

# The Western Democrat.

OFFICE  
ON THE  
WEST SIDE OF TRADE STREET

W. J. YATES, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., TUESDAY, MAY 17, 1864.

TWELFTH VOLUME--NUMBER 621.

THE  
**WESTERN DEMOCRAT.**  
Published every Tuesday,  
BY  
WILLIAM J. YATES,  
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.  
TERMS, PER ANNUM,  
\$10 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 exceptions 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, the Ministers of the Gospel of the several denominations of the State charged with the duties of 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 said guard for home defense, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of 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, which companies, and thence into battalions and regiments, shall be subject to the field officers of such battalions or regiments, battalions or regiments, and shall issue commissions in accordance with the officers thereof.

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 as a fine, or by 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 levied of his property the sum of five hundred dollars under the act of Congress called the conscription tax, aforesaid, he shall be required to pay an amount 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 this State against invasion, or to suppress insurrection, either by regiments, battalions, or companies, or as units 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 the performance 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 as he may direct, and the infantry and artillery may be equipped by the State, or by the companies, or by 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 guards, and to the agents and arms, 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, shall be suspended 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.]

Amendments to the above Law.  
AN ACT TO AMEND 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 neither the Governor of this State, nor the officers acting under an act ratified on the 7th day of July, 1863, enacting an act in relation to the Militia and a Guard for Home Defense, shall call out for drill or muster the persons enrolled under said act, oftener than once a month in company drill, or oftener than twice a year for battalion drill, which battalion drills shall take the place of the company drills for the month in which they are appointed, unless when called into actual service to repel invasion or suppress insurrection, or to execute the laws of the State.

Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, That the Governor shall have the power to use the Guards of Home Defense for the purpose of arresting conspirators and deserters; provided they shall not be ordered upon this duty beyond the limits of the counties in which they reside or the counties adjacent thereto.

Sec. 3. Be it further enacted, That in addition to the exemptions contained in the act to which this is an amendment, there shall be exempted from the conscription appointed under an act entitled "An act for the relief of wives and families of soldiers in the army," regular millers, blacksmiths who have established shops, necessary operatives in factories and foundries, the Attorney General, Solicitors of the several circuits and counties, physicians of five years' practice, contractors with the State or Confederate Government, one editor to each newspaper and the necessary compositors, mail carriers, professors in colleges and teachers in academies; provided, that this exemption shall only apply to the drills specified in this bill and not to service when the Guard for Home Defense is called into the field.

Sec. 4. Be it further enacted, That for failure to attend the battalion or regimental drill, each field officer shall forfeit and pay one hundred dollars; each Captain and other officers who shall fail to muster and drill their companies at the times appointed, shall forfeit and pay for each failure fifty dollars; and if a non-commissioned officer or private shall fail to attend at any drill, he shall forfeit and pay not less than five nor more than twenty-five dollars; provided, that every absentee shall be allowed until the next muster to make his excuse. The fines shall be adjudged by regimental and company courts-martial, and judgments are to be entered up and the fines collected in the same mode and in accordance with the provisions of the Militia Law of North

Carolina, passed at the second extra session of the General Assembly, 1861.

Sec. 5. Be it further enacted, That the Surgeon General by and with the advice and consent of the Governor, may appoint surgical boards, not exceeding three, composed of two physicians each, who shall declare their certificates those persons who shall be exempted from service under the act to which this is an amendment, on account of mental or physical disability, and they shall receive the pay of their rank and traveling expenses, to be determined by the Adjutant-General.

Sec. 6. Be it further enacted, That the Guard for home defense, should they be called into service by the Governor, shall receive the same pay, rations and allowances as soldiers in the Confederate Army, and shall be subject to the rules and regulations of war of the Confederate States.

Sec. 7. Be it further enacted, That when the pressure of public danger shall prevent the observance of such a rule, the said Guard for home defense shall not be called into service en masse, but by drafts of a number of men from each convenient company, so as to make up the aggregate force required.

Sec. 8. Be it further enacted, That this act shall be in force, and take effect, from and after its ratification. Read three times and ratified in General Assembly, this 14th day of December, A. D. 1863.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE  
OF THE SOUTHERN EXPRESS COMPANY  
At Charlotte Office, Daily.

ARRIVES.  
From Char. & S. C. Railroad 7 30 A. M. and 9 P. M.  
" N. C. Railroad 6 20 " " and 9 25 "  
" A. T. & O. Railroad 9 00 " " and 4 30 "  
" W. L. C. & R. Railroad 3 15 P. M.  
DEPARTS.  
For N. C. Railroad 6 20 A. M. and 2 00 P. M.  
" Char. & S. C. Railroad 10 00 " " and 4 30 "  
" W. L. C. & R. Railroad 7 30 " " and 9 25 "  
" A. T. & O. Railroad 4 00 P. M.

It is desired that all Parcels, Packages or Freight to be forwarded by either of the above Trains, be sent to this Office Oxx Hours previous to its departure.  
T. D. GILLESPIE, Agent.  
Charlotte, Sept. 7, 1863.

EXPRESS NOTICE.

OFFICE SOUTHERN EXPRESS COMPANY,  
Charlotte, Sept. 24, 1863.

In order to avoid misunderstanding and to make our charges conform to the liability assumed, this Company hereby gives notice that from and after October 1st next, shippers will be required to place their valuations upon each package before it will be received. Such valuation will be inserted in the Company's receipt, and establish the liability of the Company for the amount. The said of God and the public enemy only excepted. T. D. GILLESPIE, Agent.  
Sept. 28, 1863.

Tailoring.

JOHN VOGEL, Practical Tailor, respectfully informs the citizens of Charlotte and surrounding country, that he is prepared to execute all the latest styles of clothing in the latest style and at short notice. His best exertions will be given to render satisfaction to those who patronize him. Shop on the corner of 3rd and 4th streets, next door to S. C. Smith's store.  
Sept. 28, 1863.

COPPER & CO.

TAYLOR & ASHBY are prepared to furnish by the ton or otherwise, all grades of Copper, superior to any in the market. Druggists and Apothecaries supplied with a chemically pure article. Address TAYLOR & ASHBY,  
May 5, 1863. Charlotte, N. C.

Wilmington, Charlotte & Rutherford Railroad.

On and after Monday the 25th of May, 1863, the Passenger Train will run on this Road (Western Division) daily, Sundays excepted, as follows:

GOING WEST:  
Charlotte, 7 30 A. M.  
Tuckasee, 8 20 "  
Brevard, 9 00 "  
Sharon, 9 30 "  
Lincolnton, 10 05 "  
Cherryville, 10 45 "

GOING EAST:  
Cherryville, 11 30 A. M.  
Lincolnton, 12 25 P. M.  
Sharon, 1 25 "  
Brevard, 1 55 "  
Tuckasee, 2 00 "  
Charlotte, 2 45 "

Fare, six cents per mile. Soldiers going to and returning from the army, half fare. Passengers are required to make the proper change, as the Ticket Agent cannot furnish change for every one.

A Freight Train leaves Cherryville for Charlotte at 7 o'clock, A. M., on Mondays, and returns same day.

For Passenger Trains transporting Freight, 50 per cent to the tariff rates of freight will be added.

Master of Transportation.  
Lincolnton, May 25, 1863.

CHARLOTTE HOTEL,  
BY J. B. KERR, Proprietor.

EVERY ACCOMMODATION afforded the patrons of the Charlotte Hotel.

At this hotel is kept the fine of Daily Stages from Charlotte to Asheville.

Oct. 1, 1861. J. B. KERR.

NOTICE.

I am prepared to cast machine irons of all kinds, hollow-ware, salt pans, &c. Orders solicited—Terms Cash.

I will exchange Iron for Bacon, corn, cloth, or provisions of any kind.

J. W. DERR, y-pd. Spring Hill Forge.  
July 1st, 1863.

GARRET DAVIS.

This fine horse can be found at my stable in this place, during the present season, on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays, at the stable of W. T. Sitt, in Providence, on 1st and 2nd streets, Fridays and Saturdays. Terms, six dollars insurance.

March 1, 1864. R. RAGE.

NOTICE.

The firm of WILLIAMS, OATES & CO., is this day (Jan. 1st, 1864) dissolved by mutual consent. All persons interested will call and close their accounts with either of the undersigned.

L. S. WILLIAMS,  
L. W. SANDERS.

January 12, 1864.

BLANK DEEDS, Warrants, Ejectments, &c., for sale at this Office.

Announcement.

The friends of Col. WILLIAM M. GRIER announce him as a candidate to represent Mecklenburg county in the Senate at the ensuing August election.

March 28, 1864. te-pd

For the Legislature.

Believing that the county of Mecklenburg has been well represented in the person of JOHN L. BROWN, who has proven to be a prompt, active and faithful public servant, many of his constituents desire his reelection, and hereby announce him a candidate for the House of Commons at the election in August next. Mr. Brown is a good business man, and the services of such men are needed now in our legislative halls.

March 15, 1864. pd

For the Legislature.

The friends of E. C. GRIER announce him a candidate for re-election to the House of Commons from Mecklenburg county.

April 11, 1864. te-pd

Announcement.

MONROE, N. C., March 12th, 1864.

We take the liberty of announcing Col. SAMUEL H. WALKUP, of the 48th N. C. Regiment, as a candidate for the Senate, composed of the counties of Union and Anson. Also THOMAS MARSH, Esq., to represent the county of Union in the Commons in the next General Assembly of North Carolina.

SEVERAL CITIZENS of Union County.

March 15. te-pd

Announcement.

We, as soldiers, respectfully announce Capt. J. E. MOORE as a candidate for Sheriff of Union county at our next regular election in August, and as such will be voted for by

Many Soldiers.

Feb. 16, 1864. if

Announcement.

We, as soldiers, respectfully announce THOMAS R. MAGILL as a candidate for the House of Commons for Union county at our next regular election in August, and as such will be voted for by

Many Soldiers in the Army.

December 22, 1863. te-pd

To the Voters of Union County.

FELLOW CITIZENS: I am a candidate for your suffrage at the next ensuing election for Sheriff in the County of Union. My connection with the army, however, has for some months removed me from that familiar intercourse with you that would generally be desirable. But, trusting that I may have a due allowance for this seeming inattention, and a view to repeated expressions of a desire that I should become a candidate, I have consented to do so—though under very different circumstances from those which surrounded us four years ago. Many of you have realized the hardships of the past, let us look hopefully to the future, and permit me, in grateful acknowledgments of the favors I received at your hands then, with many others previous to that time, to ask your cordial support now. If elected, I will use what industry and ability I possess to fulfill the obligations of the office in such a manner as, I hope, may ever be satisfactory to you. On the contrary, if I am not elected, I shall consider that you have done me no wrong, and that I have no right to criticize because your suffrages are against me. But I am fully sensible of the distinction conferred, by being elected to the position for which I am a candidate, and shall be as proud to receive your votes as I shall ever be earnest and faithful to prove myself worthy of the responsible trust imposed by the same. And, in conclusion, allow me to hope you will remember your friend, and on the day of election a ticket for the same.

W. H. COLLINS,

Co. A, 4th N. C. Cavalry,  
Gordon's Brigade.

March 28, 1864. pd

Announcement.

YADKINVILLE, April 18, 1864.

I am authorized to announce Col. W. H. A. SPEER, of the 28th N. C. Troops, a candidate at the election in August next, to represent the people of the counties of Yadkin, Surry, Alleghany, Ashe and Watauga in the Senate of the next Legislature of North Carolina.

Respectfully, R. F. ARMFIELD.

April 25th. St

NOTICE.

OFFICE OF WESTERN PLANK ROAD COMPANY,  
Lincolnton, N. C., April 11, 1864.

To the Stockholders of the Western Plank Road Company: The Confederate Tax on the individual shares in this company will be paid by the President.

C. C. HENDERSON, Pres.

April 18, 1864. At West. P. R. Company

WANTED.

One Hundred Bushels DRIED APPLES, for which the highest market price in the new issue will be paid. Sent by Express to Raleigh at my expense, with bill, to be paid on delivery of fruit.

W. WHITAKER, Jr.,  
Raleigh, N. C.

April 11, 1864. St

STRAYED.

From my Pasture near Wilson Wallace's, about the 1st of Nov. last, a red COW which I bought at auction, formerly owned by Wm. Tassie Alexander. Also, at the same time and place, a spotted HEIFER, of the same color. She was sold at auction by Mr. Morrison of Pioneer Mills. I will pay a liberal reward for their delivery to me or for information so that I can get them.

W. A. COOK.  
Feb. 18, 1864. if

NOTICE.

TO CONTRACTORS AND SAWYERS

Office of C. S. Naval Ordnance Works,  
Charlotte, N. C., April, 1864.

Proposals will be received at this Office during the present month, for furnishing the following kinds of Lumber required at this establishment—size of bills regulated to suit contractors—viz:

Yellow Pine, Black Walnut,  
Hickory, White Oak,  
Poplar, Ash.

H. ASHTON RAMSAY,  
Chief Eng. C. S. Navy in charge.

April 11, 1864. St

REHOBOTH FURNACE.

LINCOLN COUNTY, N. C.

THREE MILES EAST OF IRON P. O.

The proprietors announce to the public that this Furnace is in full blast, and will make castings of all kinds to order. Also, Pig Iron is made and offered for sale.

SHIPP & REINHARDT.

March 1, 1864. 3m-pd

The Donors to the Soldiers' Orphan Fund

Are respectfully requested to meet in the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, in Raleigh, N. C., on Friday, 27th of May, at 11 o'clock, A. M. Those who cannot be present should send proxies. A full attendance is desired, for important business.

The committee of the Grand Lodge of Masons for St. John's College are respectfully invited to be present.

CHARLES F. DEEMS,  
May 9, 1864. At Financial Secretary.

The Western Democrat.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.

Our terms are \$10 in the new issue or \$15 in the old. We have to pay new issue for the printing paper we buy, and therefore must change the old for new issue, 5/6 included. \$5 in the old issue pays for four months' subscription.

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.

Distilling Corn.—We regret to learn that several distilleries are in full blast in Irredell county, converting corn into whiskey. This ought not to be. If the corn shall be destroyed in this manner, what are the people to do for bread? We are now completely out of from the South, by the tearing up of a portion of the Charlotte Railroad, whence we formerly could obtain corn, and several months may elapse before harvest, with an uncertainty of the wheat crop. Humanity as well as patriotism, ought to put a restraint upon distillers of corn into whiskey, at least until another crop is made. Those who are so fortunate as to have corn for sale, are equally guilty of a high crime with distillers, if they part with their corn for any such purpose, for any price that might be offered. Nor, should they regulate their prices for corn to those who want it for bread, by the rates which distillers will be willing to pay. Humanity, pleads in this behalf, not we.—Statesville Express.

If you were to apply to some of those men who are having corn turned into whiskey, to buy a little for bread, you would hear the doleful tale that they did not have enough for their own use.

The 11th Regiment N. C. Troops.—Col. Collett Leventhorpe, 11th regiment N. C. Troops, has resigned. Col. Leventhorpe entered the service in the fall of 1861 as Colonel of the 34th regiment, and has established for himself a reputation second to no officer of his rank in the Confederate army. His name has often been mentioned in connection with the position of Brigadier General. He was seriously wounded at Gettysburg, and it is supposed that this is the reason for tendering his resignation.

He is succeeded by Lieut. Col. Wm. J. Martin, well known as professor of Chemistry in the University of North Carolina. Maj. Frank W. Bird, of Bertie, becomes Lieutenant Colonel.

The Responsibility.—The Chicago Times, a large number of which we have before us, says:

"There is a very bitter quarrel now raging among the friends of the parties as to whether Gilmore or Dahlgren is responsible for the failure to capture Charleston. We do not imagine that the responsibility for the failure to take that city rests so much with either as it does with Beauregard. It is he, and not the commanders of the Federal land and naval forces, who is to blame for the result which has attended operations in the vicinity of Charleston. Upon him should rest the obloquy arising from the fact that Charleston is not to-day undergoing a course of purification at the hands of Butler.

The Four per Cent. Bonds.—The Secretary of the Treasury has established the following regulations in relation to the receipt of four per cent. bonds and certificates offered in payment for taxes:

1. The four per cent bonds and certificates issued under the act of February 17, 1864, will be received in payment of taxes until the 31st December 1864, inclusive. When offered in payment they must be duly assigned. The certificate of the Tax Collector, or Deputy Tax Collector, or of any Magistrate in the words "Executed before me," and signed officially, shall be sufficient authentication. But if there are previous assignments, the Tax Collector shall see that they are properly authenticated.

2. When the bond or certificate offered in payment is greater in amount than the tax to be paid, the Collector may return the difference by assigning other certificates or bonds, if he shall have any such on hand, the tax payer paying any fraction under one hundred dollars in the new currency, or in notes of the old issue under one hundred dollars, at sixty-six and two-thirds cents to the dollar.

Notes under the denomination of five dollars may, at all times, be received as new currency, and until 30th June, inclusive, east of the Mississippi, and the 30th September west of the Mississippi, five dollar notes may also be received in payment in the same manner as new currency.

TRAGIC MISTAKE.—A few weeks ago, as the 17th North Carolina troops was passing Rocky Mount, a soldier of that regiment, Hoggins, of Edgecombe co., was traveling home on foot, muffled in hand, by moonlight. As he journeyed he was startled by the sight of a dark object, like a bear, drinking at a branch which crossed the road. Cooking his gun, at a distance of about seventy yards, he carefully watched the movements of the animal, which, after stooping over the water for a few moments, partly rose and started forward. The soldier fired with deadly aim. The animal fell and struggled convulsively on the ground. Afraid to approach lest its powers of doing mischief should not be exhausted, the soldier ran to the house of a Mr. Brooke, and begged him to arm himself with an axe, and aid in securing the booty. With cautious steps, and weapons ready for instant use, they approached the supposed bear, when instead of that beast, there appeared to their horrified eyes the body of a soldier, weltering in his blood, quite dead! The right hand of the corpse tightly clasped a tooth brush, which no doubt he was using when the fatal ball took effect. The ball entered near the backbone, and passed diagonally through the body, coming out in front. The victim had staggered forward across the branch and was lying on his face. Papers in his pocket showed that he was a member of the 66th regiment, named Ballard, of Wayne county, and that he was on his way to Wilson, on furlough, to collect \$180 there due him. An examination of the case was had before two magistrates, who discharged the involuntary manslaughter without bail. He evinced deep distress at the consequences of his unfortunate mistake.

For the Western Democrat.

BIVOUAC 4th REGT. S. C. CAVALRY,  
Robt M. Miller's Place.

W. J. Yates, Esq.: It is with feelings of pleasure that I attempt to give you a sketch of a dinner given to our Regiment by the ladies of Union county, N. C., and Lancaster district, S. C., at "Jackson Academy," near Curleton's Store, and midway between Waxhaw and Twelve Mile Creek, and near the spot that gave birth to that soldier and statesman, Gen. Andrew Jackson, whose noble deeds we love to admire and whose precepts we desire to follow. The ladies of this section learning the day previous that the Regiment would pass the day following, determined to give us a dinner and forthwith set to work with that spirit which always insures success, and on the morning, appointed M. C. Heath, Esq., to meet the Regiment and tender to it the hospitalities of this patriotic people, which I assure you was accepted not only by the Colonel but by the Regiment, with a shout of applause which rang from one end of the Regiment to the other. As we approached the Academy the first object which met our gaze was a large arch of cedar extending across the road, decorated with the choicest flowers; also, above it on a large square canvass, the motto "Welcome our Defenders," the letters of which was made of cedar leaves. Beneath this we all passed and broke to the right and left and secondly to the saplings in the grove, then marched by squadron and formed in mass in front of the Academy. Dr. T. K. Curleton then addressed the Colonel and regiment, inviting the officers and men to partake of the dinner prepared for them by the ladies of North and South Carolina, reminding them that they were stood near the birth-place of Gen. Andrew Jackson. He then introduced Miss Anne Curleton, who stepped forward and presented the flag-bearer with a wreath composed of cedar and flowers which she attached to the flag, saying as she did so: "I, in the name of the ladies of this vicinity, present this wreath to the 4th Regiment S. C. Cavalry, feeling assured that the flag to which I now attach it will ever wave victorious until the last foe is driven from our soil or buried beneath its sod." To which Col. Stokes replied, "So long as one man survived, that flag should wave victorious or be his winding sheet—this much he would say for the 4th Regiment." The color-bearer then responded, reiterating the words of the Colonel, and paying a handsome compliment to the ladies. Three hearty cheers were then given for the ladies of North and South Carolina.

The regiment then marched in order to the table which was heavily laden, not only with the substantial of life but with all the delicacies which, I am told, is ever gotten up by the ladies of this section upon all such occasions, and I assure you we did ample justice to the dinner, every man enjoying himself by satiating the wants of the inner man, whilst ever and anon our eyes would wander and rest on the smiling faces of those beautiful and patriotic ladies, and gaze there to catch a portion of that soul inspiring devotion which actuated them not only upon this occasion but upon all others in which they are engaged.

In conclusion, I can but say that our stay was short, but will long be remembered and cherished as a green spot in the garden of our wants through all the various scenes through which it is the lot of a soldier to pass. Such exhibitions of kindness nerve the arm and inspire the soldier with redoubled vigor to press on and achieve that independence which the brave and patriotic only deserve to enjoy.

I now bid you farewell. Duty calls us to another field. We hope again to enjoy your kind hospitalities, but under different auspices, when the last foe shall be driven from our soil and we again don the garb of a free citizen of an independent South. Yours in haste, "PEA TOWN."

BRITISH OPINION.

The correspondent of the London Times, in speaking of a recent conversation with President Davis, says: "I could not but think of my parting conversation a few hours before, with President Davis; of his calm, weighty analysis of the comparative strength of the belligerents, about to close in a fourth and deathly grapple; of his quiet, earnest confidence, his kindling eye. Were it not that I remember that the deified Washington was surrounded on earth by detractors and vilifiers—that on his right hand stood Charles Lee, fomenting by anonymous addresses discord among the American troops, and on his left Jefferson, lending his great powers to secret defamation of his chief—I should search for special attributes in the Southerners to account for the fact that, although almost unanimous against the Yankees, they lack wisdom or virtue enough to appreciate the man whom, of all others, Providence has adapted for this mighty task. But, in spite of their indignant refusal to be guaged by the measure of other nations, history is for the Americans the same revolution of cycles and repetition of incidents as for every other people on earth.

"Thus far it cannot be pretended that any of the exceptional trials and hardships with which the South has this winter been threatened have begun to overtake Richmond. It is the universal remark that provisions of all kinds are better and more plentiful this winter than last. It is especially impossible not to be struck with the abundance of deer which hang daily at the doors of the restaurants and eating houses, while there is an affluence of wild and tame turkeys, or partridges, ducks, fish, oysters, which laugh all threats of starvation to scorn. Perhaps there never yet was a country which can so little be dragged down in terms by hunger as these magnificent Southern States, teeming with the richest gifts of river and forest, sparsely occupied by a scanty population, and warmed by a beautiful and enriching sun. There is hardly a foot of the lower portions of the Potomac, Rappahannock, York or James rivers but is paved with oysters, and the same can be said of Mobile Bay, (more than thirty miles long) of the rivers about Wilmington, Charleston and Savannah, and of the inlets of Florida and Texas. There are two, and only two, manifest perplexities with which the South has to cope—an unreasonably depreciated currency and great deficiency in railroad transport."

It is a good sight to see the color of health on a man's face, but not to see it all concentrated in his nose.

CONGRATULATORY ORDER OF GEN. DICK TAYLOR.

The following is General Taylor's address to his army:

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT WESTERN LOUISIANA, Mansfield, La., April 11, 1864.

Soldiers of the Army of Western Louisiana: At last your patience and your devotion have been rewarded. Condemned for many days to retreat before an overwhelming force, as soon as your reinforcements reached you, you turned upon the foe. No language but that of simple narrative should recount your deeds. On the 8th of April you fought the battle of Mansfield. Never in war was a more complete victory won. Attacking the enemy with the utmost alacrity when the order was given, the result was not for a moment doubtful.

The enemy was driven from every position, his artillery captured, his men routed. In vain were fresh troops brought up. Your magnificent line, like a resistless wave, swept every Western Louisiana. Night alone stopped your advance. Twenty-two pieces of artillery, twenty-five hundred prisoners, many stand of colors, two hundred and fifty wagons, attest your success over the 13th and 18th army corps. On the 9th inst., you took up the pursuit and pressed it with vigor. For twelve miles, prisoners, scattered arms, burning wagons proved how well the previous day's work had been done by the soldiers of Texas and Louisiana.

The gallant divisions from Missouri and Arkansas, unfortunately absent on the 8th inst., marched forty-five miles in two days to share the glories of Pleasant Hill. This was emphatically the soldier's victory. In spite of the strength of the enemy's position, held by fresh troops of the 16th corps, your valor and devotion triumphed over all. Darkness closed one of the hottest fights of the war