

THE CAMDEN WEEKLY CONFEDERATE.

"KNOWLEDGE IS POWER, AND THE PRESS IS THE ROYAL THRONE UPON WHICH SHE SITS, AN ENTHRONED MONARCH."

VOL. III

CAMDEN, S. C., WEDNESDAY MORNING, AUGUST 31, 1864.

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The Confederate

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J. T. HERSHMAN.

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Grant's Losses.

A writer in the *National Intelligencer*, at Washington, reviews the campaign of Grant. He does not pretend to be accurate as to the losses, but feels sure he has underrated rather than over-rated them, and says:

"We shall not undertake to estimate the losses of General Grant in the Maryland expedition. We shall, perhaps, never know them with any degree of exactitude. Mr. Senator Wilson, speaking in the Senate in his capacity as Chairman of the Committee on Military Affairs, characterized them as 'immense.' We, at least, know they were without precedent in the history of our war, and it is to be remembered, they were losses which robbed us of veteran soldiers—men seasoned by service, whose lives, in a purely military point of view, were precious beyond numerical reckoning."

We will now aggregate the figures set down by this writer for each day's loss: Killed and wounded on the 5th May, 1,000; on the 6th, 15,000; on the 10th, 10,000; making a total for three days of 26,000. But the writer adds: "Our losses during this week (ending May-11) were set down at not less than thirty-five thousand men killed and wounded, while our loss in brave and skillful officers was irreparable." Thus to 11th May, 85,000; salient at Spotsylvania Court House, 12th May, 10,000; Spotsylvania Court House, 18th May, 1,200; at Jericho Bridge, 23d May, 1,000; North Anna Passage, 24th May, 1,000; at Cold Harbor, 1st June, 3,000; 2d June, 7,000; at Petersburg, 16th June, 2,000; 17th June, 1,000; from 18th to 22d June, 10,000; 22d June, 2,000; the mine, 5,000. Total, 78,200. In this grand total of 78,200 killed and wounded, no account is taken of the losses of SHERIDAN in his raid towards Charlottesville, nor of those of WILSON's raid to the Danville Road, of which last the writer says: "The movement was attended with heavy losses." Nor are the losses of BURKE at Bermuda Hundred included; nor of SIGEL in the Valley; nor of HUNTER at Lynchburg and in his retreat; nor of GRANT in person. No account is taken of all who are temporarily hors du combat—stragglers, exhausted men, sick men, slightly wounded men."

Liability of Exempted and Detailed Men.

The following correspondence between Gov. Watts, of Alabama, and the Secretary of War, settles the question of the liability of exempted and detailed men. It will be seen that "exempted" men are liable to do militia duty under the call of the Government, and that the detailed are liable for service when called on by the commanding officer of the reserves in a battle.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF ALA., Montgomery, August 5, 1864.

To Hon. Jas. A. Seddon, Secretary of War, Richmond, Va.

Do you regard the bonded agriculturists and other exempted men subject to militia duty? If they are not subject to militia duty they should be called out as reserves.

Mobile is attacked, and General Maury has called for all the troops I can send. I hold the men as subject to militia duty, and have issued my orders accordingly. Let me hear from you at once. T. H. WATTS, Governor of Alabama.

RICHMOND, August 6, 1864.

Gov. T. H. Watts,

The exempted men are all liable to militia duty. Detailed men are liable to be called on for service in an exigency by the commanding officer of the reserves in your State. JAS. A. SEDDON, Secretary of War.

The Petersburg Express, of the 23d, relates the following:

An incident is related of Gen. Hagood in the Sunday's fight, which adds another to the laurels already won by that gallant officer. During the thickest of the fight Vaughan Road, a Yankee Colonel captured one of the colors of his command. Gen. Hagood seeing this, did not wish to lose his color, which had been borne so nobly and gallantly on so many fields, confronted the Yankee officer and demanded its restoration. A refusal was given and the two officers became engaged in a hand-to-hand encounter. Gen. H. slew his opponent and bore off the flag in triumph.

The Rose of Florida, the most beautiful of flowers, emits no fragrance; the Bird of Paradise, the most beautiful of birds, gives no song; the Cypress of Greece, the finest of trees, yields no fruit; dandies, the shiniest of men, have no sense, and ball room belles, the loveliest of creatures, are ditto, and very often a little more so.

The Yankee Prisoners at Andersonville.

A correspondent of the Atlanta Confederacy writes:

"Andersonville was an interesting and novel spectacle to me. The Yankee prisoners within the stockade, about 30,000 in number, when closely viewed, resemble more in their notions a hive of bees seen through a glass opening than anything else I can think of. The area of the stockade is being rapidly increased by Gen. Winder, who is evidently desirous of doing all in his power to make them comfortable. They have thousands of little huts and tents, variously constructed, which seem to protect them from the scorching rays of the sun and the inclemency of the weather generally. Gen. W. informed me that very soon the lumber would be procurable to put up temporary shanties for their comfort. A fine but small stream of water runs through the stockade, supplying them with water for bathing and other purposes. I saw hundreds of them bathing in this stream at once. Others not engaged in bathing were walking about among their fellows, each, in the language of the famous ballad of Young Tamerlane, 'a mother naked man.' I learn that many of them have bartered away nearly all their clothing for tobacco. On the whole, their condition, bad as it is, and bad as it deserves to be, seemed better than could have been expected. In spite, however, of every effort to treat them with humanity, their mortality is great, averaging about one hundred per day. About 2,000 are in hospital. Over 35,000 have been received since the establishment of Andersonville as a military prison."

"The prisoners are said to be very docile but greatly exasperated at the loyal Aps for not exchanging them. They were greatly elated last evening at finding a paragraph in one of our newspapers stating that a general exchange of prisoners would soon be resumed."

"The defenses of Andersonville are admirably planned by the skillful veteran, Gen. Winder. Formidable batteries of artillery bear directly on the prisoners, in the event of an emergency and strong works, with artillery, defend the place against hostilities from without. A strong force of infantry is there also. Raiders would find themselves woefully deceived if they were to attempt the liberation of the prisoners."

Pennsylvania Legislature.

CHAMBERSBURG, August 11.—The Senators and Representatives, accompanied by the President of the Cumberland Valley Railroad and several other persons, left Harrisburg at eight o'clock this morning and arrived here half-past ten, in a special train, to view the ruins.

Upon arriving here, the visitors were taken in charge by a committee of citizens, and escorted through the burned districts. The scene can never be properly described. Four squares in either direction, private houses and stores have been thrown into one black ruin.

The order of the invaders had been to spare churches, and none of these were destroyed, except those in close proximity to residences. The fact that a Catholic church joined the depot was the means of saving the latter structure.

The losses of the Cumberland Valley Railroad, since the beginning of the war, have been one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars. The total loss to Chambersburg will reach three million dollars, by actual count.

The records of the courts were nearly all preserved, and are now being arranged in a new structure.

The people of Chambersburg are now returning, and commencing to rebuild their dwellings. All are well supplied with the necessities of life.

The Legislature leave this place at noon for Harrisburg. Every possible attention is being shown them by the people of the town.

The Tallahassee is an iron steamer, painted white with two smoke-stacks, two screws, about 230 feet in length, twenty feet beam and draws about nine feet water. Her hull is marked "Tallahassee, of London, 1864." Engine marked "J. & W. DUGON, London." She is a fore and aft schooner rig, 220, mounts three guns—one small one on the top, a 32-pounder fore-castle, a long 32-pounder amidships and a 24-pounder aft. She carries four waste boats. Her crew consists of about 120 persons, including the officers. Men of all nationities are represented on board, most of whom are said to be soldiers from Lee's army. She is commanded by John Taylor Wood, C. S. N. A considerable quantity of cotton is stored on board to protect her boilers. It is said that this vessel has burned fifty vessels in all, at one time having destroyed as many as sixteen in thirty hours.

Captain Semms.

The *Cork Herald* says: "We understand that the gallant commander of the Alabama arrived at Queenstown yesterday, in the blockade-runner Hope, bound to Nassau, whence, it is probable, he will take ship to the Southern Confederacy."

It is said, on what we consider good authority, that the Electric Spark, which was captured recently by the Confederate cruiser Florida, will be put under command of Capt. Semms until he can get a better vessel. She was a packet steamer bound for New York and New Orleans, and is said to be of the first quality, especially in speed.

J. T. HERSHMAN—Editor.

Camden, Wednesday, August 31.

The peace party of Iowa have held a convention, and among the resolutions adopted is one declaring: "If we cannot have a Union Peace Party with our former political associates, we must have it without them."

The *Richmond Examiner* says the standing caption for Georgia news now in the New York papers is, "Atlanta Not Taken." A pill factor, we are informed, advertises by the help of this caption—*Atlanta is Not Taken But FRANKRETH'S PILLS*—are with the Best Effects.

ANOTHER YANKEE EXPEDITION "COME TO GRIEF."—An officer who arrived in Montgomery on Sunday from below, states that our forces succeeded in capturing 400 of the Yankee expedition that crossed the Peddler River a few days ago, on their way to Mobile Bay. The negro who piloted them was also captured, and was executed.

JOHN MULLANY, the able and fearless editor of the Metropolitan Record, whose outspoken denunciation of LINCOLN and his Administration have so frequently been quoted in the South has at last come to grief. The Abolitionists have arrested and held him to bail in the sum of \$2,500. Father, of the Newark Journal, and SIMPSON, of a Maine paper, are in the same predicament.

The August Chronicle says the war on the Georgia front is assuming new and interesting phases. Startling developments are awakening Sherman from his dream of victory. He begins to discover that the conquest of the South is not the easy task which he imagined. Troubles thicken around him. His difficulties are just beginning, and soon the strategic problem which he will have to solve will be how to extricate his army from the trap into which he has led it.

FIVE HUNDRED MILLION LOAN.—Sales at the present rate of one hundred and thirty-five dollars and interest will close on the 30th of September, or at such time as the amount sold may reach seventy millions. The object of the suspension is to consider the propriety of advancing the price. Capitalists will, of course, understand the importance of investing in this loan. An advertisement of this department says: "This loan should be all taken by our own people."

There is a prospect of the early resumption of the exchange of prisoners. The exchange will be conducted on the principle of giving man for man, and of one for another, any surplus of either not to be paroled, but held for future exchange. It is not probable that objection will be made by the Confederate authorities to including in the exchange such free negroes, inhabitants of the Northern States, as may have fallen into their hands. Free blacks are enlisted in the English and French armies, and are exchanged like white prisoners. Negroes who have been seduced or forced from their Southern homes by the emissaries and armies of the North, will not, of course, be exchanged, but will be returned to their former owners. So writes "P. W. A."

DeBow's Review.

We have been favored, through the publisher, with the July and August number of this truly valuable work—one that has been eagerly sought after and perused with great interest by all classes of intelligent and scientific men throughout the entire South. We welcome the reappearance of this old and valuable periodical, under the management of its former able and accomplished editor, J. D. DeBow. Its publication has been of vast interest to the people of the South for many years, and its suspension, being a national misfortune, has been regretted by many.

The contents of the present number are as follows: "Our Confederate States, foreign and domestic;" "Miscellaneous of the Brute World;" "Physical Constitution and Health of the States;" "The War of Independence—Watchman what of the night?" "Hon. Charles Pinckney, L. D., of S. C.;" "Parties and Partyism;" "Eastern Shore of Virginia;" "States Right Among the Yankees—Political Anatomy;" "Glorious old Charleston;" "Journal of the War;" Note, &c.

The Review is neatly printed, and typographically good as all publications issued from the publishing house of

EVANS and COGSWELL, Columbia, S. C., TOWNSEND and NORTH, Columbia, S. C., will receive subscription to the work.

We have been favored with the perusal of a letter from Capt. W. Clyburn, written after the fight near Petersburg on Sunday the 21st inst., from which we learn that the 7th South Carolina Battalion suffered badly in that engagement.

Capt. Clyburn furnishes us with a list of killed and wounded officers who fell and were taken prisoners in the fight; and states that, as yet, he has been unable to learn the loss of men—there being, in one company, no commissioned officers left to make a report, but gives the names of thirteen Captains and Lieutenants. They are as follows:

- Co. A.—Lieut. Finley McCa—killed.
- Lieut. James Gardner—missing.
- Co. B.—Lieut. Douglass—wounded through the thigh severely.
- Lieut. Isbell—wounded severely, and in the hands of the enemy.
- Lieut. Kennedy—wounded severely, and in the hands of the enemy.
- Co. D.—Capt. J. L. Jones—prisoner.
- Lieut. E. A. Young—prisoner.
- Co. F.—Capt. Dave Segars—wounded slightly in the side.
- Lieut. H. D. Tiller—wounded severely in the shoulder.
- Lieut. King—wounded slightly in the side.
- Co. G.—Lieut. L. L. Clyburn—wounded in the leg.
- Lieut. T. W. Sligh—missing.
- Co. H.—W. Weston—wounded through the thigh severely.

Capt. Clyburn has our thanks for his kind attention, as we have been under obligation to him for renewed favors since first he entered service.

An Armistice and the Point to be Determined.

The *Carolina* says: Our telegrams of Friday brought to us the exceedingly improbable announcement that Lincoln is about to offer an armistice to the South, and propose a meeting of Commissioners in Baltimore or some other border city. Admitting, however, that the story be true, which, because it comes from the New York Herald, we do not believe, let us first inquire what is the status of an armistice? Simply a cessation of hostilities—nothing more. The blockade of our ports remains; our captured cities are still in the hands of the enemy; our armies are in position; our sufferings unassuaged; our strength unimpaired; and, in a word, every advantage denied to us, while it accrues to the enemy. Are our people or our Government prepared for this? Most emphatically—No! And we believe that the proposition of the Abolition President, come in what shape it may, unless accompanied with direct and unimpeachable assurances of peaceful intent on an honorable basis, would be spurned by our President with the scorn which such a proposition deserves. Secondly, what position would the respective Commissioners relatively occupy towards each other? We touch the broad argument but lightly. In 1783, near the close of the first revolution, our Commissioners abroad met those appointed by the English Crown. The latter attempted to open the whole question and discuss the subject with a view to a compromise. Mr. Adams, however, planted himself on the broad proposition that this was undebatable ground, and that the first principle recognized must be the independence of the then United States. Preliminaries until that matter had been settled were out of the question. The Englishmen were taken aback, and Mr. Adams retired to the Hague to await their decision. We know the result. So in the present instance—the time for verbal discussion has passed. For four years the two peoples have been arguing from the muzzles of their bayonets and the fiery mouths of their cannon. Compromise is impossible. The principle involved is separation—a complete, perfect, and beyond peradventure firmly established separation; and until this fact is acknowledged by our enemies, namely: the right to secede and create a Government of our own, no other subject can be discussed, no other basis be considered. If we have an admitted right to secede, the *casus belli* is destroyed, and this struggle may end. If not, war is our perpetual doom, until we wear out our antagonists, or can depend upon the peaceful policy of another Administration. Is Abraham Lincoln prepared to take this back track? We do not indulge the faintest hope of such an event, except it be as a *dernier resort*,

to retain his power and that of the Republican party. Rather than see this slip from his grasp he may consent to anything—even to the declaration of peace on our own terms; but until perfectly assured that a continuation of the struggle will result in his downfall, we cannot we need not—look for an armistice on whose results we may reckon for a solitary advantage.

Declination.

To the Citizens of Kershaw District: Finding that the interests of my command require my whole care, and attention, on account of the increasing demands of duty upon it, I have determined (though I confess with reluctance) to withdraw my name as a candidate for election to the House of Representatives for the next term. I return my warm and heartfelt thanks to the friends who nominated me, and to the many who have written me such encouraging hopes.

At some future time, when the alarms of war shall have ceased, if my fellow-citizens deem me then fit for their worthy honors it will prove a source of gratification and pride to me to serve in the councils of the country.

Very respectfully,

Your most obedient servant,

W. L. DEPASS.

CAMP ROSE, August 23d, 1864.

[FOR THE CAMDEN CONFEDERATE.]

As the mattresses and pillows belonging to "The Soldiers Rest" are becoming too uncomfortable for the soldiers, we propose that each lay take one mattress or four pillows and do them over—washing the ticks and adding a little wheat straw or shucks to the cotton. Some of the ladies have already done their share most beautifully; others who are willing to assist will please send to "The Rest" for them, as they cannot long be spared. They will please do them as soon as possible.

PREPARED AND COMPTON—SOLDIERS REST.

CAMDEN, August 23.

A NEW PLAN.

We received an invitation of Captain Gully yesterday morning, to witness the trial of a new gun recently constructed at the Ordnance Works under his charge. It is a plan furnished by the late General Albert Jenkins, and will, therefore, be called the "Jenkins Gun." It is ingenious and of curious construction. Its advantages are, that it throws twenty-one balls at a time and can be fired with great rapidity. The barrels are ranged horizontally, slightly diverging from the center, so as to give a proper interval between the balls. The missile used is about the size of the ordinary Minie ball, and the range, we suppose, equal to the fuzer of that name. By an ingenious arrangement the barrels are all loaded at once, and the whole fired by the explosion of one cap. The loading and firing can be done very rapidly, as often as twelve or fifteen times a minute. Thus, one gun would throw between two hundred and fifty and three hundred balls to the minute. Against an advancing force of the enemy, infantry or cavalry, it could not fail to be very effective. The gun is mounted on a light carriage, about the size of the mountain howitzer carriage, and is worked by two men. The workmanship is exceeding creditable to the shop where it was executed. The gun will be sent to Richmond for trial before an Ordnance board.—*Lynchburg Virginian*.

Great Advance of Prices in the North.

Everything continues to advance in the North. All laboring classes are on a "strike" for higher wages. The *Herald* says:

We shall have no difficulties with the printers, for we have done what every just employer must do in times like these. We have acceded to the reasonable requirements of our printers, because we believe their labor to be worth the prices they ask for it. The beefsteak that used to cost fifteen cents of pound, now costs thirty; and it is no more than right that the price of labor should proportionately increase, and that the printer should get thirty cents now where he got thirty cents a few years ago. Inflation is a fact on patent for us to refuse to recognize it; and is the Government goes on with its new issues all this must get even worse, until the great balloon shall burst.

WOMEN.—They are a great mystery. According to Haller, women bear hunger longer than men; according to Plutarch, they can resist the effects of wine better; according to Unger, they grow older and are never bald; according to Pliny, they are seldom attacked by lions (in the country, they will run after lions), and, according to Gunter, they can talk a few.

The *Wilmington Journal* says: A great hullabaloo was raised over the act suspending the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus in certain cases. Well, that act has expired by its own limitation, and we ask any honest man if he knew practically when it expired, or if he breathes one who fears now than he did in May, June or July. There is a heap of humbug in this world.

ATEST ARMY NEWS.

ANOTHER FIGHT ON THE WELDON RAILROAD.

YANKEES DRIVEN FROM THEIR WORKS—CAPTURE OF HAMPTON'S CANNON—CAPTURE OF GUNS AND PRISONERS.

PETERSBURG, August 20.—The affair on the Weldon Railroad on Wednesday was a very gallant one and successful in its results. While the enemy's cavalry, under Gen. Spears, were engaged in tearing up the track, several miles beyond Reams', Gen. Hampton attacked and forced them back behind their infantry supports. Hampton dismounted his men and fought the infantry, gradually but steadily forcing them back, until they reached their strong works, one mile this side of Reams', capturing about 800 prisoners.

At 5 o'clock this afternoon, Gen. Hampton attacked the enemy's works, and after a short but sharp fight took them capturing a large number of prisoners and nine pieces of artillery. The enemy fled in great confusion. Pegram, of Richmond, turned the captured guns upon the enemy, with great effect. The number of prisoners will probably reach 2,500. Brig. General Cutler was captured. The prisoners belonged to Hancock's corps, and have been brought to town.

RICHMOND, August 26.—The following despatch was received to-night:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY NORTHERN VIRGINIA, August 26.—Hon. James A. Seddon: Gen. A. P. Hill attacked the enemy in his entrenchments at Reams' Station yesterday evening.

At the second assault he carried the entire line, Cook's and McLean's North Carolina brigades, under Heth, Lane's North Carolina brigade, of Wilcox's division, under Conner, with Pegram's artillery, composed the assaulting column. One line of breast-works was carried by the cavalry under Hampton, with great gallantry, who contributed largely to the success. Seven stand of colors, two thousand prisoners and nine pieces of artillery are in our possession. The loss of the enemy in killed and wounded is reported heavy; ours relatively small. Our profound gratitude is due the Giver of all victory, and our thanks to the brave men and officers engaged.

(Signed)

R. E. LEE.

FROM ATLANTA.

ATLANTA, August 26.—The enemy retired from our right front last night, and our forces now occupy their second line. This morning the enemy's lines from Dalton to the Chattahoochee River were all abandoned, but they are still on our left and right. The movement is interpreted as a feint, intended to draw our attention from the right, and to enable the enemy to shell the city for twenty-four hours.

The enemy have moved between the Part's Ferry and Campbellton Roads, and abandoned the entire line on the right of the Chattanooga Railroad.

Sherman's order, dated the 25th, directing the reduction of railroads, was put up in a deserted camp. Sharp skirmishing on the left all afternoon.

Two regiments reached our lines on yesterday. They claim to have been drafted at Dayton, Ohio, and were never mustered into service. They state they came through on the road direct from Chattanooga.

No news from Wheeler. Prisoners brought in this morning from the right state that Wheeler tapped the road twice, which was repaired immediately and trains are now running through. They also state that Sherman's men were all on full rations.

LATEST.—Since morning, the enemy have retired from our extreme left. Prisoners state that trains came through from Chattanooga yesterday.

The Chattanooga *Gazette*, of the 23d, states that Wheeler destroyed the depot at Cleveland, Tennessee, and then burned the town.

ATLANTA, August 29.—The enemy is framing his base between Press Ferry and the Campbellton Road—his left resting on the railroad near the Chattahoochee, and is building a permanent bridge with pontoons, organizing a depot for supplies, as if preparing to enter a campaign against our left. Scouts this morning report forces crossing West Point Railroad.

ATLANTA, August 29.—Official despatches from Wheeler, of the 18th, reports his capturing Dalton with a large amount of stores, 200 prisoners, 200 mules, destroying three trains and destroying 25 miles of railroad. His command is said to be in the neighborhood of Dalton.

It is said that Sherman's railroad to Vining's Station has been taken from the Augusta road.

AFFAIRS ABOUT MOBILE.

MOBILE, August 26.—The flag of truce boat returned last evening. The Yankees say the Fort Morgan capitulated at 6 o'clock on Tuesday last. On Monday they were concentrated their fire on the fort. On Tuesday they were driven from the fort.