

The Opelousas Courier.

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General Changarnier.

THE SERVICES AND BRAVERY IN THE AFRICAN CAMPAIGN.

The French papers, says the *Pull Mall Gazette*, have narrated the meeting of Changarnier with the Emperor Napoleon, and a few can help being touched by the description of the old General of seventy-eight years of age tendering his sword and his sword, when his country is in danger, to the man whom, politically and privately, he must hitherto have viewed with intense dislike. Changarnier was one of the officers of the old Algerian army; he had seen the French eagle pushed forward from the seacoast to the oasis of the Sahara; he had served as a comrade of the Prince of the House of Orleans, and with Lamoriciere and Cavaignac had won his fame in the campaign against Abd-el-Kader.

It is curious and instructive to look back on the early life of so excellent an officer, and to notice how the qualities which he displayed when in high command were equally remarkable when in charge of small bodies of troops. It was in 1835, thirty-five years ago, when Abd-el-Kader was yet only the chief of a few Arabs, that Changarnier took part in the expedition against Mascara. The French arms had been successful; but unprovided with the requisite supplies, the troops were forced to retreat over a barren and mountainous country to Orin. Each soldier had been served out with rations for the march, holding a small sack of rice in reserve. Provisions failed, and recourse was had to the sequestered supplies; but the troops, young, unused to war, and thoughtless of the future, had squandered all their rations, including the bag of rice.

One battalion only had preserved their intact, and this was the Second Legion, commanded by Captain Changarnier, who thus showed that he knew how to command men, and how to preserve discipline under circumstances which test to the utmost the military qualities of soldiers. Again, in 1836, when the French army under Marshal Clauzel had failed in its attack on Constantine, when, harassed by the garrison from the city, pressed by the Arab horsemen of the surrounding country, perishing from cold and hunger, the remnants of the expeditionary force were retreating toward Bone. Changarnier distinguished himself. He commanded the rear-guard, which had been thrown out in skirmishing order, and which was composed of the remnants, 250 men, of the Second Legion.

The Arab horsemen had already charged them, and had sabred many, when Changarnier formed a square. The Mameluke cavalry, excited by the slaughter of the Christians, and holding in disdain so small a body, stooped down on them, looking for an easy conquest. Changarnier waited until they had approached within twenty-five yards of the face of the square, and then, calling to his men, said, "You see those fellows there; they are 6000, we are 250, so the sides are about equal. *Vive la Roi! Vive!*" The men fired steadily, the front of the faces of the square were strewn thickly with men and horses, dying or dead. The battalions collected a lesson to the enemy, given so severe a lesson to the enemy, and their retreat unimpeded. After this action Changarnier's name stood high in the estimation of the Algerian army, and he rose by successive steps until, in 1848, he commanded the troops in Algeria.

For his old comrades now remain. Cavaignac died in 1857, Lamoriciere in 1863, Montauban, Count de Palikao, still serves, although at present in a civil capacity, while the Princes of the House of Orleans, whose names were equally known and respected in the old Algerian army, in vain solicit at this crisis of their country's fate permission to draw their swords in her defense, and again to cast in their lot with their comrades of former wars. Whatever may be the result of the present awful struggle, Changarnier's name will be respected throughout the French service, and his career will be quoted as an example of the gallantry and military qualities of the old Algerian army.

What Sheridan Saw.

The *Richmond Dispatch* says: "General Sheridan was kind enough to say to Biemarck that he could only compare the surrender of Napoleon to that of General Lee. A painful limitation of the range of comparison, indeed! And yet the astute General Sheridan must have been a reasonable man in the two surrenders that nobody else has been able to detect. Napoleon only surrendered himself after a thirty days' war. General Lee surrendered his army after four years' struggle against the odds of three and four to one. Napoleon was Emperor of a great nation, whose resources were equal to those of his enemy. General Lee was a private soldier, who surrendered to a force of 250,000 men after a hard fighting. Gen. Lee's army was defeated and he was surrounded and he had the fortifications of Sedan to cooperate with them. These advantages of his army only twice their number. The Confederates were outnumbered by the odds of only two to one against them. And so, with all these differences, the great Sheridan could only compare the surrender of Napoleon to that of General Lee. Well, he certainly sees what nobody else will see."

It is a healthy place to live in. Ephraim M. Mottley is 103 years old; Elizabeth Henry 111; Michael McHenry, a native of St. Domingo, 123; and John Moody, a colored woman from Virginia, 130. So says Census Marshal.

A Little Plain Talk.

[From the N. O. Democrat.]

We disclaim any intention or desire to excite unnecessary alarm or sensation. On the contrary, our purpose is simply to state a few plain truths, believing that the time has come when forbearance ceases to be a virtue, and longer submission to the wrongs and grievances, under which we are now suffering as a people, will amount to political crime. At such a time of truth as we believe a plain statement of the truth as to our condition, the causes which have brought it upon us, and the remedy we propose to adopt to better it, will have more effect than the grandest literary effort, the most highly polished eloquence or the most elaborate argument. At least such has been the teachings of the past, under similar circumstances.

In our humble opinion, the time has come when Gov. Warmoth and his confederates in political crime, and their pimps, panders and hirelings, who are conspiring against the liberties, rights and interests of the people of this State, should be given to understand, in unmistakable terms, that they have gone the length of their tether, and that any further attempt to stretch their ill-gotten power, by unlawful means, beyond its present limits, with a view to securing the future political control of this State, will so arouse a long-suffering, long-forbearing people, that the Metropolitan Police, the State Constabulary and the Militia will not be sufficient to protect them from their just indignation. They should be given to understand that their outrages and oppressions, their persecutions and peculations, their venality and corruption, their wanton exactions and forced contributions, their usurpations of power and their violations of law, have been tolerated with the hope that they would be satiated in time, or that the colored people whom they deluded into placing their power would discover the true character of their deceivers and turn upon them and hurl the miscalculation from place and power. In the first hope they have been disappointed, and the second has only been partially realized. A large number of the more honest and intelligent of the colored citizens have learned, from dear bought experience, the true character of their deceivers and betrayers, their aims and objects, and dissolved all political connection with them. But through the Union League, H. C. Warmoth and his horde of plunderers yet exercise a baneful influence over a very considerable portion of the colored population, and they are using this influence to intimidate the more independent, honest and intelligent and prevent them from acting in opposition to the party in power; which they do by organizing their dupes into vigilance committees and instructing them to wait upon and threaten the lives of the colored voters who refuse to longer support the plunderers' party in its career of crime.

Warmoth and his co-conspirators should be given to understand that they are mistaken if they have attributed the toleration and forbearance of the people of Louisiana to a lack of the proper spirit of resentment, or the moral courage or physical ability to redress the wrongs of which they complain, or punish the many high crimes and misdemeanors committed against them. They have only been restrained by the hope that carpet-bag-scalawag rule would be overthrown by the very power which gave it an existence, or that, like other exorcises, it would eat itself out. Hoping this, the people were willing to wait the result of this experiment, costly as they knew it would be, rather than apply the scalpel to these warts upon the body politic, and thus furnish fresh material with which to again fire the Northern Radical here. In these hopes the people have been sadly disappointed. The ulcers upon the body politic have become chronic. Gangrene has set in. The condition of the patient has been rendered desperate, and desperate remedies must be resorted to if we would prevent its very vitals from being eaten out.

The plunderers and oppressors should be given to understand that for the reasons thus briefly stated, they have been simply tolerated, and not because they possess any moral or political virtue or power of resisting the indignation of a justly incensed people. That they have been permitted to infest the community for the reason that our people wished to show, not only to the North, but to the world, that they possess a power of endurance under wrong never before manifested by any people. For it cannot be doubted but that any other people, suffering a tithe of the wanton, ruthless oppression that has been heaped upon the people of this State, would have risen in revolt, and either hurled their oppressors or the oppressed in a common ruin.

Having thus forbore, even until the more liberal and respectable of the Northern Radical press has been forced, from a sense of common decency, to raise its voice in condemnation of our oppressors and plunderers, the people of Louisiana would be justified before the civilized world if they were to cease longer to tolerate the political vermin who have been eating up their substance, and resort to the only means left of rendering them harmless, that of "who would be free, must themselves strike the blow."

"Can't pass, marm," said a stern sentinel of the navy to an officer's lady. "But, sir, I must pass; I'm Captain W.'s lady." "Can't help it, ma'am; couldn't let you if you were his wife."

REGISTER.—The man who neglects to register and qualify himself to vote against Radical rule, virtually votes for Radical rule.

The Strasburg Horrors.

City in Flames in Twenty Places—Inhabitants Fighting for Room in Servers to Escape Shells—600 Killed by Falling Walls—Horizon Starred with the Blaze of Batteries.

STRASBURG, Sept. 8, via London, 10.—The Siege of Strasburg continues with great vigor, and the Prussians are making the greatest efforts to secure its reduction: 8000 Baden troops are working day and night in the third line of trenches, quite near the city, and under a constant fire from the defenses.

Over 2000 citizens have been killed. The scream of the shells can be heard five miles. The beautiful cathedral is partly destroyed. There are now over 500 cannon bearing upon the citadel, and 40,000 Baden troops ready to enter as soon as the walls are broken.

Over 20,000 refugees are within the walls, suffering all the terrors of the bombardment. Germans captured have their head cut off and stuck on a pole. One hundred Germans expelled have been killed between the fires of the two parties.

The city is in flames in twenty different places, and the rabble are pillaging the houses and making destruction of everything they can lay hold of. There are daily thunderstorms, and the Rhine has risen, driving the inhabitants from their cellars. People are fighting for places in the cellars to escape destruction from the shells poured in by hundreds into the streets. Six hundred citizens have been buried by falling buildings.

Every night the horizon is starred for miles like a mimic sunset with blazes of Baden batteries.

Horseflesh is the only meat to be obtained, and the inhabitants are on the verge of starvation.

Awful scenes are witnessed. Many citizens are killed in bed, and the commandant shoots at once all who talk of surrender. The mobs are rioting nightly and demanding the surrender of the city. It has not fired a gun since the 6th. It is under fire from three directions.

The sluices which furnish the city with water were destroyed, thereby adding to the suffering of the people.

It is known that 200,000 Chassepots are stored in Strasburg. Immediate surrender is predicted. There are only 7000 regular troops now in the city.

Threatening Aspect of Affairs in South Carolina.

As the time for the State election approaches, our South Carolina exchanges bring us accounts of turbulent and threatening demonstrations on the part of the negroes in some of the interior districts of that State which are well calculated to create serious apprehensions of trouble. Gov. Scott is organizing and arming the negro militia, who seem to be preparing for a campaign against the whites, mastering and drilling day and night, and under their political leaders, white and black, conducting themselves in a threatening and insolent manner. The Unionville Times gives an account of their outrages a few days since in Laurens, at a place known as the Widow Borer's House, about six miles from the Union county line. The Times says: "Joe Crews, with three companies of colored militia, accompanied by two or three hundred struggling negroes, attempted to take possession of a field belonging to Mr. Wm. Young, for drilling. Mr. Young objected to it, whereupon they set upon him, and for some time his life appeared in imminent danger, but an officer of one of the companies interposed and saved him. The crowd then went to the Owens place, where they conducted themselves in the most outrageous manner, respecting neither age, sex nor premises, cursing and threatening everybody they met, robbed orchards ran over premises, shouted and shrieked more like demons than human beings. Dr. Payne and Mr. F. Harmon were surrounded, cursed and threatened with vengeance; the militia holding up their cartridges, shouting, 'Here's the cartridges for you d—d rebels.' The family of Mr. B. Whitten, in which were two or three young ladies, were compelled to leave their house to escape insult and fearing outrage. A carriage containing some ladies returning from the Sardis church, and driven by a colored man, was stopped on the road, surrounded, the driver and the ladies cursed and hooted at, and the mob at one time threatened to 'upset the d—d carriage.' Joe Crews made a ranting blood-and-thunder speech. He told the negroes he never had promised them lands, but he now promised them a division of the lands in that section after the election. He told them that they (the negroes) had bought those lands by their labor while slaves, and the white people ought to and should divide them with the colored people.

This same Crews said to the people living near Sardis, that "about three days before the election we will come and wipe out the whole neighborhood."

Napoleon is reported to have said, during the height of his power as Emperor of France, that he had a presentiment that he would end his days in Champs-Élysées, London, where he formerly resided. The recent events of the war would seem to justify this strange foreboding.

A surgeon, whose wife is a great scold, being asked what he thought would be the greatest triumph of the surgical art, replied: "To take the jaw out of a scolding woman."

"Bob, is your sister at home?" "Yes; but she won't see you to-night." "Why?" "Because she said she was going to have one more mess of onions if she never got another beau."

Courier

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Persons desiring to take insurance policies will apply to E. D. ESTLETTE, Agent, Opelousas, La. Oct 2—1y

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BY—JOEL H. SANDOZ.

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