

THE TRUE CONSERVATIVE PLATFORM.—The supremacy of the civil over military law. A quiet submission to all laws, whether good or bad, which remain upon our statute books.

TAKE NOTICE.

We hereby notify the subscribers of the Conservative, that we have adopted the Cross Mark, to indicate to them when the times their subscriptions have expired, or are about to expire.

THE CONFEDERATE ARMIES need recruiting. This is the language we hear from all quarters, and the press takes it up and sounds the rally cry, recruit! recruit!

The enemy is receiving large additions to his force by various means. Thousands of them have served out their terms, have been sent home, or are left in Confederate prisons to pine and die.

What is to be done? More men must be had, and the question is, from whence shall they come? This is the question of the hour. Cool reflection, forecast and common sense ought to decide it.

One proposes more legislation by Congress, and another more by the State Legislatures. The militia officers and the magistrates must be forced out, and the boys of 16 and 17, and the men from 45 to 55 must be brought forward.

We regret to see such ideas again mooted. Our people are a unit in the prosecution of the war. Every man believes, that every man who can serve the country better in the field than at home, ought to go.

The cause of the Confederacy, we judge, has been more injured by too much, than by too little legislation. A score of years, prior to the war, would not exhibit a fitter as much injudicious legislation, as the last three years have produced.

Something more about the gold on board of the Advance. We learn definitely that the entire shipment of gold on the Advance was made by private parties on their own account, and for which they paid the usual freight.

Major Robert B. MacRae, late of the 7th N. C. Regiment, and more recently Controlling Quartermaster of the tax in kind for this State, was chosen Sheriff of New Hanover at the election in August, and has entered on his duties as such.

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containing much good sense, and deserving the attention of the authorities. He proposes the plan as one by which the war could be ended in sixty days.

1. Executing, on twenty days notice, the law of Congress ordering into the ranks all able-bodied soldiers detailed in the several departments, and replacing them with disabled soldiers or persons over forty five years of age.

2. Removing to the field all the fresh and full commands occupying forts and garrisons, guarding bridges, depots, &c., and replacing them with skeleton companies and regiments requiring rest and recruiting.

3. Transferring to infantry, without exception, every cavalry man who fails to mount himself after thirty days.

We believe that the present is the most important period of the war to the Confederacy. A few signal successes in the next two months, would save perhaps, years of conflict and rivers of blood.

We do not deny that there are men, both among the militia officers and magistrates, who ought to be in the field—who could do more for the cause in the army than at home.

This article is already much longer than we intended, but the following remarks of the Charlotte Democrat, in this regard, nearly accord with our own views, that we with pleasure append them:

We agree with the Confederate that it would be well to assemble the Legislature earlier this year than usual, but we do not entirely agree with its suggestion in regard to putting militia officers and justices of the peace in Confederate service.

We do not advocate the exemption of any man because he happens to be a militia officer or magistrate, but as that class are generally producers, and as they are exempt by special enactment of the Legislature, we suggest that, before enacting them, trial be made to see how many men can be procured from other classes; then if it is really necessary to take more farmers, let it be done.

It appears that something has been going on in the Valley, from the following, which is Sheridan's official report of an engagement near Summit Point.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 14, 1864. To Major General Dix: The following dispatch has just been received from General Sheridan:

NEAR BERRYVILLE, Sept. 13, 7 P. M. This morning I sent Gen. Gatty's Division, of the Sixth Corps, with two brigades of cavalry, to the crossing of the Summit Point and Winchester road, near Ocoquan Creek.

Our loss in the reconnoissance is very light. No report of active operations have been received from other commands.

EDWIN M. STANTON, Sec. of War. This is posterior to the announcement published in this paper last week, to the effect that on the 11th our forces had driven the Yankees through Martinsburg.

WILLMORE is believed now to be a point, which the enemy has marked for an early attack. Rumor has it that Farragut's fleet in Mobile Bay has been ordered there for that purpose.

We are glad to learn that in the judgment of one of our best engineers in the army, that its fortifications and means of defence are admirable.

THE TELEGRAPH announces the death in battle at Winchester, of Major General R. E. Rodes, of Alabama, and Brigadier General Archibald C. Godwin, of North Carolina.

Gen. Rodes was well and favorably known in this State as the Division Commander of Johnston's, Cox's, and Grimes' North Carolina Brigades.

We learn that a letter has been received in this City from Capt. John C. Gorman, of the 2nd N. C. Regiment. Capt. G. has been a prisoner since the opening of the present campaign.

WE ARE GLAD to be able to correct an error into which we had fallen, in regard to the examination of sick or wounded furloughed men, by the Surgeons of the Hospitals of this city.

DAVID BETHUNE, Esq., of Rabeson, is at the Pettigrew Hospital, instead of the Peace Institute, and is doing well. We were led into the error by one of our city contemporaries.

Captain S. M. Finger has been promoted to the position of Controlling Quartermaster of the Tax in kind for this State, with the rank of Major.

RESIGNED.—Capt. S. M. Stanford, 51st Regiment and Capt. Joseph O. Cherry, 50th Regiment N. C. Troops have resigned.

LATEST NORTHERN NEWS. From the New York Tribune of the 15th and 16th, just received at the Richmond Whip office, we gather late and interesting news from the United States.

WAR DEPARTMENT. Washington, Sept. 14, 1864. To Major General Dix: The following dispatch has just been received from General Sheridan:

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Great credit is due to Generals Wilson and Mackintosh, and the 3d New Jersey and 2d Ohio. The charge was a gallant one.

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PEACE DEMOCRATS IN COUNCIL. The Peace Democrats of New York city held a meeting at the Saint Nicholas Hotel, on Saturday, to take action upon Gen. McClellan's letter and to consult upon the best means of organizing a Peace Party, and of selecting a Peace candidate for the Presidency.

cratic party which the latter of General McClellan completely covered was unanimously adopted. The meeting then adjourned to this week, when other distinguished members of the party are expected to be present.

1,500 CONFEDERATES REPORTED AT DOMPHAN, MO. A dispatch dated Pilot Knob, Sept. 11, to General Ewing, states that 1,500 Confederates were at Domphan, Mo. The officer reporting this stated an attack on Patterson.

THE following is the latest from that section: CAPE GIRARDEAU, Sept. 11, 1864. To General Ewing:

Have just heard from the forces I sent out under Captains McClintock and Edwards. They came upon the forces of Colonel Clarke and M. J. Parrott in Dunkin county, and drove them out of the State, killed 7 of them, captured 2 prisoners and a number of horses and arms.

The steamship Arabia, from Liverpool September 2d, via Queenstown September 4th, arrived at Halifax on Wednesday night.

Our Northern dates furnish us also with the mails of the steamer City of Manchester, from Queenstown on the 1st and Liverpool on the 31st.

RAMSEUR'S LATE OPERATIONS. CAMP — Sept. 7th, 1864. To the Editors of the Sentinel: I have been waiting some time in the hope that some one, other than myself, would undertake to remove the erroneous impression which has been made upon the public mind in regard to the engagement of the 20th of July, 1864, between the forces under Major General S. D. Ramseur and those of the enemy, under General Averill.

It would be amusing if it were not frequently shocking to one's sense of justice, to hear the reports which reach you of the doings of this army of the Valley District.

On the 19th of July, 1864, Early's division, commanded by Major General S. D. Ramseur, then bivouacked near the road leading from Berryville to Charlestown, several miles from the former place, received orders to make a rapid night march to Winchester, (41 state seventeen miles), to check a reported advance of the enemy from the direction of Martinsburg, until all of our sick and wounded and supplies could be removed from that place, then to proceed to Newtown, (nine miles distant) and encamp.

Beginning to move an hour or two before sunset, the troops marched all the night of that day, and by early dawn on the morning of the 20th, found themselves on the pike running from Winchester to Martinsburg, and halted, and placed in an orchard for rest, and to wait further developments.

Report fourth, asking "how far the enemy should be driven?" The reply to this was, "to Bunker Hill, or beyond, as opportunity offers." Report fifth, brought by a staff officer, requesting General R. to lay an ambuscade for the enemy, whose force consisted of four regiments of cavalry, into which he (General V.) would draw him.

Report sixth, stating that the enemy had been seen in the neighborhood of Martinsburg, with head well directed to the Potomac, and heard bent upon reaching that desirable stream.

The division commander, followed by his staff, immediately rode to the front to ascertain the cause of the rashness of the firing.

Arrived at a body of woods about two miles from the orchard where the troops had been bivouacked, the division commander discovered our cavalry drawn up in line of battle on either side of the pike, with skirmishers to the front, engaged in occasional firing at the advance of the enemy, at immensely long range.

Reconnoitering the ground as thoroughly as possible, an order was sent back by Gen. R., to form a line of battle, placing one brigade on the right of the

pike, one on the left, and the third to be held in reserve in line in the rear of the second brigade, to be used as circumstances might require.

Almost refusing to credit the report, he dashed to the left and painfully realized its verity. It is not necessary to mention here, in the fourth year of the war, in speaking of officers who have distinguished themselves in many battles, and who bear upon their persons so many marks of hostile lead, that every effort was made to rally the broken line.

This is a simple statement of the facts. There was no surprise, no wandering with an ambuscade, or fighting a line of battle with a column.

The officer commanding the infantry received information, which proved to be incorrect, respecting the force of the enemy. He moved out to attack.

With a better knowledge of a regular policy, with Southern troops, is questionable. The battle of Kernstown was fought under similar circumstances by Gen. T. J. Jackson.

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