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EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

For the Watchman.
NEW PUBLICATIONS FOR THE
SOLDIERS.

The General Tract Agency of this city is publishing from 20,000 to 30,000 copies of each of the following excellent Tracts, approved by all the Pastors here:

"A Mother's Parting Words to her Soldier Boy," 8 pages, by a Southern lady; "Individual Effort," 8 pages; "The New Year," 4 pages; "Loved Thou Me?" 4 pages; "The Friend Soldier," 4 pages; "The Great Gathering," 4 pages; "Jesus Is You," 8 pages, by Rev. C. P. Dunn, D. D. "Christ's Gracious Invitations;" 8 pages; "My Spirit Shall Not Always Strive," 4 pages, by Rev. J. H. Fowles, of S. C. "The Life Preserver," 4 pages; "Are You Ready?" 4 pages; "The Precious Blood of Christ, or How a Soldier Was Saved," 4 pages, and "Why Will Ye Die?" 8 pages, by Rev. A. M. Pindexter, D. D., of Va.

We are striving to supply our whole army with these gospel truths. There is increasing evidence that this means of grace is being blessed of God to the great spiritual good of many of our soldiers. Recently we met at the Railroad Depot in this city, an intelligent soldier of the 3rd South Carolina Regiment. After helping him in the cars we gave him the tract, "Casting Our Burden on the Lord," by Rev. J. M. Atkinson, which led him to take from his pocket a copy of this tract, given him while in the Hospital, from a package we sent his Regiment, which he stated was made an instrument of God in his conversion.

A pious soldier from this county, now in Virginia, said to me recently, "We have not had a sermon preached in our Regiment in more than three months. The religious reading brought us by the Chaplain is eagerly sought, and productive of great good. Tracts are specially adapted to the camp, and we ought to have a new supply at least every Sunday morning."

A Texas soldier told me that the tract, "Don't Put It Off," (one of the first tracts last June) was the means of leading him to Christ.

One of the 1st North Carolina "Bethel" Regiment says, that "Come to Jesus," which we gave him while encamped here, was blessed to his conversion during the first month he was in Virginia, and that he had committed all of it to memory.

The donation of some one printed these tracts, which have been so greatly blessed. Each dollar given will send out 1,000 pages, which will be carried, through the great kindness of the Express Company, to the soldiers without charge. We can now print 30,000 tracts in a day; and that we may continue this in order to supply the pressing calls for grants, and sell so cheaply, we are mainly dependent on donations to pay for materials and work.

HYMNS FOR THE CAMP.

We shall soon have out an excellent edition of "Hymns for the Camp." It will be convenient for the pocket, containing 150 Hymns, on about 120 pages, and will be neatly bound in paper, boards, and cloth. Wholesale price is 10, 12½ and 15 cents per copy. Every soldier should have a copy, and by donations we will be enabled to give away a large number of it. We hope to receive liberal order and donations for these publications so greatly needed and sought for by our noble defenders.

Yours truly,

W. J. W. CROWDER,
Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 1862. Agent.

The Yankee Loss at Fort Donelson.—When the Yankees admit so much as in the following, we may safely conclude their loss was terrible:

Never, perhaps, on the American continent, has a more bloody battle been fought. An officer who participated, and was wounded in the fight, says the scene beggars description. They fell in heaps, dead and wounded. Companies were bereft of Captains and lieutenants, and Captains were almost bereft of companies. So thickly was the battle strown with the dead and wounded that he could have traversed acres of it by taking almost every step upon a prostrate body. The Rebels fought with desperation, their artillerists using their pieces with the most fearful effect. The four Illinois regiments held their ground full three hours. Nearly one third had been killed or wounded, and yet the balance stood firm.

The Yankee Government has military possession of all the telegraph lines.

From the New Orleans *Press*.
THE VANITY OF WOMEN.

An aged couple sat before
Their fire one winter's night;
Without, the wind was keen and cold—
Within, was cheerful light.
They were contented with their lot—
All that they thought was fitting—
The husband smoked his brown clay pipe,
The good wife plied her knitting.

They'd talked of all their failings,
And in a deep hushes study—
The old man looked upon the couch,
Which gleamed so bright and ready—
And with a smile said what they will,
And went to sleep again,
For want of something else to do,
Gazed in the dark.

"Good wife," said he, "I wish some fairies
Would share her present love,
I'd make your old eyes shine with light;
That's something very dear!"
Just then a gurgling laugh was heard,
Like putting bread in summer,
And each one turned with his head
To welcome the new comer.

And, sure enough, a brownie fair
Upon the floor was seen,
With gauzy robes of dazzling light
And wings of gold and green. (wishes)
"Good wife," said she, "I've heard your
I'll grant you three requests;
Be careful now, and think before
Your wishes are confirmed."

The good man looked into the fire,
"Two glorious, but sad red;
And dreams of something good to eat
Were troubling through his head;
"I wish I had a pudding, a nice
Black pudding here."

Presto! the fairy waved her wand
For the pudding to appear.

The wife was vexed, and quickly cried:
"There's one good thing that goes,
Why not have asked for something better?
I wish 'twas on your nose."

Again the golden wand was waved,
The pudding changed its place.
And, stuck, as fast as it could stick,
Upon the old man's face.

Two winks gone! It was no use
To anger or to scold;

The only thing left there to do
Was just to wish it off.

It fell—the fairy clapped her hands
And laughed in merry glee,

The old man's sad and rueful face,
The glad dame's plight to see.

"By this experience, learn," she said,

"How you are idle wipers,

For fortune gives you what you need
Of pleasure, friends or riches.

And could you have what you desire,
Tis ten to one you'd rue it,

Tis better to let well alone,
If you but only knew it."

The oath of allegiance to the Southern Confederacy was on Tuesday applied to the employees in the Laboratory and Artillery Works. Twenty-five men at the latter and fifteen at the former establishments refused to take the oath, and were immediately discharged. Hearing of the fact, we applied for a list of the recruits, but were informed it was the wish of the authorities that they should not be made public.

From a gentleman at the Artillery Works, we learned that Lieut.-Genl. Smith, who has charge of that establishment and also of the Laboratory, deemed it expedient, from various proceedings of the workmen, to have this test oath administered.

Many of those who refused to take the oath, were known to be in the habit of converting, regardless of premium, their pay into gold. Some had openly spoken of returning to the North.

Some of the men, learning early yesterday morning what was about to be done, and wishing to avoid the oath and yet retain their position, absented themselves from the shop during the forenoon, but slunk back in the course of the evening.

Understanding their game, the loyal workmen procured from the office a list of all

who had either refused to be sworn or had absented themselves, whilst the oath was being administered, and falling upon such as had returned to work, drummed them ignominiously from the premises.

Our informant told us of one of the em-

ployees who absented himself, on the plea

that he was going to rejoin a Virginia regiment to which he formerly belonged, but

that he has since been seen on the street

"dyked" out in a brand new suit of citizens' clothes.

We have little doubt that many who

refused Tuesday, would be willing enough

to take the oath to-day, since they have

found out the news from Tennessee is not

so bad as then reported.—Rich. Ex.

A Welcome Item of Intelligence.—The following paragraph gives us just the right kind of information:

Our gunboats being built here, says the Pensacola correspondent of the Mobile *Advertiser* and *Register*, are now nearly ready for launching, and I hope soon to see them tracing their course in our waters. One of them will be a very fine and valuable vessel.

From the *Charlotte Mercury*.

Four Days Ago. Our telegraphic col-

umns bring us the intelligence that Fort Donelson has surrendered, that Nashville has been taken, and thirteen thousand of our troops have been captured. Making all due allowance for exaggeration and panic, it is reasonable to suppose that we have suffered a severe defeat in the West, and have lost our military position, together with a number of our troops. What then? No doubt it is a severe blow—well delivered and effective. But what then? It is only what we have foreshadowed for many months past in our journal, and only what was to be expected by reasonable men, who measured and calmly considered the field of operation, and all the circumstances of our position. We have said our say on the subject, and pronounced the defensive system of warfare adopted by our authorities situated as we were with a coast of five thousand miles to defend without a navy, with a limited supply of arms, and with our ports blockaded, in a monstrous absurdity, necessarily involving weakness and much unnecessary disorder and prolongation of the war. The others were wiser than ourselves. We were equally alarmists and precipitate. The fruits of that policy are before us. They are disastrous enough, as we had feared. But our business now is not with the past. What is the burthen of the future? If this accumulated much during these last six months of inaction on our part, but it is far from insupportable, yet. There is power in the South, and there is nerve in the South to do much, and to endure much. We must pay for our inaction; but it brings with it a lesson to string every heart to redeem our errors. Let every man, who can strike a blow in defence of his household and his home, spring to his arms. Let us realize the work before us, and let us forward into the breach, like men. Italy was overrun by the Carthaginians, under Hannibal, and Spain by Napoleon—perhaps the two greatest military leaders in ancient and modern times. Yet, both were defeated, and driven back from the soil they had occupied. Prussia, likewise, was overrun by France, Russia, and Austria; yet were they driven back by Frederick, after bloody defeats on his part, leaving twenty and thirty thousand dead men on the field. Our own revolution, in 1776, is strikingly illustrative of a similar lesson.

"To many undecided minds it will be sufficient to intitute this momentous objection, that such acts can seldom be unanimous; consequently a bone of contention will be thrown into our midst that may greatly divide and weaken us. Indeed, it is reported that this actually happened in Elizabeth City—one party extinguishing the fires which the others had put to their dwellings. Be this as it may, the alternative will be frequently presented during this war."

The Richmond *Examiner* takes the opposite ground. It says—

"When we cannot beat back the enemy, we may make him know the work he has in hand, by rendering the ground over

which he marches a desert. Not a house,

or a forest, or a field, should be spared.

Of what service will they, be to us in the

hands of a foe who commits pillage, con-

fiscate, hang, exile, and to destroy even

the name of Virginia? If we must lose

our goods, at least let us save them from

the hands of the Yankees. No better

sacrifice could be made to liberty and

country. Such a course has saved other

nations in our condition, and will save us.

What defeated the French conqueror of

the world in Russia? There, for the first

time, he trembled and quaked at the sight

of war; when his victorious column found

flaming houses and smoking fields for their

only spoils."

The *North Carolinian at Roanoke Island*.—The Richmond *Dispatch* publishes an account of the battle at Roanoke Island furnished by Maj. Dolan of Walker-Nearman fame, who participated in the fight as an amateur volunteer in the Wise Legion. Maj. D.'s account is mainly in glorification of the Legion and the Macon-gue heroes in it, but he has no references on the North Carolinians. He says that there were present 1200 North Carolinians of Shaw's and Jordan's regiments, 400 of whom served the batteries. When the enemy landed, 800 of our men were in the fight, among them too North Carolina companies. He says:

"Of the 500 men engaged, Capt. Wise's

company and the McCulloch Rangers bore

the palm for bravery, where all behaved

with gallantry, especially the two North

Carolina companies, one of which was

from Currituck county. This I saw. I

also heard that the North Carolinians be-

haved with great gallantry in the Pork

Point battery. With regard to the surren-

der of Col. Shaw, (an officer of acknowl-

edged bravery,) I attribute it to the fact

of his having many in his own and Col.

Jordan's regiment so well acquainted with

the locality that they knew surrender was

only a question of time, as soon as the

enemy's fleet passed the marshes."

Maj. D. says that the place was pro-

nounced "a perfect man trap" when Gen.

Wise went there a few days before the

fight.—*Peytonville Observer*.

We learn, in the most positive manner,

that the government is now consulting on

the propriety of suspending the municipal

government of Richmond, so far as to re-

lax its police by a military policy of

its own appointment. We trust the re-

form will be instantly accomplished.

Richmond Examiner.

THE SENATORSHIP OF GEORGIA.

It seems, if the views of the Richmond correspondent of the *Charleston Mercury* are correct, that Georgia will be represented in the Senate of the Confederate Congress by only one Senator. The correspondent says:

"General Toombs, one of the elected Senators from Georgia, has refused to accept of the election and take his seat.—His place cannot be filled by the Governor of Georgia by the appointment of another, because it does not produce a vacancy.—It is an original appointment. The office has not yet been filled. The reason why General Toombs declines the election is, that he does not think it a wise measure of the people of Georgia, or favors him. It seems that Mr. Hill, who was an old Union man prior to the meeting of the Georgia Convention, was elected at the first ballot for Senator by a very large majority. Mr. Hill was squarely elected at the second ballot. He had been foremost in urging the policy of secession, when Mr. Hill and other competitors were on the other side. Under such circumstances, he rejects the election, and throws the office again in the hands of the Legislature of Georgia. If it calls him to the service of the State, consistent with his views of political justice, he will serve; if not, it can appoint another. Unfortunately for the Confederate States, Mr. Toombs is not the only instance of the rejection of those who have done most in the great cause of Southern deliverance. The new Congress will prove that it is in politics as religion—"the first shall be last, and the last first."

A WORTHY EXAMPLE.

We learn that our talented, active, surprising young friend Captain E. A. Ross, has formed another fine company of volunteers for the war, and will start for the battle-field in a few days. We hope that his noble patriotism and that of his brave compatriots will be quickly emulated by others in our community. Perhaps the quickest way to do this would be for all those who are trying to raise companies to resolve themselves into a company and call out for officers. First save your country, and then you will be entitled to office, and your country will joyfully and gratefully reward your patriotism, according to your merits, with whatever she has to bestow in this respect.—*Charlotte Whig*.

Volunteering.—The *Richmond Whig* says that the rage for volunteering is greater than it has been since the beginning of the war. As it is in Virginia, so in North Carolina. Everywhere men are coming forward. And well they may; for we have got a furious, fanatical, malignant and powerful enemy to drive from our borders. No half-way work will accomplish this; and we must accomplish it, or be content to be ruled as at Edenton, and burnt out as at Winton. At the former place, while the Yankees commander had the fire upon his line, that private property should not be violated, his men were engaged, under his orders, in stealing bales of cotton which were private property. And the little village of Winton, containing about 20 houses, was deliberately set fire to and destroyed after its capture. We may look for similar outrages in every quarter where the villains are permitted to come.—*Fay. Observer</*