

THE FAIRFAX FIGHT

Yankee Vespers—An Early Break—Death of Captain Marr—The Enemy's Retreat—Pleasant News, &c.

At an early hour this morning our village was thrown into great excitement by the arrival of Federal troops, the firing of guns, and the yells of the enemy.

Being an invalid, and consequently not an eye witness to the fight, I can only give you such facts as were reported to me by others.

Unexpectedly a company of regular Cavalry were ordered and marched, and followed by a trail of... dashed through the principal streets, rolling like madmen, and firing their pistols right and left as they went along.

A friend, who heard the firing, and saw the retreat of the volunteer company, says there were not less than fifteen or twenty-five horses accompanying over the field, behind their riders; and another informs me that he has seen for dead bodies of cavalry men.

In the skirmish which took place, our only loss was that of Capt. Marr, then when a more brave soldier, or gallant gentleman, ever lived or died; and he was nobly killed by an accidental shot. Another of our men was slightly wounded. Let us be thankful that the God of Battles is with us, and relying upon His providence, and the justice of our cause, I am sure we shall eventually triumph over our enemies.

VIRGINIA.

Dear Dispatch: I have just returned from our battery at Aquia Creek, where I witnessed the fight of yesterday and to-day, between four of the U. S. Steamers and our battery at the Creek.

On Thursday evening last four U. S. steamers, one of them the "Aqueduct," were seen lying off "Maryland Point," and our brave boys anticipating a brush, prepared at once to give them a warm reception.

On Friday morning, about 10 o'clock, the "Aqueduct" and three other steamers were seen to get under way, and approaching within a mile and a half of the battery, opened fire on it. Our boys promptly responded, and the fire was continued for an hour and a half between the steamers and battery, when Walker's Flying Artillery, supported by the R. L. Blues, Capt. Wise, of your city, came up with a run from Warrenton Point, and opened on the steamers, the fire continuing for an hour and a half.

To-day, about 11 o'clock, the "Aqueduct," a large three-masted steam propeller, supported to be the "Falcon," and four other smaller boats, came in sight, three of the steamers opening on our battery. The fight was continued for six hours, the vessels firing so hotly at us without doing the slightest injury, notwithstanding the fact that the shells that fell about our battery, and one of them passed through a port hole and exploded in our midst. Our battery fired 120 shells, many of which took effect on the vessels, one of them carrying away the flag of the "Aqueduct," and another cutting down the mast of the large propeller.

The last shot fired was from one of Walker's side pieces, which ricocheted and struck the large steamer just above the water line, immediately after which the "Falcon" got under way and moved off, probably to repair damage.

During the fight our men were as cool as icebergs, every one exhibiting a bravery and determination that would have done credit to veteran soldiers.

During the two days' fight some of our men were killed, and only one of them slightly injured, not enough to prevent his taking part in the fight. Should the enemy attempt to effect a landing at the Creek hereafter, you will then learn with certainty that somebody has been hurt.—Richmond.

Brother and Sister.—Can anything be more perfectly beautiful than the sight of a manly, thoughtful, gentle boy, trying to interest and please his little sister? And let every interesting little girl, and beautiful young lady remember that the boy who is not attentive and polite to his sister and mother, is certain not to be so to any one. It is a bad sign, depend upon it, to see a boy or young man more gallant and obliging to other people, than he is to his own mother and sister.

Cure for Neuralgia.—Some time since, we published, at the request of a friend, a receipt for neuralgia. Half a drachm of sal ammoniac in an ounce of camphor water, to be taken a teaspoonful at a dose, repeated several times at intervals of five minutes, if the pain be not removed at once.

An old maid hearing of the contemplated marriage of a young lady with a gentleman who served her at the sinking of the Lady Elgin, remarked, "It's a very romantic affair, no doubt, but I would rather be drowned any time than to sit all the night with a young man, on a piece of wreck, in my night-gown!"

The Watchman

SALISBURY, N. C.

THURSDAY EVENING, JUNE 6, 1861.

ET We are authorized to announce WILLIAM A. HOUCK, as a Candidate for County Court Clerk of Rowan.

ET We are authorized to announce JACOB S. MYERS as a candidate for County Court Clerk of Rowan.

ET We are authorized to announce ORADIAH WOODSON as a Candidate for the office of County Court Clerk of Rowan County.

ET We are authorized and requested to announce JOSEPH E. BURKE, as a candidate for the office of County Court Clerk, at the ensuing August election.

ET We are authorized to announce THOMAS McNEELY, a candidate for re-election to the office of Superior Court Clerk.

MORE TROOPS WANTED.

Rowan has not yet furnished her quota of men for the army. We have only two companies in the field. It is true a large number has joined Mr. Fisher's Regiment, and gone into encampment. But owing to little funds, two of the Companies heretofore spoken of as nearly ready, have since partly disbanded, and are now in progress of reconstruction. In the mean time, four or five recruiting officers have arrived here, all citizens of the county, and there is a capital chance for men to select officers to suit them. Those who can enter the service ought to do so without delay, for every thing now depends on prompt and spirited resistance.

DRILL! DRILL!!

We see that in some of our Southern States and towns, the people close up their shops and stores every evening at 5 o'clock, for the purpose of spending the remainder of the day in military drill. Old and young assemble together for the purpose. We would suggest the adoption of the plan here. We all intend to fight this war out, and it is very evident that a knowledge of the science of war is all important. We ought to be ready drilled, so that at a moment's notice we could take our place in a company and go right off to duty. There are several officers in town qualified and willing to instruct us, while they remain here, and when it is not convenient for Mr. Bradshaw to serve us, as heretofore he has those who have attended the drill of the Home Guard. How many second the motion? How many will attend on the public square to-morrow evening at 5 o'clock for this purpose? It is hoped many if not all, our male citizens between the ages of 16 and 60, will promptly turn out. It is a good idea our more Southern friends have given us, let us try it. Adjutant Bessent, Captains Kennerly, Jones, Reeves, Sanders, Lord, and all other officers in town, are respectfully invited to attend and help forward the undertaking.

ET The roll of the drum on the public square will be the signal for meeting. Attend with firelocks, double or single barrels.

Will there be a Draft?—We have often been asked this question; and judging from the spirit of the people to volunteer for the first four or five weeks after the call was made for troops, we have answered no. But there is a startling fact brought out in the Standard of the 5th June, and that is that of the 30,000 troops called for by the Governor, only 7,000 have been received. They are still coming out, and this number will doubtless be increased. But we are moving at a slow pace. We ought to have had ten thousand men in Virginia by this time, and our own State strongly defended by bodies of troops at suitable points along the coast. It must be remembered that men have to be thoroughly drilled and instructed before they are ready to meet an enemy; and at the present rate, when will we get the thirty thousand called for? North Carolina is behind the times, and we fear she may be caught napping. We do not believe her sons will wait to be drafted—we certainly hope not. Yet the enemy is on our borders, reconnoitering the points of ingress, and evidently intends to subjugate us if possible. In the name of all that is patriotic and brave, is it not a time for speedy action?

Rowan has not yet done her whole duty. How long shall this be said of her?

Two more Companies from the West.—The mountain counties in North Carolina have been truly represented as fully aroused to the necessity of defending our State and the South from the tyranny of the Lincoln administration. Two more companies, one from Lenoir, Caldwell county, under Capt. W. F. Jones; and another from McDowell county, as we learn, passed through this place last Tuesday evening. The Caldwell company had 116 men.—The other was not so large.

ET There was no news by this morning's mail. It is reported that about 50 Lincoln men were killed in the fight at Aquia Creek.

TROOPS! TROOPS!!

The 7th Regiment of South Carolina troops from Abbeville and Edgefield Districts, under the command of Colonel Bacon, passed through this place this morning, on their way to Virginia. They were a formidable looking body, about 1000 strong. They were greeted with round after round of cheering, until the very air seemed filled with human voices. May the God of battles nerve them for duty and protect them from a disaster and defeat.

The Legislature.—There seems to be little or no difference of opinion here as regards the extra session of the Legislature appointed to be held on the 25th of this month. No one sees the necessity for it, inasmuch as the Convention, now in session, is able, and possesses power equal to the emergency of the times.

Barbarous War.—Lincoln's war on the South has thus far been marked with barbarity, rapacity and fiendishness. The laws of the land and the rules of civilized warfare violated by his men, not yet with impunity, it is true; but with such a beginning what may we expect?

Home Made Writing Paper.—The Mills of Messrs. OAKS & WISWALL, Lincoln, N. C., are turning out the various kinds of writing paper—"Commercial Note"—"Letter"—"Cap"—and "Flat Cap"—ruled and unruled, blue and white. We have a specimen of their "Cap," which is very good. They have large orders on hand, and are driving their business right ahead.

This is an important branch of business, and if the blockade continues, must succeed completely. It ought to have succeeded long ago; for a similar enterprise was started by Geo. Mosteller, Esq., near Lincoln, some years ago, and kept up by him while he remained in connection with the paper business. He also manufactured blank books—Ledgers, Dockets, Day Books, &c., &c.; which, by-the-way, is not less important, at a time like this.

THE MOB.

We regret to have to record the death of the negro man, Oscar, in this town, last Monday, by a mob. A part of our Monday's issue contained a brief allusion to the case; but the larger portion was printed off before the mob had completed its work. It will be remembered that Oscar was charged with an attempted rape on Mrs. Cynthia Bryant, of Concord. He was first put on his trial at the Spring Term of our Court, 1860, and convicted and sentenced. But an appeal was taken and the case went up to the Supreme Court, and was thence sent back for a new trial. It came up again on Wednesday of last week; and after a patient and able investigation, resulted in a verdict of acquittal, at 10 o'clock on Monday last.

Very shortly after the jury returned their verdict, a crowd collected about the Court House and jail, and openly declared that the prisoner should be hung. It chiefly consisted of non-residents of our town and county; and notwithstanding their threats, few believed they were really in earnest. They seemed to have no leader. The Sheriff did not appear to apprehend violence, and did not call for help to prevent it, until it was too late, so far as we learn. About 4 o'clock they demanded entrance into the prison; and on the refusal of the Sheriff to give them the keys, they entered with a sledge hammer, forcing the doors from the front to the third story.—Judge French had been sent for and arrived just at the time the last door was broken down and the prisoner taken. He was not regarded by the mob; and when he called with a loud voice, upon the citizens of Salisbury (a large number of whom were in hearing) to come to the rescue, they did not obey him; but on the contrary, many turned away and left the place. Finding that he was not to be sustained, the Judge left, closely followed out of the gate by the company having Oscar in charge. The prisoner was marched out with a rope around his neck, to a grove in the North-Eastern margin of town, and there hung. A moment before he was swung up, he saw among the spectators one of the jurymen who sat on his trial, and asked him to protect him. The jurymen answered that he had no power to do it, and warned him to tell the truth, and not die with a lie in his mouth. To this

he answered, that he had said all that he could say—he was not guilty.

The friends of law and order will explore this and all similar occurrences. There is no more dangerous thing than a mob. There is no safety to the person or property of any one, high or low, rich or poor, when the broken down law turns loose the excited passions of men. Human nature is thoroughly depraved, and without the restraints of law is cruel and desperate. It is because this is so that all prudent people oppose every departure from established law. And in the present seething state of the public mind, there are extraordinary reasons for fearing the consequences of a violent visitation of even admitted justice; for there is increased danger that what would in ordinary times scarcely ruffle the surface of society may now stir up a storm of human fury which no human power could arrest before its desolating march had swept off numbers, of both innocent and guilty. It is dangerous again, because mobs generally end in the destruction of those who start them.

But almost every reader will ask, what were the provoking circumstances in this case exciting a mob? We have heard these mentioned: The nature of the crime, and the impossibility of guarding against it except by visiting upon offenders the most terrible penalties; the conviction of the prisoner on the first trial, which, at the time, was regarded to be a fair trial; the introduction of the testimony of Mr. Boyden, who privately, and before the Court, protested against giving evidence; the popular belief of the guilt of the prisoner; and the very unpropitious state of the country for turning loose upon the community a negro so generally believed to be guilty of this crime, however under the forms of the law entitled to an acquittal. But all these and more, do not justify the violence resorted to, and the open contempt shown to the constituted authorities of the land. They may palliate to some extent; but it was all fearfully wrong.

In the eyes of our outraged laws, those who committed this violence, those who stood by and assented to it, those who refused to respond to Judge French's call, and those who knew what was going on and absented themselves through fear or indifference, are all—all guilty of the blood of Oscar.

Whose hands are clean?

FIFTEEN HUNDRED FREE COLORED MEN IN ARMS.—On Monday night a meeting of some two thousand men, "representing," says the Picayune, "the flower of the free colored population of New Orleans," was held to take into consideration committee resolutions previously published in city papers. By these resolutions the free colored men of the city offer their services to the municipal authorities, in case of an invasion by the enemy; and, if allowed to form themselves in military companies, they engage to take arms at a moment's notice for the defence of their native soil, and fight, "shoulder by shoulder," with the citizens, as their fathers did in 1814.

The meeting was addressed in an impassioned manner by Mr. Armand Lamaze, and the resolutions adopted unanimously. At the conclusion of the proceedings fifteen hundred of these patriotic yellow men stepped forward and signed their names as ready to perform military duty. Their stock has not degenerated, and they will fight as faithfully as their fathers did with Jackson. At the time of the insurrection of the slaves of Saint Domingo, the free colored men earnestly tendered their services for its suppression to the authorities. They were doubted and their aid rejected. Had they been accepted, the negroes would not have triumphed. Most of the whites who escaped with life, were saved by the exertions of the free colored.

We commend this to the attention of those in the South, if there be any, who are thinking about playing tory in this war. A tory is a man who is too cowardly to fight for his country, but would rather hang back, and let the enemy come in and lay on him whatever burden he pleases. If the enemy tells him black my boots, or wash my feet, the tory bends his supple knees to the task, and when done is ready for the next command. A tory is a very poor spirited creature, and only fit to be a slave. No one who has any respect for himself or love for his Country can be a tory; and we are glad to see that even the free negroes of New Orleans are too proud to stand by and see their Country invaded by the Yankees, without taking up arms to drive them back. They know very well that death, even, is better than subjugation by the wicked and rebellion-honoring attempt to reduce us; and they know, too, that if the people of the South will stand shoulder to shoulder in this struggle, the Yankees cannot conquer us in thirty years. They will soon get sick of the war, and go back home. It is a hard thing to conquer a brave people who are fighting for their homes, their wives and their children. It is almost an impossibility. In our case it is impossible.

TO ARMS!

It is high time that every man in the State was in arms and ready for the fight. Companies of Rangers and Sharpshooters should be formed in every neighborhood. Jeff Davis will embrace every brave man's aid.—There should be no more retreating; but every inch of ground should be contested.—Rich. H. Wig.

St. Louis, June 1. General Hasey has been removed. His successor is supposed to be Gen. Egbert.

THE WATCHMAN.

Mr. Editor.—In your last issue, you copy an article from an Exchange, on the duty of citizens to keep up our schools. The exhortation is right and commendable; but is it not well for the school teachers to be informed that either their prices or their schools must go down? Every thing that can be dropped, will be dropped now, unless it is offered at rates consistent with the times. Board and Tuition must come down, or there will be a mighty coming down of the literary institutions. I make this suggestion in kindness to teachers and with best wishes for all interested.

June 4th, 1861.

FOR THE WATCHMAN.

From Harper's Weekly of May 18, 1861.

"The American Revolution was fought upon the principle that all men have an equal right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, and that therefore government must be founded on common consent; and the Jeff Davis rebels are trying to destroy the government lost in some way it should prevent their depriving certain people of those rights at their pleasure. That a body of men should attempt the destruction of a government which secures those fundamental rights to the great majority is bad enough; but that they should attempt it because it may, by its lawful and peaceful operation ultimately secure them to all is foolish."

"Let it then be distinctly understood that this Jeff Davis rebellion is no effort to override the normal operation of our government by the means of a military usurpation; and it is pushed with this desperation because the late election shows that, under the peaceful operation of our political system—the most just and benign known to history—the barbarism which has clung and degenerated as a nation will be surely and safely eliminated from our society. It is an insurrection against the common sense and common conscience of mankind, and against the inevitable course of Christian civilization."

The Southern men who initiated the present revolution, have acted from the first under the belief that the Republican party were determined, should they obtain the power, to continue the war against the institutions of the Southern States until they should be extirpated, as plainly indicated in the above extract from Harper's Weekly. They have considered the danger of rapid growth, and the mere existence of the Southern States with their rights as sisters in the old Union, no doubtful problem when that party should obtain control of all the machinery of government, should they quietly submit to its rule.

It is true, all could have lived and prospered in that Union with equal Constitutional rights secured and observed with honorable and fraternal feeling; but when the arteries that carried the circulation from the heart of the Confederacy to the South were tied, while the blood was drained from every vein returning from them, they thought it time, high time, to make an effort to prevent the death that awaited inaction.

As their peace and prosperity was a source of continual revenue to the North, increasing with their growth, they did suppose those who were fattening upon their substance would have selfish foresight enough, if they had no regard for their Constitutional right, to permit them the enjoyment of so much of what had been pledged to each State when they united, as would at least have ensured to their own benefit; but the virus of falsehood and hatred seems to have impregnated the whole Northern system, that they ignore the rights of the Southern States, systematically plunder their people, and constantly seek to disturb their peace by continuing efforts to engender servile insurrections among them; and yet the Northern mind is all "patriotism," and fully imbued with a love of "Constitutional" liberty—in theory—but in conduct, when the Southern citizen appeals to the constitution to protect his rights, it is seldom observed generally violated not only with the consistency and support of their people, but such violation is often invited by their State governments, and obedience to its provisions made a crime. When the South appealed to this compact, they were told of "higher law," and when they fled to what has been considered and was designed to be, the great bulwark of our liberties, the Supreme Court of the United States, they saw its decisions repudiated with scorn by the popular voice of the North, and the South notified that men would soon be placed on the bench of that court whose decisions upon Southern rights would be in accordance with this Northern sentiment. Mr. Lincoln himself has over and again told the free states, that the slave States could not long continue under one government with the free. The South used to think differently, and have to the last shown to the world the strongest demonstration that States could show, that the violation of their rights, was what they sought, and not the destruction of the old government. They wrote for the Union.