

# The Camden Confederate.

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## The Camden Confederate

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J. T. HERSHMAN, Editor.

### GREAT NEWS FROM BRAGG'S ARMY.

THE CONFLICT OPENED ON SATURDAY—TWO DAYS' DESPERATE FIGHTING—THE ENEMY DRIVEN FROM THE FIELD—OUR FORCES CAPTURE FOUR THOUSAND PRISONERS AND THIRTY PIECES OF ARTILLERY—HEAVY LOSSES ON BOTH SIDES—BRAGG IN PURSUIT OF THE ENEMY—&c., &c., &c.

(Official Despatch from General Bragg.)

RICHMOND, Sept. 21.—The following despatch has just been received here:

CHICKANAUGA RIVER, September 20, }  
(Via Ringgold, September 21) }

To General S. Cooper:

After two day's hard fighting, we have driven the enemy, after a desperate resistance, from several of his positions. We now hold the field, but he still confronts us. Losses heavy on both sides, especially so in officers. We have taken over twenty pieces of artillery and some twenty five hundred prisoners.

(Signed) BRAXTON BRAGG, General.

(The Press Telegrams.)

ATLANTA, Sept. 21.—Reports have been received here of a general engagement of a desperate character, which was begun on Saturday morning, about eight miles west of Ringgold, Ga., and which continued during Saturday and Sunday, without decisive result.

Advices from the front state that the battle would be renewed this morning. Our army is full of spirit and confidence, and determined to respond, as heroes should, to the eloquent call of General Bragg.

On Saturday morning Rosecrans's forces occupied the line of Peavine Creek, affording the only good water in that vicinity. To drive him from this position was the object of our forces. Artillery firing of a heavy character was kept up during the day.

At one o'clock, p. m.; the corps of Generals Polk and Buckner, from our left, made a junction with the troops of General Hill, which formed our centre, and advanced to the assault. Our men made the charge through the heaviest artillery and infantry fire ever known, and carried the heights beyond the Creek, driving the enemy from all his positions.

The ground was literally strewn with dead Yankees. We drove the enemy two miles, to the road leading Chattanooga, which runs parallel with Peavine Creek, and along which Rosecrans brings his supplies. We now hold this road.

On Saturday Hood's division, of Longstreet's corps, attacked the enemy's left, without gaining any decisive advantage. On Sunday the fight was renewed along the entire line, and the enemy was steadily driven back along the right and left, his centre steadily holding its ground. At nightfall the enemy's left was reported as having fallen back eight miles from the position it occupied in the morning.

The fighting on both days was of the most desperate character. We have no authentic information in regard to the respective losses. The slaughter of the Yankees is represented by the wounded, who have been brought in as unprecedented. Their loss is very heavy. It is reported that our loss, thus far, is about 5000 killed and wounded.

Among the killed are Brigadier General Preston Smith, of Tennessee; Wofford, of Georgia, and Walthall, of Mississippi. The death of the last named, however, lacks confirmation.

Among our wounded are Major General

Preston, of Kentucky; Cleburne, of Arkansas; Hood, of Texas (who lost a leg); Gregg (wounded in the jaw), and Benning (in the breast).

Two thousand prisoners and seven pieces of artillery are reported to have been taken on Saturday.

Passengers by Sunday's train report that a heavy smoke was seen near the position of the enemy, supposed to be caused by the burning of his commissary stores.

The battle was expected to be renewed this morning, with an attack by Hill and Longstreet on the enemy's centre.

(The Latest.)

ATLANTA, Monday, Sept. 21, 6 p. m.—The following telegram has just been received from General Bragg's telegraph operator:

RINGGOLD, September 21.

We have captured 4000 prisoners and 30 pieces of artillery. We hold the entire battlefield, and are pursuing the enemy to-day.

### The Campaign in Tennessee.

Day by day the situation of affairs in Tennessee becomes more critical and interesting. It is now stated that a full division from Grant's army, with several heavy columns from Meade's Army of the Potomac, besides strong forces from other quarters, have lately been added to Rosecrans's command. If this news be true, the theatre of war will at once be transferred from Virginia to East Tennessee and Northern Georgia. The reported massing of the Yankee forces would seem to be confirmed by the following paragraph, which we find in a late issue of the New York Sun:

After the draft has been successfully carried out in this city and Brooklyn, and the soldiers now here are no longer needed for the intimidation of rioters, an expedition will be organized by a well known general officer, who is now engaged in obtaining steam transports and sailing vessels, upon which to embark his command. At this time it would be highly improper to make known the destination of this new expedition, which is intended to strike a blow at the rebels quite as disastrous as the fall of Charleston or Savannah could be. The War Department have determined to strike quick and hard before the fall elections, and have decided upon a plan of action that will confirm the faith of wavering States in the strength of the Union, as well as destroy the rebels armies. The Army of the Potomac having many times unsuccessfully attempted the capture of Richmond, is likely to be recognized under an other name; and, while Washington will not be left undefended, the warriors of the Potomac will obtain glory in another direction. Instead of spending the dog days in the Virginia swamps, those gallant soldiers will be transported at once within a few miles of the scene of their operations, and capture Richmond by their exploits hundreds of miles away from the rebel capital.

The Atlanta Appeal thinks that Rosecrans will very soon have under his command fully 150,000 men. It adds: "Movements are on foot which is published would greatly encourage our distant readers, but prudence forbid us. Our united strength, however, may be necessary to secure as decided a victory as will finally relieve us from apprehensions; and to secure it no exertion should be spared now. Georgia, Alabama, and the Confederate armies, must do the work."

A BATTLE IN EAST TENNESSEE.—General Jackson, with a force of about 1500 infantry, and 600 cavalry under Col. Gufford, met the enemy on Monday evening, 7th inst., at Telford's five miles beyond Jonesboro', and after a short engagement the enemy were badly whipped and rapidly retreated. No particulars of the fight had reached Lynchburg Wednesday. The Republican says it is supposed that the enemy returned to Knoxville for reinforcements, which they could easily do, being in possession of the trains captured there. General Jackson is preparing for them, and if they return he has fixed a trap to catch them.

### Military Execution in Gen. Lee's Army.—A Solemn Scene.

On the evening of the 4th inst., ten deserters from the 3d North Carolina Infantry, of General Geo. H. Stewart's brigade, Johnson's division, Ewell's corps, arrived at the camp of the division, near Orange Court House, Va., under charge of a guard from Richmond. At the same time there arrived at the headquarters of the division an order from the Department of Henrico directing that these men, charged with desertion and the murder of Adjutant Mallett, be executed at such time and place as the division commander should direct. From division headquarters an order was immediately issued to have the execution take place at 4 o'clock on the following day. At half past 3 o'clock on the afternoon of the 5th the troops of the division were promptly formed on three sides of a square, with side arms and without colors, whilst ten stakes ranged in a row on the fourth side showed where the execution would take place. A few minutes later the prisoners arrived upon the ground, preceded by the officer of the day, the music of the brigade playing the dead march, and escorted by a detail from the brigade guard. The bearing of the prisoners was calm and self-possessed, and they marched to the place of their execution with a step as accurate in its cadence as that of the guard who conducted them.

On arriving upon the grounds the prisoners here fronted to the division, who had been paraded to witness their death. The officer of the day read the orders reciting their offences, their sentences, and the time and place of their execution. This ceremony concluded, the Chaplain of the 3d N. C. infantry knelt with the prisoners, and in a most fervent manner read the ritual of the Episcopal service for the condemned. The prisoners joined in the act of devotion with fervor. The soldiers who were there to witness the execution of their comrades, used as they were to the blood and carnage of twenty battle fields, beheld with uncontrollable emotion the solemn preparation for the execution of the condemned, and seemed to be penetrated with the solemnity of the religious services which were being carried on. The services over, the Chaplain blessed and affectionately bid adieu to each prisoner—the non-commissioned officers of the ten different firing parties rapidly carried the prisoners each to his own stake, where, after kneeling, their arms were pinioned behind the stake, and their eyes bandaged to shut out the sight of the muzzles of the muskets levelled not more than ten paces from them.

At this part of the proceedings, and whilst the firing parties were being deployed into one rank, the more effectually to deliver their fire, the prisoners broke out into loud and fervent appeals to the Almighty to have mercy on their souls and pardon their sins. The preparations being concluded, the officer of the day gave command "ready!" and the clicking of the locks alone broke the silence that prevailed; "aim!" and the muzzles of the guns were pointed with unerring aim at the breasts of the miserable condemned, and the very breathing of the crowd seemed stepped in a terrible suspense; "fire!" and the corpses of ten men hung in the horrible relaxation of death to the stakes where they were pinioned.

The troops of the division filed by the dead bodies in melancholy procession, and the field, being vacated by all but the detail for burial, was as silent and solemn in the evening gloom as the painful scene of which it had been the theatre. So perish those who would betray their country in its hour of need and peril. The sentence of these men was as just as their execution was prompt. Necessity demanded their blood—justice approved, and even tearful mercy sanctioned it.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT.—We are gratified to have it in our power to announce that the exchange of something over twenty thousand paroled Confederate prisoners, captured at Vicksburg and elsewhere, has been accomplished by our indefatigable Commissioner, of Paroled prisoners.—Mercury.

### A Dangerous Character Arrested.

Officer H. H. Hicks, from Charleston, S. C., arrested yesterday morning in this city, a young man by the name of Mathew Norton, who hails from Memphis, Tenn., and who, at the time of his arrest, was in possession of seven thousand dollars counterfeits, in Confederate Treasury notes. This young counterfeiter is also a spy, having been observed by officer Hicks for several days, inspecting the fortifications about Charleston. He had among his papers a record of his oath of allegiance to the United States Government, and a passport giving him permission to go out of Memphis with a wagon and team.

After his arrest, Mathew Norton confessed that he had passed about \$3000 of these counterfeits in the city of Charleston, S. C. We have been shown these dangerous imitations, and append below such a description of them as will insure their recognition. Norton will be taken to Charleston, and will, we have no doubt, speedily meet with the punishment due to his crimes.

\$100, 2 CENTS PER DAY.—This counterfeit is of the issue of J. T. Patterson, Columbia, S. C., dated July 4, 1862. In the genuine, but one of the masts of the ship run up to the telegraph wire; in the counterfeit, both masts run up to that wire; in the genuine, the woman's hand is flat on the pail she is carrying; in the counterfeit, she holds a knob or handle of the pail; in the genuine, the signature of J. F. Grayson is in a round hand; in the counterfeit, the same signature is in a running hand; in the genuine, the numbers rest on a line made for the purpose; in the counterfeit, there is no line for the numbers to rest on.

Yellow Ground 2 Cents per Day \$100.—The date of this counterfeit is September 1st, 1862, and is nearly one eighth inch narrower than the genuine. The engraving on the genuine was done on stone, that of the counterfeit on wood. The face of Mr. Calhoun is badly executed, especially about the eyes, they having the appearance of a very heavy frown. The cotton the negroes are working on, is darker in the counterfeit than it is in the genuine. The medalion in the upper left hand corner, in the counterfeit, is open and light; in the genuine the same is dark—as dark as that which contains the likeness of Mr. Calhoun.

In the counterfeit the words "one hundred dollars" are printed so close together as to appear almost like one word. The word "with," in the phrase "with interest," is badly done.

Ten Dollar Bills.—The third and remaining class of counterfeits which were in possession of Norton is of the denomination of \$10. In the counterfeit of this issue the two XX's are printed in solid red, in the genuine the same letters are in open work. The faces of both Mr. Memminger and Mr. Orr (we believe) are badly executed, being much lighter than in the genuine. Mr. Memminger's eyes appear in the counterfeit rather popped instead of sunken as in the genuine. The date of this counterfeit is September 2, 1861.—Atlanta Intelligencer.

EXECUTION OF TWO SOUTH CAROLINA DESERTERS.—William Clarke and James Taylor, privates in the Second Regiment South Carolina Volunteers, were, in accordance with the sentence passed upon them last week by the court martial, now sitting in Petersburg, shot dead, in Griffith's field one mile southeast of the city, between 12 and 1 o'clock yesterday. The execution took place in the presence of the brigade to which they belonged, and a concourse of spectators drawn thither to witness the sad drama. The prisoners were removed from the jail between 11 and 12 o'clock attended by several chaplains of their brigade, who, during their confinement, were constant in the administration of religious instruction and comfort, who, after the arrival upon the fatal field, remained with them in prayer and exhortation. Clarke and Taylor had twice deserted their commands—once since the President's late proclamation.—Petersburg Express.