

THE  
**ULSTER GUARD**  
 AND THE  
**WAR OF THE REBELLION.**  
 ———  
**GATES.**

E  
 523  
 .5.

80th  
 Copy 2



PRINCE  
 L.  
 IN

Title \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ The "Ulster  
 Militia)  
 Due D \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ No Renewals
- ☐ Return to  
Prince William
- ☐ Please **DO NOT**  
return to any
- ☒ Fines: \$1.00  
fine or grace  
bill for lost

PLEASE DO NOT  
 39 040

STAFF	
_____ Returned _____	
_____ Not Picked _____	
_____ Fines Collected _____	

Prince William  
 Sept 1904



ERS.

[1862.

ay the help of the  
fore hopes that he  
which require the

stitute the military  
eness, and are, in

in 1864, after three  
d; "it is doubtless  
ch wickedness, but  
every one who be-  
ordinary degree of  
tain all sorts and  
lifferent. But I do  
e in the *army*, than  
act, I do not think  
to err, in the army,  
s, or any other lit-  
t think the men of  
ate as to live to get  
use they have been

ned by subsequent

of their fellow-men.  
nd it was fashion-  
ey were unsuccess-  
was brought against  
, when in fact he  
s life. He is, and  
He drinks neither

nd self-constituted  
var, and they pro-  
bitually drunk.  
resident of Grant's

1862.]

DR. BALCH AND TREASONABLE TALK.

207

supposed inebriety. Mr. Lincoln asked the grumbler if he knew what kind of liquor Grant drank. "No," said he; "why do you ask?" "Because," said the President, "I would like to send some of the same brand to the other Generals."

Accompanied by the Regimental Surgeon and Adjutant, we paid a visit to the residence of the Rev. Dr. Balch, a learned and distinguished divine of that neighborhood, and were invited to remain to tea. The doctor's house was some six miles from camp, and it was the best furnished house, and seemed more like a comfortable Northern home, than any other country house we saw in the State. His family consisted of a grown-up son and daughter, and a young lady from Washington was a guest in his house, at the time of our visit. It was evident from the manner of the young man that he had been in the army, and he was then probably at home on furlough. Both young ladies played the piano, and the parlor contained a very good instrument. The entire household were bitter secessionists, and had no hesitation in expressing their sentiments. They differed from most other rebels one met in this, that while they detested the cause which brought you into their State, their intelligence enabled them to distinguish between the cause and the individuals, who, as officers of the Federal Government, were acting in the line of their duty, in endeavoring, by proper means, to sustain the cause. If it were not some such reasoning as this, then it was their superior refinement which secured for us very courteous treatment, in so far as we were personally concerned.

Dr. Balch, however, inveighed against the administration in as strong language as was permissible to one of his calling, and totally unrestrained by our presence. Mr. Green, of Greenwich, a friend of the doctor's, had then recently been sent to Fort Lafayette for some act of disloyalty, and the doctor was greatly incensed there-



at, and declared that the Federal Government had become the most arbitrary and tyrannical Government on earth—that a citizen could no longer express his honest convictions upon political matters without being arrested and immured in a Northern fort, subject to the caprice of some civil or military officer of the Government. We told Mr. Balch, that if he really believed what he said, he was either a very bold man or he wanted to become a martyr to the Confederate cause. That he had charged the officers of the Federal Government with arresting citizens for distasteful political utterances, and that he, nevertheless, had not hesitated, in presence of three officers of the Government, to denounce that Government in the strongest language a minister of the gospel could venture to use. That if the policy of the Government was such as he had asserted it to be, it was evidently our duty to arrest him and take him to camp with us, but we did not believe he himself expected any such result, and we did not understand that the Government required us to arrest men for talking treason in a treason-saturated State.

When we left Dr. Balch's house, evening had set in and it was very dark. Our route thither had been very circuitous, and we had to guess as to the direction to camp. Roads there were none, and after riding through fields and woods for an hour, we confessed to each other that we did not know in which direction the camp lay. We finally told our comrades that we would give our horse the rein and let him take his own course, believing his instinct would guide him aright. The surgeon had little faith in brute instinct, but the experiment was tried, and at midnight our horses drew up in front of our quarters.

On the 18th of April, our brigade moved seven miles farther west, and encamped at Catlett's Station—consisting of a shed and a station-house, both in a state of mournful dilapidation. The next morning at six o'clock