

STAUNTON SPECTATOR AND GENERAL ADVERTISER.

Staunton Spectator.

STAUNTON, VA.
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1865.

PRIVATE NOTICE. — We wish to employ a printer in this city. None but such are sober and discreet and of good character need apply.

We would be obliged to such of our subscribers as wish to furnish wood to do so immediately. Load your wagons, truck your ships and send on the wood.

PUBLIC SPEAKING.

Gen. Smith and Senator Wigfall have accepted the invitation to speak here on Monday next, and Mr. Holcombe is also confidently expected. The counties of Rockbridge and Louisa have promptly followed the example of Albemarle, and "Old Augusta," which has in every other respect acquitted herself so nobly, is expected to do likewise. The ladies are respectfully invited to grace the occasion with their presence.

Col. John B. Baldwin will address the people at New Hope, on Saturday, the 26th of September, at 9 o'clock, P. M., on the subject of Home Defense.

SUMMERTON AT CUMBERLAND GAP.

We are more pained at the surrender at Cumberland than at any occurrence of the war, not because of the loss of men and arms, and the surrender of a strong position, but because it was stained with disgrace and has the taint of treason about it. We are proud that 300 Virginians washed their hands of the guilt, and refused to surrender.—

A STRANGE PHENOMENON.

On the afternoon of the 1st instant, a strange phenomenon was seen in Greenbrier county by Mr. Moses Dwyer, Mrs. Pearcey, two other ladies, a youth nearly grown, and a servant girl. These respectable witnesses state that they saw what seemed to be an immense multitude of men, dressed in white, marching in column, on the ground through an open field, up the mountain slope at a rapid pace, quicker than double quick time, the columns being separated by a few feet.

The witnesses state that they could see the men not only as a whole, but the individual parts—their heads, arms, legs, and feet. Occasionally one would lag a little behind, and could be distinctly seen to quicken his pace to regain his position in the line. They were passing for an hour or more, and, it is thought, numbered thousands upon thousands.—

The field over which they passed is several hundred yards in length, and they covered the entire area in passing. Their general appearance was white, and they were without arms or knapsacks.

A SUCCESSFUL RAID UPON THE ENEMY.

On Friday morning early, the 11th inst., Capt. John H. McNeill with 110 men, and Captains Holson and Frank Imboden with 80 men each, making in all 140 men, surprised, in their camp, near Moorefield, Hardy county, about 800 Yankees, killed and wounded about 25, and captured 142 prisoners, including 8 officers, 11 wagons, 72 horses, 138 stands of arms, 10,000 rounds of cartridge, 57 splendid revolvers (best Yankee pattern and make) 97 rifles, 112 cartridge boxes, 100 bayonet scabbards, 20 cavalry saddles, 3 drabs and set of heads, together with all their camp equipment.

In the surprise and capture, the only person lost on our side was Capt. McNeill, who died slightly under the nose, the ball just scraping off the skin, Lieut. Isaac Welton, of Moorefield, severely in the upper part of one of his legs, and private Maloney, of Romney.

It is worthy of notice, as a remarkable coincidence, that the commandant of the Yankees at Petersburg, in Hardy county, had given orders and made arrangements to surprise and capture our camp at the very hour we played that identical trick upon them.

Finding that our camp had been vacated, and that it was *their* camp, and not ours which had been captured, this force attempted to intercept ours, and effect the release of some of their prisoners, and the recapture of their plunder.—With this view they ambuscaded our force 8 miles above Moorefield, wounding about 20 horses, and mortally wounding one man, a member of Capt. Holson's company; and they again attacked us about 4 miles above Moorefield, capturing our ambuscade containing a wounded man.

Our forces were not to be stopped, and they held on tenaciously to all they had. The Yankees arrived here on Tuesday last on their way to Richmond.

The following is a copy of the orders issued by Maj. L. J. Walker, commanding the 1st Mo. Inf., to his command:

Headquarters 1st Brigade,
Petersburg, W. Va.,
Sept. 20, 1865.

This force reported to these authorities that a party of the 1st Mo. Inf., from Moorefield, was en route to Staunton, and would stop at the P. M. int., intending to intercept the enemy, and to take prisoners, but should be shot down at once wherever found. They have been sent to Richmond.

Gen. Kempf, of Virginia, has been exchanged for Brig-General Graham. Both were captured by the respective armies at the battle of Gettysburg. General Kempf was supposed to have been mortally wounded, but has since recovered.

Passengers by the train of yesterday report that, at Charlottesville, they heard that a battle on the Rappahannock was going on. The news at Charlottesville was being removed to Lynchburg to make room for the wounded.

EMANCIPATION IN MARYLAND.—Gov. Bradford, of Maryland, takes ground in favor of emancipation, and recommends the calling of a State convention. He strongly opposes the abolition of slavery recommended by Judge Bond.

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