

CAROLINA WATCHMAN.

SALISBURY, N. C.

MONDAY EVENING, OCT. 16, 1864.

All eyes are now turned to Petersburg and the defenses of Richmond. The movements in the Valley and the impending commotion of contending armies in Georgia are lost sight of in the eagerness to hear and learn something from Lee and his invincible veterans who defend the metropolis of the nation. So far, the news from this last point is worthy of the great chieftain and the noble troops he commands. The fortunes of war may place Richmond in the possession of the enemy not, however, until many thousands of his hirelings have been forced to bite the dust and found graves in the bosom of a land they would desecrate.

The news, taken altogether, from the different points of conflict, is cheering. Our people must wait patiently and stand ready to lead a helping hand wherever the exigencies of the crisis may call them. All will yet work well. We cannot be conquered, if we have determined to be free. Notwithstanding our late reverses, the successes and advantages of this year's campaign remain with us. The fitful of last May was a day fraught with more fearful forebodings than this or any that shall follow that may witness the armies of Lee and Grant engaged in mortal combat. The object of the campaign on the part of the enemy has thus failed—its failure is our success. When we view its magnitude, in numbers and power, and the limited means we had to meet it, we have reason to feel encouraged. True, many dear to our hearts have fallen by the terrible ferocity of the conflict, but we must remember this is the price of liberty. We owe it to ourselves, we owe it to posterity to put forth renewed efforts to thwart the vile purposes of a merciless enemy. We may rest assured the prospect will brighten just in proportion as we lend our encouraging counsels and support to the great cause so near and dear to us all. Let no fear or despondency have place in the people's hearts though Richmond fall, of which event there is no more prospect than when Grant first struck the James. Let all be cheerful and determined and our independence is as certain as there are four points to the compass.

PRISONERS EXPECTED.

We learn that a large number of yankee prisoners will soon be sent to the prison in this place from Lynchburg and Richmond. There is some talk of constructing a new prison some where in this section, and verily we think it would be wise to do so if located in reference to the easy procurement of fire-wood and other heavy articles required for such an establishment. If the number already here should be largely increased, there might be hundreds of thousands saved to the Government in the single item of fire-wood this winter by having the prison located convenient to the Yadkin river where this article could be furnished in rafts and boats sent down from the country above.

HOG STEALING.—Mr. Wm. Murphy had four hogs shot in his pasture near town last Friday. The thieves succeeded in getting off two of them. The other two were left in a crippled condition, and it is believed will prove worthless.

A yankee prisoner, escaped either from the Georgia prison or from the cars at Florence, S. C., was arrested in this town to-day, and committed to the C. S. Prison.

The Home Guard of Mitchell, encountered a band of Tories in that county on Wednesday last, supposed to be a part of Kirk's raiders, and in a pretty sharp fight which ensued, succeeded in killing six and wounding several others.

BOLD HORSE THIEVES.

Believed to be Yankee Emisaries—A desperate fight with a citizen of Burke county—Four against one—One of the Robbers shot, and all of them arrested.

Four men, representing themselves as belonging to Vaughn's command, but really believed to be Yankee-emisaries, went up the Western Rail Road on Monday last, and in the evening of that day was found at the residence of Mr. John A. Hunt, two miles beyond Morganton. Having called for supper, Mr. Hunt ordered it for them. After supper Mr. Hunt invited them into another room to smoke; but they soon made excuse to walk out into the yard, and H. walked with them. One of the men then said to him, you will probably be surprised at the request we are about to make of you. We want four horses for a day or two to carry us forward, but will send them back to you. Mr. H. told them he could not spare his horses and could not accommodate them. Another then stepped up and remarked, we intend to have the horses whether you are willing or not, and the least you say or do in opposition the best for you—where are your saddles & bridles? Mr. H. told them he did not know where the bridles were, but there was a saddle, pointing to it. They answered, it made no difference—they would make the negroes find them, and accordingly ordered the negroes to get pine torches and look up the bridles. They went into the stables and barns themselves and selected four horses and a mule, and immediately rode off, taking with them, mounted on the mule, a free negro found at Mr. Hunt's.

Having gone some three miles on their way, they came to the residence of Mr. Forney, whom they called out, and told that they wanted to get a horse or two. Their words and manner drew from Mr. Forney the threat that he would shoot the first man that attempted to take his horses. But they were not deterred by this threat, but entered his yard with the avowed determination of taking them. Mr. Forney produced his double-barreled gun, and true to his word, pulled trigger on the robbers. Both caps exploded without firing the loads. The men then commenced firing at him with colts' revolvers, having two each. But Mr. Forney re-capped his gun and tried it again, and now with better success: he brought down one of the rascals the first fire. The second was a failure to hit his mark, in the darkness of the night. Meanwhile they continued to fire on him until they had fired some 15 or 20 shots. He re-loaded his gun while they were popping at him; and being again ready to fire, they threw up their hands and asked for a truce.

Being alone, with three armed men against him, and having gained his point, Mr. Forney agreed to let them depart; so they quietly remounted the horses they brought, taking with them the man he had shot down; who, by-the-by, was only very badly wounded; having received one buck-shot in the head, another in the mouth, and several others in his breast and shoulders.

In the mean time, Mr. Hunt had sent word to Morganton of what had happened at his house; and partly induced by the liberal reward offered by W. F. McKosson, Esq., for the arrest of these offenders, and mainly for bringing them to justice and teaching such men a lesson, a small party set out immediately in pursuit. On reaching Mr. Forney's residence they found he had called in two or three of his neighbors and were preparing to pursue them. They all moved off together. On approaching Mrs. Caldwell's, three

miles further up the road, they heard loud groanings, and soon ascertained that the robbers had put up there for the night, the condition of their wounded companion preventing them from continuing their flight as they had doubtless intended. They surrounded the house and demanded a surrender, which was immediately complied with. The men were taken prisoners, brought to Morganton and committed to jail to await trial and justice, which will doubtless be speedy.

IS IT TRUE.—We see in the Richmond Whig of the 4th, stated as Northern news, that the Confederate prisoners at Camp Chase, in Ohio, 8,500 in number, had made their escape. It is said by some that the Copperheads of Ohio had released and armed them. And another story is that they had overpowered the guard and taken their arms and made their escape. The news of their escape also comes from Atlanta, via Macon—brought to the latter place by a lady from the former, where she had heard it talked of in official circles, and where also it was conjectured the prisoners would aim for Canada. Is it true that the Camp Chase prisoners have escaped under any circumstances?

A private dispatch received here several days ago, brought the sad intelligence that JOHN PEARSON, youngest son of Mrs. E. Pearson, of this place, had fallen in the fight near Petersburg on Friday last. He was an ardent, courageous, and most promising youth, and highly esteemed by many of our citizens, who deeply sympathize with his sorrowing mother and sisters in so heavy an affliction.

The Chatham Railroad, which it will be remembered is to connect the coal and iron mines on Deep River with the N. C. Railroad at Cary's, is in a fair way, says the Conservative, of being completed, sufficient iron having been obtained from the government to lay the road. This is a very important enterprise, rendered doubly so by the requirements of the war.

Trains Running Beyond Corinth.—Trains now run regularly over the Mobile and Ohio railroad to Corinth. The Memphis and Charleston road, we are also informed, is used for a distance of nearly fifty miles in the direction of Chattanooga. That whole country is free from the enemy.

Attention is called to Adjutant General GATLIN'S General Order 24, in this paper, calling out a portion of the Home Guard to repel an expected attack at Goldsboro'.]

Wood!—It will be seen that the Quartermaster at this post is calling for fire wood. The demand is a pressing one, and should be responded to if possible.

Revival.—We learn that a very interesting revival of religion was had at a three days meeting, closing on Sunday night, at Rutherford Seminary, N. C., conducted by the Revs. Israel P. Hughes and R. L. Abernathy, resulting in the happy conversion of 15 young ladies and boys. On the last night of the exercises, many penitents crowded the altar for prayer; but for the want of help the meeting had to be discontinued.

Molasses.—We can hear the groaning of mills crushing cane in this vicinity, in several directions; and can hear of them all through the country running pretty constantly. We think the molasses crop in this section will be good this year, though we think it was a too common error in planting the Imphee, or red top variety. The most extensive cultivators of the cane in the South giving preference to Sorghum, or black seed.

THE CAUSE OF DELAY IN THE MAILS FROM RICHMOND AND PETERSBURG—A REMEDY PROPOSED.

The mail from Petersburg South meets the mail train from Danville at the Junction. There being no mail on the night train South from Richmond this mail is carried down to Richmond where it remains over night, and then takes a fresh start on the morning mail train. Another cause of delay is owing to the fact that a large amount of the mail over the Piedmont road intended for North Carolina is put up in Pouches and labeled N. C. Mail Agent. When a connection is lost, as is often the case, the Route Agents on the N. Carolina Rail Road is compelled to take a large amount of mail intended for the West and South, as far as Raleigh and Goldsboro, to be returned the next day causing a delay of 24 hours. And from the same cause the Route Agents of the Piedmont and Richmond roads not having time to properly distribute the mails and labeling them as above mentioned. The mails for Raleigh and Eastern portion of the State go in the direction of Charlotte and Columbia.

THE REMEDY.

Have a Distributing Post office at Greensboro'.

A MILITIA OFFICER ROUSED.

The following communication from a Militia officer in one of our Western counties, who feels that while "volley after volley of hot shot from a portion of the newspaper press is poured into them they ought to have the privilege of returning the fire," asks a place in our columns for the following. We give it, but not without a protest as it concerns Col. McBae, editor Confederate, who we know was once in the service, and so far as we know, departed himself with credit to himself and profit to the country.

Mr. Editor—Dear Sir: Will you allow me a small space in your valuable paper to notice two articles in the Watchman of 23d, headed "Fill up the Ranks." I will say of the editor of the Progress, that he fought so gallantly in the Eastern part of the State, and rode so far through the rain to prevent getting wet, that, it seems, the Government has given him a "final discharge." The editor of the Confederate, it seems would like to have independence at the expense of the lives of his "fellow mortals," but his own *vita sacra* spared. As I understand Mr. Confederate has never tasted of the "bitter cup," but it would graze his little soul very much, doubtless, if the militia officers and justices of the peace would kill all the yankees, and let him remain in his sanctum. For my part, I think that His Excellency, the President, and Cabinet, ought to know when to call for new levies, and whom. "Quill patriots" have about "played out." Small potatoes grow in poor land. There is an old homely saw, "too many cooks spoil the broth," and it is full of meaning. There are too many "cooks" in the Confederacy, too many advisors, too many who are willing to "lay the heavy burden," but at the same time, beg leave to withhold "their own fingers." I hope the two "quill patriots" will be able to see themselves as wise men see them; and remember it is a reflection upon the President for them to advise, and had etiquette for inferiors to advise superiors. It is to be hoped that these editors will never again have the impudence to say to the President and his Cabinet, Gen. R. E. Lee, and Congress, you are deficient in knowledge; you are not able for this war; hear us; we are wise, far-seeing and know just what you need. Call out everybody but us; we are only "quill patriots;" we cannot fight; it is out of our line of business, besides yankee "pills" are unwholesome; but here are some useful men keeping down insurrections, holding the Tories and deserters in check, take them and leave the country perfectly defenceless. A word to militia officers and justices of the peace: if you go to glory (heaven) do not be afraid of being crowded out by editors.

A TRUE GRAY.

Branding White Men.—The Confederates brand their horses and mules when taken into the service of the Government, but the yankees have adopted the plan of branding their men when taken or rejected as recruits for their armies. The Chief Medical Director in Washington city, in an official order, says:

"In addition to my suggestion to mark all rejected recruits and substitutes, I would suggest that all the accepted recruits and substitutes be marked thus: "I" in small of back. This will, I think, prevent, to a great extent, the practice of bounty jumping."

FOR THE WATCHMAN. THIS MAN'S FIGHT, BUT HEAVENS TO GIVE SUCCESS.

The army must be recruited you see that in almost every paper, you hear it from every body, Grant is being largely reinforced. The army of Tennessee has been calling long and loud for men. Where are they to come from? The conscript act has been extended at both ends until the material is exhausted and they are too old or too young for the field. Well, let us retrospect, there are men enough within the limits of that law stout men, able-bodied men, to swell our army to an unknown extent, and a large number of them are non-producers. First, the Militia and Home Guard officers, together with the Justices of the Peace. Can the Governor ask to have them exempt any longer? Gentlemen, will you still be exempt, surely you are willing to act your part. Next comes a vast army of detailed men. Let me divide them into two classes, first, the man who did not change his occupation for an exemption; for instance, the Schoolmaster by trade before the war, but Mr. Shoemaker there is a point which forbearance ceases to be a virtue. Do you not have some compunctions of conscience when you think of applying for another detail. Secondly, there is another class of details who are, God help them, but little better than no men. The shoemaker now, who scarcely knew the number that fit his own foot, the cooper now, who before the war, could not cut a notch on a hoop; fops, who looked on such trades as low down, vulgar, and would have disgraced them. Are you not a disgrace to the trade now? There is another class of men even more contemptible than all these, "weakly ones," who are willing and able to do anything for a Surgeon's certificate, if they happen to be conscribed, the first day the Medical board sits in their district, they ignore even sleep, (make a well man sick) until they get the family physician to go with them to the board and get a reconsideration, yes pay him to talk for them, tell all the ailments they have had from the cradle up to the present time. Now between you and me the family physician is no better than the family patient, a trip to the army would improve the health and morals of both parties. In conclusion, from the Commissioned officer, down to a Surgeon's boot-lick, can you remain at home any longer and still call yourselves men. Has patriotism played out? You have been saying this time you intended to "stay out of the army as long as you could honorably." That time is now here. There is but one way to retrieve your character, namely, "Quit playing off" go to the army, before you are forced. There is but one honest way for you to "play off" longer. "Go up the spout" via East Tennessee, for is it not dishonest to say you are Confederates in principle, when your actions speak in the voice of thunder branding you as a coward and a liar. "Come from under it all ye little ones." DIDIMUS.

PRISON CAMP, ELMIRA, N. Y., Sept. 2nd, 1864.

Mr. J. J. BRUNER—

Dear Sir: For the mutual benefit of relatives, anxious friends and such prisoners as are unable to procure stamps, &c., to write themselves, I send you a list of names from Salisbury and Rowan county and the No. of the Ward they are in:

Ward No. 23.—H M Propst, John C Moore, W A Sawyer, Franklin Plummer, Dan'l Sheppard, Alex M Lyerly, William Wright, Josiah Spears, Miles Ketchey, Cruse Earnheart.

Ward No. 24.—J T Colley, Jacob Barger, Andrew Basinger, Joseph Ide, H M Basinger, J W Clarke, B F Canup, Ambrose Casper, M M Beaver, J A Heilig, Eli Bostian.

Ward No. 15.—S A Shuman, J Clark, Wm Kester, D C S Taylor, J Worthington, J J Wyatt, R J Cruse, G A Barger.

Ward No. 11.—Jacob Kapp, J C Miller, J C Klutt, Moses Josy, D Eller.

Ward No. 22.—G M Holabaugh, R Gallimore, Miles Canup.

Ward No. 45.—D A Ketchey, J Menous, O W Sowers, A Bostian.

Ward No. 49.—Nash Shuping, John Morris.

Ward No. 46.—Peter Brown, Henry Brown.

Ward No. 9.—Moses Roger, Arch Allman.

Ward No. 30.—J A Coleman, E M Beaver, J C Casper.

Ward No. 10.—Sam'l J Shinn, W S Lowrance.

Ward No. 35.—A. A. Bostian.

Ward No. 20.—H Mesmer.

Ward No. 17.—Levi A. Beaver.

Ward No. 8.—M Lanta.

Ward No. 44.—Geo Miller.

Ward No. 55.—Lewis Rendleman.

All are enjoying fine health and get along finely for prisoners. Tobacco is the one needful article, send us some. Please answer. Direct as below.

Respectfully yours,

W. A. BUIS,
Ward 17, 3d Barracks,
Elmira, N. York.

Care of Maj. H. V. Colt.