

PENDER, GALLANT CAVALIER OF THE OLD NORTH STATE

One of the Knightliest Soldiers That Drew Sword for the South. He Never Held His Proper Rank.

In the year 1862, I think it was, I was at Weldon, when I walked across the railroad bridge over the Roanoke river, a wide, imposing stream at that point, growing wider and grander as it rushed on to its outlet to the Albemarle Sound. I was bound for Garysburg, in Northampton county, some mile or so beyond the river, where there was a Confederate camp, an object of profound interest to North Carolinians in the eastern and middle part of the State. There were companies there from Granville, Warren, Halifax and other counties. Captain William Dorsey Pender was in charge, and a capital officer he was. I saw for the first time 2,500 men on dress parade, and there beheld for the only time the already distinguished, gallant, and efficient soldier, for he had participated in battles in the west in which his command in the United States Army had been engaged. I never knew him personally, was not near enough to him to study his face, of which I might here attempt a description. Having been two years at Lovejoy's Military Academy at Raleigh in 1845-'6, where I was captain, I felt an interest in military discipline and manoeuvres, and had some technical knowledge necessarily of the drill. I was impressed with the ease with which Captain Pender controlled his freshly extemporized army, and how when in line he could glance at it and detect readily any unilitary attitude or movement. His frontier service though rough had brought to him excellent experience and the art of command. He served in the United States Cavalry for four years in New Mexico and on the Pacific slope, if I remember correctly. He was an active participant in two engagements known respectively as Four Lakes and Spokane Plains. He attracted the attention of his superior by his coolness, efficiency and bravery. He was born in Edgecombe county on 3rd February, 1824. His boy-life was on a farm. At fifteen he became a store clerk of his brother in Tarboro. He entered West Point through the favor of Representative Thomas Ruffin, and his relative, Colonel R. L. Bridgers, and was graduated with honors. In his class were Lieutenant General Stephen D. Lee, of Mississippi, and Major General Curtis Lee and J. E. B. Stewart, of Virginia. He married in 1859 a daughter of Representative A. H. Shepperd, of Salem. In 1860 he was stationed at San Francisco, and was Adjutant of his regiment. Upon Lincoln's proclamation he resigned from the United States Army, and was appointed Captain of Artillery. He was elected Colonel of that splendid

fighting regiment, the North Carolina Third. Later he was transferred to the Sixth Regiment. He was promoted to Brigadier General upon the field of battle known as Seven Pines. He was wounded at Malvern Hill, but not disabled, and at Chantilly, where a wool hat saved him from a mortal wound in the head. He was at Harper's Ferry under Jackson, and his plan of attack was adopted. At Sharpsburg, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, and Gettysburg our able, faithful, prompt, resourceful, brave soldier was conspicuous, most useful and successful. In the war magazine I edited for fourteen months for Col. S. D. Pool, "Our Living and Our Dead," there is an account of the battle of Fredericksburg, Va., that was fought on 12th December, 1862, from which I make an interesting extract. Mr. J. R. Cole writes the paper: "Lane and Archer first met fiercely the massive onset, but reel, stagger, waver, retreat. The triumphant enemy pursue over the railroad, over the plain, into the woods—they rush to their death. Early comes sweeping down on the right; Hoke dashes into the advancing columns; Gregg and Thomas rush upon them in front; Lane and Archer reform and madly fall upon them again; Pender closes in on the left, charging in person at the head of his staff. . . . Death rides upon every shrieking shell. . . . Bloody bayonets and flashing sabres clash and ring amid the carnival of death and terror. The chivalric Gregg of South Carolina, has fallen to rise no more. Our own Pender, bloody and exhausted, has been carried from the field." General Pender made a fine impression upon General Lee and other leaders. He was the youngest officer of his rank in that battle. General Ambrose P. Hill, a Virginian, in his official report of the battle, says: "From the nature of the ground occupied by Pender's brigade, and the entire absence of all protection against artillery, his brigade received the greater part of the terrible fire directed at Davidson and Latimer, and suffered severely. General Pender was himself wounded and his aid, Lieut. Shepperd, killed whilst gallantly rallying a portion of the 18th regiment of Lane's brigade. "During the temporary absence of General Pender, the command of the brigade devolved upon Colonel Seales of the 13th. The two batteries suffered much by the fire of a heavy line of skirmishers. Colonel Seales directed Major Cole, of the 22nd N. C. to dislodge them, which was handsomely done. General Pender, though

wounded, resumed the command of his brigade as soon as his wound was dressed." Lieutenant General T. J. Jackson, the glorious "Stonewall"—in his report writes: "The brigade of General Pender was immediately in rear of the batteries of Captains Davidson and Latimer and was without any protection from the enemy's artillery; and thus, notwithstanding the accuracy of the batteries acting in conjunction with Major Cole, of the 22nd North Carolina, in dispersing the cloud of skirmishers and sharpshooters that hung all that day upon that part of the field, that brigade received much of the fire that was directed at these guns and suffered severely. General Pender was wounded." For his splendid services in the heavy battle of Chancellorsville, he was raised to Major General, which General A. P. Hill aptly characterized as "fairly justice." But for President Davis, General Pender would have received more rapid promotion. In fact, before he was Major General of Division he would have been Lieutenant General. Mr. James B. Lloyd, in his entertaining and somewhat elaborate address on General Pender, at Tarboro over three years ago, gave this as to Pender being made a Major General: "Generals Lee and Jackson, after observing his conduct and adroitness in battle, repeatedly recommended him for promotion, but President Davis, having a predilection for the old system of promotion by seniority, was unwilling to depart from that long established system. The ability, aptitude and courage of General Pender shone forth so conspicuously that his promotion could no longer be withheld." Mr. Lloyd gives also the following most interesting account of Pender's splendid gallantry: "While in the bloody and fearful contest at Chancellorsville, the 22nd North Carolina Regiment, being subjected to a most terrific fire, and the men of that gallant regiment becoming disheartened by the loss of brave Colonel Cole, and Major Odell, they appeared to waver; but General Pender, in great haste, rushed forward, seized the flag and bore it to the breastwork, followed by the remnant of that faithful regiment which never shrieked their duty nor failed to rally around him." I regret that I failed to preserve Mr. Lloyd's entire address. I am glad to be able, however, to make an extract from an historical paper from the pen of that gallant Virginian, Brigadier General James H. Lane, who commanded so ably a famous North Carolina Brigade. He writes: "All know that Gettysburg was carried on the first day by Ewell's corps and Beth's and Pender's divisions. A. P. Hill's corps, and that, while the former command entered Gettysburg on the left, the latter after a bloody struggle carried Seminary Hill on the right. On July 2nd Pender's division composed of Lane's, Seales', McGowan's and Thomas' brigades, extended from the Fairfield road to the right along Seminary Hill in the order mentioned above and there was gallant fighting along its front between its sharpshooters and those of the enemy

for the possession of a road running between the two lines of battle. Our men succeeded in driving the men from the road and held it. It was General Pender's intention to advance that afternoon, had the attack on the right been more successful. While on the right of his command watching the progress of the fight our accomplished and Christian division commander, who had won so many laurels on so many hard-fought battlefields, received his fatal wound and the command of his division devolved upon his senior Brigadier." He died of his wound at Staunton, Va., on 8th July, 1863. His testimony as to his religious hopes as given to his chaplain, Rev. Mr. Williams, was this, and it is enough—the last expression of a Christian soldier's confidence in the completeness of the Atonement of Christ and his unflinching trust in the Redeemer: "Tell my wife that I do not fear to die. I can confidently resign my soul to God, trusting in the atonement of Jesus Christ. My only regret is to leave her and our children. I have always tried to do my duty in every sphere in which Providence has placed me." No State, no country, no people in any age ever possessed a truer soldier than William D. Pender, a fit comrade for such knightly Christian soldiers as Robert E. Lee and Thomas J. Jackson and James Johnston Pettigrew. A prominent Virginian lawyer, the late Mr. Wallace, then the Nestor of the Petersburg (Va.) bar, whose wife was a cousin of General A. P. Hill, told the Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Pritchard and the writer of this, in his porch after the two North Carolinians had dined with him—in 1867, that he once asked General Hill, when dining with Mr. W., during the siege of Petersburg by General U. S. Grant, "who was the best officer of his grade he ever knew?" The reply was, after a few moments' reflection,—"GENERAL PENDER." I published this when Dr. Pritchard was living in Our Living and Our Dead, October, 1861. I also published during the life-time of my departed friend, what Mr. Wallace also told us to another reply of General Hill's, that fairly astonished the venerable lawyer. He asked General Hill what troops he would rather command? His reply was—"North Carolinians." Mr. Wallace said that it greatly astonished him as both General Hill and himself were Virginians. He asked the General why this opinion or preference? The reply was this: "Because the North Carolinians are better soldiers. They are more obedient to authority than any others, and are equally as brave, and so they are really better soldiers. They will do what you command them to do." You could trust the North Carolinians to advance or remain at a given place and they would be sure to obey—to stick. I recall that a commission was sent to the army to discover its condition at a certain time in the winter months. After investigation they said that they found but one command that was ready to move upon short notice, and it was General Pender's Division. That showed the kind of soldier he was. I lately gave what General Lee said to Major James H. Foote, of North Carolina, Major Foote still lives. I am glad

to know, for he is my personal friend. Prior to the war he was a professor in Wake Forest College, the leading Baptist scholastic institution today in all the Southland I doubt not. Major Foote told me—about 1865—that he had occasion one morning in 1865, to go to General Lee's headquarters. He found the great soldier sitting on a camp stool in front of his tent. After communicating his mission, he said: "General Lee, the report in the camp this morning is that General Lee was never is dead. Is it true?" General Lee was very serious, evidently depressed, and after a few seconds replied: "Yes, General Pender is dead. There was a soldier who never held his proper rank. He should have been one of my Corps Commanders." It was, alas, only too true. He deserved to rank only second to Lee and Jackson. "What a noble tribute from the great commander, the exalted soldier and man of faith, the gentlest, truest knight in fifty centuries! General Lee held General Pender in the highest estimation, as will be seen from the following tribute to his memory, and which occurs in his report of the "Pennsylvania Campaign," dated July 21st, 1863: "General Pender has since died. This lamented officer has borne a distinguished part in every engagement of this army, and was wounded on several occasions while leading his command with conspicuous gallantry and ability. The confidence and admiration inspired by his courage and capacity as an officer were only equalled by the esteem and respect entertained by all with whom he was associated, for the noble qualities of his modest and unassuming character." "What could be better, more gracious, more felicitous? What more could have been said? "Apples of Gold in Pictures of Silver." A loving appreciation of one of the noblest of God's men given to the nineteenth century. If ever the Socratic saying was realized by a Confederate soldier or a native Southern it was realized in the life and character of William D. Pender. "The way to gain a good reputation is to endeavor to be what you desire to appear." It was indeed true that it was "the force of his own merit that makes his name," as Shakespeare wrote of another. It is my impression that General Lee never wrote so strongly, so eulogistically of any other soldier during the entire four years' war with the one exception of General T. J. Jackson. If he ever did it has failed to come under my eye. I wrote more than a quarter of a century ago that the greatly appreciative and just tribute paid by one of "the three greatest soldiers of the English-speaking race, General Lee, as the most eminent British authority on war about 1870, wrote in Blackwood's and famous Edinburgh Magazine, naming Marlborough, Wellington, Lee,—to our most modest, most meritorious, most admirable North Carolina soldier, General Pender, should be engraved deep on a suitable monument erected to his memory in the Capitol Square at Raleigh. After his body has been in his grave in the Episcopal church-yard at Tarboro for

forty years, I think there is no monument yet erected to his memory so grateful, admiring and patriotic as men and countrymen. I recall that I was in Tarboro in 1870, and saw the grave of Pender. It had some small cannon-balls. What is now? I remember writing a column in a newspaper with regard to a monument to a higher sense than appreciation, so that they might be fitting memorial shaft to the noble soldiers of North Carolina. I remember the fine old county of Edgecombe, I recall that later I wrote something to awaken such an interest in the reader and other able soldiers that they would erect a monument at Tarboro (laming statues like the one I saw some time ago in the Capitol grounds at Richmond, Va., but to our best and best of foremost soldiers, General Pender). Such a monument of some size statues of Pender, Pettigrew, Ramseur, and two or three others, be an honor indeed to the people of Carolina. The noble old State has not less than 126,000 soldiers in the war and of these over 40,000 in service. But North Carolina has all its over and peace-people with lines does not forget its brave self-sacrificing sons, but it has monuments. "The time has come, 'tis true," So long as we are truly constitute a State, and noblest and greatest of them, it will be forgotten or neglected. The our State should study well the past in Church in State in war, who have been noble in performance, true to liberty constitution, faithful always duty where. The young should see the wise and great men who have to rear a great State, and live with vast self-sacrifice and noble, never neglected nor forgotten, great, patriotic people should be monuments to the foremost of our orators, and do not forget in monuments the men of most pure and best service in the times when the "unkind" "this churlish knave" "horred war?" as Shakespeare's "Monuments of the right kind are for any people, for they are the grappling-irons that bind one man to another." Let them be honored, they may attest to unborn generations the greatness and glory of their honored and revered "who built more than they knew." THEODORE BRYANT KINSMAN JR. Wilmington, N. C., Aug. 22, 1903.

Clayton in Poor Health.

(By the Associated Press.) Mexico City, Aug. 22.—United States Ambassador Clayton has returned from Mexico from his trip to the States, is in very poor health.

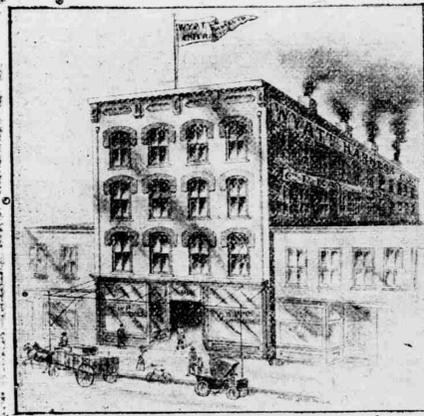
\$75 Buggy and Cash Prizes of \$30,25,20,15,10,5.

Upon Number of Cash Admissions, Exclusive of Railroad Coupons, to the Great State Fair at Raleigh, October 26-31, 1903

Contest Open Now

Closes October 24th, 1903

Each year thousands of people interested in the State of North Carolina make their annual visit to Raleigh during the Great State Fair. Besides those who buy tickets from the railroads, thousands pay cash at the gates. The figures for the past few years showing the number of cash admissions (exclusive of railroads) are given below and this affords an opportunity for basing your estimate



Look--Guess

1900	13,779
1901	13,921
1902	14,377

Send guess to Farmer and Mechanic or North Carolinian, Raleigh, N. C., and upon order from them to the person making the nearest guess I will give the buggy and they will award the cash.

\$75.00 Hackney Buggy Free

C. B. Ray, Prop., Wyatt Harness Company

109 East Martin St., Raleigh, N. C., Offers One Hackney Top Buggy

To the person guessing the nearest to the number of cash admissions into our next State Fair at Raleigh, October 19 to 24, 1903, exclusive of Railroad coupons. Contest opens May 15, 1903.

What it Takes to Make a Home Happy, Set of Harness made by Wyatt Harness Co., Hackney Buggy and a Geo. E. Nissen Wagon and these newspapers. All for sale by Wyatt Harness Company. In order to guess for the above buggy you must be a subscriber to the Farmer Mechanic and North Carolinian. The Farmer and Mechanic and North Carolinian also offer the following cash prizes: \$30, \$25, \$20, \$15, \$10, \$5.

C. B. RAY.

The Prizes

To the person making exact estimate or the person nearest the exact estimate of the number of cash admission (exclusive of railroads) we will give: A Buggy, price of which is \$75.00

Additional Cash Prizes:

Should the successful estimate be received before June 1st, we will give in cash \$30.00
 Should the successful estimate be received before July 1st, we will give in cash 25.00
 Should the successful estimate be received before Aug 1st, we will give in cash 20.00
 Should the successful estimate be received before Sept. 1st, we will give in cash 15.00
 Should the successful estimate be received before Oct. 1st, we will give in cash 10.00
 Should the successful estimate be received before Oct. 24th, we will give in cash 5.00

Conditions in Sending in Estimates in the State Fair Contest

The offer is open to every one upon this basis:
 1. New subscriptions, paid one year in advance to the weekly NORTH CAROLINIAN and weekly FARMER AND MECHANIC \$1.00, entitle the subscriber to two (2) estimates sent with the subscription.
 2. RENEWAL subscriptions for one year to THE NORTH CAROLINIAN and THE FARMER AND MECHANIC, \$1.00, sent by present subscribers during term of contest, entitle subscriber to two (2) estimates.
 3. POSITIVE RULE. The money and the subscription and the estimate must come in the same envelope every time.

Figures for Past Two Years

We give below statistics covering the past years. These figures were furnished by Hon. Joseph E. Pogue, Secretary of the Great State Fair. Secretary Pogue will furnish the figures this year immediately after the ticket sales and cash are balanced.

Secretary Pogue's Figures Covering Last Few Years

STATEMENT OF CASH ADMISSIONS. (exclusive of Railroads.)

1900, 13,779; 1901, 13,921
 1902, 14,377

How to Send Estimates

I hereby subscribe or renew my subscription for The North Carolinian and Farmer and Mechanic for one year and enclose \$1.00 in payment.

Name.....
 Post Office.....
 State.....

My estimate for cash admissions (exclusive of railroads) for The Great State Fair for 1903 are:

1st.....
 2d.....

Both Weeklies are furnished subscribers for the price of one. Clip the above and send with remittance enclosed in same envelope. Address all orders to THE NORTH CAROLINIAN, THE FARMER AND MECHANIC, Raleigh, N. C.