

THE CAMDEN CONFEDERATE.

"KNOWLEDGE IS POWER, AND THE PRESS IS THE ROYAL THRONE UPON WHICH SHE SITS, AN ENTHRONED MONARCH."

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The Confederate

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BY
J. T. HERSHMAN.

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Cause of our Defeat in the Virginia Valley.

Correspondent of the Savannah Republican, writing from Richmond states the following as the reason of Early's defeat in the Virginia Valley:

The Confederate arms have met with a fresh disaster in the Valley of Virginia. After his defeat at Winchester on the 19th, Early retreated up the Valley to Fisher's Hill, a strong position a short distance above Strasburg, and which, it was supposed, he would be able to hold. Not so, however. On the 22d, Sheridan assaulted him in this strong position, turned his left, which soon gave way, followed by the entire line. We lost twelve pieces of artillery, though but few men. Such is Early's official report to Gen. Lee. The Confederates were retiring further up the Valley towards Staunton.

Do you ask for an explanation of these rapidly occurring disasters in a portion of the State where the Confederates, until Sept. 19th, never suffered a defeat? It is simple and easily given: We have two enemies to contend with in the Valley, one of whom has never been beaten since Noah drabk too much wine and lay in his tent. These enemies are the Federal army and John Barley Corn. Sheridan has been largely reinforced, and the Valley is running with apple brandy. Here is the key to our reverses. Officers of high position—yes, of very high position—have, to use an honest English word, been drunk—too drunk to command themselves, much less an army, a division, a brigade, or a regiment. And, where officers in high command are in the habit of drinking to excess, we may be sure their pernicious example will be followed by those of lower grades.

Shall I call names? Not now. The names are known to the authorities, and shall be to the country, unless there be a speedy reformation. Let us wait a little to see whether the guilty parties will not reform their habits, and especially whether the President, Secretary of War, Gen. Lee and Gen. Bragg will take hold of these men and punish them as they deserve. Just think of a drunken man in command of a body of men in battle!

HOOD ON THE MARCH IN SHERMAN'S REAR

—The Levejoy Station correspondent of the Columbia Carolinian writes on the 23d instant:

Griffin is now an outpost. All trains from above have been withdrawn, the telegraph wire taken down, and the country evacuated. We have nothing from Hood's army of a very authentic nature, except that it was on the march beyond the Chattahoochee when last seen. I feel no apprehension about its reaching Blue Mountain in safety. Last night, Sherman despatched a considerable cavalry force down the right bank of the Chattahoochee, for the purpose, as is supposed, of developing our position. But it is certain that up to that time no general movement of his army had taken place. We feel certain that he was as unprepared for this bold movement, as he is unable to prevent it. I base the latter portion of that sentence upon the well authenticated fact that his stock is in the worst possible condition. Every eye-witness agrees that no one of his teams can have enough for its own subsistence, and, therefore, without the aid of a railroad, he can do nothing, for if he marches to confront Hood, he will have to do it in a country where he will not have cars to bring up supplies.

Major Lamar Fontaine, soldier and poet and well known by name and good fame to many readers of the Courier, is now in this city and expects to remain some days. He has been for many months a prisoner and is now released on a conditional parole, which we hope will result in an exchange. He appears in usual health and in a cheering tone of spirits. Of course he brings no other news, but his friends will be pleased to receive this report.—*Charleston Courier.*

Camden, Wednesday, October 5.
J. T. HERSHMAN—Editor.

Tar is selling in New York at \$2 a pound. It used to cost eighty cents a barrel.

The income of the four Rothschilds of Europe is estimated at 9,000,000 a year, or a thousand dollars an hour.

Brig. Gen. John Echols has been appointed to the command of the Department of Southwestern Virginia, to succeed Gen. John H. Morgan.

TREASURER OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES.—It is reported that the position of Treasurer of the Confederate States has been tendered to John B. Hendren, Esq., of Staunton, Virginia.

Under the Lincoln dynasty negro soldiers search all white gentlemen and ladies who cross from Cincinnati into Kentucky over the ferries. To this degradation, American citizens are obliged to submit.

Vallandigham is out in a letter supporting the nomination of McClellan. We suppose he has had a closet talk with McClellan, and finding him all right, has turned right about face to give him his support.

Our recently returned prisoners from the North are represented by the Richmond press as being in a wretched condition. Thirteen of them died on the passage from Fortress Monroe to that city, and many others are represented as being in very critical health.

THE FINAL STRUGGLE.—The Richmond Examiner considers that the final struggle for the possession of Richmond and of Virginia is now near. The war is drawing to a close, and if we hold Richmond till the first of November, it will be ours for evermore. This renewed effort on the part of the enemy is due, the Examiner thinks, to Sherman's triumph in Georgia, which compels Grant to match it or sink into insignificance.

The news from the Valley of Virginia is far from being agreeable. The enemy seem disposed to make all that is possible out of their success, and are pushing up the Valley with considerable spirit and a flourish of trumpets. But it is a long road that knows no turning, and the pursuers of to-day may become the pursued to-morrow. On this celebrated race course the Yankees have always made better time returning than advancing. The views of the Enquirer on the Valley-situation are just and cheering, and we commend them to our readers. Gen. Longstreet's return to duty is just at a critical and opportune moment. We shall no doubt hear soon of dispositions being made which will effectually check any further advance of the enemy.

STATISTICS OF CARNAGE.—A writer in the Jefferson County, New York Union has made some calculations relative to the number of men killed thus far in this war, and gives the following results.

Enough have been already slain to encircle our State if their dead bodies were laid in one continuous line.

If they were placed in coffins and corded, they would count 39,000 cords.

If laid in a wall twenty-five feet thick and thirty feet high, it would be over one-fourth mile long.

If five feet thick and ten feet high, the pile would reach across the State.

If piled upon a ten acre lot, they would be nearly two hundred feet high.

And if laid upon the ground, they would cover every foot of soil in Jefferson County.

75,000 tons of human blood have been spilled in Dixie's soil—enough to turn every spindle in Lowell, and if the tears were added to the flood it would turn the machinery of the continent; and the unavailing sighs would fill every ocean sail.

The one-half has not yet been told. The millions of wounded and maimed for life must be taken into account in summing up the grand total of evils incident to this bloody and fanatical war.

THE STRENGTH OF THE RESERVES.—A contemporary has hit upon an ingenious method of ascertaining "the reserved strength of the Confederacy." He says, take a trip over the railroads of the Confederacy, and when you arrive at a city, town or village, announce that President Davis, or Gen. Beauregard, or some other famous personage is on the train; wait half an hour, then go to the next town and repeat the announcement. After a trip of this sort through the States, it will be easy to tell where the men may be found to make up the six or eight hundred thousand. They are all safe, and the Confederacy is maintaining them.

BUYING FLOUR.—It is about as difficult a job to buy good flour as to buy a good horse. Let us tell you how to go to work with it. First, look at color; if it is white, with a slightly yellowish or straw-colored tint, buy it. If it is very white, with a bluish cast, or with black specks in it, refuse it. Second, examine the adhesiveness, wet and knead a little of it between your fingers: if it works soft and is sticky, it is poor. Flour from spring wheat is likely to be sticky. Third, throw a lump of dry flour against a dry, smooth, perpendicular surface; if it falls like powder, it is bad. Fourth, squeeze some of the flour in your hand; if it retained the shape given by the pressure, this too is a good sign. Flour that will stand all these tests is safe to buy.

A matrimonial newspaper is to be established in Paris. It is to be devoted exclusively to winning the happiness of its subscribers and correspondents. The title chosen is *L'Echo Nuptial*, and the motto "*Toutes les ames sont Sœurs*"—"All Souls are Kin." Every day the *Echo Nuptial* will publish several columns of wants and "offers," and also a short correspondence between the advertisers, together with a review of the matrimonial market, announcing, day by day, whether blondes are in favor, whether browns rule high, whether there is a brisk demand for widowers or widows, and whether the business of matrimonial exchange is good.

Athens is the county seat of Limestone county, Alabama, one hundred and fifty-four miles north by east from Tuscaloosa, one hundred and ninety-six north of Montgomery and about twenty northwest from Huntsville. Limestone county borders on the Tennessee line, and is therefore in the rear of Sherman's army. Athens is considered by Sherman a most important position, and hence the strong garrison stationed there. The Central Southern railroad, which unites Nashville with the Memphis and Charleston railroad, passes through the place, and its occupation by our forces therefore severs one of Sherman's lines of communication.

A STRANGE SPECTACLE.—Our community was considerably stirred up yesterday evening at seeing Charles Arnold, son of Mr. J. D. Arnold, marched through our streets in female apparel, accompanied by a guard. He was arrested, we learn, at Albany, Ga., a day or two ago. He left this city some time since to avoid conscription, and it is presumed he has been passing off as a female in parts of the country where he is not known. It is indeed a serious difficulty, and we doubt not it is owing in a great measure to the misguided affection of his parents. We trust, should he get out of this disgraceful affair, that he will go forward and prove himself a man, and in some degree retrieve the bad name he has thus incurred.—*Columbus Eng.*

Major General Dana has arrested a majority of the Treasury Agents at Vicksburg for smuggling, and conniving at the contraband trade with the rebellious districts. In one transaction, the military order permitted a man named Burbridge to take six barrels of whiskey up the Yazoo river. In passing through the "Treasury regulations" the "six barrels" was changed to "sixty barrels," which were bartered at twelve dollars a gallon for cotton at forty cents a pound—that single operation yielding the parties concerned a net profit of a hundred thousand dollars. Some of this liquor as well as stationary, clothing, &c., found its way to Meridian, the transaction being on Government account.

A communication printed in the New York Post, respecting private insane asylums, is attracting a good deal of attention. The writer charges that some of them are mere prison houses, in which a man incarcerates his daughter or wife when he prefers to have her out of the way, and daughters imprison their aged mother in order to enjoy the larger part of her income.

A STARTLING DISCLOSURE OF A REBEL PIRATE SCHEME.—A New London (Connecticut) correspondent of the *Commercial Advertiser* says:

The greatest excitement has prevailed during the past week in the steam boat offices of the lines from Boston to New York, consequent upon the revealing to Collector Barney of a plot to destroy all the steam boats running on the Sound. It was said that the *Electric Spark*, recently captured by the Tallahassee, and now her consort, has been hovering about our coast, and was to do the work.

It is asserted as a fact that the Tallahassee, about three weeks since, went into Newport harbor, steamed around the Constitution then lying there, and steamed out again unchallenged. Four gunboats have been sent into the Sound to look after the affair.

The *World* has the following graphic paragraph, the pictorial vigor and truth of which puts the *Tribune* into a terrible state of nerves:

Only say negro, and there is a class of this community upon whom the word has the effect of catnip upon the feline species. They wriggle, they smirk, they roll over, they mew, they purr, they fondle, they stick out their claws, curve their backs, and twist and gyrate in every conceivable form of delight. According to them, this great American people, this great constitutional property, are of no account in comparison with the possible elevation of a race which has been slave since the beginning of creation.

THE SPIRIT OF THE "OLD DOMINION."—Speaking for Virginia, the *Richmond Dispatch* says:

Reverses in the field, the slaughter of her young men, the affliction carried home to nearly every family within her borders the loss of property, the desolation of whole districts, the fury of a war unparalleled in dimensions and ferocity, have produced in her no change or shadow of turning. She thinks no more of giving up the day after a defeat than she does the day after a victory. Other States no doubt, entertain the same sentiments and resolution.

NEW IMPRESSMENT SCHEDULE.—The Commissioners of the several States, who recently met in convention at Montgomery, to establish a uniform schedule in relation to the impressment of provisions, etc., have materially reduced the rates; for instance: bacon not to exceed \$1.31 per pound; flour, \$15 per hundred; corn, \$2.25 per bushel; first class horses, \$760; first class mules, \$600. These prices are to be uniform in the States of Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, Georgia, Florida, and South Carolina.

"BLOWING UP THE TUNNEL."—Some weeks ago a statement appeared in the *Telegraph*, founded upon the report of a "Courier" in regard to the blowing up of the Tunnel beyond Dalton. This statement was extensively copied by the press, and for days thereafter the public rested confidently under the impression that the Tunnel aforesaid had been effectually destroyed. All this, however, was a delusion. The Tunnel was never blown up. —*Macon Confederate.*

REPENTANT REBELS TO FIGHT FOR THE UNION.—The steamship *Continental*, Captain Somers arrived at the Long Deck, Jersey City, on Wednesday, having on board the First U. S. Infantry Regiment, from Norfolk, and bound for the frontier, to engage in the war against the Indians. This regiment numbers 960 men, composed of rebel prisoners who have taken the oath of allegiance and enlisted in the Union army. They are under command of Col. Diamond.

A FIGHTING EDITRESS.—Recently the editor of a paper in Columbus, Ohio, was cowhided by a female of that city, because of something he "put in the paper about her." The next evening the wife of the beaten editor, who is said to be the boss of the concern, met the cowhider and gave her a tremendous thrashing with a horse whip. We are of the opinion that no woman will ever attempt to whip that editor again.—*N. Y. Clipper.*

Quite a large number of negroes came out with the Atlanta exiles, and many of them, towards the close of the truce, were quite earnest in their entreaties to be brought through the lines. They had discovered, in the short time they had been thrown with the Northern army, that there is very little sympathy among Northern men for negroes, and no affiliation