

The Palmetto Herald.

BY E. W. HANSON AND CO.

PORT ROYAL, THURSDAY, JULY 7, 1864.

THE EXPEDITION.

CAPTURE OF TWO GUNS BY GENERAL SCHIMMELFINNIG.

OCCUPATION OF JOHN'S ISLAND BY GEN. HATCH.

CAPTURE OF 150 OF THE 52D PENNSYLVANIA.

&c., &c., &c.

On Friday last an expedition left Hilton Head, the destination of which was supposed by the credulous to be either Charleston or Savannah. It was a well appointed expedition, with all the accessories supposed to belong to an offensive one, and the excessively patriotic insisted on ascribing high objects to so formidable a display. We have not been let into the secret of the demonstration at all, but we have an idea it was not so much a movement for the acquisition of new territory, as it was to stir up the enemy along our whole front, and let them know the Department of the South was not a dead one.

The steamers which left here Friday P. M. arrived in North Edisto Harbor on Saturday morning, with one or two exceptions. A portion of the troops under Col. W. W. H. Davis of the 104th Penn. landed there, and marched over Seabrook's Island, and, by a bridge, on to John's Island, across Haulover Cut, the same day. At the bridge they encountered about forty cavalry, but they retreated, and, our troops following them up, rallied with their reserve. Perceiving a bold front the latter again retreated, after exchanging a few ineffectual shots. Pickets were thrown out, and on the following day Gen. Hatch took command, with troops under Gen. Saxton, and those under Col. Davis. They remained there till Sunday, when they advanced a few miles, and on Monday they made a forced march towards Legareville, in which a few men were sun-struck, one or two dying, and others being badly affected by the intense heat. Surgeon Robinson, of the 104th Penn., a most efficient medical officer, was captured while scouting with cavalry ahead of the main force. Subsequently these troops marched in another direction, driving in the enemy. One or two of the 4th Mass. Cavalry (Major Keith,) were wounded, and two of the 9th U. S. C. T. were killed.

On Saturday afternoon Gen. Birney went up the North Edisto, with colored troops. He landed at White Point, and was proceeding up the bank, Sunday morning, when he encountered a battery six rifled pieces, on the opposite side of a creek in his route. Gen. Foster went up the Dawho Creek with the revenue cutter Nemaha, accompanied by the navy boat Gephyrus, piloted by Capt. Boutelle, and shelled the battery.

On Saturday morning Gen. Schimmelfinnig marched over from Folly Island to James Island, with a few troops, and drove in the pickets at the point he landed at. His forces then marched up to take possession of an old earthwork, which was only quiet recently occupied. When they had nearly approached it, very unexpectedly two brass field pieces opened on them with cannister. The troops in front were startled by the shock, and fell back; others pressed on, and the 55th Massachusetts, on the left of the

assaulting column, charged on the works, and captured the two pieces. Subsequently, finding that it would be impossible to hold his position, he fell back a mile and a half, with the pieces, and entrenched. The movement was well arranged, and executed exactly as intended. In the attack on the battery Gen. Schimmelfinnig suffered some loss. We have not a complete list, but the following comprises those in the 55th:

KILLED.—Private James Davis, Co. A, wounded in neck by cannister—died from wounds; Private L. Peck, Co. B, from wound in head; Private W. H. Russell, Co. C, do.; Corporal H. T. Powell, Co. C, do.; Sergeant W. Stidun, Co. I, do.; Private Wm. H. Johnson, Co. I, do.; Private B. Griffin, Co. K, from musket wound in chest.

WOUNDED.—Capt. Frank Goodwin, Co. E, flesh wounds in both thighs by cannister; Capt. James D. Huber, Co. I, slight wound in right shoulder, now on duty; 1st Sergt. W. H. Evans, Co. A, flesh wound in right thigh, cannister; Private Wm. H. Dallas, Co. A, flesh wound in shoulder; Private Jacob Chishalm, Co. B, right temple; Private I. Thompson, Co. C, left arm and leg, died shortly after being carried to the rear; Private F. Herb, Co. E, slightly in wrist; Private James Malone in cheek; Private J. H. Peterson, Co. F, flesh wound in thigh from cannister; Private Peter Jones, Co. F, contusion of leg and foot by fragment of shell; Private James Murphy, Co. G, flesh wound in left hip, cannister; Private B. Burroughs, Co. H, left arm musket shot, (arm amputated); Private M. D. Smith, Co. I, finger amputated; Private A. Cornelius, finger amputated; Private Charles Crummer, flesh wound in back of neck; Sergt. A. Boone, Co. K, knee joint shattered by cannister, (died after amputation); Corporal T. J. Brown, Co. K, arm broken by ball, (amputated and doing well); Private R. Chatman, flesh wound in leg from musket ball; Private L. Payne, Co. K, slight contusion over right eye; Private S. January, Co. K, contusion of left shoulder, (now on duty); Private F. Rickman, Co. K, left heel, severely.

We are indebted to Asst.-Surg. Wilder for this list.

The following are those in the 54th Massachusetts:

Private Cornelius Rice, Co. A, killed with solid shot; Private John Wall, Co. D, died on picket post from sun-stroke; Sergeant John Palmer, slight gunshot wound in hand.

Both regiments also had men disabled by sun-strokes.

On Saturday night a force from Morris Island made an attempt on Fort Johnson, but a large portion of the boats got aground, to the misfortune of those which reached the shore. Col. H. M. Hoyt, formerly Post Commandant here, and 150 of his regiment are missing, and are supposed to have been captured.

Lt.-Col. Cunningham is also reported among the missing. Col. Hoyt and the first division of his regiment, had captured Battery Simpkins, but could not hold it, because they were not properly supported.

On the right side of Stono River, above Legareville, are one or more batteries, and on the opposite side is Fort Pringle, a formidable earthwork. On the morning of the Fourth the Philadelphia, (Admiral Dahlgren's flag-ship,) the Pawnee, the Commodore McDonough, the Harvest Moon, the monitors Lehigh and Montauk, and one or two other naval vessels were decorated splendidly in honor of the anniversary. The flags were scarcely up when Fort Pringle sent a defiant shot, which came near several

naval vessels, but hit none. Since then the fleet and the fort, with the batteries on the opposite side, have had a constant engagement, with no damage on our side.

A few days since while a boat-load of negro soldiers, belonging to Gen. Schimmelfinnig's command were being towed by the Navy tug Iris, on Stono river, the boat capsized, and a large number were drowned.

The operations are not yet concluded, and we cannot properly give more than this brief outline of what has been done.

The character of future movements can not be judged at all by what has been done, and we believe it to be the intention to make lively work for the rebel for some days.

THE FOURTH OF JULY was observed at Hilton Head by a voluntary closing of stores, by salutes, displays of bunting and other patriotic demonstrations. One of the prominent features of the celebration here was a flag raising by the mechanics in the blacksmith's and wheel-wright shops, under charge of Mr. D. McGregor. The mechanics assembled there at six o'clock, and the staff was put up over the wheel-wright's shop with appropriate ceremonies. Miss Josephine Babbitt, a little grand-daughter of Capt. McGregor, sang "The Flag of our Nation," and the Captain made a few appropriate remarks which were received with cheers. The men had a holiday, which no single man abused, and in the evening a splendid supper was partaken of. Among the guests were Mrs. C. A. Babbitt, Miss Josephine Babbitt, Major Davis, Capt. S. T. Lamb, Capt. J. F. Sheldon, Lieut. Purrington, D. A. Stevens, and others. There were many interesting toasts and speeches. One sentiment was as follows: "The mechanics—a powerful auxiliary in the crushing of the rebellion. May their works be appreciated, and their devotion and skill rewarded." This was responded to by Capt. McGregor in a happy and impressive manner.

SIXTH CONNECTICUT.—By a private letter we learn of the following promotions in the 6th Conn: 1st Lt. D. A. Woodruff, Co. K, to be Capt. Co. E, vice Eaton, killed; 1st Lt. B. S. Lewis, Co. A, to be Capt., Co. B, vice Wilcox, killed; 1st Lt. George Soder, Co. F, to be Capt. Co. F, vice Allen, died; 1st Lt. C. E. Hammond, Co. D, to be Capt. Co. I, vice King, resigned; 2d Lt. Sidney Hicks, Co. G, to be 1st Lt. Co. K, vice Woodruff, promoted; 2d Lt. H. F. Stanley, Co. K, to be 1st Lt. Co. H, vice Louis, resigned; 2d Lt. N. Provost, Co. I, to be 1st Lt. Co. E, vice Bradley, killed; 2d Lt. H. L. Grant, Co. D, to be 1st Lt. Co. A, vice Lewis, promoted; 2d Lt. G. Hildebrand, Co. C, to be 1st Lt. Co. F, vice Loder, promoted; Sergt. Fred Stirby, Co. C, to be 2d Lt. Co. K, vice Stanley, promoted; Sergt. W. Staler, Co. F, to be 2d Lt. Co. I, vice Provost, promoted; Sergt. Grogan, Co. I, to be 2d Lt. Co. G, vice Hicks, promoted; Sergt. Waters, Co. I, to be 2d Lt. Co. B, vice Marshal, promoted; Sergt. Bellows, Co. A, to be 2d Lt. Co. D, vice Grant, promoted; Sergt. J. P. Cornell, Co. G, to be 2d Lt. Co. C, vice Hildebrand, promoted. Capt. King was dishonorably dismissed the service.

ESCAPE OF PRISONERS.—A few days since Michael Capers, the colored soldier who killed a servant of Captain Ford, over a year ago, and is under sentence of death, escaped for the fourth time from the Provost Guard-house and has not yet been re-captured. Several other prisoners escaped at the same time.

LATE NEW YORK PAPERS.—At the Palmetto Herald office can be found files of New York papers to July 3d.

LATE NORTHERN NEWS.

New York Dates to the 3d.

By three arrivals we have late Northern papers. The Karnak arrived on Sunday, with dates to the 28th, the Dudley Buck on Wednesday morning, with papers of the 2d, and the Star of the South on Wednesday evening with those of the 3d. The following extracts contain the important news:

WASHINGTON, June 28.—To Major-General Dix:—A dispatch from Lieut.-General Grant, dated yesterday, the 27th, at 3:30 P. M., at his headquarters, reports no operations in front, except from our own guns, which fire into the bridge at Petersburg from a distance of two thousand yards. The despatch gives the following intelligence from rebel papers: A Petersburg paper of the 25th inst. states, that General Hunter is striking for Jackson River depot, about forty miles North of Salem, and says that if he reaches Covington, which they suppose he will do with most of his forces, but with loss of material, he will be safe. The same paper accuses Gen. Hunter of destroying a great amount of private property, and stealing a large number of wagons, horses and cattle. The same paper also states, that General Wilson destroyed a train of cars loaded with cotton and furniture, burned the depot buildings, &c., at Burkesville, and destroyed some of the track, and was still pushing South. All the railroads leading into Richmond are now destroyed, and some of them badly. A despatch from Gen. Sherman, received this morning, reports that yesterday, June 27, an unsuccessful attack was made by our forces on the enemy's position, which resulted in a loss to us of between two and three thousand. The following particulars are given: Pursuant to my orders of the 24th inst., a diversion was made on each side of the enemy, especially down the Sandtown road. At eight A. M., Gen. McPherson attacked at the Southwest end of Kenesaw, and General Thomas at a point about a mile further South. At the same time the skirmishers and artillery along the whole line kept up a brisk fire. Neither attack succeeded, though both columns reached the enemy's works, which are very strong. General McPherson reports his loss about five hundred, and General Thomas about two thousand. The loss is particularly heavy in general and field officers. Gen. Hatch is reported mortally wounded, also Col. Dan McCook, commanding a brigade; Colonel Rice, Fifty-seventh Ohio, very seriously; Colonels Bantell, Fortieth Illinois, and Augustine, Fifty-fifth Illinois, are killed. General McPherson took one hundred prisoners, and Gen. Thomas about as many, but I do not suppose we inflicted a heavy loss on the enemy, as he kept behind his parapets. No other military intelligence has been received by the Department.

EDWIN M. STANTON, Sec. of War.

CHATTANOOGA, June 25.—Yesterday, at five o'clock in the morning, a flag of truce was sent into Lafayette in the name of General Pillow, demanding the immediate surrender of the town and threatening to burn it if the demand was not complied with. The rebels were three thousand strong, and had completely surrounded the town, and on the refusal of Col. Wilkins, who had only four hundred men, to surrender, the rebels advanced from all directions. At nine o'clock, they occupied three-fourths of the town, when Col. John T. Croxton, of the Fourth Kentucky, came up and captured about seventy rebels. Col. Watkins lost about fifty killed and as many wounded. Gen. Pillow left one hundred dead and wounded, on the field. Col. Falkner, of the Seventh Kentucky, was captured in an attempt to make a charge upon the rebels.

CAIRO, June 26.—Memphis papers say that on the morning of the 22d inst., a detachment of General Magruder's command, six hundred strong, attacked two companies of the Twelfth Iowa Infantry, stationed near the mouth of the White River. After severe fighting, the rebels were repulsed with a loss of twenty-four killed and wounded. Our loss was one killed and five wounded. The removal