

their four squadrons on the plantation of Mr. William M. Watkins, near Moxleyford, but with no important result, our men and horses being, from fatigue, in poor condition for a fight.

Our correspondent, speaking of the enemy's loss in the fight at Staunton river bridge, a detailed account of which we have heretofore published, says that after the battle we found forty of their dead in front of the bridge, and subsequently discovered sixteen others in a wheat field near by, and dragged out twelve from Little Roanoke river. Five newly made graves on the ground occupied by the enemy indicated where others, supposed to have been killed, had been buried. In the smoking ruins of a store-house, burnt by them at Roanoke station, were found the charred carcasses of ten or a dozen more. Last Tuesday two other dead bodies were found in the fields near the bridge. These facts induce us to believe the enemy's loss in this affair was at least one hundred killed. We have no means of ascertaining the number of their wounded. Eight prisoners, taken near the bridge, said their loss during the action was three hundred killed and wounded, but it is not probable that they know anything about it. It is more likely their casualties of all sorts exceeded five hundred. The movements of the enemy after this fight tells how severely they were punished. They wasted no more time in pillaging farm houses, but made a straight and precipitate run for the protection of Grant's lines.

#### LINCOLN'S TAX COLLECTOR.

About the 25th of June began Governor Pierpont's tax collector made his appearance at Centerville, Fairfax county, with a body guard of fifty Yankee cavalry. On the same day he was attacked by Mosby's men; and himself and all of his guard but four or five killed or captured. The Lynchburg papers announce the arrival there of thirty-eight of the prisoners.

The Yankees have one brigade of cavalry at Fall church, Alexandria county.

#### GENERAL MORGAN'S CAMPAIGN INTO KENTUCKY.

Many persons, ignorant of the actual military situation, have expressed the opinion and are still under the belief that General Morgan's last campaign into Kentucky should never have been undertaken, and that, in a military point of view, it was barren of results. They think that he would have been more profitably employed had he been in a position to operate against Hunter and harass him in his retreat from Lynchburg. With the facts then before the public these opinions were natural. Had only Hunter been manning Southwestern and Middle Virginia, these views would have been exact.

But, to understand General Morgan's campaign and appreciate its importance as a military movement, it must be known and borne in mind that, while Sheridan and Hunter were loose, with their horses, upon the central part of the State, a formidable army was preparing to burst over the Kentucky border upon Southwestern Virginia. Burbridge, with six thousand men, was already en route to destroy our salt and lead works, to operate against the Virginia and Tennessee railroad, and then, if practicable, to co-operate with Hunter. To guard an extensive and important region of country against this formidable storm of war, General Morgan had a comparatively small force, and was under the disadvantage of being ignorant at what point the enemy would strike. The question which required to be decided promptly was, whether it were better to await the enemy's onset, or to prevent it altogether by "carrying the war into Africa"—dashing into his country, capturing his towns, destroying his supplies, tearing up his railroads, and, in short, giving him enough to do at home. General Morgan adopted the latter plan, and that he acted wisely is abundantly shown by the result. Burbridge never got to Virginia. He was detained in Kentucky by Morgan until Hunter's campaign terminated in disaster; the time when his expedition could have been made with any hope of success was past. Our troops who had defeated Hunter would have defeated and, perhaps, destroyed him. Our salt and lead works and our important railroad in Southwestern Virginia remain unharmed, monuments to the military enterprise and sagacity of General Morgan.

That it may be seen General Morgan accomplished what we give him credit for, we give a resume of his campaign, made up of facts known to us from thoroughly authentic sources. Most of the facts up to the time of the capture of Lexington we published some days ago, but a brief recapitulation of them will not be found tedious, especially as they explain what is entirely new, that portion of his campaign which followed his meeting with Burbridge.

He moved into Kentucky at the head of twenty-one hundred men, half of whom were dismounted. Colonel Giltner commanded the horses, and Colonel D. Howard Smith the foot. At Pound Gap he encountered two Yankee regiments, numbering about seven hundred men; attacked them in an intrenched position and routed them, capturing their stores and an inconsiderable number of horses. The routed enemy retreated towards Pikeville, where at the time was Burbridge, with six thousand men, on the point of starting into Virginia. From Pound Gap General Morgan, with his mounted men, moved rapidly on Mount Sterling, thirty miles from Lexington and one hundred and twenty from the Virginia border, where the garrison, after a stubborn resistance, were driven into the town and surrendered. The fruits of this victory were four hundred prisoners and immense quantities of military stores, the latter of which we destroyed. In the engagement he lost some valuable officers and a good many men. From this point General Morgan sent raids against different important lines of railroad, all of which were successful. Major Chenoweth destroyed the Kentucky railroad; Captain Jenkins that between Louisville and Frankfort. Captain Cooper took the fortifications around Nashville. Captain Everett moved upon and captured Maysville, which was held by five hundred negro troops, who succeeded in escaping west of the Ohio river, leaving their stores and camp equipments to be destroyed by our men.

On the 9th of June General Morgan concentrated his small force upon Lexington and captured the town. Here he took horses enough to mount his whole command. Having destroyed the Government depots, stores and stables, he moved on Cynthiana, a town thirty miles north of Lexington. The place was defended by a force of five hundred men. After a brisk engagement the enemy took shelter in the houses, from which they kept up the fight. Our men, having no cannon with which to drive them from their cover, were obliged to fire the houses. When a large portion of the town had been burnt the enemy surrendered.

Immediately after the capture of Cynthiana, General Morgan ascertained that General Hobson was coming to the relief of the place at the head of a brigade. The gallant Giltner, with a thousand men, was ordered out to meet him. Giltner held the enemy in check until the rest of our force, not more than five hundred men, were brought into action. After a desperate fight of three hours General Hobson surrendered himself and staff and two thousand men. Remark upon this brilliant victory were superfluous. General Hobson was paroled upon condition that he should exert himself to secure the exchange and release of such of General Morgan's men as are now confined in Yankee prisons, where they have been languishing for eleven months. General Hobson promised to use his best efforts for their release, and declared that, in the event of failure, he should rather himself bound to come into the Confederate lines and report himself to General Morgan as a prisoner of war. General Morgan sent him, with a de-

putation, from his own command, consisting of Major Chenoweth, Captain Ostrin Morgan and Dr. Good, to Cincinnati under flag of truce.

On the 12th Burbridge, who, abandoning his designs upon Virginia had followed General Morgan, advanced to attack him, with over six thousand men. General Morgan was encumbered with two thousand seven hundred prisoners, had a large number of wagons, which, under the cover of heavy skirmishing, he succeeded in moving off in a northerly direction towards Augusta. When they had reached a safe distance, after skirmishing with the enemy for an hour or more, he retired by the Augusta road without the loss of a single prisoner or wagon. This affair displayed not less military skill than the defeat and capture of Hobson.

General Morgan then moved towards Flemington, a town forty miles east of Lynchburg, paroled his prisoners as he went and dropping them in squads at different points, so as to prevent their being speedily collected, and re-organized in case their paroles were disregarded. At Flemington he destroyed large quantities of bacon and other supplies, and retired thence into Virginia with all the wagons he had captured during the expedition, and after having lost an inconsiderable number of prisoners. The command reached Abingdon, Virginia, on the 21st day of June, after an absence of two weeks.

#### THE VIRGINIA CADETS.

In the course of a few days—that is, so soon as the Board of Visitors shall meet—fourteen of the cadets of the Virginia Military Institute will be graduated. Ten of these young men are from Virginia; four are from other States. The class is considered by the professors as a very strong one; and the graduates are known to be prepared to stand examinations upon any branch of the military science. Besides being proficient in the learning of their profession, they are distinguished themselves by their skill and dexterity upon the battle field. The valuable talents of these young men should not be lost to our service. As drill-masters, as superintendents of the manufacture of ammunition, or in any other position, they would render the country a hundred fold the service that they would in the ranks. They should be commissioned, if not in the regular at least in the provisional army, and placed where their talents and equipments will be of the greatest usefulness to the cause.

#### THE WAR NEWS.

The city was undisturbed by even a rumour until yesterday evening, when it was reported, upon what authority we could not learn, that a Northern paper of the 30th June had been received, which stated that, upon the receipt of the news of the defeat of Sherman and Kant's, the Yankee Congress had taken up the military bill and abolished the three hundred dollar clause by an overwhelming majority. It was said the same paper quoted gold at 262.

#### THE SITUATION ABOUT RICHMOND AND PETERSBURG—RUMORED GRAND ATTACK OF THE ENEMY TO-DAY.

It was the general impression in the army last evening that Grant was preparing for a grand combined attack on Petersburg and Richmond this morning. He was certainly actively shifting the positions of his forces. Now troops were being placed in front of Petersburg, whilst others, who had been there since the beginning of the siege, were withdrawn. It was believed to be satisfactorily ascertained that Warren's army corps had been thrown across to the north bank of James river, near Camp Bottom. The Yankees have removed the obstructions recently sunk by them in Trent's Reach.

Deserters who came into our lines yesterday say that Grant, on the previous day, informed his army, in a General Order, that unless it were sooner surrendered he should lay Petersburg in ashes to-day. They also report that a number of heavy guns have been put into position to shell the place.

Last evening it was currently reported in Petersburg that Grant had demanded the surrender of the town by ten o'clock this morning.

Appearances would seem to indicate that Grant is about to celebrate the anniversary of his nation's birth-day, by a grand old fashioned effort to take the capital of the Confederacy and crush this "wicked rebellion."

#### BURNSIDE—WHERE IS HE?

Burnside was reported a week ago to have left Petersburg and gone to Washington. Since then we have heard nothing from him. We admit, as the general conviction seems so strong in that direction, that he has left Petersburg, but we are by no means satisfied that his whereabouts has been satisfactorily settled. Why should he go to Washington? The Yankees certainly do not intend to make "heavy artillery" out of him and his negro troops. Possibly he may be on the Pamunkey, in the neighbourhood of the White House, ready to co-operate in a combined movement against this city.

#### MOSEBY ON THE BALTIMORE AND OHIO RAILROAD.

We have authentic information that last Wednesday Mosby struck the Baltimore and Ohio railroad at Sniffeld station, captured seventy-five men, burnt the depot and destroyed the railroad at that point. Sniffeld is between Martinsburg and Harper's Ferry. This information comes from an officer who was present and participated in the attack.

#### KAUTZ'S RAIDERS.

During Saturday there was no news from Kautz and his brigades, after their defeat. What became of them after their rout at Rosmas has not been learned. "Our cavalry were in pursuit," but we presume that, as usual, little came of it. The fight in such cases is every advantage. He throws away whatever encumbers him and gathers fresh horses as he goes.

About noon, on Saturday, the following despatch from General Lee was made public. It will be seen he puts the number of the raiders captured during their whole "expedition" at one thousand. Some of these have reached the Libby; others were sent South. This is General Lee's despatch:

"HEADQUARTERS ARMY NORTHERN VIRGINIA, July 1st, 1864."

"Hon. Secretary of War:

"General Beauregard reports a feeble demonstration made by the enemy on a portion of General Johnson's lines about five P. M., yesterday. His skirmishers, supported by two lines of troops, drove in our line of skirmishers, which was re-established at dark.

"In the various conflicts with the enemy's cavalry in their late expedition against the railroads, besides their killed and wounded left on the field, one thousand prisoners, thirteen pieces of artillery, thirty wagons and ambulances, many small arms, horses, ordnance stores, and several hundred negroes, taken from the plantations on their route, were captured.

R. E. LEE, General."

Through a letter from a valued correspondent we have some facts concerning Kautz's raid not previously published. The raiders, about six thousand strong, reached Kingsville, on the Danville road, seventy five miles from Richmond, and fifteen from Staunton river bridge, on the afternoon of Friday, the 24th instant. Their first exploits at this place were the burning of the depot and other railroad buildings, the Masonic hall and Mr. Isaac Wells' smoke house. On the following morning they divided their forces, one half being set to work to destroy the railroad, which they did at their leisure, in the most effectual manner. The rest went off in ravaging parties into the surrounding country, stole negroes and horses, and ransacked and pillaged private houses.

A party of seventy-two reached Charlotte Court House about eleven o'clock Saturday, and remained there for four hours, and employed themselves in stealing horses, destroying furniture, breaking open iron safes, and robbing citizens of money, watches and jewelry. They did not burn the Court House, clerk's office, or any other building.

After leaving Kaysville, they burnt all the depot buildings and works at Drake's Branch, Moxleyford and Roanoke stations, and nearly every saw mill on the line of the road between Berkeleyville and Staunton river. In some instances they burnt tobacco houses and corn cribs with their contents, but everywhere spared the grist mills, at the solicitation of the negroes.

About the time the main body were at Staunton river bridge, General William H. F. Lee attacked