

The Camden Daily Journal.

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By D. D. HOCOTT.

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The Yankee Mine at Petersburg.

A correspondent of the New York Herald, attached to the Ninth Army corps, thus describes the Yankee mining operations at Petersburg:

The work was commenced on the 25th of June last, as previously stated. Such was the secrecy with which it was conducted that for a long time the project was unknown even to those at whose side it was going on. It is true, that reports were in circulation of a mine; but nobody could speak certainly of the matter. So much doubt was there, indeed, that for a time it was disbelieved that any such undertaking was on foot. One soldier in the breast-works, by whose side a ventilating shaft emerged, told his comrades, in the most surprised manner, that "there was a lot of fellows under him a doing something; he knew there was, for he could hear 'em talk."

To guard against indiscretion on the part of the pickets, to prevent any meeting of our soldiers with the Confederates, whereby the secret of the mine might be boastfully or imprudently disclosed, our pickets were ordered to fire continually. Hence the never-ending fusillade on the front of the Ninth corps, so incomprehensible to the other corps, and which was often referred to in newspaper paragraphs. The enemy, doubtless, suspected at first that the undermining was going on; but when several weeks elapsed without any demonstration, their suspicions began to vanish, especially as their engineers thought the plan unfeasible.

The progress of the work was necessarily very slow, and it was not until the 25th of July—just one month from inception—that it was completed. At the outset one of the most important points was to ascertain the exact distance and bearing of the Confederate fort.

The excavation was commenced on the side of the hill where an exterior line of works runs. The tunnel, or, to use the technical term, "gallery," is about four and a half feet high, nearly as many feet wide at the bottom, and two feet wide at the top. The usual army pick was not suited to the work, as its flukes were too broad to permit their swinging in the tunnel. This difficulty was easily overcome by filing down the flukes to the size of the regular mining picks. Water was met with not far from the advance, and for a time gave no little trouble. The floor, however, was planked, and the sides and ceiling shored up. A quicksand was met with, and to obviate it, the range of tunnel was curved upwards, so that the latter half was several feet higher than at the entrance. The coming of the water formed mud in several places, so that the regiment came from their daily labor bespattered and stained.

At length the end was reached, and the triangulation was abundantly verified in the noises overhead. The nailing on timber and planks could be distinctly heard, and left no doubt that the men were directly beneath the Confederate fort. The enemy were evidently making a flooring for their artillery. As near as could be ascertained the distance from the tunnel to the fort was twenty feet.

After it was sufficiently evident that a point directly under the fort was reached the construction of the mine was commenced. The angle of the fort projects towards our lines, and under this angle the tunnel diverged into two galleries, each requiring, as near as could be ascertained, under each side. It was the intention to make the mine consist of eight magazines, placed at intervals along these branch galleries, so that the entire length of the fort might be blown up, in place of one spot.

Preliminary experiments were made by Colonel Pleasant with cartridges of powder, which he inserted in the earth and ignited by a fuse. He ascertained that the work of making a breach would be more effectually secured by distribu-

ting the powder instead of putting it in balls. In the latter case the explosion resulted in a deep and broad crater; in the former in a wide chasm. Where the cartridges—his miniature magazines—were not disconnected by packing, the tendency of the explosion was to find vent at the first hole. Hence he resorted to packing between the magazines, or, as it is technically known, "tamping."

The mine was charged to-day. The quantity of powder used was six tons! Pause and think of it. Six tons. Twelve thousand pounds. Imagine eight dry good boxes (the magazines resemble them in size and shape) filled with powder, and you will have an idea of the mine.

Reception of the Emperor by the People of Mexico.

Maximilian and his wife have reached the city of Mexico. They have made a royal progress from Vera Cruz to the capital, stopping at various towns and villages, and receiving the hearty congratulations of Mexicans. From the great city as many as five hundred citizens on horseback and two hundred chaises, "with the principal and richest families," conveying, probably, eight hundred persons, went out to meet them. A Northern paper describing his reception, says:

These thirteen hundred representatives of the Mexican people were not all that hastened to show their loyalty. Dignitaries of the church—bishops, bishops and priests were there, and with the political welcome was blended the welcome of religion. Fatigued with the overwhelming demonstration, their imperial majesties rested in the suburbs, and the next day made their entry into the imperial city. There were more addresses and more ecclesiastical congratulations, and as the loyal cortege passed through the city, the roofs and balconies were crowded with spectators. There were trees and scaffoldings, straw ments of flowers and all the auxiliaries necessary to make up a show according to French usage. The ladies of Vera Cruz having received the Emperor coldly, their neglect, which has been ascribed to their ignorance of monarchical customs, was atoned for by the homage of the fair daughters of Mexico. They delivered to her highness a handsome address, which was received with gracious benignity.

After describing the welcome, the same paper says:

Thus far everything has passed off happily; but "all is well that ends well." The utmost part of the chroniclers of these scenes has been unavailing to conceal the coldness of the welcome. The city of Mexico probably has a population of one hundred and seventy-five thousand inhabitants; and if there had been the interest in the appearance of the new ruler which the account would have believed, instead of two thousand persons going out to meet him, twenty thousand would scarcely have been the proper enumeration. Instead of there being plenty of room for regal procession to pass along the streets, the surging crowd would have blocked up the way and there would have been such an enthusiastic reception as the citizens of London gave to Garibaldi.

The Austrian nominee of the French Emperor probably had but little cause to be pleased with his reception. It was correct in form but deficient in earnestness. A few days may enlighten him further as to the peculiarities of the people whom he has undertaken to govern. They may be submissive under the admonition of French bayonets; there are bitter memories to contrast with their present condition. They are restless, changeable and treacherous. Even if they had received their foreign potentate with satisfaction there would be great risks of sudden changes in their feelings. But coming as Maximilian does, the nominee of a foreign power, he is seated upon an uneasy throne, the supports of which may yield at any moment, and precipitate him into the mad abyss of revolution.

ACQUITTED.—The case of Thos. B. Thurston, Postmaster at Greenville, indicted for embezzling postoffice funds, was tried at the August term of the Confederate Court for South Carolina District, held at Greenville. The case was taken up on the 4th of August, and the Jury honorably acquitted him on the 5th, there being no evidence produced of his guilt.

This prosecution was instituted by Col. J. D. Ashmore, lately Special Postoffice Agent, for alleged defalcation in newspaper postage account.

CAMDEN DAILY JOURNAL.

FRIDAY MORNING, AUG. 12.

The wife of Mr. ABRAHAM LOUDERBACK, of Hickory township in this county, says the Southerner, Ill. Citizen, gave birth a few weeks since to twin daughters. Mrs. LOUDERBACK is seventy-eight years of age.

ESCAPED PRISONERS RECAPTURED.—Mr. JOSEPH BARRE, Dr. WM. R. STILES and Mr. WILLIAM CHRISTMAS captured yesterday, in Wateree Swamp, about five miles below Camden, two Yankees who were probably escaped prisoners, making their way to the coast. On being searched, at Capt. LEARNER'S office, there were found upon them, among other things, two well executed maps—one of the Georgia, Rail Road, and the other of the country from Columbia to Beaufort, N. C. The prisoners were lodged provisionally in the jail, and forwarded this morning, under guard, to Columbia.

THE RESULT.—The following very remarkable article appeared in the official organ of the Yankee Administration edited by JOHN W. FORNEY:

Any man who fancies that we are going to get Richmond without further and more desperate fighting is mistaken. The men who fight are Americans. They are free-born citizens, and of the proudest of the proud. The rebel army of Virginia is composed of the elite of the Southern people. It reckons in its ranks men of education and position, full of the pride of family, and accustomed to exult courage into a God-like virtue. They are burning with a passionate antipathy to a people whom they have thoroughly misunderstood, formerly despised, but are now learning to respect. They are not to be cowed; though, when thoroughly vanquished, they will have the manhood to own it. But, until they are vanquished, they will fight with an energy and a desperation that must command the admiration of every heroic spirit, even while deploring their folly and despising their cause. The only way to bring them to terms is by force, and by the use of exposure, censure to discipline, and are unshaken by the thunders of battle. Such troops, says the Petersburg Express, can be beaten only by a succession of desperate struggles. Nor are they likely to become demoralized. They will yield to inevitable necessity only when they recognize it as inevitable. That they will be made to feel this we have not the slightest doubt.

What a high compliment to the morale of the Southern army, and wrong reluctantly from that inveterate Southern hater, JOHN W. FORNEY: And what too, must be the feelings of FORNEY and his Yankee friends, when he compares the material of the Yankee army, with that commanded by Gen. LEE. Would that he could have stood upon the streets of Petersburg, as we did yesterday, and have seen the 960 prisoners captured by our forces on Saturday. The mean, low, contemptible looking genuine Yankee; the recently imported Irish; the sensual looking German; the tawny Indian, and last, but not least, the real oboshin, simon-pure negro, about two hundred of whom were sprinkled through the motley crowd. A bystander remarked, not inappropriately, that LINCOLN had scraped the world with a fine tooth comb to procure men to make up his army. This is the stuff which the elite of the Southern people are required to fight, and which by the help of Almighty God, they invariably vanquish in battle. More than ever are we convinced of the truth, "that the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong;" and "if God be for us, who can successfully contend against us."—Petersburg Express.

KEEPING DOWN THE PRICES.—The Virginia papers have of late teemed with complaints of the schedule of prices established by the Board of Commissioners appointed to regulate impressments in the State. The farmers and producers themselves patriotically came forward and denounced the rates of the schedule as altogether too high, and insisted upon a revision of the prices fixed. The result is given in the following interesting extract from a letter from Secretary TRENHOLM, dated July 31st, and received in Charleston on Saturday last:

You will be very glad to hear that the Commissioners for this State (Virginia) came together to-day, and very patriotically determined to put wheat down to \$7.50 per bushel (from \$30) for August, and \$5 for September; corn at \$6 for August, and \$4 for September, and so on. In this they are backed by the whole country. The farmers held meetings everywhere and denounced the July schedule.

Do have this reduction noticed in the Mercury and Courier, suggesting to, and urging the Commissioners and farmers elsewhere, to follow this example; \$2 per bushel for wheat, and \$1 for corn, in other States, would not be any lower than the rates paid here, are for Virginia under existing circumstances.

The lacemakers of Nottingham, England, carry on their business, day after day, in rooms heated to a temperature of one hundred and twenty degrees.

LATEST BY TELEGRAPH.

REPORTS OF THE PRESS ASSOCIATION.

Entered according to the Act of Congress in the year 1864, by J. S. THRASHER, in the Clerk's office of the District Court of the Confederate States for the Northern District of Georgia.

FROM RICHMOND.

RICHMOND, August 11.—On Tuesday last the Ordnance Depot, at City Point, exploded, killing a large number of Yankees.

The New York Times says that forces are concentrating on the Upper Potomac, to operate against the rebels in that section.

Grant and staff visited Harper's Ferry last Sunday.

Private advices represent Kentucky quiet. Revolutionary sentiments are progressing rapidly, and prominent citizens, heretofore Unionists, are now operating with the peace party.

The residence of the widow of Major John Seddon, (brother of the Secretary of War,) was burned by order, in retaliation for the burning of Montgomery Blair's house.

The following correspondence, says the Charlottesville Chronicle, was captured in the recent assault on General Johnston's lines:

FROM GEN. SHERMAN TO GEN. GRANT.

SIR: I find it very hard to get to Atlanta. Yours,

W. TECUMSEH SHERMAN.

To which Gen. Grant replied:

SIR: You ought just to come to Petersburg. In haste,

U. S. GRANT.

New discoveries are reported from Pompeii. A house has been uncovered, which, to judge from the splendor of its interior, and its almost perfect furniture, must have belonged to a very wealthy proprietor. The dining room is paved with mosaic. The completely served table is covered with petrified remnants of dishes; and around it are found three divans, or tablebeds, of bronze, richly adorned with gold and silver, upon which reposed are several skeletons. A great many precious jewels were found near them. On the table stood, among other ornaments, a very beautifully worked statue of Bacchus, in silver, with eyes of enamel, a collar of ewels and precious amulets.

MARRIED.

On Wednesday evening, August 10th 1864, at the residence of Mrs. M. L. Hailor, in Camden, S. O., by the Rev. SAMUEL HAY, Pastor of the Presbyterian Church in this place—Capt MARTIN V. MOORE, of 6th N. C. Cavalry, to Miss SALLIE E. daughter of the late ISAAC LENOIR, Esq., of Sumter District, S. C.

NOTICE.

ON AND AFTER THIS DAY, I WILL SELL MY loaves of bread at 40 cents—the price heretofore being 50.
August 12. 4t. W. DAASCH.

Garden Seeds.

A SMALL SUPPLY OF THE FOLLOWING Garden Seeds are for sale at the Post Office: Early York, Drumhead, Savoy and Enfield Cabbage; Yellow Dutch, White Stone and Red Norfolk Turnips; Beets, Carrot and Parsnip. These Seed were imported by the Confederate Government, and are believed to be fresh and genuine.

—ALSO—

Ruta Baga, White Norfolk and country Turnip.
July 29 3

FOR SALE OR BARTER.

TWO doors above the Post Office, Cotton Cards Rice, Liverpool and Coast Salt, Nails, Tobacco Cotton Yarn, Flour, Bacon, and Lard, by April 29 D. D. HOCOTT

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

ADJUT AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, Columbia, Aug. 2, 1864.

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 9.

EXTRACT.

I. MAJOR GENERALS AND BRIGADIER GENERALS of the Militia of this State, claiming to be in commission, will report to this office the dates of their commissions, with their postoffices prior to 12th instant, as on that date orders will be issued to fill all vacancies.

By command: (Signed) A. C. GARLINGTON, Adj. and Insp. Gen. S. C.

Official: G. A. FOLLIN, A. A. Gen.

August 6
Papers of the State publish twice.