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THE YANKEE RAID NEAR RICHMOND.

BRIDGES BURNT.

CAPTURE OF GEN. W. M. F. LEE.

The distinguished Divisor, so widely known at the South, and who, not long ago, was before the public at Pittsburg, Pa., upon the question of his loyalty, it is stated now has charge of a church in Philadelphia. Dr. Plumer's course on the occasion of his arraignment was quite strange in the opinion of his old friends at the South. He was President of Allegheny College, an institution established by the Presbyterian Church, and was also pastor of one of the churches of the city, having a large and wealthy congregation. Dr. Plumer did not place them on the subject of the war—He was no non-com, and would not pray for the success of the Federal Army. He would go no further than to pray for peace and restoration. They met him on trial, and he made a defence which satisfied the majority of his flock, and the balance withdrew from his church. Outside, however, caught up the matter, and the press became denunciatory. The Doctor at last yielded to the Abolition pressure so far as to publish a card, in which he declared that under the Providence of God he had been born under the Government of the United States, and believing that Government were ordained of Heaven, to that allegiance was due and should be given, even to the extent of his physical powers if needed. This was understood to mean that he still persisted in his refusal to modify his prayers, and as we find him now pastor of a church in Philadelphia we infer that the Abolitionists of Pittsburg and Allegheny made his situation there too hot for him and he was forced to leave it.

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The reports of the progress of the Yankee raid from the White House yesterday came to the city fast and furious, and it is remarkable to note that they were in very few cases exaggerated, except with regard to the numbers of the foe. There was no excitement, and we may safely assert that there was a dull day here. Everybody was cool, and everybody, except those who were in militia organizations, were attending to their every day business as usual. The day has passed without any excitement being stirred up by the news of a Yankee raid.

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On Thursday evening a portion of the Federal troops—about 1,200—left the White House on the road to Hanover Court-House, and upon arriving camped for the night on Colonel Wickham's farm. Thursday night, at a late hour, the rest of the troops at the White House left in the same direction, and passed Old Church and both parties met near Hanover Court-House, and on the other hand, it is supposed that the two divisions took different routes. This matter is strengthened by the fact that our pickets at Mechtenterville, four miles from Richmond, were driven in early in the day, and three of them captured. Before leaving the White House they tore up the track from there to the Trestle Station, a distance of four miles. The rumor yesterday that they brought two locomotives and cars with them on their march, and had put them on the road, is of course unfounded, as they did not leave the track down to use. They also burnt the store of Mr. Dabney, at Trestle Station, with a full stock of goods, which the proprietor had only received the day before. The excuse for this vandalism was that the building contained the Post Office. They did not rob the money drawer of the store, something most remarkable for a Yankee.

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Some of the thousands of articles of property which the Yankee invaders in Virginia, none have exceeded the full of George R. Smith, at Suffolk, a full account of which we take from the Petersburg Express: Mr. Smith received about one mile from the town, a wealthy farmer, having around him an interesting family, the oldest one a valiant young man in the 16th Va. regiment. When Gen. Longstreet's forces moved on to Suffolk, Mr. Smith's residence, and many things passed through his house. The Yankees finally advanced and fired the house, forcing the family to flee. The youngest only ten months old, attempted to escape to the woods and into the Confederate lines, just below the hip, the child, frightened, hid himself in a hole in the ground by his wife, to see her breathe her last. After she had been dead for some time, the Yankee ordered him to take up the body of his wife to her brother's residence, until he had first gone through the town to the Provost Marshal's office and obtained permission to bury her. Mr. Smith's wife was buried in the graveyard and buried her. He carried her to her brother, John K. Kilby, at Suffolk, and he was allowed to leave the house, or to attend the remains of his sister to the graveyard.

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Between 12 and 1 o'clock the presence of the enemy at Hanover Station, eight miles this side of the Junction, was ascertained by the interruption of telegraphic communication. It then became apparent that the danger of the destruction of the South Anna bridge, on the Central railroad, was imminent, and the commandant Hanover Junction was directed to concentrate his forces—only a regiment being all that he had at his command—for their protection and defence, whilst troops from other quarters were gotten together and hurried off in the direction of the threatened point. At four o'clock a dispatch was received from Col. D. J. Godwin, commanding the forces at the bridge, that the enemy had made an attack, and the light was then going on, and concluding with an appeal for the reinforcements to be hurried on.

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Trains were dispatched with troops both to the Central and Fredericksburg Roads, and it was hoped they would arrive in time to resist the attack of the enemy, and save the bridges from destruction. The Central Road was regarded as being in the most imminent danger, and the larger number of well equipped and thoroughly organized troops were sent by this route, under the command of Colonel Gilmer, 27th North Carolina regiment. The train bearing this force left the depot in this city about 6 o'clock, but were too late to relieve the small force contending with the enemy on the South Anna, which was finally overpowered and compelled to yield the possession of the bridge to the enemy, who at once fired it, and in a comparatively short time it was completely destroyed. Col. Godwin immediately telegraphed the fact to the commandant of this department, and in his dispatch stated that the enemy were moving in considerable force on the bridge over the South Anna on the Fredericksburg road; that their force consisted of infantry, artillery, and much cavalry. This dispatch also concluded with an appeal for reinforcements.

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It may be well to state that up to 10 o'clock on Thursday night these bridges were protected by an ample guard, consisting of an entire brigade. At that hour information was received that a raid of the enemy's cavalry was threatened at Gordonsville, and the brigade was sent from the Junction to that point, leaving but one regiment, the 4th North Carolina, and a small cavalry force, for the defence of Hanover Junction and the two South Anna bridges. What may have occurred at Gordonsville, we have no means of knowing, as no trains reached the city from that direction last evening. Some anxiety is felt for the safety of the passenger train which left this city yesterday morning, as well as the one which was due here yesterday afternoon. There is no information of any train having been captured, though the material train which reached the depot about noon yesterday reported being fired into in the vicinity of Hanover Court-House.

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The loss of the bridge on the Central road will not be materially felt, if the bridge on the Fredericksburg road can be saved. If both should be destroyed, however, it will result in serious interruption to our communication. Up to a late hour last night the result of the demonstration on the latter road was unknown, but strong hopes were entertained that our reinforcements had reached it in time to save it.

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The train which took the troops on the Central road returned at 11 o'clock last night. From the officers on board this train we have some fuller particulars of the raid upon the road yesterday afternoon. Before attacking the bridge over the South Anna, the enemy destroyed the bridge over the road near Hanover Court-House, and tore up the track for some distance. We then attacked the bridge which was guarded by only 800 men, belonging to the 4th North Carolina. They were informed, and the 4th North Carolina, perhaps they had not been more determined and desperate fighting exhibited during the whole war than was exhibited by these gallant men in defence of the bridge. For upwards of an hour they contended with twelve hundred of the enemy's cavalry and two pieces of artillery, and only yielded when completely overpowered. The Lt. Col. commanding this guard refused to surrender his sword, even after being overpowered, and it was not until he was surrounded by the enemy that he was forced to yield. He was wounded, and it was not until he was surrounded by the enemy that he was forced to yield.

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After firing the bridge, the Yankees started in the direction of the bridge on the Fredericksburg road, but on being informed by a citizen, who was a prisoner of theirs, that we had two brigades at that point and Hanover Junction, they turned their course, and marched back in the direction of the White House, passing Hanover Court-House only a few minutes before the arrival of our reinforcements. The gentlemen who gave them the information with reference to our forces at the Junction, says they told him they had a cavalry force of 1,200, and a large infantry force at the White House and neighborhood, and they boasted of their intention to take Richmond last night or to-day.

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While in Hanover they went to the residence of Col. Wickham, where they captured Gen. W. H. F. Lee, who has been there since he was wounded in the battle of Brandy Station, on the 9th. They conveyed him away in the carriage of Col. W., which they stole. They also burned the store of Mr. Wickham, and one or two other buildings.

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A case of Yankee barbarity. Among the thousands of articles of property which the Yankee invaders in Virginia, none have exceeded the full of George R. Smith, at Suffolk, a full account of which we take from the Petersburg Express: Mr. Smith received about one mile from the town, a wealthy farmer, having around him an interesting family, the oldest one a valiant young man in the 16th Va. regiment. When Gen. Longstreet's forces moved on to Suffolk, Mr. Smith's residence, and many things passed through his house. The Yankees finally advanced and fired the house, forcing the family to flee. The youngest only ten months old, attempted to escape to the woods and into the Confederate lines, just below the hip, the child, frightened, hid himself in a hole in the ground by his wife, to see her breathe her last. After she had been dead for some time, the Yankee ordered him to take up the body of his wife to her brother's residence, until he had first gone through the town to the Provost Marshal's office and obtained permission to bury her. Mr. Smith's wife was buried in the graveyard and buried her. He carried her to her brother, John K. Kilby, at Suffolk, and he was allowed to leave the house, or to attend the remains of his sister to the graveyard.

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Soon as Gen. Jackson learned of the advance of the enemy he made a call upon the men of upper East Virginia to rally and defend their homes. We are rejoiced to learn that they met with some slight resistance before they succeeded in burning it. Our forces there, however, succeeded in making the bridge a pile of ruins. They destroyed a portion of their small arms. After destroying the bridge at the plain they came on to Mosby creek and there destroyed the bridge over the road. They then turned west, turning their stock into the grain fields adjacent there. Learning by some means that our forces were advancing upon them from both East and West, they moved up on Sunday night and struck direct for Kentucky. The last we heard of them they had crossed Clinch river with their baggage and forces pursued.

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