

THE STATE JOURNAL

JOHN SPELMAN, PRINTER TO THE STATE, AND AUTHORIZED PUBLISHER OF THE LAWS OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA.

Terms of the State Journal. We beg to remind our friends that our paper is conducted on the cash system. The cash must accompany the order in every case.

Notice to Subscribers. The STATE JOURNAL is conducted on the cash principle. No paper will hereafter be sent without the money accompanying the order.

Laws of the Confederate States. (BY AUTHORITY.) (No. 32.) AN ACT TO ENCOURAGE ENLISTMENTS IN THE CORPS OF MARINES.

SECTION 1. The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That from and after the passage of this act, enlistments in the Marine Corps shall be for the term of the existing war, or for the period of three years, at the recruits may elect at the time of enlistment.

SECTION 2. A bill to be further enacted, That every able bodied man who may enlist and be received into the Marine Corps, shall be entitled to a bounty of fifty dollars, to be paid at the time of joining the Corps.

SECTION 3. A bill to be further enacted, That for the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of this act, the sum of forty thousand dollars, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

SECTION 4. The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That the official acts of J. C. Ramsey, late District Attorney, and of J. B. Clements, late Marshal of the District of Tennessee, and of the Deputies of said Marshal, from the time their respective offices were vacated, by the passage of the act of the Provisional Congress, approved on the 12th day of December 1861, by which said District of Tennessee was divided into three several Districts, without any provision for continuing said officers in office, be and the same are hereby made legal and valid to the same extent and in the same manner, as if they had been continued in office up to the passage of this act; and they are hereby exonerated from any penalty, forfeiture or liability to the public or any private person by reason of any official act committed by them, as if they had been legally in office at the time of committing the same.

SECTION 5. The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That the said District of Tennessee be and the same are hereby made legal and valid to the same extent and in the same manner, as if they had been continued in office up to the passage of this act; and they are hereby exonerated from any penalty, forfeiture or liability to the public or any private person by reason of any official act committed by them, as if they had been legally in office at the time of committing the same.

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authorized to be issued by an act entitled "An act to provide for the issue of Treasury notes and to authorize a war tax for their redemption," approved August 19, 1861, and by the further supplemental act to the above cited act, approved December 19, 1861, from time to time, as the public necessities may require, Treasury notes, certificates of stock, and bonds, not to exceed in the aggregate the sum of two hundred millions of dollars, of which fifty millions shall be in Treasury notes to be issued without reserve; ten millions in Treasury notes to be used as a reserve fund, and issued to pay any sudden or unexpected call for deposits; and one hundred and sixty-five millions certificates of stock or bonds; the said Treasury notes, certificates of stock and bonds to be issued under the same forms, conditions and restrictions as are provided by the above cited acts, in every respect particular: Provided, however, that the Secretary of the Treasury may, if he shall deem the same advisable, effect a loan, at home or abroad, in specie funds or bills of exchange or Treasury notes, by a sale of the said bonds or stock upon such terms as may be found practicable; and provided further, that all bonds issued under this section shall be made redeemable at the pleasure of the government after the expiration of ten years from their respective dates, but the faith of the government shall be pledged to redeem the same at the expiration of thirty years from such dates.

SECTION 2. The Secretary of the Treasury may issue in exchange for any of the Treasury notes which may be issued under this or any other law, bonds or certificates payable in no more than ten years, at a rate of interest not exceeding six per cent. per annum, payable semi-annually, to the extent of fifty million dollars, which fifty millions shall constitute part of the one hundred and sixty-five millions of stock and bonds above authorized; the said bonds or certificates to be convertible, at the pleasure of the holder, into Treasury notes, and the said exchange and re-exchange to be subject to such regulations as the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe.

SECTION 3. The form of the said bonds or certificates authorized by the second section above shall be determined by the Secretary of the Treasury; the said certificates may be issued with or without coupons, and may be made payable to order or bearer, as may be deemed expedient.

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THE BATTLE OF RICHMOND.—Its incidents and results, so far as results are developed, are deservedly the absorbing topic of the day. With all our sympathies, sensibilities and anxieties awakened we are yet not allowed to indulge in those sentimentalities which the dread occasion suggests. Our only source of information, at present, is confined to the Richmond Press, and they, being on the spot, must necessarily be supposed to contain the most reliable statements that can be gathered up. It will be our object to publish every thing, which they may deem proper to set forth in relation to this fierce combat. In relation to the battle the Examiner of Monday says:

Friday was marked by one of the heaviest storms of rain ever known in this country. The Chickahominy being swollen, and the swamps impassable, it was wisely chosen by General Johnston as a fit opportunity to attack and annihilate the division of the Federal army, which had passed the Chickahominy at Bottom's Bridge and entrenched in White Oak swamp.

The Confederate forces attacked on Saturday, and gained a complete victory. The right to call the action a complete victory to the Confederates is established by these facts: 1st. That the Confederates drove the enemy from all their lines, a distance of three miles back; 2d. That they took all the enemy's artillery that was in those lines; 3d. That they took the enemy's camps, with everything in them, tents, standing, baggage undisturbed, letters, public and private, and retained possession of the Federal fortifications, redoubts, entrenchments, and retained possession of them.

These facts give indisputable right to claim for the Confederates a victory of the most entire kind. The following is the Examiner's details of the battle on Sunday, being all we can publish in our present issue. Those on Monday shall appear tomorrow.

The defence of Richmond. Opening of the battle on the Richmond lines.—Tremendous fighting on Saturday, and rout of the enemy.—Capture of Batteries, Prisoners, etc.

As was generally anticipated, from the position occupied by a portion of the enemy's force on the South side of the Chickahominy, on the right wing of General Johnston's army, the battle was opened between an attack in force of Longstreet's and Hill's divisions on the enemy's position on the Richmond and York River railroad. The enemy, in large force, had entrenched themselves behind continuous batteries, and fired their crossbow in front of them so as to render the approach of our troops the more difficult. After a musketry and cannon skirmish, during the continuance of which our brave troops withstood the full fire of the batteries, a charge was made on the enemy's position by General Hill's Second Florida, Sixth Virginia and Fifth South Carolina leading the charge up to the very muzzles of the guns under a terrific fire of grape, canister, round shot and shell, that cut them down by scores. Mounting over the first battery, they took possession at the point of the bayonet, the Yankees fleeing to the next in position, and so on, until they had opened their fire, and in turn were taken, large numbers of the Yankees being killed and taken prisoners.

After an obstinate fight of two hours the enemy fell back, leaving sixteen pieces of artillery, composing three batteries, in possession of our victorious troops. Our loss here was heavy, including several officers and men, and several pieces of artillery, but it is supposed to have been equally heavy. The behavior of our troops was splendid. One company of the North Carolina regiment alone took one hundred and sixty-five prisoners, and brought them to the rear.—The enemy's force was estimated at fully 30,000, and reinforced constantly.

After the firing on our right wing, the enemy attempted a demonstration, across the Chickahominy, on our left wing, north of the Mechanicsville turnpike, and on the Nine Mile road. It was here gallantly opposed by General G. W. Smith's division of infantry, and General Magruder's sloop, and Acting Brigadier General Colonel Wade Hampton's command of the Sixteenth North Carolina, and Nineteenth Georgia, attempted to capture a battery from the enemy, but finding it too heavily supported, fell back, but not until after receiving its fire and giving their own in return, and forcing the enemy to retire. Our loss was not heavy, but among the killed we have to lament several gallant and distinguished officers. On the left wing fell General Pettigrew, of South Carolina, a name that became illustrious in this revolution. He fell and died on the field. General Hutton, of the Tennessee brigade, was shot from his horse and died in the arms of his comrade, General Hampton, who was slightly in the foot, but remained at his post. His horse was shot twice.

The fighting extended gradually from the left to the right again, about 5 o'clock, and continued up to near eight o'clock in the evening, when darkness put an end to the conflict, our army resting or their arms in the positions from whence the enemy had been forced.

The strength of the enemy is supposed to have been very great on both wings, and his loss proportionately heavy. The sudden booming of artillery heard occasionally in the city on Sunday morning had prepared the people for the idea that the battle was upon it, but became evident that bloody work was doing all day long. The ambulances and surgeons had gone out, and our citizens remained in a state of anxious suspense, but not alarm; they knew too well the invincible army in whom they had confided their trust. Soon persons in vehicles and on horseback began to arrive from the front, and the first news was that the enemy was routed by groups of citizens, who were eagerly roundly by the news. Their presence was marked everywhere by attentive groups of listeners. "We have repulsed the enemy!" passed from lip to lip, and a cheering beam of satisfaction lit up every face, and fell on the hearts of the gallant men who had fallen and were still falling in the fight.

Towards evening the wounded began to come in from the several scenes of action, and were carried to the hospitals, the hotels and residences. Many appeared to be only slightly wounded, barely sufficient to disable them, and laughed and chatted with the hundreds of sympathizers who gathered around the ambulances. Other men, however, were through the agony of death, and more serious, lay stretched out, and some in the agonies of death.

Throughout Saturday night they were being brought in, up to yesterday morning, and all descriptions of vehicles were impressed to carry them.

We have some additional accounts of the fight on our right wing. The scene of the battle was about eight miles out on the Williamsburg road. The artillery on our side opened about ten minutes to one p. m., and the commanding continued for the space of one-half or three quarters of an hour. After a heavy fire of musketry, our troops charged upon the enemy in their entrenchments with the most desperate gallantry, repulsing him at the point of the bayonet, and driving him back until we had possession of his entire camp. The enemy, being heavily reinforced, drove us back for a little space, but could not recover his camp.

General Hill was in command of the field, but General Stuart was in immediate command of that portion of it where the fight was in progress. After the Yankees had been driven from their camp, it was thought that they were retreating down the Chickahominy, when Gen. Stuart deployed three regiments to intercept their retreat. It was found, however, that the enemy was being heavily reinforced, and the regiments were recalled.

About this time General Stuart sent Lieut. Fontaine, who had attached himself to his staff as aid, to Gen. Hill, or such general officer as he might find on the field, urging him to hold his position, as reinforcements were coming up. The assurance of reinforcements gave fresh impetus to our men, and the firing was continued with loud and hearty cheers. After the fight had continued for about an hour, the ammunition of some of the regiments gave out, and there was some wavering along our lines. Col. Lee, Lieut. Fontaine and Col. Moore were sent by Gen. Stuart to see to the ammunition train, and to rally such of the regiment as had been thrown in disorder. The twenty-fourth Virginia, the Fifth North Carolina, and some other regiments were reformed and led into action by

Colonel Moore, and then put in command of Colonel Smith. About half past six o'clock Gen. Huger's division came upon the field in gallant style, the men dashed on at the double-quick with loud cheers. The combat was now furious. There was a continuous roll of musketry, varied by the occasional booming of artillery. The firing continued until about eight o'clock, when the enemy were driven still further back, and we remained in possession of their camp, having captured a number of pieces of their artillery.

The King William artillery, Capt. Carter, was prominent in the fight, and achieved the most conspicuous results. Their battery was posted in the road, and was engaged from one to half past five o'clock, when it was relieved. Their loss in killed and wounded was terrible—thirty-seven out of eighty-eight. Lieut. William Carter was wounded in the breast by a Minnie ball. Second Lieut. Newcomb was killed. The battery was publicly complimented in a glowing speech by Gen. Hill, who declared that its gallantry would hold a conspicuous part in history, and that "he had rather be in command of such men than be President of the Confederate States."

Up to half-past seven o'clock Saturday night we had taken about one hundred and thirty prisoners. In addition to this we learned that, late in the evening, an entire company of the enemy had thrown down their arms and surrendered themselves as prisoners. Among the prisoners taken by us were a lieutenant, Colonel, a major, and several other commissioned officers.

Our forces engaged on the right were Stuart's Hill's, Longstreet's and Magruder's divisions; the latter having come up during the action. We had probably twenty to twenty-five thousand men in this action. The prisoners taken by us say that the enemy had three divisions engaged on our right.

Battle of Richmond. [Concluded from the Richmond Examiner.] SECOND DAY—SUNDAY. THE BATTLE RESUMED ON SUNDAY—MORE HARD FIGHTING—SUCCESS FOR OUR ARMS.

Public expectation was on a tiptoe yesterday in anticipation of the renewal of the contest for the hard-fought field in front of Richmond on Saturday, and events did not disappoint in the least. The scene of the fight was near the Williamsburg road. About seven o'clock, a. m., the Ninth Virginia Regiment, Lieut. Col. Gowlin, who had been on their arms unconsciously with the use of artillery that a few pieces were unambiguously by a Yankee regiment, who rose up behind a dense thicket, and protected thereby, poured a destructive fire into the uncovered column of the Ninth, which, however, being speedily supported, drove the enemy back and captured several pieces of artillery. The ground was so very dry and unfavorable for the use of artillery that the policy which could be brought into play, and the firing was principally by musketry, which raged furiously from the left to the centre of the lines. The brigades engaged were General Holmes' and Griffith's, of Smith's division, including the Third Alabama, Col. Lomax, and the Twelfth and Forty-first Virginia regiments. The advance was gradually pushed until they were one mile from the city, when our column broke the centre of the enemy, and he commenced sullenly retreating in the direction of the Meadow Bridge and Williamsburg roads, abandoning his camp, occupied the previous night, and leaving in our hands large quantities of small arms, overcoats, knapsacks, &c., with some secured, and the rest of the enemy's night march. The firing ceased, except occasional shots at "long law." In the early part of the battle, Lieut. Col. Gowlin, who was in advance of the Ninth Virginia, had his horse shot from under him, and the animal, in falling, fell upon him and seriously injured him in the breast and head. He was brought to the rear, and was unable to take any further part in the action. He was killed in the action, while gallantly leading his regiment, the charge in support of the Ninth Virginia, distinguished himself in the fight, and took a considerable number of prisoners both on Saturday and yesterday.

It was stated that the enemy fired on a train on the York River railroad carrying the wounded to the city, and that no attention was paid to a flag of truce sent on the field.

There was a report of the Third Alabama firing into the Twelfth Virginia, who returned the fire, and created some confusion, but we are without confirmation as to its reliability.

From the numbers engaged on the side of the enemy, it was evident that he had massed heavily during the night on his left wing (our right). The enemy's strength on both wings on Saturday was estimated at 60,000, and ours between 20,000 and 30,000, to oppose them. Yet our strength was at least 50,000, with heavy reserves and our army about the same. The enemy during both days had the advantage of position and entrenchments, but lost them both. Our loss in the battle, or rather two battles, was not less than 1,000 or 1,200. The enemy's loss was great, if not greater, besides several hundred prisoners.

During the progress of the fight the line of battle was penetrated by many of the citizens of Richmond, charged with the duty of bringing off the wounded, civilians and others, who, in numerous instances performed feats of valor worthy of disciplined soldiers. In accordance with our determination, heretofore announced, we have always intended to select from the candidates the man who may seem to us best fitted for the emergency. And in supporting such a one, we shall endeavor to avoid all intemperate zeal, our object being in this as in all things else during our struggle for freedom, to unite all parties and all men in furtherance to the great cause.—Fay's Observer.

GUERNSEY.—It is gratifying to learn of the unanimity with which Mr. Johnston's name has been received as a candidate for Governor in this section of the State, and further West. Six or seven Western papers have endorsed him. To those named heretofore, we have the pleasure to add the Asheville News; therefore men of all parties in this section, we know, cordially unite upon him. Hungry office-seekers, disappointed and spiteful men and party schemers, no doubt will oppose him, but we think the people are for him, and will rebuke those who are trying to get up a party contest in the State.—Charlotte Democrat.

THE GUNBOATS.—Since the last communication by flag of truce yesterday morning no change has been made in the fleet. They still remain in their old position out of reach of our guns.

Several shots have been fired by the gunboats at our men on the shore between the lower batteries and Warrenton, but no one has been hurt by them. One heavy shell that did not explode by its in the Warrenton road, and is an object of much curiosity to all who pass that way.

CAUTION TO PLANTERS.—The Mason Telegraph says, "we have been requested to caution planters not to turn their stock into wheat or cotton fields affected with the rust or mildew. It has already proved fatal to stock in several instances. Cotton owners should heed this warning. The South, for at least this year, can illly afford to lose beef-cattle."

CAPTURED.—The Federal fleet in front of Warrenton is committing all sorts of depredations upon the people among the shore. Two citizens of Warrenton, Mr. Gardner, have been captured and carried off to their boats.

ELECTION IN WESTERN VIRGINIA.—To-morrow is election day throughout Western Virginia. A Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Attorney General are to be chosen. Besides these, county officers are to be voted for in all the counties. There are no candidates in the field for the offices first named, save the present holders of them, viz. Gov. Pierpont, Lieut. Gov. Puley and Attorney General Wheat.—Balt. Sun, May 21.

LOOK OUT FOR HELPER.—The Edgefield "Advertiser" says: "A correspondent addressing us from Williamson N. C., says that the notorious Helper, impending crisis, is ascertained to have passed through that place recently, from the direction of Roanoke Island."

The Assistant Provost Marshal has received instructions to hereafter, until further notified, order the closing of all the places of public amusement during these exciting times as a precautionary measure. The order goes into effect to-night.

The movement is a good one, as it will offer less inducements to the soldiers to straggle into the city at night from the camps. Soldiers should be on the field, facing the stern realities of this hour, not haggling in the pit of a theatre over the madlin representations of a lay-gone age.

A Yankee Colonel was brought into the Marshal's office yesterday and a prisoner. A person present remarked, "You 'on to Richmond' journey wasn't a very pleasant one for you, was it?" "No, not until after 11 o'clock, A. M.; (yesterday) when I found it pleasant enough, among a few hundred prisoners."

A gentleman who was on the battle field yesterday, among other trophies, picked up the copy book of one division of the enemy's army, containing copies of all the dispatches sent to the War Department at Washington. According to the dispatches, they were, in fact, a few minutes of taking their batteries, making the most successful advances towards Richmond.

A twenty-pound spherical shell fell near where a spectator of the battle yesterday was standing. It did not explode, and he secured the shell and brought it to the city as a relic of the field.

Col. Johnston. Our readers will perceive that we have placed at the head of our columns the name of Col. WILLIAM JOHNSTON, of the county of Mecklenburg, as the candidate for the office of Governor of the State, by the support of the Southern Rights party, give our support. We have more than once in the Register given reasons why Col. Johnston would make a most acceptable Governor to a large majority of the people of the State. He is a man of sterling integrity, great intelligence, and of a capacity for business possessed by few persons. It is true that he has not been much in public life, (except a short service in the Convention he has never been in public life) but this fact, so far from depreciating his claims, should the more commend him to the favor of the people. We have had enough, and to spare of old party and political hacks, and at this time of our old party, we should place in the Executive chair who, unembarrassed by past political animosities or friendships, can act with a free eye to the good of the State, and the maintenance of her rights as a member of the Southern Confederacy. Col. Johnston stands with the friends of Southern Rights, and by them he will be supported. He does not look back with lingering affection to the old Union, and regret its dissolution; but on the contrary, he believes that our secession from it was an act of duty, necessary and expedient, and that to return to it would be the most calamitous and disgraceful act which the South could commit.

Col. Johnston is in favor of fully sustaining the Administration of the Confederate Government while the war lasts, and earnestly deprecates the policy which would now, while we are in the midst of one of the fiercest and bloodiest conflicts for liberty which the world has ever seen, raise a party in opposition to it, and thus divide the people, when nothing less than perfect concert and unity can save us from slavery.

Col. Johnston's views of State Policy have always been liberal, and at the same time prudent; and should he be placed in the Executive chair, the people may expect from him a safe and enlightened Administration.

Entertaining these opinions of Col. Johnston's views and capacity, he shall have our humble, but cordial support as a candidate for the office of Governor of North Carolina.

Messrs. Editors:—I see by the papers the call of the Charleston Hospital for blackberry cordial for our sick, as dysentery has appeared among them, to which call I will respond if possible to obtain good whiskey, and make known through your paper the great efficacy of the smart weed in that disease. It grows all over the country North and South, in lanes, &c. It has a spiky, dark green leaf, and bears on the top a feathery looking flower, and when you bruise the leaf in your hand, you will find it very peppery, and it is a very good remedy for dysentery, and is very peppery, called by many pepper weed.

Draw a tea strong enough to taste peppery, and use instead of water, with or without sugar, hot or cold, as the patient may prefer. It may be drank freely, having no unpleasant effect.

It may be gathered and dried in the shade, or used fresh. Some years ago when that disease raged in the village where I lived I used it only if my husband, who was never called in a physician, every case recovering with scarcely impaired strength. The tea being a stringer keeps up the strength.