

The Pelican

David Johnson, the Avoyelles soldier boy at the battle of Shiloh, has occupied this week our principal attention.

They have heard in Mississippi that Picayune Butler had been assassinated at New Orleans. It may be true, as that old sinner is reported as being

Stonewall Jackson has driven Banks into the heart of Maryland. Our army was within 25 miles of Washington on the 27th.

ELECTION NOTICE.

Whereas an Election having failed to be held on the 12th, and on the 28th, ultimo, for members of the Police Jury, in Wards No. 56 and 7 of the Parish of Avoyelles.

Now, therefore, notice is hereby given to the qualified voters of said Wards that an election will be held at the several Precincts therein, on Saturday, the 21st instant, for a Police Juror in each of said respective wards and to represent the same in the Police Jury of the Parish of Avoyelles.

And the commissioners are instructed to hold said elections according to law, and to make immediate returns thereof to the President of said Police Jury.

Avoyelles, June 7th., 1862.

L. K. BRANCH,
P. P. J.

L. H. COUVILLION,
Secy. Pro tem.

Police Jury Meeting.

To the members of the Police Jury for the Parish of Avoyelles.

Take notice that a meeting of the Police Jury will take place at the Court House at Marksville, on Monday, the 23rd instant, and hereof fail not.

Avoyelles, June 7th, 1862.

L. K. BRANCH,
P. P. J.

L. H. COUVILLION,
Secy. Pro tem.

ELECTION NOTICE.

The qualified voters of the Corporation of the Town of Markville, are hereby notified that an Election will be held on the 3th July 1862, for the purpose of Electing an Alderman, vice B. P. Delavallade, resigned.

The polls to be kept open from 9 o'clock A. M. till 4 P. M.

W. W. WADDILL,
Mayor.

THE LATEST NEWS!

BATTLE OF RICHMOND !!

Wishing to keep our patrons and the public posted with the stirring events of the day, we copy an Extra from the Louisiana Democrat having the following intelligence from the Natchez Courier of the 2d. inst.

Richmond, May 31.—A battle has been progressing all day, near Chickahominy, about 7 miles from Richmond; all reports from the field are favorable. The engagement is very severe and the losses on both sides are heavy. Our wounded have been coming in for several hours. It is believed the fight will be renewed to-morrow.

The community is in good spirits, confident of a victory.

Richmond, May 31.—Gen. Hill's division commenced the fight this morning. Rodas and Garlands brigades bore the brunt of the battle for some time. Rain's and Anderson's brigades also bore conspicuous parts until our reinforcements arrived. The enemy was also reinforced and the fighting continued with great desperation on both sides, but the enemy was finally driven from their redoubts and their own batteries were taken and fired at them.

Prisoners taken says Gen. Buell is in command.

President Davis and Gen. Lee, were on the field and their presence greatly increased the enthusiasm of our troops.

All accounts agree that the Confederates displayed great bravery.

The Yankees stubbornly contested every inch, whilst giving away before the impetuous charges of our troops. No reliable estimate of the casualties has yet been made. A large number of Confederates are wounded in the arm and hand.

Gen. Rhodes was slightly wounded. No other General officers on our side, are hurt, so far as known.

The enemy tried to make a flank movement about seven o'clock, but were repulsed by Whiting's division.

Richmond, May 31.—Latest reliable report from the battle field represent that the enemy were driven a mile and a half from their position. Our forces are now occupying their camps. We captured three batteries after most desperate fighting—the enemy being protected by entrenchments and woods. Several hundred prisoners were taken.

Richmond, May 31.—The heavy rain of last night caused a flood in the Chickahominy; several bridges are washed away. Three divisions of the enemy were caught this side of the river; and ambulances sent down to bring in their wounded. More firing of artillery and musketry distinctly heard here to-day. No couriers yet arrived.

Richmond, May 31.—Northern papers of the 29th, brought from the battle field state that McClellan telegraphed to the Secretary of War that the battle of Hanover Court House resulted in a complete route of the enemy, with a loss of one thousand (a lie) Federal loss three hundred and seventy nine killed, wounded and missing. The confiscation bill has passed the House of Representatives. The Philadelphia Enquirer says that Jackson's success has aroused the North. Volunteers are pouring in. Geo. F. Shipley of Maine, has been appointed military commander of New Orleans, in absence of Gen. Butler.

The Richmond Dispatch of the 30th, says the Federal army is falling back. Gen. Smith's brigade pursuing them. It is reported in Richmond that Stonewall Jackson crossed the Potomac river, and is now at Williamsport Md., or Frederickstown turnpike. This movement is thought to have caused the Federals to retrograde from Richmond.

The Richmond Examiner says that Gen. Branch, in Tuesday's fight at New Hanover, succeeded in getting off his entire command.

The town of Ashland is still on our lines.

ONE DAY LATER.

Richmond, June 1.—The battle of yesterday took place in the vicinity of Bear Swamp, between the Railroad and Williamsburg road, about seven miles from the city. All accounts seem yesterday are correct in the main.

Some cannonading heard this morning. Richmond, June 1 (Sunday)—The fight is progressing furiously to-day—chiefly musketry. No definite reports from the field of battle.

The general tenor of the statements of wounded soldiers indicate that the Confederates are following up their success of yesterday.

Prisoners are constantly coming in. Gen. Buell was not present. Gen. McClellan is commanding in person.

Gen. Hutton of Tenn., was killed yesterday.

Richmond, June 1.—No definite accounts received of results of the battle of to-day, but all reports concur that the enemy is badly whipped and driven into the swamp. Carnage dreadful on both sides. Yankee loss two to our one—Hundreds of wounded arriving; about five hundred prisoners, in all, have been taken.

The orders of Governor Moore and Col Cheney, relating to the Conscription, will appear in our next.

MARRIED.

At the residence of Capt. B. A. Robert, on Thursday, the 12th instant, Theodore B. Robert, of Rapides Parish, to Miss. Martha B. Rice of South Carolina.

We have been unable to attend the select party on that occasion, although a special invitation was extended to us, but we were represented at the wedding. Our Junior Editor was delightfully pleased with the way every thing was conducted at the hospitable mansion of our friend the Captain. The luxuries of the table, the brilliant array of beautiful ladies in the dancing room, the bride in her full beauty, intelligent and noble as a Southern Lady always is, were enough to call forth the admiration of those present. The bride-groom did not forget the sparkling champagne and the sweet cakes that found their way to our sanctum, and we were made happy for one moment. Cannot our friend expect more lasting felicities?

CORINTH TISHOMINGO COUNTY MISS. APRIL 8th 1862.

DEAR M.

I am thankful to inform you that I am well with the exception of a soreness of the limbs caused by forced marches and exposure to the weather. Dear M, for the last six days I have not seen the inside of a tent or been under any shelter except the broad canopy of heaven. We received orders last Thursday or rather last Wednesday night to cook up five days rations and hold ourselves in readiness to march at a moments warning. We did so. And we set out on the march on Thursday evening. We marched in the direction of the Tennessee river until late that night. Near midnight we halted and encamped for the night. We set off again about sun up on Friday morning, marched all day through the mud and water and encamped about nine or ten o'clock on Friday night. We started again soon Saturday morning and after marching a long distance, through roads almost impassable bivouaced within a mile or two of the enemy. During the day on Saturday we passed where an engagement had taken place between the Yankees and our Cavalry; I counted four dead horses on the field, the engagement was decidedly in our favor and we, meaning our cavalry, took some forty odd prisoners, ten of whom I saw on Friday evening, a Major, a Capt in, a Lieutenant and seven privates. The road from the place where the engagement took place for about a mile and a half or two miles was strewn with blankets, knapsacks, haversacks, canteens, tin plates, &c., in fact everything pertaining to a soldier could be found there, I believe that all those things were thrown aside by our boys to keep themselves from being encumbered by them when they got into an action. But as I was saying we encamped on Saturday night within at least two miles of the enemy. I was on guard that night and consequently had very little sleep and the next morning I felt very bad indeed. In fact I felt so bad that nothing but this glorious cause for which we are fighting could have prevented me from turning back and coming by short marches back to camp, for then I had, not the least idea that I would see the sight which afterwards I saw on that eventful day. However, I bore up against my sickness for the sake of my country and after my having taken a little biscuit and coffee we set forward again about daylight on Sunday morning. Before we started we heard guns firing before us about a mile off which firing increased and in about an hour it became one continued roar interrupted every few minutes by a heavy discharge of artillery. Major Guber under orders from Gen. Pond advanced our regiment about a mile and then halted for about a half an hour during which time we could see men running in all directions from the direction of the firing which seemed to be gradually retiring farther and farther from us. The heaviest firing seemed to be towards our right. The mayor stopped some of the men from whom he found out that they belonged to the 2d. Tenn. Regt. which having charged up a steep

hill against the enemy had been repulsed and cut to pieces and then that their regiment was retiring in all directions. A great many wounded men passed me some shot in the arms others in the legs and one poor fellow was pierced through with a minie ball which entered his right breast just below the collar bone and came out his back just between his shoulders. Those observations I made while standing in ranks expecting every moment to hear the command, forward. It was while standing here that I first heard a cannon ball whistle, three passed near us but too high to do any damage; one passed to the left, one to the right and the other passed over our heads about twenty feet high. I'll tell you they whistled shrilly enough to make the boys dodge in every direction which was excusable it was the first they had ever heard. I'll tell you we became used to hearing cannon balls and bullets whistle before that and the following day was over, we were soon ordered to advance and soon arrived at the place where the second Tenn. charged up the hill. Dead and wounded men were lying scattered about in all directions, Yankees and Southerners mixed up promiscuously. The only way in which we could distinguish the Yankees from our boys was by their blue coats, which seems to be their favorite uniform, as every one that I saw had on a blue coat. We fell back from there about two hundred yards and then advanced again, and as we were passing the place, I picked up a yankee canteen as a kind of trophy. We kept marching up as fast as our legs in front of us drove the enemy back, which makes me think that we were in a reserve. We advanced in the evening several hours, and passed one of the Yankee encampments about twelve o'clock, from which the Yankees had been driven a few hours before by the troops in advance. There we halted and formed in line for hitherto we had been in several divisions on account of the way through which we were marching was astonishing at the superiority of their tents to ours. They had nice comfortable walled tents with stoves in them to keep them warm. After I saw the luxuries with which they were supplied I wondered how our Southern troops managed to whip them. From the state in which they had retired from their tents it was evident that our boys had taken them by surprise, which I afterwards learned from a wounded Yankee was the case. We had an excellent dinner which we took from the yankees. We had nice fresh baker's bread, and fresh butter, cheese, crackers, ham, &c. I ate as much as I wanted and then filled my haversack with crackers, cheese and a can of oysters. We soon afterwards left that place and marched onward about a mile or two when we were halted and commanded to lie down, we were then in an old field. At first I did not know what was the reason that the Major ordered us to lie down, but I soon found out what was the matter. For we had scarcely stretched ourselves on the ground when we began to hear the bullets whistle over our heads like a swarm of bees. It lasted about a minute and then we were ordered to get up, left face and double quick, from that hill on which we had layed down across a creek bottom and up a steep hill on the other side. We then formed in line of battle and marched over a fence into the woods, down a steep hill and up on the side of another. We were then marched into another field, halted and ordered to fire; I glanced over the field to see what I was to fire at, when I saw directly in front of us a large Yankee encampment out of which the enemy had been driven. I then turned my eyes to the right and the tents extended as far as I could see. But there I saw something else besides tents, I saw a large body of Yankees retreating at the double quick step, and some a good deal faster. I raised my hand, took deliberate aim at one that looked like an officer and pulled the trigger, my gun snapped or rather the cap did not burst; I tried it again but it snapped the second time, I stopped, turn-

ed round, took the old cap off and was about to put on a new one when it occurred to me that the powder in the tube might be damp I ran my hand in the breast of my coat to get a pinch to pick the tube with and as I did so I looked up and saw George Irion one of our Corporals going back with the blood trickling down his arm and hand. I continued advancing toward the enemy without ed my gun tube and placed another in its other cap. I looked up and saw with wonder and astonishment that our regiment was retreating and had left me on the field. I raised my rifle took deliberate aim at one of the retreating Yankee officers and fired. I looked to see what effect the shot had on him I saw him throw up his left arm and kept on. I loaded my gun and then turned round to see what was the matter with the regiment; I saw them forming again about fifty yards behind me and the yankees being by this time out of sight I turned round walked back and took my place in the ranks.

We then went on about a half mile and when we had marched through a creek bottom and upon a high hill on the other side we found that one of the enemy's batteries was playing on us and they nearly had the range, the shell and shot were flying and whistling over us in every direction. We saw that it was no use to stand up there and have our rank thinned by the grape shot and canister that the yankees were then hurling at us from their batteries, so we retired about twenty steps below the brow of a hill on which we were then formed.

While there and just as I had finished eating the can of oysters, that I had picked up in the yankees camp, one of our men had his arm broken by a spent grape shot. Gen. Pond then determined to try to take that battery that was so annoying to us. So he marched our brigade which was composed of the 16th and 18th Crescent Regiments and the Orleans Guards down into a hollow, below the brow of the steep hill for about a quarter of a mile, then we turned to the right into another hollow and marched down that until the battery which we intended to charge was on our right. We then halted formed into line of battle marched up the hill and soon received the command to charge at the double quick. We did so but there was so much brushwood and other obstructions in the way that we could not keep dressed we soon got to the top of the hill charged through some yankee tents which again made us present a broken front but on we went at a run the bullets whistling and falling around us like hail. My front rank man Henry Wade by name uttered a groan and fell, I did not stop to see where he was hurt but jumping over his body I took his place in the front rank. When in about four hundred yards of the battery we received the command to halt and fire; I then saw that we had been too rash in charging for instead of one five or six batteries opened on us and five or six thousand and infantry appeared in sight about four or five hundred yards off. We were ordered to retreat but that command I did not hear, for I never thought of such a thing. I took deliberate aim at their lines and fired but the smoke was so dense that I could not mark the effect of my fire, I loaded my gun again and seeing those near me retreating I looked to see where the Regiment was and about thirty yards behind me I saw them in full retreat I saw then that it was no use for me to stay there so I fell back about twenty steps behind an old clay root stump where I found Willie Crawford and several others of our company. We remained there a few minutes during which time the balls flew around us like hail and we could hear them whizzing over our heads and about our ears worse than if we had been in a yellow jacket nest I then retired below the brow of the hill where I found our Regiment. We then commenced retreating and I believe that it was a good thing that we fell back so soon for if we had stood there ten minutes longer with the batteries had got our range I believe that the last man of us would have been shot down. We had not retreated more than a quarter of a mile when we heard a heavy firing near the same place, but a little farther to our right and in a few minutes we heard a tremendous shout and then the firing ceased.

So it seems we did a good thing at last although we had to retreat, we heard soon afterwards that some of our boys were advancing against the same battery that we had attacked and we having attracted the enemy's fire gave them the opportunity of advancing undiscovered, so they took it without one fourth the trouble that they otherwise would have had.

We retreated about a mile and then halted and turned back.

I will continue the narration in my next.

Your dutiful S. D. J.