

# The Camden Daily Journal

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BY D. D. HOGOTT.

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## A Picture of Desolation.

RICHMOND, October 27.—I will give your readers an account of a trip to Fredericksburg, whither curiosity and a desire for change of scene and air led me some weeks ago.

The evidence of the enemy's vandalism begins a few miles out of Richmond, and increases every step as it advances towards the Rappahannock. The burnt depots and bridges remind me very much of the road between Macon and the Oconee river, just after the Stoneman raid. But the constant succession of rifle pits and redoubts thrown up for cannon, told a very different story of the struggle in Virginia as compared with that of Middle Georgia. A matter of surprise to the passengers, most of whom had been over the road, so to speak, a thousand times, was the great height and by no means inconsiderable length of the North Anna bridge, which had been burnt by the enemy for the third or fourth time, and is still unfinished. Passing over the top of a bridge inside the cars is one thing, and crossing the stream on foot over a plank trestle is another. What surprised me as much as the great stream bridged at the North Anna, was the cheerfulness of the few people we met at the blackened ruins of the depots, and the unconsciousness of the war displayed by the passengers, who sat in the cushioned seats reading newspapers and eating grapes and peaches as cosily and contented as though war never existed.

When you get to Hamilton's crossing, the desolation of war breaks fully upon you. A few trees remain upon the hills near the site of the depot, but there is not a fence nor an inhabited house all the way to Fredericksburg. A few cattle may be seen grazing on the rich plains, which bear no crops now but crops of luxuriant weeds. There cattle belong to the people of Fredericksburg, who club together and hire a poor old man to attend them while grazing.—There are no hands at work in the fenceless fields—no signs of animated life about the deserted houses—the drowsy crows of the cock, the neighing of the horses, the cawing of the crow, and the laughter of children in the yard, and the "wo-haw" of the plow-driver, are no longer heard in this blasted region. All is still as death for miles and miles under the sweet autumnal sun.

Fredericksburg itself is torn as by a hurricane. Much of it has been burnt, and the tall chimneys standing all alone tell a woful tale of ruin. Part of the town is destroyed by fire, caused by shells, and part by the torch applied by Yankee hands. All the lower and all the upper portion of the town have been so shattered as to be uninhabitable; the stores have been gutted of their shelves and counters to make dry places for the countless thousands of Yankees wounded at the Wilderness and Spottsylvania to lie on. The churches have been repeatedly struck, and so have most of the private dwellings. I counted twenty or thirty holes in the fine mansion of Douglas Gordon, which was nearly complete before the war broke out. A shell had passed diagonally through the house in which I staid, and one had exploded in the parlor under the room in which I slept. Looking out of my bed-room window I saw naked chimneys and deserted houses in every direction.

Of course, I went to Marye's Hill, and saw the famous stone fence which served as a rampart for our men. I walked over the wide fields which the enemy had to pass before they got within range of our deadly rifles, and stood under the tree which Cobb leaned against when he was killed. This tree is just behind the house of a Mr. Stephens—a small frame building—which must have at least a thousand bullet holes through and through it. Mr. Stephens showed me where Yankee after Yankee

was buried in his garden, as many as twenty in some places. He also pointed to a deep ditch in which about a thousand of Burnside's crew were piled and packed like dead mackerel in a barrel. Many, many other gardens and yards contain dead Yankees by the score.

The stone fence is at the bottom of a hill, and on that hill is the fine old homestead of the Marys, now gone to wreck, with countless apertures made by shot and shell, and open to the winds that blow. Ah! it was a sad thing to tread the deserted halls and chambers of this old house, and hear only the echo of your own footsteps. Not even a rat squeaks behind the wainscot. The silence is awful. Outside the house, and running through the yard, which is still beautiful with its shade trees, are the rifle-pits, and on the hill tops are heavy earthworks for artillery, all thrown up after the battle of Fredericksburg had been fought and won.—Truly Burnside's task had just begun when he reached the stone fence. But—but—why did not Lee follow up the repulse? why did he not shell the town and order a midnight assault? The people of Fredericksburg, who had been crouching all day in their cellars prayed that Lee might do this. If he had, such a victory would have been won—oh! such a victory. Too late, too late now to think about it.

I went over into Stafford County, opposite Fredericksburg, and there is a wide wild scene of devastation—neither fences nor trees for leagues on leagues, houses deserted and burnt, and so many roads to the enormous camps of Hooker, which extended nineteen square miles, that the oldest inhabitants are in danger of losing themselves in their native country. The Lacy House is a baronial pile in the extent of its buildings, and its terraced grounds and gardens are in keeping. \*Ruin reigns there also. The walls of the large old fashioned rooms, and even the pillars of the porches are scrawled and bescribbled with obscure Yankee names and obscure Yankee phrases and pictures.—Further back, on a higher range of hills, commanding the whole country, are the walls of the Phillips House, which was burnt out of spite by Stoneman, because his brother officers objected to his using it as his private quarters. What a picture of ravaged beauty is to be seen from the height on which this house stood.

Strange to tell, Stafford County, naturally sterile and sparsely peopled, is now richer and more thickly settled than it has been since the colonial days. It is a debatable land, in which neither Confederate nor Yankee rule is acknowledged, and it is filled with deserters, who have grown rich by gathering and selling the immense debris of Hooker's camps to Washington or to Richmond purchasers, as happened to be most convenient—for these lawless people care little for either side. Hooker's incredible relics have not yet been all gathered in, for I saw in Fredericksburg and at Hamilton's crossing, great piles of old iron and fragments of tents, blankets and overcoats which were just ready to be sent to Richmond.

A number of refugees have returned to Fredericksburg, which contains now some six or eight hundred souls, principally women and children. Their spirit is unabated; their hatred of the Yankee is quenchless; their faith in the cause and their cheerfulness is worthy of all praise and universal imitation. When our last call for men was made a week or so ago, Fredericksburg sent down one volunteer 60 years old, and another of 17; and while I was there half a dozen boys 15 and 16 were complaining because Gen. Kemper wouldn't let them volunteer in the old Fredericksburg companies and join Lee's army at once, instead of waiting for the reserves to be ordered out.

GAMMA.  
Cor. Mobile Register.

SECESSIONIST TO BE HUNG BY ORDER OF B. F. BUTLER.—A recently arrived blockade runner brings the story to Richmond that Bill Jones, the former well known fishmonger and politician, is to be hung at Butler's headquarters. Jones ran off from Richmond some months ago to avoid conscription. On reaching Norfolk he was pointed out to the Yankee authorities as one of the men who raised the first secession flag in Virginia, and who, with others, threatened to mob certain Union members of the Virginia Convention. He was arrested, and after some kind of trial, was sentenced to be hung.

## CAMDEN DAILY JOURNAL.

SATURDAY MORNING NOV. 19.

The *Chronicle & Sentinel* says: The Leg-Aacy association has set several hundred maimed soldiers to walking, and Georgians have largely shared the benefit. The venerable Rev. Dr. PIERCE has consented to act as agent for Georgia. Funds are needed. Ten thousand legs are wanted. The officers of the association are all worthy and reliable men.

Mr. TRENOLM, the Secretary of the Treasury, has, we are told, contributed twelve thousand dollars toward the enterprise. An excellent example for other capitalists to follow.

IMPORTANT FROM GEORGIA.—Gen Hardee has received official information from General Wheeler that General Sherman had burnt and abandoned Atlanta, and was advancing with cavalry infantry, artillery and wagons, towards Jonesboro'. The enemy's force was not fully ascertained, but prisoners taken report that Sherman has three army corps, each supposed to contain ten thousand men. Our cavalry under General Wheeler had fallen back before the enemy, who at last accounts were marching on Griffin, devastating the whole country behind them, burning bridges, rail roads, &c. An official dispatch from General Wheeler Thursday, states that he had checked the enemy's advance at Bear Creek.

THE CONTRABAND NEWS.—An exchange of papers took place at Richmond, Tuesday, New York journals of the 12th were delivered, but none of the 10th or 11th were to be had. Deserters say that every number of the 10th was seized by officers, acting under orders from headquarters, and burnt. The supposition of these men was that the papers of the 10th contained some news which was not thought proper for Confederate ears. One number of the 10th has, however, come to hand, and there is little difficulty in discerning the points which were considered contraband. Here they are:

NEW YORK, Nov. 9—6 p. m.—The gold quotations to-day were as follows. Opened at 245, went up to 258 1-4 and 260, and closed at 256 1-4.

The Herald says of the movements of Sherman's army:

Nothing positive regarding the operations which Gen. Sherman is now prosecuting can at present be made public; but we are assured that everything is progressing most favorably with him, and that when his plans shall develop themselves they will cause every true American to rejoice. Sherman and his officers are fully acquainted with Hood's movements and whereabouts, and probably by this time Beauregard and Hood are equally aware of Sherman's, to their sorrow. The rumor of the capture of Johnsonville, on the Tennessee river, by the rebels, appears to have been without foundation in fact. The place is still in possession of the Union forces, and no apprehensions for its safety are entertained.

A dispatch from Nashville says: Hood's exact whereabouts is known by the authorities. The Union movement will be developed at the proper time, the anticipated success of which will electrify the nation.

## FROM THE SOUTH.

There are a great many statements in regard to the position of affairs at Atlanta and vicinity, most of which are mere unreliable rumors—nothing more.

A gentleman in this city received this morning a letter from a gentleman up the road, which contains the annexed news: A young lady who resides in a village about forty miles from Atlanta, resolved a few days since to visit that place on business. Knowing that she would not be permitted to enter the city, as a white girl, she determined to enter it disguised as a mulatto. Accordingly she stained her face and hands with a preparation made from the green bark of the walnut. This gave her skin a rich olive color. She then frizzled her hair and started. The pickets permitted her to pass, supposing that she either belonged in the city, or was a runaway from below. While in Atlanta she heard some officers remark, that a large number of troops would leave soon.—They said that they supposed Sherman's route would be to Macon first and Augusta next.

A gentleman from above Atlanta gives us some intelligence which corroborates the statements published a few days ago. He says the Federals are certainly running loaded trains from Atlanta to Marietta, and empty trains back again. This looks as if either the city was to be evacuated or that Sherman had decided on a movement that made it necessary for him to move his supplies at Atlanta further up the road.—*Chronicle & Sentinel*.

An Irishman remarked that a true gentleman will never look at the faults of a pretty woman without shutting his eyes.

## LATEST BY TELEGRAPH

REPORTS OF THE PRESS ASSOCIATION.

Entered according to the Act of Congress in the year 1863, by J. S. THRASHER, in the Clerk's office of the District Court of the Confederate States for the Northern District of Georgia.

## NORTHERN NEWS.

RICHMOND, November 16.—New York and Baltimore papers say that sufficient returns have been received from all the States to warrant the announcement that Lincoln has over three hundred thousand majority in the popular vote, and has carried all the States voting but three, and will have a majority of one hundred and ninety two votes in the electoral college.

RICHMOND, November 18.—Baltimore papers of yesterday has been received to-night. Considerable excitement prevails at Hagerstown and along the border from apprehension of a rebel raid. Bermuda advices say a schooner arrived at Five Fathom Hole for repairing, who reported that a rebel craft had destroyed the bark Two Sisters in addition to those previously reported. The trial of the St. Albans raiders has been postponed to the 20th of December. Later arrivals from Europe confirm the departure of Semmes from the Bay of Frenchal in an armed vessel called the New Alabama. Gold 226. The Baltimore American of yesterday quotes gold at 236.12 in New York.

A Nashville telegram says Hood's army is still encamped in the vicinity of Florence, one corps on the north side of the river. The roads prevent active military operations. The rebel army remains comparatively quiet. Nashville telegrams say Judge —, member of the Richmond Congress, passed through Nashville on his way to Washington to see what can be done towards bringing about peace. Butler, in a speech in New York on Monday evening, said the Government might now proffer the olive branch to the rebels, tendering amnesty to the rebels and their leaders until the 1st of January; if they hold out he would unsparingly prosecute the war. McClellan's resignation has been accepted, and Sheridan appointed to the position. Gen. Egan, of the artillery of the army of the Potomac, was severely wounded by sharpshooters Sunday night.

Liverpool dates to the 5th has been received. The bank of France has reduced the rate of interest to 7 per cent. Spain has sent ultimatum to Peru; if full satisfaction is not given the Spanish squadron will seize the republic and destroy its fleets.

## FROM MACON.

MACON, November 18.—The excitement in town somewhat subsided. No definite intelligence of the whereabouts of the enemy, supposed still to be in the neighborhood of Griffin, burning everything in their rear. They will meet with a warm reception if they attempt to come here.

## FROM VIRGINIA.

LYNCHBURG, Nov. 18.—Lieut. Col., —, on the 5th inst., captured and burned two United States steamers (armed), the Barnum and Faun, with a quantity of arms, on Buffalo Shoals of Big Sandy river. On the same day he captured a large amount of military stores at Williamsburg.

## Kirkwood Mill.

KIRKWOOD MILL (FORMERLY LANG'S MILL) is now prepared to grind grist on toll. Due notice will be given as soon as the Wheat Mill is completed.

MILLER WASTED.

A miller wanted to superintend the above Mill. Apply to B. P. COLBURN. Nov. 16.