## THE Morth-Carolina Standard

WILLIAM W. HOLDEN.

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TERMS OF THE SEWI-WEEKLY—Four Dollars per annum, invariably in advance
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## The Standard.

RALEIGH: SATURDAY, MAY 24, 1862.

The Latest News.

Our "War News" column to-day will be found quite interesting, though no great battle has been fought. The last mails bring us but little news.

Dispatches from Western Virginia affirm that Gens. Heth and Marshall attacked the Yankee General, Cox, near New River, and have driven him from that section, routing him with great loss in prisoners, equipage, baggage, &c.

In New Mexico our forces had attacked Col. Canby's reinforcements, killing and capturing over 100 of the enemy. Our forces are now in possession of

A strong re-action in the public feeling of Kentucky is taking place, which it is thought will revolutionize the State. Abolitionism and Lincolnism are working out their legitimate fruits there. Col. Morgan has recently made a dash upon the

Nashville and Louisville Railroad, and destroyed 53 loaded cars. The Atlanta Confederacy says, he captured \$350,000 from the Yankees.

The Yankees are approaching Charleston by slow stages. Five Federal vessels shelled Coles', Goat and Kiawha Islands, about 15 miles from Charleston, on the 20th, and our forces retired, burning

But little can be gathered from the Richmond and Petersburg papers as to the condition of matters around Richmond. What McClellan is doing seems not to be known, except that he is rebuilding the bridge across Chickshominy. .The Dispatch says the enemy's advance is near Richmond, and a traveller on the cars reports that the Yankees are within 6 miles of that place. Gen. Johnson's headquarters are in Richmond and our army near at hand, and yet we hear of no fighting. The talk is strong yet about fighting and holding Richmondbut if Johnston allows McClellan to cross Chickahominy without the most determined resistance, we predict the city will be evacuated in a fortnight. There is some talk of McClellan's passing around the Swamp and uniting with McDowell. The Federal gun-boats were at City Point. No further attack had been made upon Drury's Bluff. Our forces around Petersburg were being re-inforced. No further news from "Stonewall" Jackson. Another battle looked for.

It is reported that the first N. C. Cavalry, late Col. Ransom's, had a skirmish on Sunday or Monday last with the enemy, in which it is said the enemy lost 75 men. Our loss reported small.

The infamous proclamation of the infamous Butler, at New Orleans, excites universal disgust and the most bitter resentment.

NEWBERN.-Just before going to press we received from an intelligent and highly respectable gentlemen of Craven County, who recently left Newbern. a melancholy account of the condition of our people in that place and of the vandalism practised there by the Yankees. We are compelled to defer it till our next issue. He says the people there believe that the Yankee loss at the battle of Newbern, was not less in killed and wounded than 4,000. About 15 Yankee soldiers die daily. What must it be in August and September?

Suffolk is believed to be occupied with Yankee troops. The impression appears to prevail in Virginia that Burnside will move his troops to that point and join the forces from Old Point to move upon Petersburg and Richmond.

Our Fourteenth Regiment.

As we have seen no mention made in the papers of the part taken by the 14th regiment of North-Carolina Troops, in the recent battle near Williamsburg, it gives us pleasure to learn the following facts: They were ordered to their position about 3 or 4 o'clock in the afternoon, and remained exposed to the fire of the enemy until night. During that time, however, they were not idle, for they poured a galling fire among the Yankees, which caused many of them to bite the dust. The officers and men, during the engagement, behaved with great coolness and courage, and nobly sustained the honor of the old North State.

The following officers are now in command of the regiment: Colonel, P. W. Roberts, formerly Cantain of the Rough and Ready Guards; Lt-Colonel, R. T. Bennett, Commissary of the regiment; Major, E. Dixon, former Captain of the Cleaveland Blues. All of whom were in the fight. The following are the casualties in this regiment:

List of the killed and wounded in the 14th N. C. Troops, on the 5th of May, near Williamsburg. Company A. Roanoke Minute Men-Private Peter Boswell, slightly wounded.

Company I, Lexington Wild Cats-Private R. A. Penry, killed; private Monroe Peninger, slightly

Company C, Anson Guards-Private James M. Smith, very slightly wounded.

Company H, Stanley Marksmen-Private Ebin

Lowder, mortally wounded.

Company E, Oak City Guards.— Private E. Holmes, killed; Bailey M. Yarborough, slightly wounded; private L. H. Powers, killed; Sergeant

W. H. Hamilton, mortally wounded.

Company K, Raleigh Rifles—Private John Lassiter, killed. Company G. Reid Guards-Private J. D. Bad

gett, killed; private Cornelius Hobbs, killed; private G. W. Taylor, mortally wounded; Corporal J. M: Lea, slightly wounded. Company B .- 3d Serg't, R. M. Snider, slightly

The Yankees are said to have two regiments of negroes formed and drilled in Washington City, and o ie at Charlestown, Va. Similar attempts are said and Norfolk. At the former place he was welcomed, to have been made at Port Royal and other places, but his reception at Norfolk on the part of the citi-

## Weekln

A Word to the Conservatives.

It is of the utmost importance that the govern

ment should be reformed. We have good Consti-

tutions, both State and Confederate, and the frame

work of the government is all we could desire;

but the administration of government must be re-

formed, and that speedily, or ruin will overtake us

all. Those who have been in power for the last

twelve months have shown themselves utterly in-

competent to manage our public affairs; or, if com-

petent, they have been so occupied in parcelling out

offices among themselves, and in proscribing the

conservatives or late Union men, that they have not

devoted their time and their thoughts, as they should

have done, to the duties assigned them. Besides,

a large proportion of the leading public men of the

ultra secession school, in common with those of the

rank and file of the ultra secessionists, are so much

under the influence of impulse and passion as to

render them unfit for office. Impulse, passion, in-

veterate prejudice, and a want of judgment and fore-

caste, seem to be natural to them; and it is on this

account, as well as because of their selfishness and

greed for place, that they have shown themselves so

anequal to the crisis and so unworthy of the popu-

lar confidence. They have had the control of pub-

lic affairs for more than twelve months, and where

are we? The people, if they would save any thing

from the wreck, must rouse up and take their own

affairs into their own hands. They must turn out

the selfish, the venal, the passionate, and the short-

sighted, and put the patriotic, the upright, the con-

siderate, the clear-sighted, and the sagacious in their

places. They must do this, and do it at the next

election, or prepare themselves for still further trials

and sufferings, and still further and bolder infrac-

tions of their rights, under the rule of the men who,

for the last twelve months, have so abused their con-

fidence. And in order to effect this, there must be

unity and concert of action among the conserva-

tives, and no compromises of any kind with the de-

structices. Let the conservatives hold their meet-

ings and nominate their best men for the Legisla-

ture, and let them have nothing to do with the de-

structives or ultra secessionists but to vote them down.

The State is conservative, and opposed to the ruin-

ous mismanagement which has heretofore prevailed

The conservatives or late Union men can never

forget the manner in which they have been treated,

during this war, by the ultra secessionists. They

made the State a unit in April, 1861, and they have

than their opponents; and yet their opponents,

happening to have the control of the State and Con-

federate governments, have prescribed them from

all places of honor and trust in the civil and milita-

ry service, and have treated them as a subject race

in their own country. And not only this, but this

proscription has been coupled with opprobrium and

insult. Their best men have been charged with in-

fidelity to the Southern cause, and many of them

singled out and marked as traitors. They have en-

deavored, by sedition oaths and test oaths, and in

various other ways, to put a "hideous mark" upon

them; and they and their children, though they

have given their blood and treasure to the South,

are to be pointed at hereafter as enemies to their

native land. There is but one present remedy for

this, and this remedy is to be found at the ballot-

box. Conservatives!-late Union men!-"if you

have nature in you, bear it not." You have the

power-use it. You have the votes-cast them

against those who have so mismanaged public af-

fairs, and so insulted and reviled you. They will

approach you with honied words and propose com-

promise tickets, so as to avoid party spirit. But it

is thus that the Devil quotes Scripture and affects

to be shocked at sin. Trust them not. Of all oth-

ers, they are the fomenters of party spirit. They

have made the government at Raleigh and the govern-

ment at Richmond party machines, to advance their

own interests, to put honors on their backs and money

in their pockets, and to gratify their hatred towards

the late Union men. And now, when they see the

hand-writing on the wall, they beg. They want to

We trust the Mass Meeting advertised to be held

in Raleigh on Saturday, the 31st, will be largely at-

tended. Let every conservative be present. A can-

didate for Governor will be recommended and a

ticket will be recommended for the Legislature which

will sweep the County by one thousand majority.

Come up, conservatives, and stand by your country

Norfolk appears to be in the hands of the Dutch.

Persons who have recently left there, represent that

the number of soldiers is not large, and that an en-

tire Dutch regiment is among them. The people

of the place keep aloof from the Federal soldiers.

Some distinguished man must have died, as the

colors of the port were at half mast on Saturday.

The municipal authority had been restored to Mayor

The people of Baltimore are represented as being

still devoted to the Southern cause. Though down-

Many of the principal men in and around Nash-

ville have been arrested by Andy Johnson to be

tried for treason. He has ordered the directors of

the State Bank at Nashville, who gave up the assets

to the Confederate leaders, that they must return

It will be seen from our columns that Col. Mor-

gan and his rangers are still playing havoc with the

Gov. Baylor of Arizona speaks encouragingly of

The papers contain a proclamation from Gen.

Hunter, the Yankee commander in Georgia, South-

Carolina and Florida, in which he emancipates the

slaves in those States, declaring that martial law

and slavery are incompatible. This is another de-

LOUISVILLE.-Late advices from Louisville say

that a great reaction is going on in that city, and

that the people are ready to revolt in large numbers

if they only had arms. The Federal force in Ken-

Abraham Lincoln has been on a visit to Old Point

the Confederate cause in that territory. He calls it

trodden, they still hope for a better day.

every cent which belonged to the State.

a splendid country.

velopement of this wicked war.

tucky, we also learn, is very small.

sens was decidedly cool.

in this hour of trial.

compromise. Again we say, trust them not.

by at least thirty thousand majority.

Standard.

Vol. XXVIII.—No. 22. RA LEIGH, N. C., WEDNES DAY, MAY 28, 1862.

The Conscription Act.

We publish to-day the list of exemptions under the Conscript law, by the Secretary of War .-"Anxious inquirers" on the subject, can see for themselves who are and who are not exempts.

Gov. Brown, of Georgia, has announced it as his opinion that the Conscription Act "is not only subversive of the rights and sovereignty of the States, but is a palpable violation of the Constitution of the Confederate States, and to that extent void and of no binding force upon the officers of the militia of Georgia." In a general order issued by him, he

"The language of the Conscription Act lately passed by Congress is general and embraces the Officers of the Militia of the States as well as the privates. But the States having by the 16th paragraph of the 8th Section of the 1st Article of the Constitution of the Confederate States expressly reserved to themselves not only the appointment the Officers of the Militia when employed in the service of the Confederate States, but each State having also reserved to herself the authority of training her own militia according to the discipline prescribed by Congress—which cannot be done without officers—and there being no vacancy that can be filled by another in case an officer of the Militia is carried out of the State as a "Conscript without his consent, which if done generally, would entirely destroy the Military organization of the State and prevent her from exercising her reserved authority of training her militia at a time when the safety of her people absolutely requires that should be done to prevent internal insurrections, that may occur at any moment without strict military police regulations-therefore the Commander in-Chief, after careful consideration of this question, holds, that the Conscription Law, so far as it interferes with the officers of the militia in the discharge of their duties by attempting to reduce them to the ranks, and place them under officers in Confederate service (by which a Major General of the militia, for instance, might be forcibly taken from his command and placed under the lowest subaltern appointed by the President, under the penalty of death if he refuses to serve) is not only subversive of the rights and sovereignty of the States, but is a palpable violation of the Constitution of the Confederate States, and to that extent void and of no bind ing force upon the officers of the militia of Georgia.

He therefore commands every militia officer in commission in this State to report, by written communication, directed to "Henry C. Wayne, Adjutant and Inspector General, at Milledgeville," specifying in his report, his rank, the number of his District, the date of his commission, the county of his residence; and his postoffice. Those who thus report are directed not to enroll themselves as "conscripts," but to continue actively in the vigilant discharge of their respective duties as officers of the militia. Those who report as herein directed, and contributed more men and more money to the war | only those will be protected by the State against

the operation of the Conscription law.' The Governor of Georgia, it is seen, interposes and practically nullifies the law so far as is necessary to retain the militia officers of the State and the existing organization of the militia. He has also refused to have anything to do with enrolling the conscripts, but leaves this business in the hands of the Confederate government. That he will be sustained in this course by a vast majority of the people of Georgia, we entertain no doubt.

The Georgia Telegraph is much excited against the Governor for the course he has thought proper to pursue, and very plainly intimates that the Confederate Government has the power to coerce Georgia, but says it would be better to leave "the whole matter of nullification, insurrection and insubordination to the Confederate Government, to the correcting hand of time and public opinion." That

"What but endless confusion and trouble can come of such proceedings as this? Suppose the Confederacy should insist upon vindicating its contemned authority-exercised in pursuance of our own sanction and consent through our own representatives? Why, then we should have two wars upon our hands before the month is out!

But if she winks at the contempt, then she is equally bound to wink at all contempt of her authority; and what in that case will she be worth as a government? A government is worth nothing for our protection, unless she can first protect herself. But you say the Confederacy will not attempt to protect herself against Georgia at a time when she is up to her elbows in blood against a common enemy! That is extremely probable; but it does not console a generous mind that such a time should have been selected to snub and insult the govern-

The Telegraph, in the above extract, has advanced nothing more nor less than the Lincoln doctrine! What will the federal government "be worth as a government," says Mr. Lincoln, "unless it can protect itself " against rebellion and insubordination? And this from an original secessionist!-this from one of the champions of State rights and State sovereignty! The Telegraph forgets, or, if it remembers, it abjures the doctrine that under our form of government the States are absolutely independent, and can nullify or secede at pleasure. What power exists that can say to Georgia that Georgia shall not do as she pleases?

The want of forecast, which it is said rendered this act necessary, is without example in the histories of nations struggling for independence. The dullest man that ever pitched a crop looks more to the future, and makes better provision for it in his particular vocation, than appears to have been done by our common government in a matter gravely, and perhaps vitally affecting our success.

This unconstitutional and oppressive conscription act was passed in secret session, and the people do not yet know how their representatives voted on it. Let us have the year and nays. State secrets on a subject which nearly and vitally concerns every man, woman, and child in the Confederate States, cannot be maintained consistently with the spirit or the principles of liberty. If the people are not permitted to know how their representatives vote on questions submitted and passed upon, they cannot hold them, as it is their right and duty to do, to an accountability for their conduct; and if the representative is not accountable to his constituents for what he does or omits to do, then our system of a free government is a failure.

Lincoln has announced by proclamation that on the 1st of June next, the ports of Beaufort, N. C., Port Royal, S. C., and New Orleans will be open to the commerce of the world. What amount of commerce does he suppose they can furnish?

The Columbia (S. C.) Guardian speaks of wagon loads of bacon and salt passing through the streets of that place, and hopes that it will fall into the hands of those who will supply the community at fair prices. Vain hope.

The Charleston Mercury says that the little ice in that City has been forbidden to be sold by the military authorities, for the purpose of keeping it retaliation for the punishment of Webster, the spy, for the soldiers. A good idea.

So says the Richmond Dispatch, and it is true, All cool, discerning men saw this before the war was brought on,-they have seen nothing else from the time that Lincoln determined to coerce the South. None but the cotton-barons and the fireeaters ever dreamed of peaceable secession, or of a short war, or of aid from Europe. Hard fightingvigorous, terrible fighting by the South, has been the only means of conquering a peace, in the judgment of sensible men. Why is it not done?

The Richmond Enquirer says: "We hold the enemy at bay everywhere; now let us drive him! Let General Johnston swiftly strike the blow that is to make him a name and give him his rank among the Generals of this war. Let Beauregard drive home upon Halleck, and strive for another victory. Let our commanders everywhere show all their enterprise, all their skill, and all their activity. They must not be afraid to trust their soldiers, for no generals ever had better. The only question is, whether the officers are worthy of such men-and that is what we wish them everywhere

That is sensible talk. Our men will fight, and many of our officers will. They did not enter the war for the mere fancy, or the ambition to gain reputation. The rank and file, and we have no doubt many of the officers have no other ambition but to whip the enemy. The army is sick of "falling back." In another article the Enquirer says:

"To show the spirit of our soldiers, and their reluctance in retreat and alacrity in fight, we repeat the statement of an officer in Johnston's army.— His regiment was slowly making its unwilling way in the retrogade march from Yorktown, when orders came that a fight was in progress near Williamsburg, and their aid was required. Immediately the regiment was on fire with enthusiasm; and responding with a shout it wheeled and retraced its steps, passing in one-half an hour over ground that just before had formed a five hour's march. And not a man dropped out of the ranks. Such is the difference between "forward!" and "retreat!" in the estima tion of the noble fellows who compose our Richmond

What is true of the "Richmond Army" is true of all our forces. In proof that they will fight, witness their courage and uniform success in skirmishes, when off in detachments with fighting subordinates, or with such men as Price and "Stone wall" Jackson.

But the Enquirer must needs make a dash at croakers and complainers. Of what do they croak or complain? Is it not for the lack of the very thing which the Enquirer says ought to be done and must be done? We have heard no croaking or complaining from any one against the principles of the government or of the Constitution-none that we hear, utter complaint, decry, or mutter against the Confederacy. It is wholly against the management of the government and the war. No government ever had a more hearty support of the people than ours. No administration has ever been so obsequiously sustained and supported. Men, money, talent, time-every thing the people had-has been at its bidding; and yet their beautiful country is more and more overrun by the spoiler, and want, poverty, and subjugation stare them in the face. Our armies are made to bristle up and confront the enemy for a while, and then ingloriously to back down, with a heavy loss of munitions, provisions, clothing. &c. The large forces of Johnston and Beauregard are said to be enduring great privations and suffering, and yet they are ready to fight. Why not put them in motion? We have no fears of Southern courage. Let them drive the enemy back or die in the attempt. Better, far better fall into the hands of the enemy, fighting desperately, than to slink away before him, until he wastes our means and resources, without striking a blow, rendering us powerless, humiliated and poverty-stricken.

REV. WM. B. WELLONS .- This gentleman, the excellent Editor of the Christian Sun at Suffolk, Va., is within the enemy's lines. His card in the Petersburg Express announces that he has been compelled to suspend the publication of the Sun, until circumstances will permit him to resume. The Federals occupy Suffolk, and he is therefore cut off from all communication with the patrons of the paper. The subscribers to the Christian Sun in North-Carolina will therefore readily appreciate the reason why they do not get the paper.

Edward Stanly.

A week or two ago we expressed a disbelief of the rumor, that Edward Stanly, of California, had been appointed by Lincoln Provisional Governor of North-Carolina, and that he had accepted the appointment. We gave our reasons for disbelieving it. We have since seen a letter which purports to have been written by Gen. Burnside, and published in the Yankee paper at Newbern, which asserts the fact, and the following extract from the New York Herald of the 15th inst., if any reliance can be placed in that paper, confirms it:

"The Hon. Edward Stanly, a prominent citizen of North-Carolina, who was formerly a member of Congress from the Newbern district, and was previously Speaker of the North-Carolina Legislature and Attorney General of that, State, returned from California on the Champion yesterday, and will soon proceed to occupy the new position assigned to him Provisional Governor of North-Carolina."

We confess that we are surprised at this, although there is no reason to be surprised at anything nowa-days. Mr. Stanly's affiliation with black Republicanism in California, it is well known, had lost him his popularity in Eastern North-Carolina, and Mr. S. knew this to be so; but that he should come back to his native State as an officer of Lincoln, in his wicked attempt to subjugate our people, was what we were not prepared to believe of any man of Mr. Stanly's previous character and position.

PERSONAL CONTROVERSY. - When we inserted the short article signed "A Conscript," a week or two ago, we had no idea of opening the door to a bitter personal controversy in our columns. Our readers are not interested in this matter, except in the County of Johnston, and many of those no doubt prefer its discontinuance. Our friends, the parties in the matter, must therefore submit to our decision to stop it. If Mr. Sanders desires to make a rejoinder, he is entitled to it and we will publish it, but beyond that, if it be continued, which we should regret, it must be through some other channel.

The owners of cotton along the Mississippi, are generally burning it, to keep it from falling into the

William T. Smithson, the Washington City has been released from Fort Lafayette.

WHOLE NUMBER 1417.

Yankee Gun Boats. One of the most humiliating and damaging events

of this war to the South, is the fright and alarm produced both upon the government and the people by Yankee gun-boats. Clod-headed engineers and parlor or saloon Generals have been put in command of important positions, and in hot haste the announcement has been made, "the position is impregnable." Time were on-the people had become assured of safety, and lay on their oars-engineers and Generals have lounged and dosed, until suddenly they have been awaked by shell and shot from a Yankee gun-boat, when at once it was discovered that if the enemy had only delayed a few days longer, or had attacked us from another quarter, we should have been ready. But what now ! Since Port Royal, and Hatteras, and Roanoke Island, and Henry, and Donelson, and Columbus, and Island No. 10, and Pulaski, and lastly, New Orleans have fallen, the whole country as if startled by an earthquake, exclaims, "Yankee gun-boats!" "Yankee gun-boats!" "We can't resist them-it's useless to try it." And forthwith the government abandons Norfolk, which Gen. Wool declares might have been held by 5,000 men-burns up the Navy-yard, timber, every thing-dismantles Craney Island and Sewell's Point, losing 200 cannon, powder and munitions-forces the destruction of the Merrimac, and then gives up Pensacola and destroys the Navy-yard, &c. And all for what? Because of the Yankee gun-boat panic which has seized the country. We ridiculed the Yankees last summer about their shameful and cowardly alarm at the "masked batteries" which they imagined were every where to be found. Are we placing ourselves in a less ridiculous position in regard to "Yankee gun-boats?"

Look at the facts. In every instance of failure, it has been clearly shown that our defeat was chargesble to incompetent or negligent engineering, to poor guns, scarcity of powder, inexperienced or undrilled gunners, bad Generalship, or to unnecessary delays in the execution of the work. Whose fault was it? Where does the responsibility lie? Does it lie against the Yankee gun-boats? Not at all. The gallant defence of Fort Donelson, Island No. 10, Ft. Pillow and Drury's Bluff against Yankee gun-boats, proves conclusively and irresistibly that it does not. The fault lies in our inefficiency or cowardice-our want of skill and forecaste-unfaithfulness in the agents of the government or incompetency in the chief officers who project and carry out our plans. Who believes, for instance, that New Orleans would have fallen, if Gen. Bragg had been in command, and the government had backed him liberally and promptly? No one.

New Regiments.-The 17th regiment, formerly the 7th N. C. volunteers, has been re-organized at Camp Mangum, by the election of Col. William F. Martia, Colonel, (its former Colonel who was captured at Hatteras;) Capt. J. C. Lamb, Lieut. Colonel; and Capt. Thos. H. Sharpe, Major.

The 54th regiment was organized on the 17th by the election of John Wimbish of Granville, Colonel: J. S. C. McDowell of Burke. Lieut. Colonel: and K. M. Murchison of Cumberland, Major.

The Cincinnatta Gazette says the muster rolls of Gen. Halleck's army in front of Gen. Beauregard is 160,000 effective men, but thinks it cannot be so Gen. Floyd has been appointed by the Legislature

Major General of the Virginia forces, with authority to raise 20,000 men for the defence of Western Vir-A Yankee correspondent to the Northern papers

says, that Elizabeth River near Norfolk, is of a brownish color from the quantity of tobacco sunk in the river. Why will the Yankees lie so?

SALT.-Wagons are passing through this place daily says the Salem Press, on their way to the Vir ginia Salt Works. One of the wagoners informed us he paid one dollar per bushel, and was only allowed at the rates of ten bushels (500 lbs.) for a

Cotton Factories.

The following letter is from an intelligent friend who is doubtless considerate of the wants of the poor. But our correspondent does not seem to be aware of the extreme difficulty in which the question of extortion or exorbitant prices, placed the Convention. The question was not has the Convention the power to regulate the prices of cotton or woolen goods pre luced by our State factories? If cotton and wool factories were the only sinners in this regard in North-Carolina, the duty of the Convention would have been plain and easy. That body could not with any show of justice or reason, however, determine to regulate the prices of cotton and woolen goods, while there were thousands of extortioners in other necessaries, suffered to go untrammelled. But the question was, how can the Convention wisely, justly and impartially, regulate the prices of all necessary commodities bought and sold, from a paper of pins or needles, to a bale of cotton yarn, or any other article classed among necessaries? Every member of the Convention deplored the existence of extortion, and was anxious to do something to prevent it, but the extreme difficulty of adjusting an ordinance which could be enforced and which would operate equally upon all. prevented action. It therefore determined to leave the matter to be controlled by public opinion and the consciences of those engaged in trade:

SALEN, N. C., May 20, 1862. To the Editor of the Raleigh Standard:

DEAR SIR:-It is with some regret that I correct statement you made in your late editorial, as regards the price of yarn at the factories in our village. They are not exceptions in favor of low prices; but have actually ranged their prices at higher rates than you imputed to other factories. Yarn sells here at the factories at \$2 25 per bunch, though cotton is bought at about the same rates as when yarn sold at \$1 per bunch!

Why was it that our Convention failed to follow the example set by some of our sister States, and protect the people against the extravagant prices demanded for certain necessaries of life? There certainly was no constitutional provision that deterred the Convention from acting on a subject that directly affected the people at large. They looked with full confidence to the Convention to protect them against the many money sharks that infest every community; and they argued thus: If the Convention had the power to sever their conne with the general government, it certainly could claim the power to deter men from demanding ex-

travagant prices for certain necessaries of life.

The failure of action on this subject was a little akin to the bill passed to restrict distillers after the fifteenth of April. By that day, it was notorious, near nine-tenths of the distillers would stop opera

A Brilliant Skirmich.

The following interesting letter from our valued correspondent, gives an account of the latest skirmish with the enemy below Trenton, which will be seen to have been one of the most brilliant affairs of the war. Our correspondent is not only intelligent and reliable, but being a member of another regi-ment, the 1st N. C. Cavalry, his account is impartial. This affair confirms fully what we have heretofore said, that the 2d N. C. Cavalry contains some of the best fighting steck in the State, and a different course of treatment from that which it has received from the authorities of the State, would have rendered it as efficient as any regiment of Cavalry in the Confederacy. The regiment has been organized ten months or more, and to this hour we presume, it is not fully armed and equipped. The 1st N. C. Cavalry being rather a favorite, may have fared better than the 2nd any way, in these respects, but we have reason to know that its early and prompt equipment was mainly owing to the zeal and indomitable perseverance of its Colonel,

now General Ransom. Better or braver troops no State in the Southern Confederacy has furnished, whether infantry, cavalry or artillery, than North Carolina. If at any time they have exhibited inefficiency or ill success, it has been owing to deficiencies in their equipment or means, or in those officers, who were not appointed because of their fitness, but on account of personal or political considerations. It is rumored that the loss of the enemy in killed in the affair named, could not have been less than 25, besides a number of wounded.

OUTPOSTS OF THE ARMY, May 17, 1862.

I have the pleasure of announcing to you a very handsome" skirmish which occurred on our lines on the 15th, between a portion of the 2nd Cavalry, and an advance column of the enemy. Early in the morning, an advanced scouting party of the Yankees attacked our videttes on the road leading to Newbern from Trenton, on the North side of the Trent; the videttee retreating, hotly pursued by the Yankees, who I guess were felicitating them-selves upon "dispersing rebels" in such a hasty man-ner. The reserve of the pickets, commanded by Lieuts. Rogers and Graham, and stationed a short distance off the main road, suddenly entered the road, upon the alarm being given, and charged down upon the column of Yankee cavalry moving rapidly up. Then commenced the ball. Our men discharged their fire-arms as promptly as possiblethen drew their sabres, and went to work in regular style. The galling fire they had given the enemy on coming up, and their thrilling yells as they bore down on them, added decidedly to the discomfiture of the blue coats, and they commenced falling back. The platoon which had pursued the fugitive videttes, hearing the fighting in their rear, wheeled, and our men found themselves attacked by this body also, in their rear. Then commenced a conflict which I imagine was proportionately similar to that which Eckinuhl and Cowpens witnessed. The steel of foemen rang vividly against that of his antagonist, and cries of agony (I am told by one who heard,) mingled with the shouts of enthusiasm and the sharp cracks of small arms. The Yankees contested well the ground for about half a mile, and until their infantry and cavalry made their appearance on the roadside, and in a small old field. Our men having cut through the force attacking them in their rear, on seeing their infantry, immediately withdrew out of range to await further demon-

strations. The Yankees now returned to where the fight ed-burned the church and dwellings around which the fight raged, and concluding that it would not be advisable to await further movements on cur part, beat a retreat to their encampment, completely failed in their attempts to force a column upon Trenton, which they evidently designed doing. Their loss as reported by citizens who saw, was five am-bulance loads of dead and wounded, and five prisoners which fell into our hands, together with eight horses and their equipments, several pistols, satres and other cavalry accoutrements. Their force was 200 cavalry, 2,000 infantry and a battery of cannon. Our force was between 40 and 50 cavalry. from the companies of Capt. Hays, Capt. Andrews, and Capt. Turner, almost the entire number being from Capt. Hays' company, commanded by Lieut. Rogers. We lost one man killed (Mr. Ray, of Capt. Hays' company,) with several slightly wounded, mostly with sabres. We lost two or three horses

It looks decidedly marvelous and improbable that so small a force as ours should effectually check and whip so superior a force as the cavalry they encountered on the 15th-but what I have stated is so. if well sustained reports are to be relied upon. But the 2nd Cavalry that were engaged, are certainly fighting men. I am convinced that the regiment has been belied by the slanderous reports circulated. It has undoubtedly some of the best fighting material that the State has in the field -and if they were efficiently armed, equipped and officered, the regiment would win as high a reputation as any in the service has achieved. The locality of their recent skirmish is on the road mentioned, and about 4 miles below Trenton, near a Mr. Foscue's plantation, and around White Church. Five companies of our regiment are now on picket here, and I trust you will hear a good account of us in my next.

The wealthy cotton merchants of New Orleans have issued a circular to the cotton planters urging them to destroy their cotton rather than send it to that City, for the purpose of encouraging the revival of trade with Europe through the agency of the

EXEMPTIONS FROM THE CONSCRIPTION LAW.—The Executive Council of this State has adopted and published a resolution, construing the Conscription Act of Congress as exempting from Conscription all persons at the time legally exempt by the laws of the State, including, in South Carolina, the exemp-tions made by the Convention, and those made by the Governor and Council by authority of the Convention, and those made by the Legislature and retained by the Council : the Governor and Council holding that the Exemption Act of Congress does not repeal the Conscription Act, but is concurrent with the existing laws of the State.—Charleston

The occurrence at Charleston of the stealing of the Steamer Planter in broad daylight, is one of the most shameful events of this war. The truth is that this war has been rather misunderstood. Officers seem to have thought it a nice frolic, and the wearing of uniform a "gay old thing," without a wearing of inniorm a gay out thing, without a due regard to the deep responsibilities involved.—
We doubt much judging from the number of officers' uniforms visible about every town, whether as a rule, the officers in any branch of the Confederate service devote themselves sufficiently to giving personal at-tention to their commands.—Wil. Journal.

The magnanimity of Gen. Beauregard, we hear, prompted him to tender to Gen. Price any position in the coming battle at Corinth which he would indicate. Gen. Price replied to this magnanimous tender from the commander in this, that, if left to himself he would take the position of "danger," whereupon he was assigned the front position and allowed to lead off in the fight. We know not which most to commend—the magnanimity of Gen. Beauregard or the cool and brave during of Gen. Price. We hope they both will win fame for theinselves and victory for their country! None will be more rejoiced than ourself if such should be the result at Corinth.—Memphis Avalanche.

A Mississippian is very much irritated at the "scrips." He says that the first plague that came upon him was the county scrip, then the railroad scrip, and now, to cap the climar, here comes the conscript. Poor fellow, he might have added a post script, and offered some of the county or railroad scrip to get out of the conscript scrape.

THE WHEAT CHOP .- We are gratified to see from every quarter encouraging accounts of the promis-ing appearance of the Wheat crop. It appears that a greater quantity of land has been sowed

tions at all events, and turn their attention to the working of the farms.

FORSYTH. oldest inhabitant is ignorant of a more process.