

THE CAMDEN WEEKLY CONFEDERATE.

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

Vol. III

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The Confederate

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BY

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The Maryland Raid.

The Richmond *Examiner* contains a letter from an officer, giving a sketch of the operations of the cavalry during the recent invasion of Maryland and the District of Columbia. We give below all of the letter that is necessary to the interest of the narrative; a part we consider it proper to withhold:

WHITE'S FORD ON THE POTOMAC, July 15, 1864.—We are back over the river, after a ten days' sojourn in Maryland. What all the results of our expedition are I do not yet see, but suspect they are * * * In many respects the raid is certainly a success. * * *

We left Staunton about the 27th of June, the infantry passing down the Valley pike, the cavalry along a road parallel to the West of the pike.

We (the cavalry) reached Winchester on the 3d and on the 4th attached Gen. Seigel at Leetown, from which, after a severe struggle, he retired. At noon we struck the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and telegraph, and immediately pressed on towards Martinsburg.

On the 4th, our infantry took Sheppardstown from which the Yankees were driven with loss. We here took a flag from the 1st New York Cavalry.

On the 5th, we crossed the Potomac and proceeded to Sharpsburg, and thence marched to Boonesboro and Middletown, skirmishing a little with the Yankees at the latter place.

On the 8th, we drove them to the suburbs of Frederick, but our orders would not permit us to take the town; consequently we saw no one there.

On the 9th, we started on our raid. The army marched on Monocacy Junction, while we struck to the East for the railroads. Marching rapidly and changing horses as fast as they were broken down, we passed over the State. At daylight on the 10th, we were at Reisterstown, twelve miles from Baltimore; and at 9 o'clock a. m., were at Cockskeyville, on the Northern Central Railroad.

Maj. Gilmer, of the 2d and part of the 1st Maryland Cavalry, pushed on, while we burnt the bridges at Cockskeyville. Next day, Maj. Gilmer destroyed all the bridges on the Philadelphia and Baltimore Railroad, captured a train and Maj. Gen. Franklin, and rejoined the command at Poolesville on the 13th.

From Cockskeyville, Johnson's brigade swept around Baltimore appearing almost simultaneously on so many different roads, at intervals of from six to ten miles apart that many different columns were reported to be advancing at once on Baltimore.

On the 11th, we struck the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad at Woodstock, and on the 12th, the Washington and Baltimore Road at Beltsville. At the latter place, we fell in with the Yankee cavalry, which we routed in thirty minutes. By this time, Mr. Abraham Lincoln did not know whether the United States had succeeded or not. We had cut all communication between Washington and the North: After routing the Yankee cavalry, we caught a passenger train of nine cars and a commissary train laden with sugar and coffee. Several citizens told us that Lincoln had gone over the road in a burthen train a short time before our arrival. We remained at this place (Beltsville) until ordered to rejoin the army.

A party sent by Gen. Johnson burnt Gov. Bradford's house, with everything in it except the ladies clothing and the piano. Gen. Johnson ordered this to be done as a retaliation for the burning of Gov. Letcher's house by Gen. Hunter. It was a harsh measure, as far as it affected the ladies of the family, but just vengeance can take no account of persons. The manner of the burning was, however, very different from that at Lexington. The young men engaged in it treated the family with the greatest respect; assisted them in removing their clothing and carried their piano out for them. A quantity of gold found in the house was given to one of the young ladies on her assurance that it was her property.

Some of the incidents of our ride were amusing. We fell in with Painter's celebrated traveling ice cream saloon with a large quantity of ice cream aboard. We had no rattans, and vanilla, lemon and other ices were issued to the whole command, who ate until they could eat no more. This was the first time a whole cavalry brigade ever fed on ice cream. Our loss, from the time we left the army at Frederick until we rejoined it at Blair's house, was one officer, Lieut. Edelfo, Company B, First Maryland Cavalry, killed or wounded, and two men captured. We started on Saturday, the 9th, and rejoined the army on Wednesday, the 13th, having been out of the saddle only twice during that time, and marched eighty miles at a stretch.

Incidents of the Invasion of Maryland.

A correspondent of the New York *Herald* gives an interesting account of his trip to the seat of war in Maryland, from which we gather the following:

We reached the Gunpowder river all safe, and immediately after passing the long trestle bridge speed was increased. The train was in charge of Asher Panoost, engineer, and T. Brison, conductor. About two miles from the bridge, at Magnolia station, two or three pistol shots were heard, when the train suddenly stopped, and a cry was raised: "The rebels are on us!"

But a few seconds elapsed before they entered the cars, carrying pistols in their hands. The first question asked was, "Are there any ladies in this car?" On being answered in the affirmative, they ordered every lady to sit down. This was immediately followed by another order to "Clear out." It was while leaving the cars that purses and watches were taken from the passengers. The request to hand them over was enforced by a cocked pistol held at the heads of the victimized passengers. The prisoners were then placed under a strong guard, and the cars set on fire, after the baggage and express cars had been emptied. Steam was then got up, the engine reversed, and the train of blazing cars run down to Gunpowder bridge. A column of dense black smoke was soon seen rising in the direction of the bridge, and when the rebels, who had been in charge of the train, returned, they said the bridge was burning finely, and would be totally consumed. The first train was burning when we were stopped, and it is a somewhat singular circumstance that neither the engineer nor the conductor in charge of the express train could see the smoke in time to stop and reverse the train. It appears to have been a piece of gross carelessness on their part, knowing, as they must have done, that the rebels were scattered all over the country. Many of the passengers did not hesitate to accuse them of something even more heinous than carelessness.

Maj. General Franklin was a passenger on board the train. He was dressed in citizens' clothes, and when the rebels entered the cars and asked him who he was, he replied: "Nobody of any account."

The guard passed on a few yards, when a Baltimore lady (of whom there were quite a number on board) told him the General's rank and name. The guard returned and demanded his papers, which were of course, handed over, and the General was taken from the car.

The rebel force consisted of about two hundred and fifty men. They were under the command of Major Harry Gilmer, and consisted of twenty-five not belonging to the First Regiment Maryland Cavalry, and the balance being to the Second Maryland, Major Gilmer's own regiment. They were fine, hearty looking men, and the majority had evidently been in the service a considerable length of time. About a score of them were dressed in citizens' clothing, and judging from their fair complexions, had but recently joined the command. From their conversation I learned that the majority were residents of Maryland. Major Gilmer, I was informed, lived about five miles from Magnolia. The men were all finely mounted, and said they had had three routs within the last week. They were armed with pistols, carbines and sabers. They conversed very freely about their prospect, saying they were "in a tight place" and had but little hope of getting out but intended to make a dash on Baltimore and Washington before many hours. They stated that Gen. Bradley Johnson had a force of ten thousand men encamped about seven miles away, and pointed in a northwesterly direction.

The lady prisoners were remarkably well treated by the rebels, and it was somewhat amusing when the train was stopped to see the rebel horsemen ride up to the car windows, where they were greeted somewhat as: "Why, Tom, is that you?" "How are you, Harry?" "Oh, come inside." Small white hands were grasped by the brown, hard ones of the troopers and warmly shaken. Many of them dismounted, and, on entering the car, were very affectionately kissed by their lady friends. It appeared to be quite a joyful meeting.

The other prisoners were treated very well, with the exception of being obliged to give up whatever any of their captors fancied he would like to possess. One gentleman, a doctor, I believe, was compelled to draw off his boots and exchange them for a pair of dusty, cowhide riding boots, or rather leggings, as they were minus the soles. A rebel fancied my hat, and took it, with the remark, "Here; I want that hat," at the same time giving me his tobacco stained and rusty looking felt in exchange. My haversack followed next. It contained, among other things, a number of despatches and a long list of casualties. The blanket followed shortly afterwards, and soon I, together with the majority of the prisoners, had no article of value left. The man who appropriated the haversack very kindly allowed me to retain two photographs and a tooth brush. Likenesses were, in every instance, returned to the owners, as were also any other small articles of no value to the rebels. As far as lay in their power, everything was done to make our situation pleasant. Fresh water was brought up in abundance. The rebels had recently been

through several stores and sutlers, wagons, and were well supplied with sugar and tobacco, which they dispensed very liberally among the prisoners. Those who were hungry were supplied with as much hard tack as they could eat, and a small supply of good brandy and whiskey was equally shared, and tended to promote a feeling of good fellowship.

During the four hours we remained in their custody, the rebels several times asserted that their only object in continuing the war was to win their "liberty and independence, and only wanted to be let alone." Arming the negroes was a subject of much complaint. They said it was all "Old Abe's doing, and if ever they caught him they intended tying him to a tree and making him kiss a nigger." General McClellan was spoken of with much respect, and they said "he was the only Union general worthy of the position."

About two o'clock Major Gilmer sent word for all the citizens and non-commissioned officers and privates to be sent up to his headquarters, which had been established in a farmhouse in the vicinity. On arriving there we found that one of the prisoners; George G. Thomson, a sailor, who had just been discharged from the United States steamer Agawam, had met an old shipmate acting as a corporal in the rebel cavalry. Mike was a genuine sailor, and promised to do all in his power to get as many of us off as possible. He told us to keep close together, and he would see the Major in relation to our release. After the lapse of about ten minutes, Mike came out with a beaming face, and said it was all right. The Major had given him orders to escort us for about one mile up the track and then leave us to find our way to Havre de Grace.

The New Commander of the Army of Tennessee.

Gen. Hood was born in Bath-County, Kentucky, on the 29th of June, 1831, and is consequently only a little over 33 years of age. He graduated at West Point in the class of 1853, and was assigned to duty in the 4th infantry, in California, where he served twenty-two months. In July, 1855, he was transferred to the 2d cavalry, commanded by the late General (then Colonel) Albert Sidney Johnston, and of which Gen. R. E. Lee was Lieutenant Colonel. In the winter of 1855-'56, he entered the frontier service in Western Texas, where, in the July following, he was wounded in a spirited engagement with the Indians. He continued in the service of the United States, and a short time previous to the beginning of the present war was ordered to report for duty at West Point as instructor of cavalry. At his own request, however, he was allowed to return to duty in Texas, being desirous of casting his fortunes with that portion of the country to which he was most devotedly attached. On the 16th of April, 1861, he resigned his commission and tendered his services to the Confederacy. His name was entered upon the roll with the rank of first lieutenant, and he was ordered to report to Gen. Lee in Virginia. He served with distinction on the Peninsula, and so rapid was his promotion that on the 30th of September he received the commission of colonel of infantry, and was placed in command of the 4th regiment of Texas volunteers, then in camp near Richmond. Subsequently the 4th and 5th Texas regiments were organized into a brigade, and on the 3d of March, 1862, Colonel Hood was appointed to the command. Thus within the brief space of ten months and seventeen days he rose from the rank of first lieutenant to that of brigadier. At the battle of Chickamauga, as in every other battle in which he was engaged, General Hood bore a prominent part, and was severely wounded in the right leg as to render amputation necessary. For signal courage displayed on that hard fought field, he was made lieutenant general. As soon as he had sufficiently recovered, he resumed his active duties in the army of Tennessee, of which he has now the command.

Mrs. Abe Lincoln "at Home." A writer in the Mobile Register remarks that before the advent of Mr. Lincoln, the White House was the scene only of these simple, republican forms of reception observed in the stately yet plain style of Mrs. Madison, the agreeable soirees of Mrs. Taylor, the unostentatious levee of Mrs. Polk, and the chaste elegance that adorned the little reunions of Miss Lane. But the present mistress proceeds on a different plan, and gorges her guests not so much with cultivated hospitality as with the grosser luxuries of the larder and wine cellar.

Mrs. Lincoln has learned something from her first lesson. Soon after she was the lady of the executive mansion she went to Gautier and asked him if he could furnish a dinner for thirty persons, wine included, for three dollars apiece? The old Frenchman opened his eye. "Parde, s'am," said he, "but seven dollar ze plate, but shust pay me for de kettle trouble I should do myself the honor to take for you." Madame reasoned, and M. Gautier apologized, and the upshot was, that she retired in disgust and cooked her own dinner. But the story was too good to be lost. It first crept into gossip, then into the newspapers, until the good woman was so mortified that she has pursued the opposite extreme ever since, loading her tables in a manner to rival those of Caligula or Mark Anthony.

J. T. HERSHMAN—Editor.

Camden, Wednesday, August 3.

The transportation train of the army of the Potomac would make a line of wagons sixty-two and a half mile in length.

The *Florida* is commanded by Capt. C. MANGAULT MORRIS, of South Carolina. Her crew is stated at one hundred and fifty-five men, who are said to be greatly attached to their commander.

YELLOW FEVER AMONG THE YANKS.

Great excitement has been caused in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, by the appearance of the Yellow Fever. It was taken there by the De Soto and thirteen fatal cases have occurred.

A writer says that to mark entirely beautiful women, it would be necessary to take the head from Greece, the bust from Austria, the feet from Hindoostan, the shoulders from Italy, the walk from Spain, and the complexion from England.

Four hundred factory girls, working in the cotton factory at Roswell, Ga., were ordered by order of Sherman, the unfeeling beast, and sent North of the Ohio river, penniless and friendless, to seek a livelihood among a strange and hostile people.

REINFORCEMENTS FOR GENERAL HOOD.

We learn (says the Savannah *News*) that General S. D. Lee, with from eight to ten thousand troops, has joined General Hood. Within a few days we may now look for news of stirring events in the neighborhood of Atlanta.

GOOD.—Gen. Hood is effectually and radically changing the condition of things in the horse department. He dismounted the command that sacked Atlanta, some nights ago, and is executing his stringent orders to dismount every horse-man and muleman who is found about a farm from his command.

List of casualties in Kershaw's division from the 5th of May to the 25th June, 1864, have been received at the Army Intelligence Office in Richmond. Kershaw's division comprises the following brigades: Wofford's Georgia, Bryan's Georgia, Hamphrey's Mississippi, and Kershaw's South Carolina.

Kershaw, the scene of the late victory of General Early over Crook, is in Frederick county, Va., four miles from Winchester. It was on this spot that, on Sunday, the 23d of April, 1862, the immortal Stonewall Jackson, with a force of not exceeding 3,500 men, wearied out by forced marches for weeks, attacked 20,000 fresh troops, repulsed them repeatedly, and so crippled them that they were unable to follow him in his retreat. The enemy, notwithstanding the great disparity of forces, could claim nothing more than a drawn battle. He will hardly, with his habitual mendacity, claim even that now.

Six Per Cent Bonds.

We are pleased to see that the Secretary of the Treasury has given orders that the coupons of the non-taxable six per cent bonds due January, 1865, should be received now in payment of public dues. By this step, which is, of course, a declaration that the Government is disposed to anticipate its indebtedness, the value of these bonds must be at once greatly enhanced. Here begins the first chapter of that sound and upright policy which we may expect to emanate from the large and honest brain of our present financial head.

Prisoners at Fort Delaware and Washington.

By letters received during the past week, we learn that Mr. E. B. CURETON and SAMUEL H. BOYKIN, are yet bastiled in Fort Delaware, where they have been confined for more than twelve months—they are reported to be enjoying good health and in buoyant spirits. Lieuts. W. E. JOHNSON, jr., and U. P. BONNEY, also T. L. BOYKIN and LYNCH H. DAE are reported imprisoned at Washington—the latter having been wounded severely in the thigh, though improving—all of whom, we learn, were well when last heard from.

Any of our friends receiving letters by flag of truce, would confer a favor by allowing us to extract such information as would be of interest to the friends and relatives of our soldiers who may have fallen into the hands of the enemy.

Significant.

The New York *News*, of the 13th inst., speaking of the effect of invasion upon the currency, says: "It is a matter of surprise with some that gold should have fallen yesterday in the face of the bewildering condition of affairs in Maryland. We think, however, that there is little cause for wonder. The fact that, after three years of hostilities, taxing the utmost resources of the Federal Government, the Confederates are able to invade the North and threaten the Federal capital, has impressed our money dealers with the conviction that the war is a failure, that the appeal to arms must be relinquished, and that peace is at hand. It is this prospect of an approaching peace that has favorably influenced the price of greenbacks, despite of the startling intelligence from Maryland."

What Should be Done. What are the poor to do for corn? Will those who have it sell it? To a horn But seriously what are the poor to do? Who'll give, or sell, or lend? Will you or you? You will not see them suffer, will you? Nay, an' you do, the widow's God will kill you! For though your corn is locked within your cribs, The heart, steel-clad, that beats beneath your ribs, You cannot escape the lightning, nor the blast That will consume your cribs and you at last. The gnawings of the worm that never dies— The pains and agonies Renorse supply— The bitter taunts and sneers and hate of those Who, in the fierce encounter, met their foes— Wounded and maimed go halting all their life, The sad mementoes of the deadly strife— These and their children suffering for bread, Their withering glances follow where you tread And index fingers point you out in scorn As one who could, but would not, sell them corn. What are the poor to do for bread these times? They cannot live on air (nor we on hyme) So let us all agree to do our best To succor them, and God will do the rest.

From Europe.

RICHMOND, July 29.—European advices of the 16th are at hand. A deputation for obtaining a cessation of hostilities in America waited upon Lord Palmerston on the 15th and urged the Government to meditate or a restoration of peace between the belligerents. They argued that the independence of the Confederacy was virtually accomplished, and any prolongation of the war would only result in mutual slaughter. Palmerston, in reply, said:

"They who in quarrels interpose, Will oft wipe a bloody nose, but He was not afraid of a bloody nose, but feared mediatory proposals would be premature. News from the continent indicates a peaceful settlement of the Danish Government question. The Confederate loan has futher advanced and was buoyant."

From Georgia.

Raiders on the Macon and Western road were attacked and driven back by our cavalry yesterday. They destroyed about 4 miles of the road and telegraph lines. Injury not material.

GRiffin, July 31.—Private intelligence arrived here late last night from Atlanta. Our troops fought gallantly—carrying the line of the enemy's entrenchments, but now hold their original position.

It is reported that Wheeler's leg was shot off. Loring had a ball pass around the ribs but did not enter.

From Virginia.

PETERSBURG, July 31.—Fifteen battle flags were captured yesterday, and over two thousand stand of arms. Our loss in killed, wounded and missing about eight hundred. Prisoners say the Yankee General Griffin was killed yesterday. The enemy's loss is fully three thousand five hundred. Yesterday was the first time the army of Northern Virginia has fought negroes. Our troops to day are busy burying the Yankee dead left in our lines. All quiet to day. About two o'clock a flag of truce was sent into our lines. Object unknown. Supposed for the purpose of getting time to bury the Yankee dead between the lines.

RICHMOND, August 1.—The Yankees on the north side of James river, at deep Bottom, have recrossed to the south side, reuniting with the main body of Grant's army.

The following was received by Mr. O. Caldwell, which he authorized me to send to the press:—OPERATOR.

MAcon, August 1, 1864.—O. Caldwell: The Yankee raiders with their commander have been captured.

A BIRDSONG.

From the Trans Mississippi. Mr. Warren Adams, who reached the city this morning from Houston, Texas, which place he left on the 4th of the present month, reports all quiet in that quarter. He is under the impression there is not a Yankee in the State of Texas; if it be true, as was reported and believed, that they had evacuated Brownsville. There are no Yankees in Arkansas. Banks' forces have nearly left New Orleans—it was supposed for Fortress Monroe.

The crops—in Texas especially—are magnificent, the oldest settlers not remembering a more prolific yield of everything. The people and the trans-Mississippi army are the finest spirits. He also brings us the gratifying news that on the 2d inst., a large steamer loaded with medicine and powder, reached a Confederate port not often visited by blockaders.—*Richmond Whig*, 26th.

Interesting Incident.

The Atlanta *Appeal*, of Tuesday, says that when the order of the President relieving Gen. Johnson; and placing Gen. Hood in command of the army became known, the three Lieutenant-Generals, Hardee, Hood, Stewart, united in sending a telegram to the President, representing the unpropitious effect that might be produced by a change of commanders at this critical moment, and respectfully urging a reconsideration of the order. The President declined to do so, and the Generals having given expression to their convictions, then acceded to the new commander their prompt support, that the army might be ajunit before the enemy.

One hundred of the Yankee deserters held at the Castle in Richmond were lately transferred to the Libby, and their status changed from deserters to that of prisoners of war. It is at last the deliberate conviction of the Confederate Government that deserters can never become of any service to us, either in the army or the workshop, and that it is better to get man for man by an exchange of them under the cartel.

From the North.

RICHMOND, July 29.—The New York *Herald* of the 27th has been received. The enemy are again threatening Pennsylvania and Maryland, and there was considerable excitement at Baltimore yesterday in consequence. The intelligence from this invasion is scattered and unsatisfactory, but sufficient to cause uneasiness in Washington.