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EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

From the Squatchie Valley.—From Major Bridgman, who has just reached Knoxville from Squatchie Valley, we learn that the enemy, in their late advance up the direction of Huntsville, by Jones, ordered David Rankin, W. S. Griffith, and other prominent Southern men, making them walk in the dust at the foot of their column.

They stole all the horses they could lay their hands on, and mounted their infantry, besides burning the fences around the farmers' wheat &c. Their column numbered 5,000 men—commenced crossing Warden's Ridge, at Anderson's Turnpike, with their baggage and ammunition wagons, on Friday, the 6th inst., at about 2 o'clock p. m., and were crossing the mountains towards Chattanooga. A portion of their cavalry remained in the Valley until Saturday morning.

On Friday night last, Col. Jas. Starves, with three companies of his invincible cavalry pursued a company of Federal cavalry from McMinnville, and overtook them just after daylight at Reidsville, where they had stopped to feed. Eleven of the Feds were killed and sixty-nine captured, only three of the entire company making their escape. Col. Starves confiscated their pistols, guns, sabres, horses, saddles, &c. He took the captured prisoners back to McMinnville, where, after making out a descriptive roll, he released them on parole. The prisoners requested that, instead of the usual oath to take up arms again until regularly exchanged, they should be sworn not to fight again during the war, and the oath was so administered. Col. Starves, being as generous as he is brave, returned to the Federal captain his side arms, horse and equipments, but jocularly remarked to the private that he was under the necessity of putting them with the infantry, as he had no use for their horses.—Col. Starves, during his present expedition, has intercepted between Huntsville and Shelbyville several trains of cotton, on their way to Lincoln, all of which he promptly burned.—Knoxville Register.

The Killed and Wounded.—When the full returns are received, thousand of dwellings will be filled with anguish of spirit for the "loved and lost." Into tens of thousands of souls will the iron enter.—God pity and comfort the bereaved.—Their husbands and sons and brothers have fallen in the path of duty—in defence of all that man holds dear.

So far we have only accounts of a few officers killed and wounded. Among them the only General officers are our gallant North Carolinian, Gen. Pender, who was slightly wounded in the hand, and Gen. Elzey. Of other North Carolinians, the killed reported are Col. Campbell of Irwell, of the 7th; Capt. James A. Wright of Wilmington, of the 1st, an accomplished gentleman and gallant officer, whom we mourn as a friend; Maj. Skinner of Chowan we believe, of the 1st; Lieut. Grandy; Lieut. Duncan C. Haywood of Raleigh (son of the late Senator Haywood) of the 7th.

Of wounded, we have Major Benj. R. Hulse of this town of the 48th, struck by a ball in the foot, on Wednesday. Lieut. John H. Anderson, also of this town, and of the same Reg't., in fleshy part of the leg, same day. Col. James H. Lane, of the 28th, (formerly of the Bethel Reg't.) severely, and will probably lose an arm, Maj. Edward Savage of Wilmington, of the 3d, in the hand, not seriously. Capt. Benj. R. Moon of Salisbury, Adj't. of the 10th Reg't., painfully but not dangerously in the thigh. Col. Stokes of Wilkes, of the 1st, badly wounded in the leg. Lieut. Col. John A. McDowell of Bladen, also of the 1st, badly wounded in the shoulder. Col. Riddick of Gates, of the 34th, in the leg. Adj't. Riddick, also of the 34th, severely. Maj. Hammerskold, contusion. Capt. W. A. Blount, aid to Gen. Branch, shot through the arm.—Fayetteville Observer.

Powls for the Hospitals.—We observed yesterday morning at the Southern depot, a car load of fowls, eggs, etc., which had just been brought in from North Carolina, and destined for the hospitals in Richmond. For yards around we could hear the crying of the chickens, the singing of the hens and the crowing of the roosters.—What a treat they will prove to the invalid soldier. This reminds us that the country people might do a great deal more for the sick soldiers than they have done.—They can always find transportation on our railroads for delicacies for the soldiers, and chickens, and ducks and butter and eggs, etc., would always be acceptable. Let our excellent house wives in the country think of this matter.—Petersburg Express.

### SEVERELY INJURED.

The Federal gunboat *John Bell*, which was so severely damaged on Friday week last, while attempting to pass up James river, in the vicinity of Turkey Island, by a section of French's Battery, under the direction of Col. Manning, of the Third Arkansas Regiment, has turned up at the North, and reports "severe injuries" sustained on the occasion above alluded to. Our boys fired 23 shots at her, (8 pounder rifled,) at a distance of 250 yards, every one of which was seen to enter, and must have passed through and through. Her decks which were crowded with sharpshooters, were shrouded at the first shot from the Confederate battery, and as they all ran below, the casualties must have been numerous. Even the pilots left the wheel, and the "*John Bell*" drifted slowly down the stream, with the flag flying at half-mast. This signal of distress Col. Manning did not respect, as he knew it was a miserable piece of deception, to have the cowardly vandals who had deserted the deck, and huddled below.—Petersburg Express.

### AN UNFORTUNATE AFFAIR.

It does seem strange that one troops, every now and then, mistake one another for the enemy, and invariably when such is the case, the result proves serious. A mistake of this kind occurred on Sunday last, about half past two o'clock, on our line near Richmond. The *Enquirer* of the 23d inst., says that the Twelfth Virginia and one of the Georgia Regiments were sent out on picket, and after proceeding some distance down the Charles City road together, they separated and pursued divergent routes. About the above hour, it seems, they accidentally came upon one another, and each imagining that the other was the enemy, poured several volleys into one another before the mistake was discovered. It was indeed a fearful misapprehension. A considerable number on each side were killed and wounded, the exact number we have been unable to ascertain. The Elliott Greys, of Richmond, which belongs to the Twelfth Virginia, lost, we learn, three or four killed, and several wounded.—Wil. Journal.

### WHERE DID SHE FIND THEM?

—We are informed that a well known gentleman of this city had occasion two or three days ago, in the absence of all other meat upon his table, to kill a goose to serve the appetites of his numerous family. The goose was killed, pickled, and on being dressed, what was the astonishment of the cook to find in the gizzard of the fowl, two bright gold dollars! And what was the astonishment and delight of the gentleman when the money was handed to him! It is a very interesting question to discuss, how this mother goose came into the possession of these gold dollars. And whether, like many persons we hear of, she has been hoarding this money up for some special emergency. At any rate, we are informed there is no doubt about the above mentioned fact. Petersburg Express.

### The Quickest Way to End the War.

—A good story is told about Congressmen, a number of whom proceeded to Yorktown to see the sights after the evacuation. A Michigan colonel was in command of the guard. Citizens were prohibited admittance. Several came up and asked the corporal to pass them, saying that they were Congressmen. The corporal stated the case to the Colonel.

"They are Congressmen, are they?" asked the Colonel.

"So they say."

"Well, let them pass and go where they please," said the Colonel. "Let them tramp on the torpedoes, go into the magazines, and where there is any prospect of their being blown to the devil, for that is the quickest way to end the war."

Northern paper.

Here is flour in Atlanta—thousands of barrels of it—yet when the poor soldier's wife, or the poor day laborer, applies at the counter for his supply, he is told that it is all sold and withdrawn from market—and for what? That that heedless wretch, the extortioner, may force an advance, and then sell at a price which makes him rich, while the means at the command of the wife and mother will hardly buy enough to keep herself and little ones alive. As true as there is a just God in heaven, we believe that justice and deserved punishment will be meted out to them here and hereafter. The curse of the Almighty is upon them and will certainly overtake them. Atlanta Commonwealth.

Rail Road Dividend.—The N. C. R. R. Company has declared a dividend of 8 per cent. on their operations for the last twelve months.

### THE GREAT BATTLE.

From the Richmond Examiner, July 1st.  
The Richmond Examiner—The Retreat of McClellan towards James River—Critical Situation of his Army.

To keep the track of the battle which have swept around Richmond we must have reference to the principal points of locality which have become familiar in these accounts. It will be recollected that it was on Thursday evening when the attack was commenced upon the enemy near Beaver Bridge. This locality is about six miles distant from the city, on a line almost due north. This position was the enemy's extreme right. His line extended from here across the Chickahomony, near the Powhite creek, two or three miles above the crossing of the York River railroad. From Beaver Bridge to this railroad the distance along the Chickahomony on the north side is about two miles. The different stages between the points indicated, along which the enemy were driven, are Mechanicsville, about a mile north of the Chickahomony; further on Beaver Dam creek, emptying into the Chickahomony; then the New Bridge road, on which Cold Harbor is located; and then Powhite creek, where, it will be recollected, the enemy was pursued after having been driven from his strong position behind Beaver Dam creek.

The York River railroad runs in an easterly direction, intersecting the Chickahomony about two miles from the city. South of the railroad is the Williamsburg road, connecting with the Nine Mile road at Seven Pines. The former road, which turns off and crosses the Chickahomony. From Seven Pines, where the Nine Mile road joins the upper one, the road is known as the old Williamsburg road, and crosses the Chickahomony at Bottom's Bridge.

With the bearing of these localities in his mind the reader will readily understand how it was that the enemy was driven from his original stronghold on the north side of the Chickahomony, and how, at the time of Friday's battle, he had been compelled to surrender the possession of the Fredericksburg and Central railroads, and had been pressed to a position where he was cut off from the principal avenue of supply and escape. The disposition of our forces was such as to cut off all communication between McClellan's army and the White House, on the Pamunkey river; he had been driven completely from his northern line of defence; and it was supposed that he would be unable to extricate himself from his position without a victory or a capitulation. In front of him, with the Chickahomony, which he had crossed, to his rear, were the divisions of Generals Longstreet, Magruder and Huger, and in this situation as it existed Saturday night, all hopes of his escape were thought to be impossible.

On Sunday morning it appears that our pickets, on the Nine Mile road, having engaged some small detachments of the enemy and driven them beyond their fortifications, found them deserted. In a short while it became known to our generals that McClellan having massed his entire force on the side of the Chickahomony, was retreating towards James river, having stolen a march of twelve hours on General Huger, who had been placed in position on his flank to watch his movements.

### INCIDENTS OF THE CONTEST—SCENERY OF THE BATTLE-FIELDS, ETC.

There appear to have been some imperfect statements as to what forces were engaged in Friday's retreat on the enemy's works at General's farm, where was, in fact, the great wreath of the contest. From the best information we can obtain, it appears that General A. F. Hill's division, supported by Gen. Pettigrew's brigade, from General Longstreet's division, made the first assault upon the enemy's works, and were afterwards reinforced by General Whiting's division, when the enemy were dislodged. Whiting's division is composed of the Fourth Alabama, Eleventh Mississippi, Sixth North Carolina, Second Mississippi, First, Fourth and Fifth Texas, and Tenth Georgia.

A hill east of Mechanicsville offered an eminence, from which could be observed much of the progress of three days' combat; the smoke of the battle affording the outlines to the positions of the forces engaged.

All day Friday and Saturday, as well as yesterday, there could be seen hanging over the woods a heavy haze, welling up from the scene of the fight below. The shells often went up to a great elevation, and falling and exploding were generally harmless. In the woods beyond Mechanicsville some of the trees, as thick around as a man's body, are shot through and through by round shot, and the bushes are everywhere cut and nipped by the bullets.

Signs of human habitation, fences, and fruit trees, have been swept from the face of the country as far as our army so that of the enemy has progressed in Hanover county.

The woods and swamps are represented as full of Yankee deserters, and they could be brought in in any number if our troops desired to leave the regular lines and go to the front for that purpose.

The farmers residing in the neighborhood of the battle-fields have, with great unanimity and patriotic devotion, responded to the demand for hospital accommodations, and have opened their dwellings and outhouses for the use and occupation of the wounded.

Among the trophies of our victory are several very fine Federal flags taken from the enemy on Saturday and Sunday. One belongs to the "Backsliders," of the Eleventh Pennsylvania Reserves, and two others to the 4th New Jersey regiment.

Around Mechanicsville the houses had been occupied by the troops of both armies, and the scenes of desolation are very great.

Throughout the whole country the houses are shattered, and nearly shot into pieces by the cannon balls of the opposing armies. At Mechanicsville the explosion of a shell knocked a large house into fragments, and killed six men who were resting there.

In Hanover county the scene of destruction is wide and appalling. At Elm's mills the women

of both sides were lying through Saturday and Sunday. A great many of the dead were picked from the canal at the mill. One poor fellow was found lying on the side of the hill with his mouth beside him and a shot through his breast.

At Dr. Atkinson's farm, from which the enemy bore off after the fight at the mill, the fighting was terrible and the loss heavy on both sides. The house of this gentleman is filled with the dead and wounded, and the enemy's surgeons were among them, they being furnished with every facility. They laid unattended for miles, sick, prostrated and wounded. The Yankees have their hospitals in the woods, and thousands are lying around under the attention of their surgeons. Amputation is going on at all times, but the green leavies furnish great relief to the wounded. The demand for medicine is so great that none of the houses were large enough to make cellars for the dead.

Some fifty bodies were taken out of the canal at General's mills. Over five hundred horses were left belonging to the several batteries, and their carcasses are now infecting the air.

Among the prisoners taken yesterday, was Mr. Thomas Cantor, proprietor of the *Yorkshireman's Newspaper*, Yorkshire, England, whose arrival in this country we noticed several days ago. He arrived on McClellan's line not long since to report the progress of the war for the London press. He is at one of the city prisons.

To the list published yesterday of the conspicuous dead who have fallen upon the field, we have to add the name of Colonel Robert Wheat, of Louisiana. He received a mortal wound in the head in the fight at General's mills, and expired on the field. Colonel Wheat carried a famous name at Mechanicsville, where he was severely wounded and where his Louisiana battalion achieved some of the most conspicuous distinctions of the day.

### A YANKEE LAYING—THE SCULLS OF THE BURNING.

We have seen the usual number of caricatures from the battle fields in letters, &c. We content ourselves to the way of "caricatures" with the following extract from the letter of a strong-minded female of Philadelphia on the subject of rebel skulls. The female phrenologist wishes to experiment upon the skulls of the Southern people. For Rippon and Fremont she proposes to dissect the skull of the man who matched the movements of Old Nick himself. She writes: "Tell friend Carlton, if he gets a chance, to cut off the head of a rebel and boil it five hours, so that all the flesh may come off readily, and then saw the skull in two from front, and he will find the unevenness of the thickness to be mostly inside." The writer then adds some other theories, which show her to be a phrenologist as well as phrenologist. She is quite satisfied, by communications from the other world, that the rebels are at their "last ditch," and that "dear Will," to whom the communications of this strong-minded hag's letter are addressed, "will be back in Philadelphia very soon."

### OPERATIONS OF THE FAUCONET—TWENTY-FIVE HUNDRED PRISONERS REPORTED TO BE TAKEN.

A report was received here last evening that General Stuart's cavalry had succeeded in getting in the rear of the enemy on the Pamunkey, near the White House, and had captured twenty-five hundred prisoners. A number of the enemy's transports were also burned here.

### GENERAL MAGRUDER'S AFFAIR WITH THE ENEMY ON SUNDAY.

We learn that about sundown General Magruder's division came up with the rear of the enemy and engaged a portion of his forces for about an hour and a half.

After passing the enemy's camp, on the York River railroad, our troops pushed after the enemy, and came up with him on the Williamsburg road, a mile east of the Seven Pines, opposite Mr. Wm. Sedgwick's farm. The enemy were posted in a thick piece of pine north of the Williamsburg road, behind entrenchments of great strength and elaborate finish. The Heintzelman battalion began the fight by shelling the woods. From the direction of the railroad, Kersey's brigade and other troops marched down the Williamsburg road and dashed into the woods by a flank movement to the left. Here the fight raged furiously until darkness put an end to the contest. Our men laid on their arms, with the design of renewing the battle with the return of daylight.

When the day broke the enemy had again disappeared. Magruder's division followed in pursuit, capturing a large number of prisoners on the way. The demoralization of the retreating army was attested by the large number of stragglers which had left the main body, surrounding themselves as prisoners to our men. Yesterday it was reported that the retreating enemy amounted to several thousand.

The deserted camp of the enemy near the railroad was filled with valuable booty. Their splendid grey canvas tents, pitched over two miles of country, were left standing in good order. The military chests of officers, which were left in great numbers, indicated that the camp had been occupied by Meagher's Irish brigade, a Pennsylvania, a New York, and a Massachusetts brigade. As our men passed hastily through the camp, they helped themselves to such articles as suited their fancy. There was a variety of booty sufficient to gratify the most voracious tastes.

Our loss in killed and wounded in Sunday's affair is reported to be inconsiderable—about a hundred men.

### MOVEMENTS OF YESTERDAY—McCLELLAN'S POSITION GREATLY INTERCEPTED.

Yesterday every one seemed lost and bewildered in their imaginations of what had become of McClellan's army. There was no certain announcement that he had yet reached the river. As the day progressed, it became known that Jackson's division had crossed the Chickahomony, and that there were strong hopes that Longstreet's division would intercept the retreating enemy. General Holmes, commanding a division, was said to be between the enemy and the river with a force of 15,000 men. Every effort seemed to be made by a new disposition of our forces to repair the unfortunate

circumstances by which an enemy with three divisions in his front had effected at least a temporary escape from a position in which it was paramount object of the contest to hold him.

The last accounts we have of the situation of the enemy, and which we can recommend to our readers as reliable, leave no doubt that his retreat has been intercepted. We are able to state positively that we have forces between him and the river, including General Holmes' command of fifteen thousand men. It is also certain that Gen. Jackson crossed the Chickahomony yesterday morning, and that the main body of McClellan's forces is on the side of the Chickahomony, in Charles City county, where his retreat has been intercepted and he has again been challenged to battle. The condition of the enemy excites hopes of a most favorable result to our arms.

Information of the progress of our arms yesterday were message an account of the movements being conducted further away from the city.

It was stated by persons who left our lines yesterday afternoon that general fighting was progressing. These statements, however, we believe to be unreliable in the extent to which they go. There was some shelling about noon, and probably some action in the afternoon preparatory to the great contest; our troops are busily marching and counter-marching to effect the complete investment of the enemy's position.

### THE LAYERS FROM OUR LINES—GENERAL'S POSITION.

The latest accounts which we can get from the critical portion of our lines, and recommend to our readers as reliable, represent that late yesterday in the afternoon the enemy was in position near White Oak Swamp; that all the roads to the Chickahomony were in our possession, Jackson's division having a position at Bottom's Bridge; that a portion of our forces had got in the rear of the enemy and were driving him back, and that late in the evening our forces in his front had driven up in two lines of "vultures" for a general action, which the enemy was endeavoring to decline. The attack was made by General Huger on the front of the enemy, who was at that time in the neighborhood of the intersection of the New Market and Quaker roads, with Generals Holmes and Magruder in his rear. After a short and desultory contest the divisions of Gen. Langstreet and A. P. Hill were moved up, and attacked the enemy with great force, and the action became general with terrible loss on our side, but terminated with the result of driving the enemy back for about a mile and a half, and putting him in a position where he will be forced to fight in the morning with every prospect of the rout of his forces, so it is supposed that our attack will be made this morning on his front on both flanks. Longstreet's division is reported to have been badly cut up, particularly the brigade of General Anderson, of South Carolina, and General Kemper, of Virginia. It is supposed that an inconsiderable portion of McClellan's army may have reached James river.

### From the Richmond Examiner July 2d.

### THE BATTLES AROUND RICHMOND.

McClellan retreating in good earnest—Sunday's Battle—How Fighting Yesterday—The situation last night.

### THE BATTLE OF FRIDAY NIGHT.

To give our readers an intelligent and reliable statement of the great battle of Monday evening between the Chickahomony and James rivers (a brief account of which was published in yesterday's *Examiner* in advance of other channels of public information) we must advert to the situation in which the other great fight of Friday had found the opposing forces.

It will be recollected that, after his defeat at Cold Harbor, the enemy retreated to the Richmond side of the Chickahomony, and leaving his fortified camp on the north side of this river, continued his retreat towards James.

During Saturday and Sunday our forces were busily employed in "feeling" for the fugitive enemy. On Sunday morning the divisions of Generals Hill and Longstreet crossed the Chickahomony, and were, during the whole of the day, moving in the hunt for the enemy. The disposition which was made of our forces brought General Longstreet on the enemy's front immediately supported by General Hill's division, consisting of six brigades.

About four o'clock Monday afternoon, General Longstreet having been called away, the command of his division was assumed by General A. F. Hill, who, with both divisions—that of Longstreet and his own—engaged the enemy at a later hour in the evening.

The battle was thus fought under the immediate and able command of General A. F. Hill, in charge of both divisions. The position of the enemy was about five miles southeast of Darbytown, on the New Market road. The immediate scene of the battle was a plain of sedge plants, in the cover of which the enemy's forces were skilfully disposed.

In advancing upon the enemy, batteries of sixteen heavy guns were opened upon the advance columns of General Hill. Our troops pressing heroically forward, had no reason to within musket range than the enemy, forming several lines of battle, poured upon them from his heavy masses a devastating fire of musketry. The conflict became terrible; the air being filled with a hail of death, every moment being its peculiar sound of terror and every spot in sight of ghastly destruction and havoc. It is impossible that in any of the series of engagements which have taken place within the past few days, and have tracked the lines of Richmond with fire and destruction, there could have been more desperate fighting on the part of our troops. Never was a more glorious victory plucked from more desperate and threatening circumstances. While exposed to the double fire of the enemy's batteries and his musketry we were unable to contend with him with artillery. But, although thus smothered, the heroic command of General Hill pressed on with unequalled vigor and relentless courage, driving the enemy before them. This was accomplished without artillery, there being but one battle