

The Western Democrat.

OFFICE
ON THE
WEST SIDE OF TRADE STREET

W. J. YATES, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

CHARACTER IS AS IMPORTANT TO STATES AS IT IS TO INDIVIDUALS, AND THE GLORY OF THE ONE IS THE COMMON PROPERTY OF THE OTHER.

\$5 per annum
IN ADVANCE

CHARLOTTE, N. C., TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1863.

TWELFTH VOLUME--NUMBER 586.

THE WESTERN DEMOCRAT.

Published every Tuesday,

BY
WILLIAM J. YATES,

EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

TERMS, PER ANNUM:

\$5 IN ADVANCE.

Transient advertisements must be paid for in advance. Advertisements not marked on the manuscript for a specific time, will be inserted until forbid, and charged accordingly.

AN ACT IN RELATION TO THE MILITIA AND A GUARD FOR HOME DEFENSE.

Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That the exemptions from service in the Militia of the State, shall be for the same causes, and to the same extent and no farther, than are prescribed in the acts of Congress of the Confederate States, providing for the enrollment of men for the public defense and granting exemptions from the same, commonly called the conscription and exemption acts.

Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, That it shall be the duty of the Governor to cause to be enrolled as a guard for home defense all white male persons not already enrolled in the service of the Confederate States, between the ages of eighteen and fifty years, resident in this State, including foreigners not naturalized, who have been residents in the State for thirty days before such enrollment, excepting persons filling the offices of Governor, Judges of the Supreme and Superior Courts of Law and Equity, the members of the General Assembly and the officers of the several Departments of the Government of the State, Ministers of the Gospel of the several churches, and such other persons as the Governor, for special reasons, may deem proper subjects of exemption.

Sec. 3. Be it further enacted, That all persons above the age of fifty, who may volunteer for service in aid of the Government, shall be accepted by a Captain of a company for the same, shall be deemed to belong thereto, and shall be held to service therein, either generally or for any special duty or expedition as the commanding officers of regiments or companies, according to the nature of the particular service in question may determine.

Sec. 4. Be it further enacted, That the Governor shall cause all persons enrolled in pursuance of the two preceding sections of this act to be formed into companies, with liberty to elect the commissioned officers, of such companies, and thence into battalions or regiments, and divisions according to his discretion, and he shall appoint the field officers of such battalions, regiments, brigades and divisions, and shall issue commissions in due form to all the officers aforesaid.

Sec. 5. Be it further enacted, That members of the Society of Friends, commonly called Quakers, may be exempted from the provision of this act by paying the sum of one hundred dollars according to an ordinance of the Convention of this State in that behalf ratified the 12th day of May, 1862. Provided that when a Quaker shall have paid or had level of his property the sum of five hundred dollars under the act aforesaid, he shall not be required to pay any sum of money for his exemption under this act.

Sec. 6. That the said guards for home defense may be called out for service by the Governor in defense of the State against invasion, or to suppress insurrection, either by regiments, battalions, or companies, en masse, or by drafts or volunteers from the same, as he, in his discretion may direct; shall be under his command, through the officers appointed as herein provided, shall serve only within the limits of this State, and in terms of duty to be prescribed by the Governor, not exceeding three months at one time. They, or so many of them as may be at any one time called into service, may be organized into infantry, artillery or cavalry, he may direct, and the infantry and artillery may be mounted if he shall so determine, the men furnishing their own horses and accoutrements and arms, when approved by the Governor, on such terms as he shall prescribe.

Sec. 7. Be it further enacted, That the Governor may furnish to said troops the arms, accoutrements and ammunition of the State when called as aforesaid into active service, and shall prescribe rules for their return and to prevent the waste, destruction or loss of the same.

Sec. 8. Be it further enacted, That all laws and clauses of laws coming within the meaning and purview of this act, be, and the same are hereby repealed. Sec. 9. Be it further enacted, That the commissions of officers of the Militia, called into service by this act, are suspended only during the period of such service. Sec. 10. Be it further enacted, That this act shall be in force from the date of its ratification.

[Ratified the 7th day of July, 1863.]

COTTON CARDS AND SHOES.

Cotton Cards for sale, but an early call will only secure a pair as we only have ten pairs left. We have on hand and can make to order calf-skin Shoes and Gaiters of very fine English leather. Lots ladies' calf-skin Boots. Lot of thick Brogans, large sizes.

J. F. BULL, Mint Street, Charlotte, N. C.

JUST RECEIVED,

BLACK ALPACCA, BLUE FLANNELS, SPOOL COTTON—black and white. BLEACHED SHIRTING.

J. S. PHILLIPS.

June 23, 1863

Copartnership.

WILLIAMS & OATES. Have this day associated with them in the Mercantile and Commission business, LEWIS W. SANDERS. The style of the firm will hereafter be WILLIAMS, OATES & CO.

NOTICE.—All persons indebted to the late firm of Williams & Oates will please call and settle up, as we wish to close our old business.

WILLIAMS & OATES.

Dec 9, 1862

DR. J. M. MILLER,

Charlotte, N. C., Has resumed the Practice of Medicine, and can be found at his Office in the Brawley building opposite to Kerr's hotel, or at his residence.

Feb. 23, 1862.

The History of North Carolina,

Published in 1851 by the undersigned, in its preface he declared that it contained omissions unavoidable and many imperfections. A second edition was then promised, which would remedy these defects. This is now point out any errors in the dates, names or facts in the various counties of the State; and any biographical sketch of those who have done service in the field or State.

Letters may be sent to me, care of Hon. D. L. Swain, Chapel Hill, N. C., June 4th, 1863.

JOHN H. WHEELER.

NOTICE.

To Conscripits and Militia Officers of the 8th Congressional District.

In obedience to General Order, No. 14, and General Order No. 15, issued by Col. Peter Mallett, Commandant of Conscripits for North Carolina, Conscripits of Militia will on the 20th of August, 1863, enroll all persons liable to conscription under the recent Proclamation of the President of the Confederate States, and all persons so enrolled, will report themselves to the enrolling officer and Medical Board, at the following times and places, to wit: CLAYVILLE COUNTY—8th Regiment, Colonel Ramsey, Monday 31st August and Tuesday 1st September. GASTON COUNTY—5th Regiment, Col. Hand, Thursday 25th and Friday 26th of August. CLAYTON COUNTY—5th Regiment, Col. Hand, Thursday 25th and Friday 26th of August. CLAYTON COUNTY—5th Regiment, Col. Hand, Thursday 25th and Friday 26th of August.

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The Western Democrat.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.

NOTICE.

Our terms are five dollars per year, in advance. Individual or local shipmasters will not be received. When sent to us they will be held subject to the sender's call, and not returned by letter.

The Democrat will be discontinued to all subscribers at the expiration of the time for which it is paid. Those who want to continue must renew before or at the expiration of their time.

LINCOLN'S POLICY.

We publish in another column the statement of a gentleman from Kentucky as to the settled policy of the Lincoln Government, as recently announced to a delegation of Kentucky conservatives, who waited upon him for the purpose of ascertaining in distinct and unequivocal language his views and purposes in regard to the further prosecution of the war. After twenty-four hours of deliberation, he replied that emancipation and confiscation would be his watch-words, and short of this his armies would not stop. If anything was wanting hitherto to teach the Southern people the fate that awaits them, in the event of Federal success, this is certainly enough to remove the scales from their eyes. The Atlanta Appeal says that already the confiscation of city property has been commenced on a large scale in New Orleans, which will be followed up everywhere as fast as the enemy get permanent possession of the country. From this source alone they will add immensely to the revenues of their country. Southern homesteads and landed estates will be confiscated and sold to defray the expenses of the war, and the Southern people thus be made instrumental in their own subjugation and robbery. To incite their soldiery to deeds of desperation and daring, they are promised the personal effects of the people, while the reality is reserved to replenish the exhausted coffers of the Government.

Such being the settled policy of the Federal Government, the people of the South can surely no longer hesitate in the discharge of their first and highest duty, both to their country and themselves. Those who are able must take up arms, while those who are not must minister to the wants and necessities of the Government with all the means in their power. The former must come forward with his produce, and the capitalist with his money to sustain and strengthen the government. Without their support, it is powerless. We must all soon fall an easy prey to the rapacious and relentless foe. We can but perish in this great struggle to achieve our independence, and a far worse fate than death awaits us if we fail.

In view, moreover, of this policy of confiscation and sale, let us hope that no more cities and towns will be permitted to fall into the possession of the enemy. If they cannot be held by us, let them be reduced to ashes before their occupation by the enemy. Far better thus than that they should be converted into means of sustaining the war waged against us. New Orleans, Memphis and Nashville alone will pour many millions into the Federal treasury, and so soon as this policy of confiscation shall be more thoroughly inaugurated, the North will really make money by the war. When it is once ascertained that the Federal Government has the power to guarantee, convey and maintain titles, the sales of Southern estates and homesteads will become rapid and general. Capitalists will no longer hesitate to invest their greenbacks in such desirable property, and our Southern planters and farmers will become tenants to their Northern lords and masters.

This, we can assure our readers, is no fancy sketch or overdrawn picture. Our doom, in the event of failure, is already written out in unmistakable characters, so that he who runs may read. No time-serving policy or sycophantia flattery can now save us. Reconstruction is subjugation in its worst and most humiliating form. By this process we lose not only our earthly possessions, but even our honor and self-respect. Reconstruction implies the disbandment of our army and navy, and the surrender of all power into the hands of the Northern Government, and throws us back upon the weak dependence of constitutional guarantees which the Northern people have long since ceased to respect. It is their purpose, long since settled upon, to strip us of our wealth and independence, and reduce us to poverty and want. Our only salvation lies in our strong arms and firm reliance in the God of just.—Columbia Carolinian.

Every word of the above is true.

It is our most sacred duty to sustain the Government in all its efforts for the achievement of our independence. It is very certain the Government can do nothing without the hearty co-operation of the people. Let us all then from this time forth, do all we can to encourage each other, sustain our army and the Government, and permit no root of bitterness to disturb our harmony or endanger the success of our struggle for independence. We have every thing to gain by this course and nothing to lose. And if need be, let exponents, old men and all, shoulder their guns and go out in defense of themselves, their property and their country, rather than submit to the disgrace, shame and wrong which the enemy will impose on us, if we submit, suffer ourselves to be subjugated.—Salisbury Watchman.

EXTRAORDINARY.—The Richmond Sentinel says: "Purchasers are wholly to blame for the prices demanded for some articles. What right has a man to complain of forty dollars for a barrel of flour, and fill the air with his denunciation of those who take advantage of his necessities, if he is found paying two, or three, or four dollars for a watermelon? Nobody makes him do that. The melon is not a necessity. It, in fact, counts him nothing; for, after eating it, he wants his dinner all the same. Why not let the thing alone sooner than pay such prices? If we acknowledge such a standard of prices, where are we under no necessity to do so, we stop our mouths when the speculators have us in their power.

Many a man is throwing away money now which he will sadly want hereafter. It is a great mistake to indulge in expensive habits, just because it may be the present fashion.

PUBLIC SENTIMENT.

A large meeting of the citizens of Rowan county was held in Salisbury on the 29th ult. A committee consisting of H. C. Jones, Jr., C. L. Pardee, J. J. Brudges, M. S. McKenzie and Archd. Henderson, was appointed to draft resolutions. H. C. Jones, Jr., on behalf of the committee, reported the following, which the meeting unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we fully appreciate the hardships that war has brought upon the people of even this, comparatively, favored region, and we are more than willing that negotiations for peace be opened whenever our enemies signify their readiness to treat with us upon that subject; but having every reason to believe that a proposal of that kind from us to them would be treated with insult and ridicule, we can see no sense or propriety in urging a peace policy upon the people at this time.

Resolved, That any peace short of the independence of the Confederate States would be ruinous and disgraceful to the States, and hard as the war is upon the country a peace based upon a surrender of the principle of independence, would make those hardships more intolerable, because they would be embittered by a sense of dishonor.

Resolved, That a peace based on our subjugation would make us the scorn of the world, and would bring upon this land woes and humiliations of which we can only form an idea from what our enemies have already done, when they have partially prevailed with their forces. We are not aware that the party now in power at the North, have ever said, directly or indirectly, that any mercy, or pardon, or amnesty, would be granted to us upon a craven submission to their terms; on the contrary, emancipation of slaves, confiscation of our homes and chattel property—trials for treason, and death under the sentence of the law, are too plainly written as our fate if the Abolitionists shall be able to crush us into submission to their terms.

Resolved, That we recognize in the conduct of the gallant soldiers whom we have sent forth to the war, a constancy, devotion and courage that has conferred renown upon this young nation—and earned for themselves an imperishable name. And for us at home to be willing to barter away that renown and to accept for our sons and brothers the name and destiny of traitors and felons, would be to sink ourselves very low in the scale of social existence.

Resolved, That the leading object in passing the act levying a tax in kind, was to sustain the currency, by diminishing the issue of notes and bonds, and to provide a certain and prompt subsistence for our soldiers in the field, and we regard it as the dictate of patriotism to sustain the law.

Resolved, That we do not feel called upon to arraign the motives with which the Editor of the Standard has been actuated, in his course in this the perilous crisis of our fate; but we have no hesitation in saying we believe its tendency has been to encourage desertion from the ranks of the army—to produce mutiny and insubordination among our troops; to dampen the ardor and zeal of the people and encourage the efforts of the abolitionists to accomplish our subjugation and overthrow.

Resolved, That we have full faith and confidence in the patriotism and pure intentions of the President of the Confederate States, and however we may differ as to particular measures of his administration, yet, as he is our President, and as we have no power to change him for another, it is the duty of all good citizens in this terrible juncture to strengthen his arm and nerve his heart by sustaining him in all his efforts to achieve our independence and to conquer a peace.

Resolved, That we regard Governor Vance as peculiarly fitted for the position to which the people of this State have elevated him; and that we have the fullest confidence in his patriotism, firmness and devotion to the best interests of the Republic.

Resolved, That we feel gratified for the true and faithful services of the Press of North Carolina for the many and enlightened zeal and ability with which they have advocated the cause of the Southern Confederacy.

DESERTERS.—We have frequently heard that there were a great many deserters in Yadkin, Surry and Wilkes counties, but we have seen a private letter, recently, and also had verbal statements, which represent the matter in a worse light than we had supposed. Deserters go about all through Yadkin, mingling with their acquaintances; and so numerous are they, that the militia not only makes no effort to arrest them, but are afraid to speak of doing so. Neither have the Conscripits gone into the army from some of these counties. The deserters and conscripits together, in Yadkin alone, is estimated to be between 800 and a 1000 in number.

This is a deplorable state of things, as derogatory to the reputation of the counties concerned as it is prejudicial to the cause, and unjust to those parts of the State which have responded faithfully to the calls of the Government. Militia officers in many of the counties have not done their duty, or this evil of desertion would never have attained its present importance. And although the most favorable time for arresting it has passed, yet it should be done, and that speedily, or it will be followed by others of a more serious nature.—Salisbury Watchman.

ARMY ANECDOTE.—By the way, writes an old soldier friend to us from Virginia, this reminds us as old Abe would say, of "a little anecdote" told of a Buncombe county soldier at Front Royal. He approached a house, rapped at the door, and a very beautiful and intelligent lady appeared, with whom the following dialogue occurred: Soldier—"Ken you give a poor soldier something to eat? He hasn't had any for two days." Lady—"Certainly; but I regret that our breakfast is over, and we have nothing left but corn bread, (dodgers)." Soldier—"Well, that'll do." The bread was presented. The soldier took it in his hand, examined it closely, then turning an inquiring look upon the lady, said: "Can't you give a poor soldier a little soap to wash his dagger in?"

ADDRESS OF THE ARMY.

To the People of North Carolina.

A general convention of delegates from each Regiment of Troops from North Carolina in the Army of Northern Virginia, held at Orange C. H. Va., on the 12th of August, did us, the undersigned, the honor to appoint us a committee, to prepare and publish to you an address, invoking your aid in the accomplishment of an object very dear to those whom they represent, and of unsurpassed interest and consequence to you and to them. They desire that the irresistible influence of the public opinion of all good and patriotic men in the State, may be invoked to put down and destroy, and to silence forever the voice of a faction, which is believed to exist in no inconsiderable strength in your midst, which is daily growing bolder in the expression of treasonable and mischievous sentiments, and whose machinations have been and still are directed towards poisoning the minds and hearts of our soldiers and people, and breaking down the courage and confidence of you and of us, who are sustaining the cause of our country in the great struggle for independence, in which we are engaged.

It was esteemed a most fortunate circumstance for the honor and welfare of North Carolina, that such perfect unanimity prevailed in her councils when she resolved to break the bonds which had bound her to a government which had ceased to be the representative of the true interest of her people, and which she could no longer respect, and to make common cause with her sister States of the South. Then it was that her great and honored names, were found united in the glorious purpose. Her Badger, her Rayner, her Miller, her Graham, her Morehead and her Gilmer, her Edwards, her Outlaw and her Smith, her Winslow, her Shepherd, her Davis, her Ellis and her Vance, her stationers and men of power, were found to have quit for a time the arena of administrative and party politics, and united in the work of laying anew the foundation of a government of our choice. Her quiet farmers, her honest tradesmen and artisans, her civil magistrates, her lawyers and men of learning, nay, all her plain, sober, thoughtful people, who have always been slow to give their pledge to a cause, yet know so well how to honor it with true loyalty when given, were in happy accord. There was at least, no Carlisle, no Crittenden, nor Andy Johnson, to head a roll of infamy, within the whole of her widely extended borders.

There was no vote against the ordinance of secession. There was no press to inveigh against it. There was no voice of faction raised in opposition to it. Fiercest hands made appropriate banners and wore rich garlands for expectant heroes, and private contributions, from rich and poor, were bestowed without stint or limit in furtherance of the common cause. The sons of our noble old State, supposed to possess very few of the elements of martial character, came forward with astonishing alacrity, and in very astonishing numbers. Those who had mocked her before, beheld with staring eyes her splendid Regiments with full ranks, substantially clad and equipped, and governed by a rigid discipline, which betokened the dread with which the enemy has always been inspired, when they were known to be upon the field. Since then out of the vast store-house of her wealth, little known before or appreciated by even her own people, she has poured forth into the lap of the Confederacy, resources commensurate with her other sacrifices. And whether we measure these sacrifices by the amount of the materials of war and means of subsistence furnished, the spirit and determination of her people, the number of her men given to the cause, the talents, courage and fortitude of those who have fought, or the number and virtues of her noble dead, we are obliged to recognize her sisters leaning on her for support in every emergency of the wonderful struggle.

Nor have these sacrifices been made in vain. They have enriched her history, exalted her fame and increased her renown, and though her material strength has been to some extent exhausted, she is to-day, relatively, more powerful for the defense of the integrity of her territory, and of her rights and honor; than when the contest began. Distraction, despondency and despair reign in the councils of the Northern Government. The hopes at first entertained of our speedy conquest, have sunk in the hearts of our enemies, and as a direct consequence, we find such resistance to the administration at Washington, and mob violence so rife in the towns and cities, that a measure of that government most essential to the further prosecution of the war, is openly resisted and set at naught. Popular assemblies have openly declared for peace, and the press and some of the most influential men, speak now with freedom and boldness which clearly marks a change in the public feeling upon all the abiding topics. The people have ceased to prosecute the war, and the government is dealing its blows with an exhausted energy and with faint-heartedness. The despot who would enslave us, has found a lion in his path in the shape of opposition to despotic power, and the courage of him and his minions has been broken down.

Volunteering for the armies of our enemy has entirely ceased. Only a small number of the conscripts drafted can be forced into the service, and these will certainly be discontented, mutinous and worthless as soldiers. His armies in the field have been depleted by desertions, humiliated and dispirited by repeated defeats, and all their trusted leaders driven in disgrace from command. Even the partial discomfiture in the attempt to evade his territory, and our loss of the strongholds on the Mississippi have failed to revive his hopes of success, or to change in any material point of view this discouraging aspect of his affairs. His armies cannot be recruited so as to add to their material strength during this campaign. He is daily sending to the rear detachments—some cases best troops—Regiments and Brigades (doubtless his best troops) to keep down by terror of arms a spirit of discontent among his own subjects, which stops little short of actual rebellion. Add to this, the rapid exhaustion of his material resources, and you cannot fail to see very powerful causes at work, to bring about the separation for which we are contending, upon