THE DAILY CONSERVATIVE.

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THE DAILY CONSERVATIVE.

Vol. 1.] RALEIGH, N. C., MONDAY, JULY 4, 1864. [No. 62.

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Correspondence Between Gov. Vance and the Authorities at Richmond.--Continued.

Among other letters we re-publish Gov. Vance's protest against the suspension of the writ of *habeas corpus*. This letter shows that no man could have guarded the liberty and honor of North Carolina with more zeal than Gov. Vance. As early as February 9th, he protested, with manly earnestness, against the act of suspension, and repelled, with indignation, the idea that such a law was needed for this State:

GOV. VANCE FAVORS NEGOTIATIONS FOR PEACE.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
Raleigh, Dec. 30th, 1863.

His Excellency, PRESIDENT DAVIS—

MY DEAR SIR: After a careful consideration of all the sources of discontent in North Carolina, I have concluded that it will be impossible to remove it, except by making some effort at negotiation with the enemy. The recent action of the Federal House of Representatives, though meaning very little, has greatly excited the public hope that the northern mind is looking towards peace. I am promised by all men who advocate this cause that if fair terms are rejected, it will tend greatly to strenghten and intensify the war feeling, and will rally all classes to a more cordial support of the Government. And, although our position is well known, as demanding only to be let alone, yet it seems to me that for the sake of humanity without having any weak or improper motives attributed to us, we might, with propriety, constantly tender negotiations. In doing so we would keep conspicuously before the world a disclaimer of our responsibility for the great slaughter of our race, and convince the humblest of our citizens—who sometimes forget the actual situation—that the Government is tender of their lives and happiness, and would not prolong their sufferings unnecessarily one moment. Though statesmen might regard this as useless, the people will not, and I think our cause will be strenghtened thereby. I have not suggested the method of these negotiations or their terms. The *effort* to obtain peace is the principal matter.

Allow me to beg your earnest consideration of this suggestion.

Very respectfully yours,
Z. B. VANCE.

EXTRACT FROM PRESIDENT DAVIS' REPLY TO THE FOREGOING LETTER.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,
Richmond, Jan. 8th, 1864.

* * * * * *

Apart from insuperable objections to the line of policy you propose, (and to which I will presently advert) I cannot see how the more material obstacles are to be surmounted. We have made three distinct efforts to communicate with the authorities at Washington, and have been invariably unsuccessful. Commissioners were sent before hostilities were begun, and the Washington government refused to receive them or hear what they had to say. A second time I sent a military officer with a communication addressed by myself to President Lincoln. The letter was received by Gen. Scott, who did not permit the officer to see Mr. Lincoln, but promised that an answer would be sent. No answer has ever been received. The third time, a few months ago, a gentleman was sent whose position, character and reputation were such as to ensure his reception, if the enemy were not determined to receive no proposals whatever from the government. Vice President Stephens made a patriotic tender of his services in the hope of being able to promote the cause of humanity, and although little belief was entertained of his success, I cheerfully yielded to his suggestion, that the experiment should be tried. The enemy refused to let him pass through their lines or to hold any conference with them. He was stopped before he ever reached Fortress Monroe on his way to Washington. To attempt again (in the face of these repeated rejections of all conference with us) to send Commissioners or Agents to propose peace, is to invite insult and contumely, and to subject ourselves to indignity without the slightest chance of being listend to.

No true citizen, no man who has our cause at heart can desire this, and the good people of North Carolina would be the last to approve of such an attempt, if aware of all the facts. So far from removing "sources of discontent," such a course would receive, as it would merit, the condemnation of those true patriots who have given their blood and their treasure to maintain the freedom, equality and independence, which descended from the immortal heroes of King's Mountain and other battle fields of the revolution. If, then, these proposals cannot be made through envoys, because the enemy would not receive them how is it possible to communicate our desire for peace, otherwise than by the public announcements continued in almost every message I ever sent to Congress?

I cannot recall at this time one instance in which I have failed to announce that our only desire was peace, and the only terms which formed a *sine qua non*, were precisely those that you suggested, namely, "a demand only to be let alone." But suppose it were practicable to obtain a conference through commissioners with the government of President Lincoln, is it at this moment that we are to consider it desirable, or even at all admissible? Have we not just been apprised by that despot that we can only expect his gracious pardon by emancipating all our slaves, swearing allegiance and obedience to him and his proclamation, and becoming in point of fact the slaves of our own negroes? Can there be in North Carolina one citizen so fallen beneath the dignity of his ancestors as to accept, or to enter into conference on the basis of these terms? That there are a few traitors in the State who would be willing to betray their fellow-citizens to such a degraded condition, in hope of being rewarded for treachery by an escape from the common doom, may be true. But I do not believe that the vilest wretch would accept such terms for himself. I cannot conceive how the people of your State, than which none has sent nobler or more gallant soldiers to the fields of battle, (one of whom it is your honor to be,) can have been deceived by anything to which you refer in "the recent action of the Federal House of Representatives." I have seen no action of that House that does not indicate by a very decided majority, the purpose of the enemy to refuse all terms to the South, except absolute, unconditional subjugation or extermination. But if it were otherwise, how are we to treat with the House of Representatives? It is with Lincoln alone that we ever could confer, and his own partisans at the north avow unequivocally that his purpose in his message and proclamation was to shut out all hope that he would *ever* treat with us on *any* terms. If we will break up our government, dissolve the Confederacy, disband our armies, emancipate our slaves, take an oath of allegiance, binding ourselves to obedience to him and of disloyalty to our own States, he proposes to pardon us and not to plunder us of anything more than the property already stolen from us, and such slaves as still remain. In order to render his proposal, so insulting as to secure their rejection, he joins to them a promise to support with his army one tenth of the people of any State who will attempt to set up a government over the other nine tenths, thus seeking to sow disorder and suspicion among the people of the several States, and to excite them to civil war in furtherance of his ends. I know well it would be impossible to get your people, if they possessed full knowledge of these facts, to consent that proposals should now be made by us to those who control the government at Washington. Your own well known devotion to the great clause of liberty and independence, to which we have all committed whatever we have of earthly possessions, would induce you to take the lead in repelling the bare thought of abject submission to the enemy. Yet peace on other terms is now impossible. To obtain the sole terms to which you or I could listen, this struggle must continue until the enemy is beaten out of his vain confidence in our subjugation. Then, and not till then, will it be possible to treat of peace. Till then all tender of terms to the enemy will be received as proof that we are ready for submission, and will encourage him in the atrocious warfare which he is waging.

* * * * * * *

I have the honor to be,
Very respectfully, yours,
JEFFERSON DAVIS.

His Excellency, Z. B. VANCE,
Governor of North Carolina,
Raleigh, N. C.

GOV. VANCE'S PROTEST AGAINST THE SUSPENSION OF THE WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
Raleigh, Feb. 9th, 1864.

His Excellency, JEFFERSON DAVIS—

MY DEAR SIR:—Since receiving your letter of the 8th ult., to which it was my intention to have replied before this, reports have reached me from Richmond, which, if true, would render my reply unnecessary. I hear, with deep regret, that a bill is certainly expected to pass the Congress, suspending the writ of *habeas corpus*, throughout the Confederacy, and that certain arrests will immediately be made in North Carolina. Of course, if Congress and your Excellency be resolved upon this as the only means of repressing disaffection in this State, it would be a mere waste of time for me to argue the matter. And yet I should not hold myself guiltless of the consequences which I fear will follow, did I not add yet another word of expostulation to the many I have already spoken. If the bill referred to, about which I can form no opinion until I see it, be strictly within the limits of the Constitution, I imagine the people of this State will submit to it—so great is their regard for law. If it is adjudged, on the contrary, to be in violation of that instrument and revolutionary in itself, it will be resisted. Should it become a law soon, I earnestly advise you to be chary of exercising the powers with which it did invest you. Be content to try at least for a while, the moral effect of holding this power over the heads of discontented men before shocking all worshippers of the common law throughout the world, by hurling freemen into sheriffless dungeons for opinion sake. I do not speak this factiously, or by way of a flourish. Nor do I believe that as an enlightened lawyer, and a Christian statesman, you could feel any pleasure in the performance of such an ungracious task. I am on the contrary convinced that you believe it to be the only way to secure North Carolina in the performances of her obligations to her Confederates. The misfortune of this belief is yours, the shame will light upon those unworthy sons who have thus sought to stab their mother because she cast *them* off. If our citizens are left untouched by the arm of military violence, I do not despair of an appeal to the reason and patriotism of the people at the ballot box.—Hundreds of good and true men now acting with, and possessing the confidence of the party called Conservatisms, are at work against the dangerous movements for a Convention; and whilst civil law remains intact will work zealously and with heart. I expect myself to take the field as soon as the properties of my position will allow me, and shall exert every effort to restrain the revolutionary tendency of public opinion. Never, yet, sir, have the people of North Carolina refused to listen to their public men if they show right and reason on their side.—I do not fear to trust the issue now to these potent weapons in the hands of such men as will wield them next summer. I do fear to trust bayonets and dungeons. I endeavored soon after my accession to the Chief Magistracy of North Carolina, to make you aware of both the fact of disaffection in this State and the cause of it. In addition to the many letters to you, I have twice visited Richmond, expressly to give you information on this point. The truth is, as I have often said before, that the great body of our people have been *suspected* by their government, perhaps because of the reluctance with which they gave up the old Union, and I know you will pardon me for saying that the consciousness of their being suspected has been greatly strengthened, by what seemed to be a studied exclusion of the anti-secessionist from all the more important offices of the government, even from those promotions in the army, which many of them had won with their blood. Was this suspicion just? And was there sufficient effort made to disprove that it existed, if it really did not exist in Richmond? Discussion, it is true, has been unlimited and bitter, and unrelenting criticism upon your administration has been indulged in, but where and when have our people failed you in battle, or withheld either their blood or their vast resources? To what exaction have they not submitted, what draft upon their patriotism have they yet dishonored? Conscription, ruthless and unrelenting, has only been exceeded in the severity of its execution by the impressment of property, frequently entrusted to men unprincipled, dishonest, and filled to overflowing with all the petty measures of small minds dressed in a little brief authority.

The files of my office are piled up with the unavailing complaints of outraged citizens, to whom redress is impossible. Yet they have submitted, and so far performed with honor, their duty to their country, though the voice of their very natural murmurs is set down to disloyalty. I do not hold you responsible for all the petty annoyances the insolence of office, under which our people use heart and patience. Even if I did, I cannot forget that it is *my country* that I am serving, not the rulers of that country. I make no threat, I desire only with singleness of purpose and sincerity of heart, to speak those words of soberness and truth, which may, with the blessing of God, best subserve the cause of my suffering country.

Those words I now believe to be the advice herein given, to refrain from exercising the extraordinary powers about to be given you by the Congress, at least until the last hope of moral influence being sufficient, is extinct. Though you expressed a fear in your last letter that my continued efforts to conciliate were injudicious, I cannot yet see just cause for abandoning it. Perhaps I am unduly biased in my judgement concerning a people whom I love, and to whom I owe so much. Though I trust not. Our success depends not on the numbers engaged to support our cause, but upon the zeal and affection. Hence I have every hope in persuading, not one *forcing* the sympathies of an unwilling people. The Legislature of this State meets next May. Two-thirds are required by our Constitution to call a Convention. This number cannot be obtained, a bare majority vote for submitting the proposition, will, in my opinion, be impossible. Under no circumstances can a Convention be assembled in North Carolina during the present year, in my judgment, and during next summer the approaching State elections will afford an opportunity for a full and complete discussion of all the issues, the result of which I do not fear, if left to ourselves. If there be a people on earth given to be sober second thought, ameanable to reason and regardful of their plighted honor, I believe that I may claim that it is the people of North Carolina.

Very respectfully
Your obedient servant,
Z. B. VANCE.

GOV VANCE AND THE STATE RESERVES.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
Raleigh, April 16, 1864.

HON. J. A. SEDDON, *Secretary of War*—

DEAR SIR: Permit me to express the hope that you will suspend, for the present at least, the enrollment and conscription of the State reserves in North Carolina from 17 to 18 and from 45 to 50 years.

Their enrolment now, with the present prospect of their being called to the field from their crops, causes the most general consternation and gloom. I have no hesitation in assuring you that the partial obstruction even of these men from their crops, at any time between this and August, would be followed by the most distressing consequences.

In addition to these considerations I beg leave to remind you that the authorities of this State would be left powerless, without the shadow of a militia organization, to enforce obedience to law. Having no second class militia, as most of the States have, I presume it cannot be the intention of the Confederate government to reduce a sovereign State to this dangerous and humiliating condition. Such a course would be utterly at war with the genius of our new government, and repugnant to all the professions of the administration.

Our Legislature will convene again in the latter part of May, when I have no doubt steps will be taken to provide such a militia force as the exhaustion of the country will allow. Till that time I insist that you will leave the present organization untouched.

In the meantime the Home Guards now thoroughly organized and pretty well officered, are entirely at your service, in case of emergency.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed:) Z. B. VANCE.

The letter about desolations in Wilkes was published in the *Conservative* of the 18th June.

GOV. VANCE'S EFFORTS IN BEHALF OF THE FARMERS.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
Raleigh, June 8, 1863.

HON. J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War—Richmond, Va

DEAR SIR: I beg leave to suggest, respectfully, the propriety of permitting the great number of detailed soldiers in this State, at work for Government, to repair to their homes for two or three weeks during harvest.

The crop is very large and promising indeed, and the labor to save it very limited. These detailed men could render invaluable service in the fields, and I hope this labor could be spared a few weeks without detriment to the public interest.

Please consider of it.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
Z. B. VANCE.

GOV. VANCE TO HON. THOS. BRAGG, C. S. COMMISSIONER.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
Raleigh, April 15th, 1864.

HON. THOMAS BRAGG, *C. S. Commissioner*—

DEAR SIR: His Excellency, Gov. Vance, has received information that there is a number of citizens under arrest at Kinston. He directs me to call your attention to the fact, and respectfully to request that you will investigate the cause of their detention, and give them a speedy trial, so that, if innocent of any offence, they may be discharged.

Yours very respectfully,
DAVID A. BARNES,
Aid-de-camp to the Governor.

GOV. VANCE TO HON. E. G. READE.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
Raleigh, January 14th, 1864.

HON. E. G. READE, *Roxboro', N. C.*—

MY DEAR SIR: I enclose you herewith a commission as Senator from North Carolina to the Confederate States Congress, for the remainder of the unexpired term of the Hon. Geo. Davis. I trust you will accept it and proceed at once to Richmond.—The term is short, it is true, but yet I regard it of importance that we should be represented at such a crisis as this, and perhaps one calm voice amid the reckless and desperate legislation of the day might be heard warning and expostulating.

Very truly yours,
Z. B VANCE.

WOOL NOTICE.

QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT,
RALEIGH, July 2, 1864.

I AM NOW PREPARED TO EXCHANGE COTTON Yarn for Wool, upon the following terms, viz:

One bunch of Yarn for three pounds washed Wool, and one bunch for four pounds unwashed.

Agents have been appointed to make the exchange at the following places: Oxford, Tarboro, Kinston, Catherine Lake, Concord, Rockingham, Hendersonville, Statesville, Roxboro', Asheville, Pittsboro', Louisburg, Fayetteville, Colerain, and at this place.

Persons shipping wool to this place will please mark on the packages who they are from, and the cotton yarn will be forwarded immediately.

I hope the people will patriotically respond to the above notice, as the Wool is for clothing the N. C. Troops.

H. A. DOVD, A. Q. M., N. C. A.
61—tf.

HILLSBORO' N. C. MILITARY ACADEMY.

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Major James H. Foote, Asst. Adjt. Gen., (Roll of Honor.)
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Lieut. John B. Neathery, Wake, Asst. Adjt. General.
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Lieut. Thaddeus McGee, Wake. Asst. Commissary.
Lieut. Charles H. Thompson, Wake, Asst. Commissary.

JUDICIAL.

Supreme Court.—Richmond M Pearson, Yadkin, Chief Justice,—William H Battle, Orange, and Matthias E Manly, of Craven, Judges; Sion H Rogers, Wake, Attorney General; Hamilton C Jones, Rowan, Reporter; Edmund B Freeman, Clerk. [Meets in the city of Raleigh second Monday in June each year. The Morganton term has been discontinued.]

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53	Wm A Owens,	Jas T Morehead,	
54	Ken R Murchison,	Anderson Ellis,	
55	John K Connally,	Alfred H Belo,	
56	Paul F Faison,	G Gratiott Luke,	John W Graham,
57	Arch C Godwin,	Hamilton C Jones,	James A Craige,
58	John B Palmer,		Thomas J Dula,
59	Den D Ferrebee,	Edward Cantwell,	James M Mayo,
60	Wash M Hardy,	James T Weaver,	James T Huff,
61	Jas D Radcliffe,	Wm S Devane,	Henry Harding,
62		Geo W Clayton,	
63		Stephen B Evans,	James H McNeill,
64		Wm N Garrett,	Thos P Jones,
65	Geo N Folk,	Alfred H Baird,	John J Spann,
66		J H Nethercutt,	Clem G Wright,
67	John N Whitford,	Rufus W Wharton,	Ed Whitford.
68	James W Hinton,	Ed C Yellowly,	

The First Battalion (Heavy Artillery) is commanded by Maj Alexander MacRae; The First Battalion Sharp Shooters by Capt R E Wilson; The Second Battalion (Infantry) by ——— The Third Battalion (Light Artillery) by Maj John W Moore; The Tenth Battalion by Maj W L Young; The Twelfth Battalion by Capt J O Cherry; The Thirteenth Battalion (Light Artillery) by Lieut Col Joseph S Starr; The Fourteenth Battalion (Cavalry) by Lieut Col J L Henry; The Fifteenth Battalion (Cavalry) by Lieut Col J M Wynn; Thomas' Legion consists of a Regiment and a Battalion and is commanded by Col Wm H Thomas.

The 1st and 3rd Regiments are in Stewart's Brigade, Johnson's Division, Ewell's Corps.

The 2d, 4th, 14th and 30th are in Cox's Brigade, Rodes' Division, Ewell's Corps.

The 5th, 12th, 20th and 23d are in Johnston's Brigade, Rodes' Division, Ewell's Corps.

The 6th, 21st, 54th and 57th and 1st Battalion Sharp Shooters are in Lewis' Brigade, Hoke's Division, Beauregard's Corps. The 43d Regiment is temporarily with this Brigade.

The 7th, 18th, 28th, 33d and 37th are in Lane's Brigade, Wilcox's Division, Hill's Corps.

The 8th, 31st, 51st and 61st are in Clingman's Brigade, Beauregard's Corps.

The 9th, 19th, 41st, 59th and 63d are in Barringer's Brigade, Hampton's Division, ——— Corps.

The 11th, 26th, 44th, 47th and 52d are in Kirkland's Brigade, Heth's Division, Hill's Corps.

The 13th, 16th, 22d, 34th and 38th are in Scale's Brigade, Wilcox's Division, Hill's Corps.

The 15th, 27th, 46th and 48th are in Cooke's Brigade, Heth's Division, Hill's Corps.

The 17th, 42d, 50th and 66th are in Martin's Brigade, Hoke's Division, Beauregard's Corps.

The 24th, 25th, 45th, 49th and 56th are in Ransom's Brigade, ——— Division, Beauregard's Corps.

The 29th is in Ecton's Brigade, French's Division.

The 32d, 43d, 45th, 53d and 2d Battalion are in Grimes' Brigade, Rodes' Division, Ewell's Corps.

The 36th and 40th are in Herbert's Brigade, Whiting's Division, Beauregard's Corps.

The 38th is in McNair's Brigade, French's Division.

The 55th is in Davis' Brigade, Heth's Division, Hill's Corps.

The 58th and 60th are in Reynold's Brigade, Stevenson's Division.

The 10th, 52d, 64th, 65th, 67th and 68th are not brigaded.

JUNIOR RESERVES:

1st Battalion	Reserve Forces,	Maj	C. W. Broadfoot.
2d "	"	"	J. H. Anderson.
3d "	"	"	— Hooks.
4th "	"	"	J. M. Reece.
5th "	"	"	W. F. Beasley.
6th "	"	"	W. McK. Clark.
7th "	"	"	W. Foster French.

GOVERNMENT OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES.

Jefferson Davis, of Mississippi, President, salary $25,000.

Alexander H Stephens, of Georgia, Vice President, salary $8,000.

Aids to the President—Col Wm Brown, of Ga., Col James Chesnut, of S. C., Col Wm P Johnston, of Ky., Col Joseph C Ives, of Miss., Col G W C Lee, of Va., Col John T Wood.

Private Secretary to President—Burton N Harrison, of Miss.

Department of State—John P Benjamin, of La., Secretary of State. L Q Washington, Chief Clerk. The office of Assistant Secretary is vacant.

Department of Justice—Attorney General, Geo Davis of North Carolina. Wade Keyes, of Ala., Assistant Attorney General. Rufus H Rhodes, of Miss., Commissioner of Patents. G E W Nelson, of Ga., Superintendent of Public Printing. R M Smith, of Virginia Public Printer.

Treasury Department—C G Memminger, of S C., Secretary of the Treasury. Robert Tyler, Register. E Elmore, Treasurer. J M Strother, of Va., Chief Clerk. Lewis Cruger, of S. C., Comptroller. B Baker, of Florida, 1st Auditor. W H S Taylor, of La., 2d Auditor.

War Department—James A Seddon, of Va., Secretary of War. Judge John A Campbell, of Ala., Assistant Secretary of War. R G H Kean, Chief Bureau of War. Gen S Cooper, Adjutant and Inspector General. Lieut Col John Withers, Lieut Col H I Clay, Major Ed A Palfrey, Major S Melton, and Captain Reilly, Assistant Adjutants and Inspectors Generals. Brig Gen A R Lawton, of Ga., Quartermaster General. Col L B Northop, of S. C., Commisshry General C H Smith, M D, Assistant Surgeon.

Navy Department—S R Mallory, of Florida, Secretary of the Navy. E M Timball, Chief Clerk. Com John M Brooke, Chief of Ordnance. Com A B Fairfax, Inspector of Ordnance. Com J K Mitchell, in charge of Orders and Detail. Surgeon W A W Spottswood, Chief of Medicine and Surgery. Paymaster J DeBrice, Chief of Clothing and Provisions.

Postoffice Department—John H Reagan, of Texas, Postmaster General. H St George Offutt of Va., Chief of Contract Bureau. B N Clements, of Tenn., Chief of Appointment of Bureau. John L. Harrell, of Ala., Chief of Finance Bureau. B Fuller, of N. C., Clerk.