manly. The Hon. D. M. Barringer and Messrs. P. C. Cameron, M. L. Wigginton, and R. P. Battle acted in front of a Board of Trustees, which declared itself gratified in finding the efforts of the authorities of the University successful in preventing a suspension of its exercises, and announced its determination to use all diligence that these efforts be as energetic hereafter.

Messrs. T. M. Argo of Wetumpka, Ala., T. T. Rogers of Anderson, S. C., W. W. Carr of Pitt County, J. L. Carroll of Knoxville, E. Hines of Craven County, M. M. Marshall of Pittsburg, W. L. Quarles of Minden, La., and W. M. Watkins of Milton, swelled the list of graduates at the University so that now it contains the names of 1,709 Alumni. Among these eight, Mr. Argo rose to the occasion in his speech, and the class obtained credit in his perfect punctuality during his connection with the University.

Besides the Valedictory and Latin Salutatory, the last and the first speeches on commencement day, the following orations were delivered in the following order: "The Prospect before us"—by T. B. Broyles; "The Elements of success"—by J. L. Carroll; "American Antiquities"—by W. M. Watkins; "Man's unknown benefactors"—by E. Hines; "Liberty and Revolution"—by T. W. Carr; "Gen. Albert S. Johnston"—by M. M. Marshall.

Mr. Carroll's essay was much commended for the solid judgment and good feeling it manifested, and Mr. Marshall's for the enthusiasm and propriety of manner with which it defended the name of a brave soldier, a skillful General and an unswerving patriot.

When Freshman, this class counted eighty members. It had one hundred and six when Sophomore. The demands of the war reduced it to twenty-nine members when in his Junior year. Only eight, who could not follow their comrades to the tented field, were left to prepare for service in other, it may be as necessary, positions.

On Monday night seven of the Freshmen competed for distinction in declamation, as follows: "Sentiments proper to the Crisis"—P. B. Means, of Cabarrus county; "Spartacus to the Gladiators"—J. B. McRae, of Fayetteville; "Moral Suasion"—J. S. Carr, of Chapel Hill; "Irish Enthusiasm"—F. P. Redmond, of Tawborough; "Irish Aliens and English Victories"—J. C. Mickle, of Chapel Hill; "Consequences of our Independence"—G. W. Wallace, of Norfolk, Va.; "Pleasures of the Cultivated Mind"—M. D. Stevenson, of Newbern.

It can hardly be expected that Freshmen will exhibit in such public exhibitions the deliberation and grace that may mark more advanced students. Among the foregoing competitors, Mr. Stevenson was commended for the general propriety of his delivery, Mr. Mickle for the energy of his action, and Mr. Wallace for the distinctness of his utterance.

The following were the competitors for distinction between the blue and white ribbons, on the part of the Sophomores, on Tuesday night: "The Study of History"—C. J. Austin, of Tawborough; "Grattan's reply to Curry"—A. H. Askew, of Hertford county; "Luxury"—J. S. Henderson, of Salisbury; "Soldier from Bingen"—W. M. Chalmers, of Halifax county, Va.; "The Prisoner of Heracleum"—J. T. Rankin, of Wilmington; "The Horrors of War"—H. A. London, of Pittsburg; "America and Washington"—R. D. Osborne, of Charlotte; "The Anglo-Saxon character"—J. R. D. Shepard, of Raleigh.

While others of his companions did well, it was generally conceded that Mr. Osborne did the best. With distinctness and fluency in utterance, he combined a proper variety and much gracefulness of diction, so that the audience felt as if it were listening to a real speech, well conceived and properly spoken.

The Faculty made the following awards for scholarship in the three lower classes of the University: Mr. James C. Gilmer, of Mt. Airy, was reckoned the best scholar in the Junior Class. Mr. W. A. Guthrie, of Chapel Hill, was next to him, and Messrs. A. M. B. B. and R. Van Wyeck, of S. C., were placed in the third rank.

In the Sophomore Class, Mr. P. H. Adams, of Greensboro, attained the first distinction.—Messrs. Hartfield, of Wake county, H. A. London, of Chatham, W. C. Prout, of Granville, and W. W. Watkins, of Brunswick county, Va., were accounted the best in the second rank. Mr. H. Slaughter, of Chatham county, W. Huff, of Brunswick county, Va., and N. K. Roan, of Caswell county, obtained the third distinction. Mr. J. S. Henderson was esteemed as of the first rank in all the departments, save that of Mathematics.

The best scholar in the Freshman Class is Mr. J. C. Mickle, of Chapel Hill. The second distinction was assigned to G. Slover and M. D. Stevenson, of Newbern, and he third to C. Fetter, of Chapel Hill, and E. L. Morehead, of Greensboro. Mr. W. W. Adams, of Petersburg, Va., received the third distinction in Mathematics, and first in the other departments.

Messrs. A. M. B. B. and R. Van Wyeck, of S. C., were placed in the third rank. In the Sophomore Class, Mr. P. H. Adams, of Greensboro, attained the first distinction.—Messrs. Hartfield, of Wake county, H. A. London, of Chatham, W. C. Prout, of Granville, and W. W. Watkins, of Brunswick county, Va., were accounted the best in the second rank. Mr. H. Slaughter, of Chatham county, W. Huff, of Brunswick county, Va., and N. K. Roan, of Caswell county, obtained the third distinction. Mr. J. S. Henderson was esteemed as of the first rank in all the departments, save that of Mathematics.

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IMPROVEMENT, THE PREPARATION OF AN INTELLIGENT SUPERIOR TO ITSELF—THAT IMPROVEMENT OF INHERENT POWERS BY THEIR OWN UNASSAIDED ACTIVITY IS UNBIBLICAL AND UNPHILOSOPHICAL. This thesis was largely illustrated by examples drawn from the vegetable and animal world. A grain of wheat, even when it preserves its vitality, requires the germinating influence of air, heat and moisture. But if its vitality be lost, no power short of the Omnipotent can restore it. The rose is not in his blast estate when wild or the Lianos of Brazil. So, also, no man—no community of men can become what he or they can become, what conscience declares it ought to become, without instruction and Revelation and the accompanying "preparation of heart" by the Author of that Revelation. When a learned Professor discourses on a subject with which he is familiar, it is not likely that many, in such a mixed audience as assembles on Commencement occasions, can perceive, at once, the full scope of his argument or the adequacy of his statements. Nevertheless, the discourse which I presented, and which I have now before me, by those who will not pretend to be able to criticize. The deep silence that pervaded the College Chapel, and the wrapped attention of the largest and most distinguished audience that assembled at Chapel Hill during the week, showed that I was capable of the earnestness, that I was lively, and that I was not without common import, argued, illustrated and enjoyed in a style of rare lucidity, tenacity and power. The University of North-Carolina owes to the University of Virginia a debt which we shall feel proud to see repaid, and, if possible, with interest.

Of course, when fathers and brothers and sons are gathered at the same table, or in the crowded hospital, or stumbling where the battle raged fiercest—many visitors could not be expected where the dance has hitherto gone merrily. Those who did attend, expressed themselves as much pleased with the tone of all the exercises of Commencement week. Never were the duties of a Marshal so fully and promptly performed, and so courteously performed, than on this occasion by Mr. W. E. Kenan; of Duplin county, and his assistants, Messrs. Guthrie, Tate, "An Wyck and Williams.

Besides the Baccalaureate, the only degree conferred at this Commencement, was that of A. M., on Mr. John B. Loring, of Manassas, Va., a graduate of the University at the famous Commencement of 1859.

FROM THE RAPPAHANNOCK. RICHMOND, June 4. Letters from Fredericksburg by this evening's stage state that ten thousand returned to the State side of the Rappahannock.

Two trains crowded with troops were seen to leave the depot, this morning. A considerable number of tents on the other side, also have disappeared.

The enemy's pickets still remain on this side of the river.

LATEST FROM THE NORTH. RICHMOND, June 4. Northern dates to the 11th give accounts of the fight at Culpeper. They say that it was known at Hooker's headquarters that Gen. Lee had assembled his cavalry, supported by artillery and infantry, between Culpeper C. H. and Beverly's Ford.

Fredericksburg was sent with a force of cavalry commanded by Buford and Gregg to spoil their sport.

The column under Buford crossed the Rappahannock at Beverly's Ford, the other at Kelley's six miles below.

Buford encountered Jones' brigade a mile from the river, when the fight commenced and continued until 2 p. m., by which time Stuart's entire force was driven back three miles with heavy loss.

The enrollment meets with great resistance in Fulton county, Penn. The enrolling officer was pulled with eggs. Lives were threatened and barns burned.

The term of service of nine New Jersey regiments expires this month.

The Federal column formed a junction at Brandy Station at 2 p. m. The fight was discontinued about 3 o'clock.

The rebels falling back upon strong infantry supports, our forces returned almost unannihilated to this side of the river, which time Stuart's entire force was driven back three miles with heavy loss.

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FOR THE REGISTER. HEAD QUARTERS, DEPT. OF N. C., PETERSBURG, VA., June 12th, 1863. Will the Editor of the Register publish the report of Capt. Duval. The affair was handsome and creditable.

D. H. HILL, Major