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IMPORTANT FROM NORTH CAROLINA.

The Siege of Washington Raised and the Rebel Earthworks Destroyed by the Union Troops.

The Fortitude and Pluck of General Foster's Little Band.

Gen. Foster's Troops at Port Royal Anxious to Return to Their Old Chief.

ARRIVAL OF GENERAL NAGLEE AND STAFF.

Details of the Brilliant and Successful Dash of General Naglee and Staff Upon the Enemy.

What a Few Determined Men May Accomplish, &c., &c., &c.

NEWBERN, N. C., April 21, 1863.

The rebels have abandoned their attack on Washington, N. C., giving it up as a hopeless task. The fortitude and plucky perseverance with which General Foster and his little band of twelve hundred men held out successfully and kept at bay for many days and nights seventeen thousand of the enemy constitute an achievement without a parallel in the history of the war, and one which has endeared this popular and victorious leader still more strongly to his command.

Gen. Heckman's brigade, which arrived here from Port Royal, with the rest of Gen. Foster's troops still at that place, are so anxious to return to this department that they offer to re-enlist for the war if they can be allowed to return to the Old North State and fight under their old commander.

An order was promulgated on the 18th inst. by Gen. Foster ordering all the rebel sympathizers and government paupers outside of our lines.

Gene. Naglee and staff arrived here from New York last Tuesday, and left the neqtday at the head of an expedition in pursuit of the enemy. The return of this gallant and distinguished hero was the occasion of a flattering ovation. After a successful operation against the rebels he returned this day to this place with the commander of the department.

Rebel deserters are coming in daily. They confirm the reports of disaffection and starvation in the rebel army.

Our Washington Correspondence.

WASHINGTON, N. C., April 15, 1863.

Why General Foster Left Washington—The Escort, and How She Ran the Batteries—General Foster's Parting Order—His Opinion of General Potter—Fearful Cannonading Upon the Gunboats—The Brave Fifth Rhode Islanders—Colonel Sisson, and Who He Is—Rebel Signalizing, &c.

I was offered facilities for transmitting you an account of the siege of this post, and events, &c., peculiar to the same, up to yesterday, by the United States transport Escort, which ran by the enemy's batteries early this morning with General Foster on board, who took a temporary leave of the garrison here to place himself at the head of a relieving force. The Escort ran by the batteries at the rate of fifteen knots per hour, the enemy bringing all his guns from the Rodman battery to bear upon her, as well as lining the shore and trees with sharpshooters, who poured in several heavy volleys, killing the pilot instantly and wounding the cook in the arm severely. The boat was struck twenty-seven times, though damaging none of her machinery. The gunboat from below engaged the batteries at Hill's Point, from which place she was fired at.

General Forter, on the eve of his departure, issued the following order to the soldiers and sailors of the garrison:—

GENERAL ORDER.

HEADQUARTERS, FORT WASHINGTON, April 14, 1863.

The Commanding General announces to the garrison of this town that he is about to leave for a brief time the gallant soldiers and sailors of this garrison. Brigadier General Potter will remain in command, and in him the Commanding General has the most perfect confidence as a brave and able soldier. The commander of the naval forces remains unchanged. Therefore that arm of defence will be as effective and perfect as heretofore. The Commanding General leaves temporarily, and for the purpose of putting himself at the head of a relieving force. Having raised the siege, he expects soon to return. But before leaving he must express to the naval forces here and to the soldiers under his command—the Twenty-seventh and Forty-fourth Massachusetts, detachments of the Third New York artillery, Third New York cavalry and the First North Carolina Volunteers—his thanks for, and admiration of, the untiring zeal, noble emulation and excellent courage which have distinguished them during the sixteen days of the enemy's attack on this post; and he feels confident that the display of those qualities under Gen. Potter will hold the place until the siege is raised.

JOHN G. FOSTER,
Major General Commanding.

The enemy, finding it impossible to sink or impede the progress of the Escort, turned all his batteries upon the gunboats and Fort Hamilton from Rodman's, and all his batteries on the hill upon the fort (Washington) and intrenchments, making the air tremble with the reverberation of artillery. Finding the fort and guns along the breastworks not paying any attention to his artillery, he drew his guns out of battery, and for the time being again relapsed into a sullen mood.

A heavy thunder storm setting in at eleven A. M., and continuing to rain at intervals all day, he again opened from Rodman's, this time bringing into battery a thirty-pounder Parrott, his shells falling in the town, and going through several buildings.

I had the pleasure of taking by the hand to-day Colonel Sisson, Major Jamesten, and many officers of the Fifth Rhode Island. Too much praise cannot be awarded Colonel Sisson, who volunteered to bring his command to the relief of the garrison, though he was advised by officers his superiors in rank (but not in gallantry) not to run the risk of coming up in a transport. His noble reply was, "I will go or die in the attempt. General Foster wants reinforcements, and we are almost in sight of the besieged post." And come he did.

He is one of our fighting colonels (not political), who is not afraid to take the responsibility when appeals for reinforcements are made and passed by unheeded because batteries are placed on the banks of the river. Rhode Island has sent her gallant sons to the field in almost every capacity; but none reflect more lasting honor or carry her standard with truer hearts and more undaunted courage than Colonel Sisson and the gallant Fifth.

SKETCH OF COLONEL SISSON, FIFTH RHODE ISLAND VOLUNTEERS.

Colonel Henry T. Sisson, of the Fifth Rhode Island Volunteers, entered the service of his country during the present war as first lieutenant and paymaster of the First Rhode Island Detached Militia, with a commission dating from April 18, 1861. In this capacity he served in General (then Colonel) Burnside's brigade, at the battle of Bull run, of July 21, 1861. On his return from his three months' service he determined upon raising a battery, and received a commission as captain of the First Rhode Island light artillery, dating from December 20, 1861. On the 5th of February, 1862, he was promoted to the majority of the Third heavy artillery. Having served in this capacity for six months, he resigned on the 6th day of August, 1862. The Fifth Rhode Island Volunteers, which had served in the various campaigns of North Carolina as a battalion, under Major Job Wright, having been increased to a full regiment, the hero of our sketch was placed in command of the same, with a commission dating from November 5, 1862. He has since that date served under General Foster in the Eighteenth army corps. His record so far shows well, and his boldness in running the blockade of the rebel batteries on the Pamlico river, to relieve the garrison at Washington, N. C., betokens a courage that will make for him an undying fame.

The enemy were engaged at about eleven o'clock P. M. signalizing from their forces on our front, and were answered from Rodman's Point.

The weather about that hour cleared away beautifully, and the stars shone bright. A deathlike stillness hangs over the besieged city and its surroundings. The extreme stillness is ominous. The enemy either intends attempting to storm the garrison or to fall back in the morning. We await with much solicitude the events to-morrow will bring forth.

WASHINGTON, April 16, 1863.

Deserters—The Rebels Falling Back—General Garnett and His Rebel Brigade—Why He Did Not Attack Washington—The Rebel Works Destroyed by Our Troops—Another Contest at Rodman's Point—The Works Taken—A Spicy Document—The Rebel Forces—General Potter's Order, &c.

Six deserters came in early this morning from the Eighth and Fifty-sixth Virginia infantry, and reported the enemy falling back. Two companies of the Twenty-seventh Massachusetts, under command of Captain Dwight, were immediately sent out to reconnoitre, followed by Company I, Third New York cavalry, Captain Jocknick. The Twenty-seventh Massachusetts planted their colors on the enemy's breastworks. The cavalry were out some four miles, at which point the enemy's rear guard of cavalry were found. Adjutant Fowler, of the Twenty-seventh, brought in a Mr. Lodge, a citizen, who reports the following:—

General Garnett is making his father's house his headquarters. The following regiments compose General Garnett's brigade, being the force in our immediate front:—Seventeenth, Eighteenth and Nineteenth North Carolina infantry; Fifty-ninth North Carolina cavalry; Eighth, Eighteenth and Fifty-sixth Virginia infantry; Starr's battery of artillery; the Seventeenth North Carolina, numbering one thousand effective men; the Fifty-ninth cavalry, six hundred men; the other regiments being much reduced by disease and the casualties of the Virginian campaign, making in all the effective force in our front at from three to four thousand.

It was the intention of Gen. Garnett to make the attack on the morning of the 31st ult. or 1st inst., and take it by storm, knowing by some means or other that our garrison only numbered fifteen hundred men at the time. Reconnoitering our position, and finding the fortifications stronger than he anticipated, and the gunboats able to throw shell one mile beyond our line of defences, he, in view of this and the strength of our fortifications, deemed it prudent to intrench himself, and bring his artillery into position, and lay siege and shell out the fort and guns in the breastworks. Failing to accomplish this, and finding the guns at the fort so ably worked (Captain Wall, of the Third New York artillery being in command of the fort, who behaved with distinguished gallantry during the entire attack), and seeing our gallant soldiers ever watchful and ready at their posts, he did not attempt the storm or charge.

On Tuesday, March 14, Garnett received orders from Gen Hill to charge upon the fortifications and take them at all hazards. He replied that in charging he would lose one-half of his men in coming in, and the remainder in going out. Orders were received by him yesterday from General Hill to report his command at Tranter's at ten A. M. yesterday morning. He moved his artillery and infantry during the night, leaving his cavalry to cover his retreat. General Potter had all the enemy's intrenchments levelled down and a strong picket thrown out upon all the roads.

The enemy were still at Rodman's Point. The gunboats Eagle and Ceres were now sent down to shell the Point. After shelling for some time and receiving no response, and seeing no one about the Point, the third assistant engineer of the Ceres and Master's Mate Hudson and two men started ashore in a boat to plant the colors. When close into shore about fifty of the enemy rose from behind rifle pits and fired into the boat, killing Mr. Mainhan, third assistant engineer. Being under a heavy fire, Mr. H. seized the colors and swam back to the ship. A small schooner, with four or five men of the Forty-third Massachusetts, who had come up the night previous with ammunition, were running close to shore, when the enemy opened upon them, wounding Francis Trip mortally, and one other of the Forty-third slightly.

The gunboats came back, and at two P.M. the Eagle went down again, accompanied by your correspondent. The Eagle ran as close to the Point as she could, sending her shell into their breastworks with great precision. Mr. Lay, with eight men of the First North Carolina Volunteers, his gun crew, went ashore, followed by Master's Mate Tucker, with a howitzer and five men; Mr. Lay was first ashore, and soon the colors were floating over the breastworks. One half hour later three companies of the Fifth Rhode Island, under command of Lieutenant Colonel Tew, arrived, and one gun of the Third New York artillery, under command of Lieutenant Mowers, and immediately proceeded on a reconnoissance. Captain Hopkins, of the Fifth, being in advance, came up to four of the enemy. He had placed his skirmishers in such a position that the four rebels were surrounded. He ordered the first one to halt, who turned and ran. He fired upon him, killing him; the other three he captured and brought over to town. The prisoners proved to be Captain Parker, of the Fiftieth North Carolina Volunteers, acting brigade commissary; Drum-Major Nutt, and one private of the Fiftieth North Carolina Volunteers. Captain Parker reported Gen. Hill's force at six thousand men, and three at the Cross roads. He said that town would be stormed again within three days. He displayed much of the Southern bragadocia.

Rodman's is now occupied by our forces. The gunboats Southfield, Bunker, Whitehead, Valley City, Seymour and Perry arrived up in the afternoon and shelled the woods.

The Eagle, with three companies of the Forty-fourth Massachusetts, went down to Hill's Point to occupy it, after shelling it out. The Louisiana went down during the night to Hill's Point.

The following rare piece was found by Mr. Lay pasted up on a post near the enemy's works on Rodman's Point, and kindly given me:—

YANKEES:—

We leave you, not because we can't take Washington; but the fact is, it is not worth taking, and besides the climate is not agreeable. A man should be amphibious to inhabit it.

We leave you a few bursted guns, some stray solid shot, and "a man and a brother" on the wharf, who we rescued from the waves, to which some fray among his equals consigned him. But this tribute we pay you: You have acted with much gallantry during this brief siege. We salute the pilot of the Escort. Co. K, 32d Regt. N. C. T.

Two of their guns bursted—one a twenty-pounder Parrott, the other a Whitworth—and were thrown into the ditch. The man who is named as a brother was one of Captain Symes' flat (negro) men, poling the flat, who was shot, and fell overboard on the 31st ultimo.

A brief siege of seventeen days, by an army of from twelve to twenty thousand men, of a garrison at the time only numbering twelve hundred, may well be termed brief.

General Hill, in a speech in Tarboro, fifty miles above here, said, "Give me thirty thousand men, and I will drive the invading Yankees from Eastern North Carolina in thirty-one days, and you can return to your quiet homes and enjoy its blessings in peace." Sixty days have elapsed, and we are still here, and the valiant general is again returning to Tarboro. What will he say to the poor misguided citizens, many of whom we drove to within five miles of town, and waited eighteen days to return to their "quiet homes." He will be under the necessity of making another speech.

The Richmond papers of the 3d state that "Washington, N. C., was captured, with two thousand prisoners, six thousand contrabands and forty thousand in "greenbacks." Rather premature. We are still here, and, more of it, we intend to stay. As for greenbacks, the paymaster would be very graciously received, hailed, we think, with more favor than reinforcements would at this time.

The enemy is falling back slowly in the direction of Greenville, his camp fires extending for many miles. The following were the number of troops under Hill, as furnished us by a deserter:—17th, 28th, 26th, 32d, 43d, 45th, 47th, 52d and 53d North Carolina; 59th North Carolina cavalry; 8th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 28th, 59th and 56th Virginia; 7th Confederate cavalry; 64th Georgia; 1st artillery, numbering from thirty to forty pieces—making an effective force of twelve or fourteen thousand men. Everything is quiet up to the hour of writing.

The following orders have been issued:—

GENERAL ORDER.

HEADQUARTERS, WASHINGTON, N. C., April 17, 1863.

Whereas, there is every reason to believe that, during the recent siege, communication has been carried on between residents of this town and the enemy by means of signals; and whereas, many of the residents have openly displayed their sympathy with the rebel besieging forces;

It is therefore ordered, that all persons residing within our lines who have not already given or who shall not give satisfactory evidence of their loyalty to the United States government shall remove, within five days, beyond the federal lines.

The Provost Marshal will see that this order is carried into effect. By command of Brig. Gen. EDWD. E. POTTER.

JAS. W. ATWILL, A. A. Adjutant General.

OFFICE OF PROVOST MARSHAL, WASHINGTON, N. C., April 18, 1863.

In pursuance of the foregoing "General Order," all persons residing within our lines are requested to call forthwith at the office of the Provost Marshal, between the hours of nine o'clock A. M. and one o'clock P. M., to give satisfactory evidence of their loyalty to the United States government. All persons not conforming to this order must remove within five days beyond the federal lines.

Captain W. A. WALKER, Provost Marshal.

WASHINGTON, N. C., April 19, 1863.

Arrival of General H. M. Naglee and Staff—Their Brilliant Dash Upon the Enemy—The Advance of the Army for the Relief of Washington, &c.

At half-past eight o'clock this morning, his horse covered with foam and mud, and affording other signs of hard and rapid service, Brigadier General Henry M. Naglee arrived at headquarters in this place. He who, at our latest previous report, was lying upon his back very sick in the St. Nicholas Hotel, New York, now appeared among us full of life and vigor, full of spirit and energy, every inch a soldier. The greeting he met with from General Potter and all the other officers who had assembled at headquarters was of the most hearty and sincere description. It was the report from a small howitzer with him and his escort that had awakened us from our slumbers a few hours before. It was fired upon the rear of the retreating rebels, as was supposed, at the cross roads. The rebels were speeding on their way to Greenville, and fleeing from a cavalry force less than one third their number. It was the howitzer that astonished them, perhaps, and admonished them to "get out of the way," and scatter before the "advancing hosts," consisting at this time of General Naglee and not more than forty dashing horsemen.

General Naglee rode to General Potter's headquarters with his Adjutant General, Captain George H. Johnston, of South Boston; Captain Garrand, of New York, acting temporarily on his staff; Captain Cochen, of the ambulance corps; Lieutenant C. W. Matthews, of Philadelphia, and one or two others of his aids. The first three had been engaged with the General in the dash that succeeded in capturing five armed rebels, and starting from their temper and propriety some two or three hundred others.

The following is briefly a succinct account of the advance of General Naglee through the enemy's country from Newbern to Washington, the enemy's force being reported to be from thirty to forty thousand, and no authentic account received of the siege of Washington having been raised:—

GEN. NAGLEE'S EXPLOIT AT CHOCOWINITY, ETC.

Gen. Naglee, with his staff, left Newbern at 11 o'clock on Saturday, the 4th inst., in advance of the expedition for the relief of Washington. Gen. Naglee passed the rebel works at Blount's creek at two P. M. The works were found of a formidable character, but had been deserted probably some twelve hours, judging from the smoke of the camp fires. He learned that the rear guard of the enemy was some ten miles in advance. Our infantry, consisting of Heckman's, Amory's, and Lee's brigades, encamped here; and the General, with his staff, pushed on, after waiting some time for his cavalry escort to come up. Signs of the enemy were seen in the shape of deserted camps. The small party reached Chocowinity creek about five P. M., and found the main bridge destroyed, and made a detour of about a mile up the stream, where passage was secured by means of a small bridge near a mill. Before crossing Gen. Naglee was informed by a negro that a rebel picket, consisting of five men, were posted on the other side of the creek. Lieut. Matthews was now despatched to hasten on the cavalry, supposed to be some distance in the rear. This cavalry force consisted of a detachment of Co. A, Lieut. Beecher commanding, and a detachment of Co. E, Lieut. Gibbs commanding, with a mountain howitzer of Ellis' battery, under Lieut. Burke, belonging to the Third New York cavalry. The danger of capture being imminent, Gen. Naglee concluded not to await the arrival of his escort, but to make a sudden dash upon the enemy, and, if possible, capture or disperse them. His force then consisted of himself, Captain Johnston, Captain Garrand and Captain Cochen. With this force he charged at full speed, with the cry of "Charge, cavalry! infantry, deploy!" creating great consternation among the rebels. The first snapped his musket within ten feet of one of the party, crying out "Damn that lieutenant; I told him this gun was wet." Two others threw their muskets into the river. The first surrendered at the time his musket snapped. The others surrendered at command, while pistols were placed at their heads. The rebels were disarmed, and on questioning them it was ascertained that the enemy's cavalry, to the number of two hundred strong, under Major Kennedy, of the Second Georgia cavalry, were about a quarter of a mile off. General Naglee and party, with their prisoners, then returned to a house on a by road, where they awaited the arrival of the escort. It was doubtful which would arrive first, the enemy's or our own cavalry. It was now dark, and the situation of the General was certainly dangerous. But about eight o'clock Lieutenant Matthews arrived with seventy-five men, under Lieutenant Beecher. The road was immediately picketed to the bridge, where the enemy's cavalry were met advancing, and shots exchanged. The enemy's advance was checked, and both parties bivouacked within fifty yards of each other, the howitzer being placed in position to command the passage of the bridge, and the enemy protected by earthworks. At four o'clock the following morning (Sunday), the passage of the bridge was forced in a most brilliant manner. The rebels were driven from their intrenchments, one of their number killed, one wounded, a captain (John A. Richardson, of the Second Georgia cavalry), captured, and a regimental color taken. The howitzer was brought into play, and the enemy pursued, with occasional firing, up to the junction of the Greenville and Washington roads. The enemy made a short stand at this point; but a few well directed shells, and a handsome dash of our cavalry, sent them again on the run, taking the road toward Greenville. General Naglee then took the road to Washington, being received with cheer upon cheer as he advanced through the Union lines. He reached General Potter's headquarters in Washington about half-past eight A. M.

After passing the Blount creek batteries, Lieut. Charles W. Matthews, A. D. C. of Gen. Naglee, was despatched to bring up two companies of the Third New York cavalry, Brig. Gen. Heckman placed detachments of Company A (Lieut. Beecher), Company E (Lieut. Gibbs), and one mountain howitzer (Lieut. Burke), in all seventy-five men—of whom were subsequently as pickets, guards, &c.—under his command, with which he proceeded at full speed after General Naglee, some ten miles, coming up with him thirty minutes after the prisoners were taken. Meeting the enemy at the destroyed bridge, some one half mile beyond, exchanged shots. The enemy fell back and the party bivouacked for the night.

From the above it will be seen that Gen. Naglee commanded the advance, consisting of Gen. Heckman's brigade and the Third New York cavalry, with a mounted howitzer, and overtook the rear guard of the enemy on the road leading west from the mouth of Blount's creek. At the Chocowinity, a small stream, there was shown some determination to make a stand; but in advance of his cavalry, Gen. Naglee, with his staff, dashed upon and drove the enemy precipitately from behind some field works, capturing a number of prisoners and the colors of the Second Georgia cavalry. From this to beyond the cross road leading to Wahington from Newbern, so industrious and rapid was the pursuit that the rear guard of the enemy was compelled to break in confusion and scatter in the direction of Greenville.

ARRIVAL OF BRIGADIER GENERAL HECKMAN.

About three P. M. Brigadier General Heckman, accompanied by his Adjutant General, Captain Abel, and others of his staff, arrived in Washington, having come by way of Hill's Point, whither a portion of his command had been ordered by General Foster, on the presumption that the rebels still held the strong batteries there. General Heckman's orders were to take the batteries, and he, with his veteran and tried Ninth New Jersey, would undoubtedly have done so, had there been anything to take. But the rebels, as if the wish of General Heckman, expressed a week before, that he "wanted to take a few of those Whitworth guns," had been borne on the winds from South Carolina, could not have put them more effectually out of his reach. Not only were the Whitworth guns not there, but the place was already occupied by our troops, a detachment of the Forty-fourth Massachusetts being in possession of the works.

In the whole course of the march—some forty miles—the troops in General Heckman's brigade never faltered; and, considering that they had just arrived from a position of long inaction in South Carolina, the march is creditable to their fortitude and endurance. General Heckman, on several occasions during the march, exhibited his usual strong element of activity and his fertility of resources. Coming to the mill on Blount's creek, where the bridge had been destroyed, he did not delay his advance by seeking some other way of getting over, but actually constructed a passage way for his cavalry and infantry over a bridge improvised from the roof of the miller's house. His promptness in obeying the summons of General Naglee for the cavalry to advance, probably saved that energetic and fast riding officer from some inconvenience, had the enemy concluded to make a bold stand and dispute every inch of his way.

ARRIVAL OF MAJOR GENERAL FOSTER.

Major Gen. Foster arrived in Washington shortly after Gen. Heckman. He left Newbern on the 17th, with Amory's and Wessels' divisions of infantry, and three batteries of artilley under command of Major Stone. It was reported that the enemy were in force in front after the first day's march, and preparations were made to attack him. The report proved groundless, or nearly so, for the only rebels found were those that Naglee's men had either captured or were driving before them. Gen. Foster, although laboring under some indisposition, made the march without further detriment to his health. He was, as may well be imagined, warmly welcomed on his grand and triumphant *rentree* into a place from which but a few days before the enemy had defiantly forbid his egress.

Our Newbern Correspondence.

NEWBERN, N. C., April 19, 1863.

The Recent Siege—Why It Lasted So Long—General Foster's Activity—Rebel Sympathizers to be Cleared Out—Casualties, &c.

With less excitement than has been prevalent for the last two weeks, we are able to judge more accurately of events transpiring within that time. As every one sees in the past cause for regret with reference to past actions, so with us during this siege of the enemy upon Washington.

Although their force was large, yet it is the general belief, supported by the Commanding General in this department, that had the force sent out under command of General Spinola upon the 8th inst. carried out the original intention of the expedition we could have obtained a victory with comparatively small loss, and telling in its effect upon the decision of this great struggle. The principal action must have occurred at the creek upon the opposite side of which the enemy were posted in force; and, even as the result of the artillery duel of half an hour's duration, the enemy were already falling back.

It now appears from Washington, as our standpoint, from which place the movements of the rebels were discernible, that they were preparing to evacuate the water batteries at Rodman's and Hill's Points at the time our forces arrived at Swift's creek.

The falling back of the force under General Spinola to this place only gave them time for more deliberate action, while we lost the results of a victory which was within our grasp.

General Foster, on arriving here, immediately set the troops in motion for the relief of our garrison at Washington, but ere the movement was completed learned of the retreat of the enemy. Suffice to say, he is now seeking their whereabouts. Our forces have been within three miles of Kinston, but find no force in that direction. Quite a number of prisoners have been captured, in all about twenty, who, with the deserters, increase the evidence of the great scarcity of provisions in Rebeldom. A quartermaster, captured upon Rodman's Point, says he has not issued to his men a pound of coffee, tea, sugar, rice or candles since April, 1862, but merely half a pound of bacon and a pound and a quarter of corn meal.

A very important order has just been issued, ordering all whose sympathies are with the confederacy to leave the lines, and some forty families have received notice to leave within five days. The same order relates to Washington, and a general cleaning out may be expected.

This is a most excellent order, and one long needed in the department, and, once carried into effect, will be a victory in itself.

Richmond papers of the 10th inform us of the "surrender of Washington, N. C.," and were in hourly expectation of the arrival of the prisoners at that place. Probably they concluded they could not afford transportation.

The casualties during the siege of Washington were, as far as ascertained, as follows:—

Captain James Richardson, Co. A, Forty-fourth Massachusetts, flesh wound in the arm.

Sergeant Hobart, Co. G, Forty-fourth Massachusetts, wounded and captured.

Corporal Lawrence, Co. G, Forty-fourth Massachusetts, wounded and captured.

Private Leonard, Co. G, Forty-fourth Massachusetts, wounded and captured.

Private Dwyer, Co. E, Twenty-seventh Massachusetts, wounded in leg (amputated).

Captain Lyons, First North Carolina Volunteers, several flesh wounds on the arm and leg, and several of his men were wounded. Names not known.

The rebels left upon Rodman's Point two Whitworth guns and one Parrott gun which had burst during the siege.

NEWBERN, April 21, 1863.

Return of Major General Foster, Brigadier Generals Naglee, Heckman and Potter to Newbern—Gen. Prince Has a Fight and Drives Off the Rebels, &c.

The steamer Escort, Capt. Wall, arrived this morning from Washington, N. C., having on board Major General Foster, Brigadier Generals Naglee, Heckman and Potter, with their several staffs, and with the Ninth New Jersey Volunteers.

The enemy having raised the siege and fled to other parts, there was no necessity for this distinguished galaxy of brave officers to remain there any longer.

Gen. Prince had a brush with the rebels under Ransom, near Deep Gully, about fifteen miles hence toward Kinston, yesterday. He captured about thirty, lost one man killed, a few wounded, and drove off the rebels.

The Latest News.

FORTRESS MONROE, April 23, 1863.

The steamship S. R. Spaulding, Commander Howes, arrived this afternoon from Newbern, N. C.

She reports that all is quiet in that department, and confirms the previous report that the enemy have all left. She also reports that General Foster has returned again to Newbern, having taken upward of fifty prisoners.

THE FIGHT ON THE NANSEMOND.

List of Casualties—The Losses of the Enemy—The Captured Battery, &c.

FORTRESS MONROE, April 23, 1863.

Annexed is a list of the killed and wounded at Suffolk and on the Nansemond river on the 19th, 20th and 21st instant:—

KILLED.

Sergeant Marvin Watrous, 89th New York.
Frank D. Jerome, 8th Connecticut.
Jehiel Smith, 89th New York.

WOUNDED.

Lieutenant John T. Bidwell, 8th Connecticut, hip, fatally.
— Cluney, 99th New York, in leg.
Jacob Menz, 9th New York, in mouth.
Moses White, 167th Pennsylvania, in face and neck.
Charles Fish, 89th New York, in left thigh.
William Ulter, 89th New York, in arm.
C. M. Yarns, 89th New York, in foot.
E. C. Tompkins, 89th New York, in arm (amputated).
Charles Weaver, 89th New York, in thigh.
Charles Purdy, 89th New York, in leg.
John Lawyer, 8th Connecticut, in chest.
William R. Post, 8th Connecticut, in arm and leg.

Also five rebel prisoners of war wounded and admitted into the hospital at Suffolk on the 20th.

It is estimated that the rebel loss is at least eight to our one in the late attack on Suffolk and Nansemond river.

The battery captured from the rebels on the 20th inst. has been removed to a place of safety, and can be turned upon the enemy to good advantage when required.

The Guns Captured on the Nansemond.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

I notice in your Fortress Monroe correspondence of Thursday a paragraph to the effect that the battery of guns recently captured on the Blackwater were marked "Gen. J. C. Fremont," and that the rebel officers taken in the encounter istated that they had previously been captured from Gen. Fremont during his campaign in Western Virginia. The statement of the rebel officers is incorrect. No guns were captured from the Army of the Mountain Department while under the command of Gen. Fremont, either in Western Virginia or elsewhere. In your issue of to-day (Friday) your correspondent states that they were captured during the peninsular campaign, which is probably correct.

J. G. PILSON,
Lieut. Col. and Aid-de-Camp, Chief of Artillery,
Staff Gen. Fremont.

THE WAR IN TENNESSEE.

Particulars of the Occupation of McMinnville by Union Troops.

MURFREESBORO, Tenn., April 24, 1863.

General Reynolds reports from Liberty the particulars of the McMinnville affair.

The main mounted force under Colonels Wilder and Minty arrived at McMinnville at one o'clock on Wednesday morning, taking the place almost entirely by surprise. A rebel force under Grigsby was in front of the town; but General Reynolds amused them while Colonel Wilder went into the place. Grigsby escaped.

Colonel Longworth, of the Ohio cavalry, struck the railroad, destroyed the telegraph and bridges between Morrison and Manchester, and burned a train of cars and locomotive, together with other spare cars at various places and vast quantities of meat.

Captain Wickliffe, of the Second Kentucky cavalry, in charge of an important part of the expedition, got drunk, and was sent in under arrest disgraced.

At McMinnville Colonel Wilder destroyed the bridges, six hundred blankets, thirty thousand pounds of bacon, two hogsheads of sugar, three hogsheads of rice, eight barrels of whiskey, two hundred bales of cotton, one large cotton factory, one large mill and one small one, one camp at Charley's creek, and subsequently one at Liberty, and took three hundred prisoners, among them Dick McCann, who subsequently escaped. Lieutenant Colonel Martin, rebel, was mortally wounded.

General Reynolds then moved towards Liberty, but Morgan is moving towards Carthage, near Alexandria. Our scouts are picking up rebels every half hour. Among them is a captain.

General Reynolds destroyed a mill at Liberty, which had been doing good work for the rebels.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., April 24, 1863.

It is reported that our forces are in possession of McMinnville. General Reynolds' force, consisting of one brigade of cavalry and three brigades of infantry, entered the town on Wednesday, and took the rebels by surprise, capturing Mrs. General John Morgan, two hundred and fifty prisoners, and two wagon trains. The casualties on our side are not yet ascertained. Nearly the whole of Morgan's force were stationed at McMinnville, and upon our attack, sought safety by flight.

The order of General Mitchell requiring rebel sympathizers to take the oath of allegiance is causing great consternation among the disloyal citizens. Several hundred males and females have subscribed to it.

The river is falling. There is four feet of water on the shoals.

Tompkinsville, Ky., Destroyed.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., April 24, 1863.

After the destruction of Celina, Tenn., a party visited Tompkinsville, Ky., on Wednesday, burned the court house and half a dozen other buildings, killed five or six Union men, and retreated.

Return of Thomas Sims, "the Fugitive Slave," to Boston.

BOSTON, April 24, 1863.

Thomas Sims, the fugitive slave who was returned from here to slavery some years since, arrived back today, he having escaped from the rebels at Vicksburg.

City Intelligence.

ALLEGED FRAUDS IN THE SALE OF PRIZE VESSELS.—A commission appointed by the United States government to hold an investigation respecting alleged frauds in the sale of prize vessels commenced proceedings in the Custom House yesterday afternoon, but maintained strict secrecy as to the character of the developements which they expected. It appears on good authority, however, that the charges are against the prize commissioners and other United States officials. The charges are alleged to be substantially as follows:—

That those having custody of the disposition of prize vessels for the benefit of the captors and the government, have become illegally interested in the sales, and have made large amounts of money by them, unauthorized by the character of their office; that such parties have made themselves irresponsible, lodging such proceeds of the sales in the United States Treasury as they deemed fit, and applying the residue for their own benefit; that the captors have been deprived by this means of their just allowance of the amount of each sale; that portions of the cargoes of captured vessels have not been accounted for, and that many articles, among them a large number of barrels of rosin, bags of coffee, segars, &c., have been abstracted, and no account given of them.

Other charges equally grave have likewise been made, such as that exorbitant prices have been required for storage, and that frequently sales have occurred without the requisite advertisement in the public papers. These charges are certainly of a very serious nature, and if substantiated the delinquent officials should be severely punished.

ANNIVERSARY OF SHAKSPERE'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION.—The two hundred and ninety-ninth anniversary of the birthday of the immortal bard, Shakspere, occurred on Thursday last, and, for the first time in the annals of this country's history, it was celebrated with some degree of credit. In Boston the day was commemorated by an address on the life, times and works of the noted dramatist, and in this city the Burton Dramatic Association celebrated it by a fine and select Shakseperian fancy dress ball and supper. Many of the characters were well sustained, especially those of Mary of Argyle, Shylock, Bottom, Hamlet, &c. During the supper an address upon Shakspere was delivered by a noted lawyer of this city.

THE LARGEST DIAMOND in the States, in breastpin form, is on view at Ball, Black & Co.'s.

DROWNING CASUALTY.—Robert McFee, a petty officer on board the British steamship Damascus, lying at pier 23 North river, fell overboard on Thursday night, while intoxicated, and was drowned before any assistance could be rendered him. The body has not yet been recovered.

FATAL RAILROAD ACCIDENT.—Edward O'Niel, a brakeman in the employment of the Harlem Railroad Company, was run over by a train of cars at 131st street, on Thursday, and fatally injured. Deceased was uncoupling a coupling, when he fell between the locomotive and the tender and was crushed to death before he could be extricated. Coroner Rainey held an inquest.

THE BROADWAY RAILROAD.

Operations Still Suspended—An Opposition Company Lay Same Track, &c.

The Broadway Railroad sensation continued unabated yesterday, notwithstanding the horrible condition of the weather, which kept people to a certain degree within doors and prevented a crowd from congregating about the locations where the pavement had been torn up the day previous.

The announcement in yesterday's issue that the Harlem Company, after having succeeded in laying a portion of their rails, were subsequently restrained from proceeding further by an injunction from the Superior Court, occasioned no small degree of surprise to the public in general. It appears that the injunction was obtained from Justice Barbour, at his private residence, by the New York Consolidated Stage Company, on an affidavit sworn to by Jesse A. Marshall and James Murphy. The following is an exact copy of the document:—

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK.

The New York Consolidated Stage Company against The Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of New York, and the New York and Harlem Railroad Company.—It appearing from the complaint in this action, and from the affidavit of Jesse A. Marshall and James Murphy, that sufficient grounds exist therefor, I do hereby order that the defendants, the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the city of New York, and all persons acting under them, and each of them, do refrain and desist from giving and granting unto the New York and Harlem Railroad Company, mentioned and referred to in the said complaint, the right to lay or construct a railroad track or tracks on any part thereof, in the streets or avenues, or any or either of them, in the city of New York, or from authorizing in any way or manner the said New York and Harlem Railroad Company to lay a double track or railway in the Fourth avenue, Union square, Broadway, Fulton street and Whitehall street, or in any or either of them; or any railway or railroad track whatever in said streets or either of them, or from breaking and removing the pavement thereof, or from in any manner obstructing the said streets preparatory to or for the purpose of laying or establishing any railroad track or railway therein. And I do further order that the said defendants, the New York and Harlem Railroad Company, their attorney or attorneys, agents, employes, workmen and servants, or either or any of them, be and they hereby are enjoined and restrained from laying or constructing any railroad track or tracks in the said Fourth avenue, Union square, Broadway, Whitehall and Fulton streets, or in any or either of them, or in any or either of the streets mentioned and referred to in the resolution or ordinance mentioned in the complaint herein, or in any part or parts of the said streets or any or either of them, preparatory to or for the purpose of establishing any railroad track or tracks or railway therein, or from in any manner disturbing or interfering with the carriageway of said streets or interrupting the travel thereon. JOHN N. BARBOUR,
Justice, of the city of New York.

NEW YORK, April 23, 1863.

It will thus be perceived that the stage proprietors are the great enemies of the project, although it is said the Harlem Company have offered to purchase the horses and omnibuses of the above proprietors at a handsome price.

Copies of the injunction were served on Thursday evening upon Mr. Allen Campbell, President of the Harlem Railroad Company; Mr. J. C. Buckhout, engineer of the same company, and upon the three foremen supervising the work of the laborers. Yesterday morning Deputy Sheriff Ray served copies upon the Mayor, Clerk of the Common Council, Deputy Street Commissioner Tweed and the officers of the Croton Aqueduct Board.

It will be observed that this injunction is not an order preliminary to an injunction, nor does it contain an order to show cause why it should not be made perpetual, but operates to prevent any action whatever on the part of the city government or the Harlem Company, except, of course, an application for its dissolution.

The difficulties of the matter have become somewhat more complicated by the rivals of the Harlem Company ripping up a portion of the pavement in Whitehall street, between South and Front streets, for the purpose of taking advantage possession of the route. The opinion amongst the general public was that the Albany jobbers had come "a day after the fair," too late to obtain a rival possession which would be held valid by the judiciary.

Matters were very quiet all day yesterday in the vicinity of Broadway, Fourteenth street and Union square, where some of the Harlem track had been laid. The injunction remaining undissolved, no work, of course, was attempted. The torn pavement looked wretched enough, and the half laid rails were gazed upon by many a smiling countenance passing through the thoroughfares indicated. The place ripped up near Fifteenth street early in the morning had assumed the condition of a small pond, by reason of the heavy rains, and a crowd of small boys, engaged in sundry adolescent nautical experiments, were the only operators visible in the neighborhood.

A difficulty about paying the specified percentage of the receipts of the Harlem Railroad Broadway Company has been suggested. It consists in the supposed impossibility of ascertaining the exact amount of the receipts on the Broadway line, owing to the fact that the receipts of the old Fourth avenue line will have