

THE LATE BATTLE.

The Yankees no doubt, will call the affair of last Thursday a reconnaissance in force. Grant will telegraph to Stanton that it was made for the purpose of "feeling" the enemy, and that the object was completely and satisfactorily obtained. Stanton will telegraph the same with improvement; the two or three hundred prisoners taken will be called two or three thousand; the name of a disgraceful repulse, and the loss of some thousands of men, will thus be smothered up; all Yankeeedom will burn powder and ring bells; Lincoln will scarcely meet with the ghost of opposition on Tuesday next; and thus the first object will have been accomplished.

But, after all this, comes the second and main object. Lincoln is not only to be elected, by fair means or foul, but Richmond is to be taken. Grant will say that the object of his reconnaissance was fully obtained. What was that object? Was it not to find out the means of taking Richmond, and Lee's army with it? And has he attained that object? No doubt, if it had been merely to elect Lincoln, he might say with great truth that he had succeeded in doing that which would have been done without his assistance.

If the affair of last Thursday was in truth a reconnaissance, then it was certainly the biggest reconnaissance we ever heard of. Grant's whole army upon the whole of his immense line, infantry, artillery and cavalry, advanced in order of battle with their reserves, exactly as if they were about to engage in a desperate and decisive battle. They did not attack as though they wished to make a lodgement in some particular place, or to try the strength of some particular corps, but as though they were engaged in a pitched battle. It is vain for Grant to attempt to conceal the fact from the Confederates, however he may succeed in throwing dust in the eyes of the Yankees. This was no mere reconnaissance, any more than the first Manassas, which they attempted to pass off as such, after they had been defeated. It was a grand attack along the whole line, with all the forces he had at command. Had there been the slightest symptom of wavering in any portion of our line, he would have pushed column after column upon it, until it had either given way, or had shown such capacity to resist, that he would have been obliged to withdraw. We repeat it, the battle last Thursday was a great general battle, in which all the enemy's forces were engaged, and in which he was triumphantly repelled. Our own loss on the occasion was so slight, that it is hardly worth mentioning but for the value of the lives that were lost, each one of which was worth more than Grant's whole army.

The prevailing opinion seems to be that Grant will not make another assault before the Presidential election; or, more probable still, not this winter at all. It is not ours. We believe that he will try it once more, at least, and we believe that the trial will be made before two weeks of this month are out. He will think that circumstances have laid the vigilance of our army asleep, and he will hope to derive from that circumstance an advantage which he has never been able to obtain from his numbers, or his valor, or his skill. It becomes our Generals to be always on the alert, and to avoid the recurrence of the Fort Hudson affair. Without some such occurrence, he can no more get here, than he can get to Heaven—and, we hope it is no profanity to say, that is impossible. His only hope is to extend his left, and to cut us off from the Southside Railroad, which he thinks will starve us out. Even that he cannot do, if properly watched.

Prospect of a General War in Europe.—The Berlin correspondent of the N. Y. Herald, under date of Oct. 5, comments thus on the prospect of a general war in Europe:

"Together the situation is extremely curious; Russia is on the best possible terms with Prussia, and at the same time marries her Grand Duke to the daughter of the King of Denmark, whom Prussia has already stripped of two-fifths of his dominions, and threatens to deprive him of the balance; England, in all

other respects the antipodes of Russia, co-operates zealously with the Czar in patronizing Denmark, and would gladly bring on a coalition against Prussia, whose Crown Prince is the husband of her Princess Royal. Austria seeks the alliance of England to protect her from the enmity of France and Italy, and England is endeavoring to persuade Austria to join France and Italy against Russia and Prussia. What will be the end of this imbricatio it is impossible to foretell; but if it does not result in a general war it will only be because the finances of at least four of the Powers concerned—Austria, Russia, France and Italy—are in so dilapidated a condition that they would not be able to carry on war for three months without declaring themselves insolvent.

CAROLINA WATCHMAN.

SALISBURY, N. C.

MONDAY EVENING, NOV. 7, 1864.

THE BATTLE OF THURSDAY LAST.

This battle extended along the whole line, from beyond Petersburg to the Darbytown road. The success was most triumphant. We were everywhere, with almost no loss, triumphantly repulsed the enemy. One of our contemporaries estimates his entire loss at 8 to 10,000 men. We have no doubt it reached a very high figure. We took 1,365 prisoners, who are now in this city and have been counted. If the Yankees had gained such a victory, Lincoln would have ordered a day of Thanks giving.—*Richmond Whig.*

So it seems that unconditional surrender Grant has again met with a most signal and bloody repulse in his on to Richmond. His bright hopes are again blighted, and his glory is rendered obnoxious by the hecatombs of his fallen dead. Repulse means defeat,—disgraceful, ruinous defeat, to the Yankee army, as our readers would understand could they have seen the contested ground at the Wilderness, Spotsylvania, or Cold Harbor. There their dead and wounded were strewn over the extended field as shells upon the sea shore, and our glorious victory at each of these points General Lee modestly pronounced, a repulse.—Grant never moves but in large force and with much vigor; consequently a repulse of his confused masses means great loss and disaster.

Richmond is indeed a hard road to travel, which the Yankees have found out to their cost. They have met the lion in the path at every turn, while the listless Chickahominy Swamps have proved a real slough of despond in which Grant has floundered all summer without being able to extricate himself or advance one whit toward the great city of his son's ambition.

Imagine the chagrin and disappointment of the great Ulysses as he sits at his headquarters down about Bermuda Hundreds, smoking his old wooden pipe and soliloquizing in truly a Falstaff style over the inexorable pertinacity of the rebel army and the incontrovertible strategy of old Bob Lee, which hold so much glory from his coveted grasp. Richmond is the goal to be reached. To capture it would render him immortal. It is but a short distance off. He sees the tall spires, and church steeples, and can almost hear the busy hum of trade and commerce within its streets; yet, though he panteth for it, as the hart panteth for the water brook he must content himself with an occasional peep from behind his fortified camp; for if he chance to sally forth to breathe a little fresh air he is sure to find Old Lee or his ghost and those of as many rebels, who immediately raise a great shout and begin to cast little whizzing balls of lead at him, with so much precision as to render his excursion very un-

comfortable not to say unhealthy. He makes a hasty retreat and assumes his old position. But hope deferred maketh the heart sick.—He again resolves to take Richmond and immediately orders a grand reconnaissance to develop the incorrigible enemy's force in his front; but wherever he moves those same peerless ghosts and those same whizzing minies are to be met, which so confuse and demoralize his troops as to render success impossible. Thus Grant has fought it out on the line all summer, while the coveted prize is no nearer his than it was six months ago. Surely his people will soon begin to open their eyes to the stupendous failure of his campaign and read with less credulity his lying bulletins of victory.

The Raleigh *Conservative* says that Surgeon General WARREN, Raleigh, has been informed by Colonel OULD, that an arrangement has been made by which such of our soldiers as are held prisoners of war can be supplied with clothing, blankets, provisions, &c., from home. All contributions for this purpose will be promptly forwarded to their destination if left with the Surgeon General at Raleigh, who has undertaken it upon his own responsibility, and not under any Government arrangement.

Here, then, is an opportunity for doing much good. The brave men who have for so long a time suffered in northern prisons, may now receive the comforts they so much need. And as the winter is at hand, whatever is proposed should be done quickly.

A CHEERLESS PROSPECT.—There are two subjects causing the people of this place unusual anxiety at this time, and unless very soon relieved must cause much suffering. These are fire-wood and bread stuffs.

Private citizens who keep no horse or horses are almost entirely cut off from the possibility of obtaining fire-wood in consequence of the imprisonment of the teams heretofore employed in this service to haul for the C. S. Prison and other Government establishments in town. Some few occasional haulers who live at a distance, are busily engaged in gathering corn or seedling wheat, and there may be a few who keep their teams at home for fear of having them impressed if seen in at this kind of work. It works almost an entire prohibition so far as the public is concerned, and presents to many a family unused to it, a most cheerless prospect for the winter, which is just now beginning to be felt in its chilling winds, rains and frosts.

But the difficulty of obtaining flour and meal is, if anything, the cause of still greater uneasiness. The conscription and Home Guard draft has taken off a number of millers and left the mills standing.—Many of those yet running have been impressed to grind for the Government, and so the people are left without their usual facilities for obtaining bread stuffs.

It is believed that it will be impossible, under a continuance of these circumstances to prevent general privation and suffering, especially among that portion of our citizens who depend on the market for supplies.

We respectfully call the attention of our town authorities to these subjects. They are an important, and should engage their best and promptest efforts to provide a remedy.

We would also solicit the concern of farmers in adjacent counties to send their surplus products to this market, where they will command large prices, and contribute to the relief of our community, which, we think, is heavily enough burdened at present to excite the active sympathy we suggest.

One hundred and twenty-five wounded from Gen. Early's army reached Lynchburg by the Orange cars, Tuesday night. The most of them are very slightly injured. The total number that has been brought there thus far is three hundred and seventy-five.

We understand that a party of torries, 25 to 30 in number, are committing many acts of violence upon the property of loyal citizens of Wilkes county, destroying furniture, window lights &c., as well as robbing their victims of money and other valuable articles. We hear of Mr. Gray and Col. Eller, who have suffered by these visitations. No lives so far as we hear have been taken. We learn that two or three squads of these wretches are roaming over that county, committing such lawless acts.

Relief Association.—The people of Raleigh are organizing what they term a Relief Association. The plan is to raise a large capital by subscriptions, to be entrusted to the management of a competent business man as merchant, to buy and sell all articles entering into support of families—articles to be sold at cost, covering merchant's salary, clerk hire, &c., &c. It is expected that they will be able to supply the city with provisions at something like uniform rates, and at lower prices than at present. They will have the advantage of a large capital to operate with, and as all sales will be cash, of course this capital may be turned over several times during the year.

We hope it will work well, and we commend it to our citizens who really have need to avail themselves of every proper means to secure supplies at living rates.

"Our Own First Reader"—stereotype edition—is just out, and a copy of it sent us by the publisher. It is illustrated with a number of fine engravings, and the type is large and well suited to the young. It is, in several respects, an excellent little book for children just beginning to read. Indeed, we see no strong objection to any thing about it except—the printing. Make a little improvement in that. We suppose the pressing demand for the work is the great cause of this defect, and if so, it is a pity. Our friends at Greensboro' are doing a good service by the publication of these books, and are therefore entitled to much credit, as well as the forbearance of the public for defects in the execution of this work under the difficulties with which they have to contend.

The loss of the Albemarle and the capture of Plymouth will render the evacuation of Washington necessary, if not indeed already given up; and the surrender of a large scope of territory in the Eastern part of the State will unavoidably follow. We hoped that we would be spared further disaster in North Carolina; we looked back at the capture of Plymouth by Gen. Hoke last Spring as the Era of better days; but we were destined to be disappointed.

It is really humiliating not to say provoking, to have to record such disaster as this Albemarle affair. The destruction of the Albemarle made it folly to expect to hold Plymouth in the face of a formidable Yankee fleet. It destroyed Plymouth must fall, and also Washington without a strong force to protect it. The loss of these two places is as nothing compared to the loss of the vessel, or the large tract of rich country the enemy will be enabled to possess and ravage. We would have it otherwise, but we must accept the matter as it is presented to us. "There is no use grieving over spilt milk." We must act like men, and hold ourselves in readiness to avert a similar occurrence. There is no denying the fact that it is a very disgraceful and culpable matter for those who had the immediate protection of the vessel in charge, but of that hereafter.

NEW TERMS.—Our next lot of paper for the Daily and Weekly Watchman, for which we have just contracted, will cost us fifty per cent more than that we have been using for the last twelve months. This of itself would be sufficient cause for advancing on our present price for the "Watchman." But the prices of every thing else are advancing also about in the same proportion. We have no alternative but to raise our price also.

From this day forward, our Weekly will be ten dollars for six months; and our Daily Four Dollars per month.

These rates are far from being equal with other things, but we have no idea of trying to keep even with them. We must, however, so far yield to the tendency of prices as to protect our business from disaster.

First Foreign Battalion.—Lt. Col. J. Tucker, has been here two or three days engaged in recruiting for and forming the corps to be known by the above name. He obtained 214 recruits at this place, Saturday, and removed them the same day, to the rendezvous at Columbia, S. C. He will return in a few days and expects to obtain several hundred additional recruits.

Rumor hath it that several regiments could be readily formed here.

The Confederate Congress meets to-day. The finances of the Country claim their earliest and most serious attention. We should expect and desire heavy taxes as the only sure remedy for our depreciated currency. All other schemes will fail to accomplish any permanent good. We must pay the expenses of the war as they are made, or come as near it as possible.

What has become of our old friend the Salisbury Watchman?—It has not made its appearance on our table for several weeks.—*Salem Press.*

We made a new "directory" two or three weeks ago, and by some accident the "Press" was omitted in the Salem list. It has now been duly entered; and begging pardon for the past, will endeavor to make amends in the future.

The following piece of ingenious composition, found in an old Revolutionary account book, has been handed to us for publication. Read down the columns it speaks the sentiments of the Whig, and across both columns that of the Tory.

I love with all my heart The independent Part To bless the Parliament My conscience won't consent I never could abide To fight on England's side I hope the Lord may Kings	The man that's called a Tory To plague is my glory Then righteousness is the cause, To bless the Congress laws. To fight against the King, Bright liberty will bring. Lord North and England's Kings I hope that they may swing Of this opinion I Am resolved to live and die.
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LUDICROUS MISTAKE.

It appears that a most ludicrous mistake occurred among the Yankees during Grant's late "reconnaissance," to the Boydton Plank road. One brigade of Yankees, lately arrived in the grand Army of the Potomac, and unacquainted with localities, became separated from the rest of the troops in the advance on the Boydton plankroad. They wandered around for sometime in the hopes of meeting with their comrades. Suddenly, however, they came out upon a railroad—the Southside railroad, of course,—the very road they were looking for. They set to work upon it as a trice, and enthusiastically tore up about a mile and a half of it. Suddenly they hear the whistle of the train. They wait for it eagerly, ready to pounce upon the unwary passengers and satiate themselves with plunder; but the engineer sees danger ahead, and stops the locomotive with a shriek. The Yankees had torn up a mile and a half of Grant's new railroad, just laid down from the vicinity of Petersburg to City Point.—*Pat. Ex.*