

GEN. EARLY'S OPERATIONS.

A writer in the N. Y. World, whose statements we published a few days ago, says that, from first to last, 90,000 men have been employed against Gen. Early; and of that number sixty-five thousand have been either killed or wounded, or are missing. Now, we really do think that if Gen. Early, with the force which he had, has kept the whole Valley, except two counties, against ninety thousand men, preventing them from taking Lynchburg, and thereby closing up Richmond on the west, and from coming down upon it from the north, and closing it up in that direction—and has, at the same time, compelled Grant to send a large portion of his army away, and slain, captured, taken prisoners or stampeded 65,000 out of the 90,000 aforesaid—we say, if he has done all this, with the force at his command, and still holds his ground, and is ready for another battle—he has done wonders. There are, no doubt, many gentlemen who could have done much better, had they been so inclined; but unfortunately, such persons are to be found outside of the army, and persistently refuse to their country the great benefit of their military genius. Within the army, we are disposed to think there are few who could have done better than General Early has done. He was sent to drive off Hunter, as well as to invade Maryland and Pennsylvania, and he did it—draw off a portion of Grant's army, and he did it. A Napoleon, or our own Jackson might, possibly, have struck down the several armies of the enemy in pitched battles, captured the enemy's Capital, seized Baltimore, ravaged Pennsylvania, and even carried the Southern Cross within sight of Philadelphia. But it is a possibility merely, and very far from even a probability. It is a very important consideration whether the country can afford to lose the men that would undoubtedly have been lost in such an enterprise, however successful, and what would have been our condition had they been lost? As it is, Gen. Early has his army safe, though reduced, and it certainly is no small compliment that the force which fought last week at Cedar Creek should have been supposed by the enemy to have been reinforced by Longstreet's corps.

Rich. Whig.

RUNNING THE BLOCKADE AT WILMINGTON.

The following account of the perils and profits of blockade-running at Wilmington, is taken from an English paper:

"From a passenger on the Flamingo, we learn that the blockading squadron off Wilmington consists now of one hundred and seventy vessels, so that it is a wonder that any vessel can escape such a close blockade; and indeed it is a very difficult and dangerous work. There are now about forty steamers engaged in running the blockade. There is plenty of cotton always ready for despatch, but none growing, as every man between the age of 16 and 60 is obliged to serve in the war.

The Yankees have removed all the lights approaching the harbor, and everything that will enable the Confederates to find their way into safe quarters. The consequence is that besides a pilot, every Confederate ship has to carry a signal man, who works the ship by agreed signs, with which he alone of all on board is acquainted. When a ship is going to run he makes a signal to the shore look-outs, who then lay down range lights to guide the vessel in. These only burn for a very short time, or they would be aids for the enemy as well as to the friend.

There has been only one man killed while engaged in running the blockade. He was a signal officer and southerner on board the Old Dominion. He was down below, drinking a cup of tea in the steward's pantry. While there, a shell burst over him, and "took his head off as clean as a whistle."

"A very large number of the men engaged on both sides are Englishmen.

It is a most profitable business when successful. The officers receive a thousand pounds a voyage. One officer has run the blockade twenty-seven times, and he is now in England with a property estimated at £40,000. The ships engaged

in running the blockade are splendid steamers, which run at the rate of thirteen to fifteen knots an hour."

THE DUTCH GAP ENTERPRISE.

"P. W. A." the correspondent of the Savannah Republican, speculates as follows upon the object of the Yankees in digging the canal across Dutch Gap, and says a timely word in favor of the right use of the spade: The object of this canal is not fully understood. It is believed to be this: First, to avoid the battery at Howlett's house and the submarine obstructions in the river at Trent's reach; second, to bring the Federal iron clads through the canal and secure a position, after driving away our little fleet, from which they can silence the battery at Signal Hill; then, having secured Signal Hill, the enemy hope to be able to carry the works at Chaffin's Bluff, which are in easy range of and commanded by the greater elevation of Signal Hill; fourth, having carried Chaffin's Bluff, their next move would be against Drewry's Bluff, distant one mile; fifth, Drewry's Bluff in their possession, the way would be open, they think, to Richmond. Such is believed to be the theory upon which they are acting.

Their industry and enterprise are alike creditable to themselves and worthy of our imitation. We being the weaker party in numbers, should be the first to avail ourselves of defensive works and mechanical and scientific appliances; but instead of this being the case, the enemy, notwithstanding he largely outnumbered us, was the only party who employed the spade during the first three years of the war. Two years ago it was the fashion to laugh at McClellan and his army for the use they made of the spade. But we have got over all that now, and find the spade almost as good a weapon as the musket. This is the first campaign the Army of Northern Virginia ever fought behind breastworks, though not the first time it ever prepared such defences. Just now it is fashionable to laugh at Butler's canal.

FROM EAST TENNESSEE.

From the Bristol Register, we learn that on the 21st, the enemy were routed at Bean's Station, by Major Day of Vaughn's command, with one killed and a few wounded on our side. The enemy pretended to be making for Powder Spring Gap, but were evidently trying to reach the fortifications at Knoxville.

A few of Duke's dismounted men, under the command of Lieut. Ritchie, encountered a party of bushwhackers south of Clucky river, under the lead of the notorious Calvin Haney. Lieut. Ritchie was killed, and one of his men wounded. Haney was shot to pieces. Ritchie was a brave and gallant officer.

Advices to the 22d indicate that the enemy had found out that there is no force in his rear, and has turned on Gen. Vaughn. They drew up yesterday in line of battle at Mossy Creek. Previously they had prepared for a siege at Knoxville, where according to the accounts of union men, great excitement prevailed. They still hold Strawberry Plains.

Gen. Vaughn has been skirmishing with them.

The enemy are running a train from Knoxville to Newmarket; but our forces have destroyed the railroad from thence to Bull's Gap.

The enemy below has been reinforced by the 10th Michigan and 14th Kentucky Battalion of cavalry; and it is probable they have also received reinforcements of infantry.

General Vaughn, however, is able to meet and check this demonstration if he is sustained by the Government. His command is efficient, but it really needs some attention on the part of the Government. East Tennessee is an important strategic point, apart from other considerations, which should urge its occupation. We shall endeavor to point out the importance of movements in this direction hereafter.

Petersburg Express.

It is stated that the only States of the North in which soldiers are allowed to vote are Indiana and New Jersey.

Dollie says the brandy and watery eyes of young men denote late hours and fearful conflicts with the "Tiger."

FROM THE FRONT.

Since the battle of Thursday last, and the subsequent retreat of the enemy from the field of conflict to his fortified position, on the Vaughn and Squirrel Level roads, matters have resumed their wonted quiet at the front. Our original lines have been re-established entire, and the enemy, defeated and fear-stricken, cowers behind his works.

On the retreat of the enemy from Burgess' Mill, Gen. Hampton with his formidable body of cavalry, followed and harassed his rear, killing and wounding a number, and capturing nearly two hundred prisoners. He drove the Yankee rear guard of cavalry across the Rowan-Creek, inside the infantry lines, pressing them so hard that they burned a number of caissons, ambulances, wagons, etc., to prevent their falling into our hands.

Grant was on the battle field, or rather, in the rear of it, superintending the movements of his army. His headquarters were beneath a huge oak tree, immediately on the Plank road, about one mile beyond Burgess' Mill. Meade, Warren and Hancock were also present. After the cessation of hostilities, and when darkness had spread a thick veil upon the earth, these four generals held a council of war, and determined to withdraw from the vicinity of the rebels as hastily as possible. This is given to us upon authority we cannot doubt. The subsequent retreat of the Yankee forces, evincing every sign of haste, disorder and demoralization, has already been described.

From parties who saw them, we learn that the Yankee army came abundantly supplied with ambulances, and that every one of them were used in conveying the wounded from the field, except three or four which were burned in one of Burgess' fields. It is estimated that nearly one thousand of their wounded were thus carried off on the retreat. About two hundred, as has already been announced, were left upon the field, and fell into our hands.

The enemy's dead, which he left unburied were found thickly strewn through the woods and fields where the fighting occurred. In a body of woods where Gen. Butler fought them, fifty-three bodies were found and buried. In the fields and woods adjoining Burgess' house, in his very yard and beside his fences, they were found by the score.

In this battle the negro troops were pushed forward as usual, but they soon broke and gave place to the whites, consequently the proportion of the latter to the former found upon the field was large.

The loss of the enemy on Thursday, at a low estimate, was two thousand. We buried several hundred of his dead, took two hundred or more of his wounded, and captured nearly seven hundred prisoners. The number of wounded carried off, it is conjectured, was large.

If this movement was intended as an actual advance in the direction of the South Side Railroad, it was a signal failure. That it was not simply a reconnaissance, may be judged by the fact that the enemy had six divisions of infantry, besides cavalry, on the field. The choicest troops and the most famous Generals of the army were there. It was nothing more nor less than a grand cast for the Railroad—if not Petersburg itself, and very disastrously to its originators did it terminate. We venture to assert that such was the haste of the retreat, that even Grant himself, was demoralized.

On Friday, a portion of Gen. Dearing's command, surprised and captured a picket post of the enemy's on the Vaughn road, taking thirty prisoners. The latter were brought into town yesterday afternoon.—Pet. Express, Oct. 31st.

Removal of Prisoners.—We learn from the Charleston Mercury, that the 600 Confederate officers lately confined in "the pen" on Morris Island, exposed to the fire of our batteries, have been removed to Fort Pulaski, Savannah.

The Mercury does not say, but we suppose, that the 600 Yankee officers placed under fire in Charleston, have likewise been removed. They should never have been put there.

List of Casualties to the 4th N. C. S.

Troops, in the battle near Strasburg, Va., on the 10th of October, 1864.

Co. A. Killed: None. Wounded: Lieut. John A. Stikelather, color bearer, head severed, not dangerous, now with us. Missing: Lt. Wm R. McNeely, reported killed; S N Barnes and J H Cohen, the last said to be prisoner, unburnt.

Co. B. Killed: None. Wounded: P A Seaford, slight, prisoner. Missing: Serg. H Miller, J W Gullett, T S Lyerly, W R Moore.

Co. C. Killed: None. Wounded: Serg. J C Turner, A S Mills, H L Lollar, G A Reid, Joseph Christie, each slightly, but now doing duty with us. Missing: J L Wilson.

Co. D. Killed: None. Wounded: Jas Burner, slight. Missing: J Lane.

Co. E. Killed: None. Wounded: L Ed Tripp, leg slight; G Torsher, side severe; J N Hawkins, foot severe. Missing: L Latham, J W King; H King and B S Swindle.

Co. F. Killed: None. Wounded: B Rodes and B Woodard.

Co. G. Killed: None. Wounded: A Athan, T M Waller, slight, both now on duty. Missing: None.

Co. H. Killed: None. Wounded: J A McHargue, ankle severe, and Thomas Reingo, slight. Missing: None.

Co. I. Killed: John Stephens. Wounded: None. Missing: None.

Co. K. Killed: None. Wounded: B Mattis, musician, right arm, flesh; Serg. W C Fraley, slight; C Holtshouser, right hand slight. Missing: A Friedheim.

Total—Killed, 1—Wounded, 18—Missing, 16.

Upon the whole our loss is killed and wounded is not very severe; but the "missing" list is unusually large. Most of them, however, fled to the mountains and doubtless the greater portion of them will yet turn up all right. Many of those who were missing at first (not those now reported) have already come in.

The entire army regrets the loss of Gen. Ransauer. He was mortally wounded and left in the enemy's hands. To-day we hear, upon what seems to be good authority, that he is dead. He was renowned throughout the army in the Valley for his dash, invincible courage as well as for his kind and gentlemanly deportment. We can ill afford to spare such officers.

It would hardly be prudent for me to give any of the particulars concerning this affair at present. But I trust I shall be doing nothing wrong by stating that the 19th of October, 1864, was one of the most eventful days, and filled with the most remarkable incidents that have ever transpired in any one day since first breaking out of this terrible revolution. The morning dawned on us, injured with victory the most complete and decisive; the evening shades gathered on our army broken, dispirited, and—but I feel too sad;—and it might be unwise to say more. All things, they say, "happens for the best," and I have no reason for saying that this will prove an exception to the rule. If the truth were told my reader would be satisfied that, in the aggregate, our gains are greater than our losses, and with this, for the present, we must be content.

NAT. New Market, Va., Oct. 24, 1864.

W. F. BASON, M. D., DENTIST.

WOULD respectfully suggest to those at a distance wishing his professional services, the propriety of first writing to him at Salisbury, in order that he may appoint a time when he can wait on them as soon after arrival as desirable; and thus frequently save time and disappointment. N. B.—All letters of inquiry promptly answered the first opportunity. June 22, 1864. 65451

Special Notice. OFFICE CHIEF COMMISSARY, 5TH DISTRICT OF N. CAROLINA, Salisbury, June 28th, 1864.

HEREBY give notice that no one is authorized to purchase for the Government any Bacon, Flour, or other provision, in the Counties of Surry, Stokes, Yadkin, Forsythe, Iredell, Davidson, Davie, Rowan, Cabarrus, Stanly, Montgomery, Anson and Richmond, comprising the District under my charge, except regularly appointed agents of the Commissary Department who can show their authority from me. A. MYERS, Major and Chief Commissary.

GOODS, GOODS. Just received and for Sale.

Span Cans No. 8, 9, 10, 11, & 12. Nails assorted 4, 5, 6, 8, 10 & 12. Rifle Powder. Borax. Soda. Sugar. Salt. Grass Hay. MICHAEL BROWN, Salisbury, July 3, 1864. 65451

NOTICE.

All persons having claims against the estate of James W. Neely, late of Davie county, deceased, are hereby requested to present them for payment, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. And all those indebted to the estate will come forward and make settlements. D. M. CRENSHAW, Adm'r of J. W. Neely, dec'd. 4499

A GOOD HARNESS AND WORK

For sale. Enquire at this office. Oct. 22, 1864. 64136

FALL OF PLYMOUTH.

A special dispatch dated near Plymouth 31st, to be found in our telegraphic news, brings us the distressing intelligence of the recapture of Plymouth by the Yankees.

When we heard of the sinking of the iron-clad *Albemarle* we were prepared to hear of an attempt on the part of the Yankees to occupy Plymouth, though our information was as stated yesterday, that the guns of the *Albemarle* were still effective and commanded the channel.

Gen. L. S. Baker commanded the garrison in person, and the protracted resistance the Yankees met gives some indication of a bloody fight.

It would seem that immediately after sinking the *Albemarle*, probably at daylight Friday morning, the fleet ascended the river and commenced the attack upon the forts, and that the attack was continued Friday, Saturday and Sunday, for our dispatch says the fight lasted three days.

On Sunday night the Yankees, finding the front attack unavailing, moved down the river again, and ascended Middle river, and on Monday morning were found on the flank or near the forts, and then ensued the attack which resulted in dismounting all our guns.

Nothing was then left Gen. Baker but to get off his troops, and the town was successfully evacuated.

It would be worse than affectation to underrate the importance of this victory of the enemy. A large portion of Eastern North Carolina is once more at the mercy of the enemy, with all the immense quantities of supplies that might have been gathered there. More than this, it relieves the enemy from the necessity of keeping a large fleet in the sound and leaves that fleet at liberty to operate elsewhere. In a political sense Lincoln will rejoice, for the capture of Plymouth will add hundreds of thousands to his vote against McClellan.

State Journal, Nov. 2.

THE DRAFT IN BALTIMORE.

Col. Wm. H. Browne, A. A. P. M. General of Baltimore, makes a publication in the American, in which he complains that "a great proportion of the men drafted have escaped from the city to avoid paying the service due by them to the country."

It further states that—"At the office of Captain Cathcart, on Saturday, there were examined 113 cases of drafted men, nearly all of them from the Third, Fifth and Seventh Wards. Of the number 95 were exempted, as follows: For physical disability 35, over age 21, alinage 12, erroneously enrolled 4, paid commutation under special acts of Congress 2, non-residence 2, three years in military service 1, in navy 1, in Government service 1, and furnished substitutes 15.

"At the office of Major Blumenberg, 19 cases were examined, of whom one was deferred and the remainder exempted, viz: For disability 7, over age 2, in service 2, alinage 2, in Government employ 1, furnished substitutes 3, and held to service 1."

RAGS! RAGS!!

BRING US your old cotton and linen rags. Put up in cotton or tow bags. We will pay you in money, or exchange writing paper for them. Save and send us all you can. Also—Persons living near Albemarle, Stanly county, can find sale for their rags by calling on Capt. J. D. HEARNE, WATCHMAN.

NOTICE.—On Thursday the 6th of October next, I will sell at the residence of Sarah Brown, 16 miles north of Hickory Station and 12 miles east of Lenoir, two hundred sides of LEATHER, sole and upper, mostly an excellent lot of Sole Leather, the property of R. M. Brown, deceased. The terms is cash, a Confederate note of the new issue. J. F. BROWN, Adm'r. Sept. 19—w3:17*

D. C. A. HENDERSON, having regained his health, again respectfully offers his professional services to the citizens of Salisbury and vicinity. June 7th, 1864. (65451)

HERRINGS.

I HAVE a lot of Salted Herrings which I will exchange by the barrel for Bacon. A. MYERS, Major & C. S. July 4, 1864. 46

WANTED.—20 barrels of Molasses. The price will be paid and barrels furnished.—The articles are for the North Carolina Troops now in the trenches. J. D. BROWN, Agent.