

Western Democrat.

CHARLOTTE, N. C. Tuesday, December 17, 1861.

THE NEWS.

Some important news will be found in our columns today. The battle at Valley Mountain, in Western Virginia, is represented as a decided victory for the Confederates.

The news from the North indicates serious quarrels between the abolitionists and conservatives. The former, it appears, desire to pass abolition laws, while the latter resist it because they know it would not injure the seceded states, but would certainly drive into the Confederacy the free citizens of Maryland, Kentucky and Missouri.

We hope the abolitionists in Washington may get the power, and then we think Lincoln's Government will go to pieces.

The news about raising the blockade, we fear, is only found on oppositionists.

The Lincolnists propose to release Hon. C. J. Faulkner from Government custody, release Hon. M. E. Fry, and it is also proposed to release a number of the Hatteras prisoners on the same terms.

There is nothing important from the Potomac, and nothing heard from England yet about the seizure of Mason and Slidell.

It is stated that a whole Regiment of Maryland troops have left the Federal army and joined the Confederates.

THE TERRIBLE CONFLAGRATION.—In another column, particulars of the terrible conflagration which destroyed a large portion of Charleston, S. C., on Wednesday night last, will be found. The loss is estimated at \$5,000,000. This is, indeed, a sad calamity to the people of that city, and one which they are poorly prepared to sustain at this time.

Their neighborhood threatened by a villainous horde of Northern hirelings, and a great number of their dwellings and business houses in ruins, they deserve and no doubt will receive the aid and sympathy of all the citizens of the Confederacy. It is stated that the fire was accidental.

Money and provisions were sent down from this place last Friday and Saturday for the relief of the destitute.

A meeting was held in the Court House on Saturday and a committee appointed in each Beat in the county to collect money and provisions. We received the proceedings on Monday morning, but not in time to insert them in this issue.

The Charlotte Mercury of Saturday says: Nearly six hundred houses were burnt. From the foot of Hassell street to the Cooper river East, to the end of Tradd, on the Ashley running West, the conflagration has made a clean sweep of some of the finest public buildings and private residences of our city.

Only a portion of the walls and blackened chimneys, with here and there a grate in its original position, and the remains of pillars, are left standing in the dismal waste, which a few days ago was the scene of busy life and happy homes.

A negro woman aged about 50—a cook belonging to Mr. Wm. Stevenson—was burnt to death in his residence, whether she had rashly returned to save some articles belonging to her mistress. It is somewhat singular that the fire should have burned a path close to, and almost parallel with that of the great fire of 1838.

The cause of those who are suffering by the calamity excites a just and substantial sympathy. Our banks and our citizens have come forward nobly with this emergency and have subscribed most liberally. The amounts though large in themselves, are altogether insufficient for the great work of relief. More help is wanted and that immediately.

Let those who cannot spare no money contribute in clothing and provisions. Clothing is much needed—especially children's clothing.

On the recommendation of the President, Congress appropriated \$250,000 to be advanced to South Carolina as part of what the Government owes her, to enable her to relieve the sufferers at Charleston.

PATRIOTIC.—The patriotic action of the planters on the coast of South Carolina is worthy of all admiration. It will be seen by accounts in our paper to-day that they are burning their crops and dwelling houses to prevent the enemy from getting possession of them.

The Lincolnites will soon learn that they make nothing by landing on the Southern coast. We hope the people of the interior will do all they can to relieve the wants of those who have sacrificed their homes and their all for their country's good.

DIVIDEND.—The Charlotte & S. C. Railroad has declared a semi-annual dividend of 3 per cent. The Company donated one thousand dollars to the sufferers by fire at Charleston.

KENTUCKY.—The Southern Congress has passed an Act admitting the State of Kentucky into the Southern Confederacy.

A merchant of this place (who has not been dealing in salt) ordered a few sacks of Salt from Charleston for farmers in the neighborhood. He had to pay \$12 per sack, besides freight.

250 bags of Coffee were sold in Savannah week before last at 53 to 61 cents per pound.

MASON AND SLIDELL.—The Norfolk Day Book says that it learns from a gentleman just from Boston, who visited Mason and Slidell, that they express the conviction that England never will admit the legitimacy of their arrest, and would demand the amplest reparation for the insult offered to her flag.

Mason and Slidell's papers were preserved from the enemy, and have gone to England.

"THE RIGHT MAN IN THE RIGHT PLACE."—Among the appointments of the North Carolina Conference (which we publish in another column) it will be seen that the Rev. C. P. Jones has been appointed to Portsmouth, Ocranoke and Cape Hatteras. Mr. Jones has command of an Artillery Company, and inasmuch as part of his territory is in possession of the Lincolnites, it is to be presumed that he will use the Gospel in connection with powder and lead.

The latter will certainly have the most effect on the mean souls of the Yankees.

"TEST OATHS."—The Convention has been exercised somewhat with an ordinance introduced by Judge Biggs to define and punish treason, called by its enemies the "Test Oath Ordinance." After much discussion, it was, on motion of Mr. Graham, indefinitely postponed by a vote of 77 to 22. We think it is unfortunate that the ordinance was thus killed. It may have contained some objectionable provisions, but that some law is necessary to arrest and detect traitors, is apparent. The Southern people are not half vigilant enough, and our cause has suffered and will suffer in consequence. The Convention might, at least, have passed a law for punishing those guilty of using seditious language. But the North Carolina Convention is composed of great men! the best talent in the State! Who has any right to complain?

"Col. S. L. Fremont, superintendent of the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad, advertises proposals for enlisting a company of 98 men for "Local Defence," to be assigned to duty on the lines of the Wil. and Weldon and Manchester Railroads within this State. They are wanted for the purpose of guarding those roads, and will be mustered into the Confederate service.

RELEASE OF PRISONERS.—Thirty Southerners arrived at Richmond last week from Washington, where they had been confined. They were released on parole by the Lincolnites.

TIMBER.—We direct special attention to the advertisements in to-day's paper for Timber, to be delivered at the Arsenal at Fayetteville. This is a good opportunity for some one to get a paying contract.

A NICE PARCENT.—Our friend Austin Cornelius, of Catawba county, presented us with a very fine Turkey last week. We appreciate such presents as we certainly do Mr. Cornelius' kindness to us in this and other instances.

THE STATE CONVENTION adjourned on Friday last to meet again on the 20th of January. Why could not the Convention have finished its business by this time and adjourned forever? It would have done so were it not for the fact that a few of the members consume the time in useless speech-making. The State needs all the money she can get for supporting the war, and has none to spare to keep 120 gentlemen in Raleigh at \$3 per day doing almost nothing. It is time to economize in every prudent way.

From the proceedings of the Convention for the past week, we condense the following: D. D. Ferree, member of the Convention from Camden county, was unanimously appointed to proceed to Richmond and inquire what arrangements can be made with the Government about paying the war tax of North Carolina from the State Treasury, instead of collecting it from the citizens at present. The Ordinance introduced by Judge Biggs, requiring every citizen of the State, not in the army, to take an oath of allegiance to the Confederacy, was discussed at length by Messrs. Graham and Osborne against it, and Messrs. Woodfin and Rayner for it. Judge Osborne submitted an ordinance from the committee on amendments to the Constitution, repeating that clause of the old Constitution authorizing amendments by legislative enactment.

Mr. Sutherland of Robeson, introduced an ordinance to prohibit the sale of whiskey during the war at a greater price than 30 cents per gallon. Dr. Johnston of Gaston, presented the petition of Mary N. Rankin, free person of color, asking to be allowed to enslave herself and children. Various petitions, praying for the repeal of the Stay Law, were presented. Mr. Reid presented an ordinance increasing the salary of the Treasurer to \$2,500 and the salary of the Comptroller to \$1,500. Mr. Green offered the following as an amendment to the ordinance to prevent speculation: "Be it further ordained, That any person who shall buy any corn or wheat with the intent the same to convert into ardent spirits, shall be liable to indictment, and on conviction shall be punished as for a misdemeanor."

On Wednesday, the ordinance in regard to speculation being again under consideration, the above amendment offered by Mr. Green, was rejected. The ordinance then passed its final reading. What shape it is in we cannot tell.

The ordinance to continue the Board of Claims, at a salary of \$2,000 each, was finally passed. The Convention rejected a proposition to allow the members of the Board \$6 per day for services while actually engaged.

On Tuesday, Mr. Schenck, from the stay law committee, submitted a report, which lies on the table, ordered to be printed. The committee, while disapproving the enactment, opposes its repeal by the Convention. Mr. Osborne introduced "an ordinance providing for the punishment of treason." Mr. Leake of Richmond, an ordinance laying a tax upon distilled spirits. Mr. Woodfin, a resolution in favor of a bank of the State. Proposes to establish a bank on the faith and funds of the State, to be owned by the State exclusively, with a capital of \$5,000,000.

The Standard of Saturday says: "On Thursday the Convention passed an ordinance exempting the militia of the State from other than monthly drills.

The ordinance introduced by Mr. Holden, providing for the raising of a battalion or regiment for twelve months, to be composed of returned volunteers of the First North Carolina Regiment, (the Lafayette Light Infantry and the Independent Light Infantry, of the town of Fayetteville, included,) and such others as may enroll themselves with them, was passed through its several readings, (the rules having been suspended,) and ordered to be enrolled.

Mr. Ferree, the commissioner to Richmond on the subject of the war tax made a partial and interesting report to the Convention. The hope is indulged that an arrangement will be made by which the war tax will be paid without bearing heavily on the people in any way.

Rumor.—One of the amendments to the Constitution of Virginia, recently adopted, provides as follows: "The judges of the Courts of Appeal and of the Circuit Courts shall be appointed by joint vote of the two Houses of the General Assembly, commissioned by the Governor, and shall hold their offices during good behavior, or until they attain the age of seventy years or until removed in the manner prescribed in this Constitution; and shall, at the same time, hold no other office, appointment, or public trust, and the acceptance thereof by either of them shall vacate his judicial office."

MORE TROOPS.—The Governor of South Carolina has called for twelve thousand volunteers to assist in driving the enemy from the coast. They will be received for a term not less than twelve months. The Governor says that unless this call is promptly met, his duty will be executed. We know there will be no necessity for a draft in South Carolina.

Cannot a few companies be raised in this part of North Carolina to assist our neighbors? What is done let be done quickly.

A GOOD IDEA.—A correspondent of the Greensboro Patriot, in arguing the impropriety of repealing the Stay Law without passing some law to prevent the sacrifice of property, says: "Having felt a good deal of interest in this matter, I have consulted many of my most discreet and intelligent neighbors, and I have not found the first man who objects to the proposition of repealing the Stay Law, provided the Convention will pass an ordinance requiring that all property which may be sold under an execution or deed of trust, during the war, (except such as it may be necessary to satisfy the current taxes, due from time to time to the State and Confederate Governments) shall first be valued by two or three disinterested persons, before being offered for sale, and if the creditor does not make the property bring its full valuation, then the property to be released to the debtor, at the cost of the creditor."

We would never object to a law to prevent the sacrifice of property, provided it protected the creditor as well as the debtor.

The Boston Post says that a man named Parker H. French was arrested in that city, by the Government officers, charged with being a Southern "rebel." It is stated that he has been organizing Lodges of the Knights of the Golden Circle throughout the North and spreading secession sentiments.

VICTORY OR DEATH.—The following are the concluding paragraphs of the inaugural address of Gov. Brown, of Georgia. The Gov. but gives expression to the unalterable determination of each and all of us:

Were we disposed to yield, it is now too late to calculate the cost of submission. He would but feebly enumerate the results of our subjugation, who would remind us that it would fasten upon us the entire expense of the war—load our industry and that of our posterity for generations to come with burdens and taxation too grievous to be borne—subject us to military despotism, and compel us to maintain standing armies quartered among us, to insult us with their insolence, while they riveted more securely the chains of our bondage—deprive us of our self-respect, and break our spirits with the crushing weight of our degradation.

Sooner than submit to this, let the last man in the Confederacy die nobly at the point of the bayonet, and let our wives and our children, and all the property we possess, perish together on one common funeral pile; and let the winds that pass over our graves, and chant our funeral dirge, tell to other generations in other climes, that we lived freemen, and we died freemen.

SALE OF SALT.—50 sacks of salt, which had been stored in this place some weeks ago by a person in Newbern, were sold at auction on Monday, and brought, in small lots, \$17 50 per sack.—Fay's Observer.

ECONOMY.—There is great necessity for the strictest economy at this time, by individuals, corporations and Government. We fear that our Government, State and Confederate, is going to suffer from the course of having too many offices, and we fear there is a disposition to make the salaries of public officers unnecessarily large. This disposition is creeping upon us fast, and we warn the people of it in time, so that in selecting officers and representatives, they may consider the propriety of selecting such men as will practice economy and discontinue all schemes for bleeding the public Treasury. We expect, hereafter, only to support such men as we think will favor an economical administration of the State or Confederate Government, and discharge their duties faithfully and fearlessly without regard to the probability of a re-election. It is time for the people of the South to be more careful who they select for their representatives, and to be certain that they are men of integrity, practical knowledge and common sense. The best men should be chosen without regard to former party predilections, and upon this principle we have long since determined to act. It is time that the demagogue and pot-house politician were banished from places of trust and power, and until the people determine to do so they cannot expect prosperity and success.

One of the main causes which destroyed the Government of the late United States was the multiplication of offices, high salaries, and the dishonesty, corruption and immorality of office holders and representatives. Congress and the various Departments were filled with a majority of Northern men, principally from the cities and towns, who were selected not for their integrity, but on account of their demagogical abilities and electing capacities—men who could not earn a living unless they had an office. We hope that the people of the South will remember the past and profit by experience, and see that their new Government is not managed by the same kind of men and in the same way that controlled and ruined the old Government.

THE N. C. CAVALRY AND THE LATE SKIRMISH.—We find in the Petersburg Express a letter from the Adjutant, Lt. Henry, of the 1st N. C. Cavalry Regiment, written for the purpose of correcting some statements heretofore published about the skirmish between a portion of that Regiment and the enemy. The letter commences by saying: "A detachment of our Regiment, consisting of 120 men, commanded by Col. R. in person, and accompanied by Maj. Gordon, Dr. O'Hagan, Capts. Whitaker, Wood and Folk, Lieut. Shaw, Andrews, Bryan, Rowe, Gaines, Ellis and myself, and afterwards were added to the list the two companies on picket duty, and Capt. Crumpler and Barringer, and Lieutenants Cosgrove, Olier and Ford."

The letter then goes on to give an account of the fight, pretty much the same as we published last week, stating that the enemy behaved so cowardly that it was a hard matter to get a chance at them. Our men killed one of the enemy, captured 27 prisoners, 16 horses, equipage, arms, &c., without suffering any loss except one horse which got loose and ran to the enemy. A few men were wounded slightly by their horses falling. Capt. Barringer's and Capt. Crumpler's companies were held as a reserve.

For the Western Democrat. CAMP MANGUM, near Raleigh, Dec. 13, 1861. Mrs. Harriet Alexander, Pres't of Paw Creek S. A. Society: My Dear Madam: I desire to express, in behalf of my company, the highest obligation to your Society (of which you are its worthy President and to Miss Cahill its Secretary) for renewed kindness and consideration in the reception of a box containing Blankets, Shirts, Socks and Gloves.

To the benevolent women, and especially to the patriotic women of Old Mecklenburg, will the State and the cause of the South be advanced and its institutions maintained, for the Soldier seeks no higher reward (as there can be no more impartial judge) than the approving smiles of the fair and lovely women of our land.

Yours most respectfully, W. R. MYERS, Capt. Co. G, 34th Reg. N. C. V.

For the Western Democrat. The following is a list of donations, in cash, given by citizens of Mecklenburg county for the benefit of Capt. J. M. Potts' company, now stationed at High Point: Wm Patterson ten dollars, Jas P White fifty dollars, Dr W S M Davidson fifty, Capt W M Myers twenty-five, D A Caldwell twenty-five, Col B W Alexander twenty-five, Dr I Wilson twenty-five, W G Potts twenty-five, Saml Black twenty, Saml C Hager fifty, Mrs Margaret Davidson ten, W A Brown ten, John Parks ten, W A Gillespie ten, H A Cathey ten, W B Withers ten, Ezekiel Alexander five, W L Henderson eight, D N McAuley seven, Rev A Ranson five, Alfred Worsham three, Rev W Colton three, T E Potts five, C S Parks five, M S Holbrooks two, R B Hunter five, W B Parks five, M Osborne three, W P Black two, R C Beard one, Robt White two, John N Patterson two, J M L Rogers one, J R Potts two, Jas Brown one, M E Caldwell five, Jas P Henderson one.—Total \$207.

THE TROUBLES IN EAST TENNESSEE.—We copy the following from the Asheville News of last week. "A terrible state of affairs exists in the border counties of Tennessee. A fight occurred last week at Parrottsville, Cooke county, about fifty miles from this place, (Asheville) in which Capt. Gorman and two privates of the Confederate cavalry were killed. A messenger reached this place day before yesterday, from the commanding officer at Greeneville, Tenn., urgently requesting that a force be immediately dispatched to the adjoining county of Madison, to intercept some two or three hundred Tennessee and North Carolina Tories, who had fled before the Southern troops, and taken refuge in the mountains of Madison county. About 1000 Tories, the messenger informed us, were at Newport, in Cooke county, armed and organized. Col. R. B. Vance's regiment had been ordered to disperse them, and would, it was supposed, reach Newport last Tuesday. Nothing definite has been heard since, but it is presumed a collision has taken place before now.

We learn that a great many arrests have been made, and no little old fashioned hanging has been done at Greeneville. The authorities having exhausted all mild remedies, are determined to crush the rebellion by force, and teach the traitors that the Southern Confederacy is a Government, with ample power to enforce obedience to the laws.

News from Col. Vance's regiment is most anxiously looked for. We will give it to our readers at the earliest possible moment.

P. S.—The Asheville News of a later date than the above contains a letter from a member of Col Vance's Regiment, in which it is stated that a skirmish took place with the Tories in which the Confederates killed 5 or 6 and captured 40 or 50 prisoners, and scattered and dispersed the balance.

The Franklin Carolinian, published in Mason county, N. C. says that the news about the Tories, camping in Madison county, in large numbers, is false. The Carolinian says that a fight between the Confederates and Lincolnites took place near Morristown, Tenn., in which the former had to yield to a very much larger force of the latter. The accounts are rather conflicting.

THE CONFEDERATE TARIFF.—It is understood that a number of memorials have been addressed to Congress, in secret session, urging the suspension of the Tariff act and the remission of duties on foreign imports from foreign countries during the war. This, it is supposed; will cause large shipments of merchandise, as it is suggested that all merchandise can be packed in water-tight packages, thrown overboard from vessels and landed at almost any point on the three thousand miles of sea-coast of the Southern Confederacy.

IMPORTANT NEWS.

ANOTHER CONFEDERATE VICTORY IN VIRGINIA.

RICHMOND, Dec. 14.—Official intelligence has been received here that the Federals, 5,000 strong, attacked Col. Edward Johnston's command on Valley Mountain, on the 13th, but were repulsed, with great loss, after an engagement of seven hours. The battle commenced at 7 o'clock in the forenoon. Johnston's force was twelve hundred, but has since been reinforced by two regiments Johnston is a Virginian, and a graduate of West Point, but commands the Twelfth Georgia Regiment. Excepting the news of the victory at Valley Mountain, there is nothing of interest from the camps. Ben McCulloch arrived here to-day.

FROM THE PENINSULA.—Gen. Magruder has sent his aide to Richmond—and there is no doubt of the landing at Newport News of a large body of Federal troops. It is said they have occupied Little Bethel. Stirring news is expected from that quarter.

IMPORTANT NEWS.—The Norfolk Day Book of the 10th received a copy of the New York Herald of the 10th inst., which states that a panic has occurred in Wall street, from the Secretary of the Treasury having in his report, called for an additional six hundred millions (\$600,000,000) of dollars, and estimating that, if the war lasts till July, 1863, he will want one thousand millions! It is rumored in New York that Gen. McClellan has handed in his resignation, because the Administration persists in conducting the war on Abolitionist principles.

We heard recently, in Richmond, that a large number of officers would resign if that policy was determined on.—Columbia Carolinian.

D. F. Ferree, Esq., who has just returned from a mission to the Confederate Government on which he was sent by the Convention, reports, among other things, that Secretary Meminger expressed a decided opinion that the blockade would be raised in thirty days.—Raleigh Register.

The Memphis Advance publishes the following part of a dispatch from President Davis, under the date of the 2d instant: "The rumor that Gen. Price will be superseded is false, if not malignant. I have not received a tender of Missouri troops, and consequently have no power to make appointments for them, or to control their organization." JEFF. DAVIS.

Northern Items. A Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Inquirer says: A number of citizens of Georgetown and Alexandria openly favor the Confederates. A resolution favoring abolition in the District of Columbia, was brought up in Congress on the 10th. News from Frankfort, Ky., of the 10th, says that Garrett Davis has been elected Senator instead of Breckinridge. It is believed in Washington that the Confederate force near the Federal lines number at least 900,000.

General Scott and family have arrived in England. Messrs. Mason, Slidell, McFarlan and Eustis have published in the Herald a protest against their seizure.

THE FOREIGN RELATIONS OF THE LINCOLN GOVERNMENT.—The Washington correspondent of the New York Times gives in the following condensed form, the substance of the foreign correspondence with the State Department:

England entertains or at least expresses no sympathy for us, but rather the reverse. France has not been cordial, but has been less offensive than England. Austria has been friendly, and from the outset has declared that she would not recognize the Southern Confederacy. Prussia and all the German States have been equally cordial. Russia has been friendly, but anxious for the war to end. Sweden and Norway have been friendly from the beginning. Belgium is undecided, but passive. Holland is disposed to follow the lead of England at a respectful distance. Italy is full of warm sympathy for our Government and for freedom. Spain, though not aggressive, has an evident leaning towards the Jeffersonian Republic. Denmark is friendly. The Pope, though he announces that his Government is not of this world, but that he is concerned with spiritual things, yet if he were to express an opinion, he as a good Christian, will always be on the side of law and order.

NUISANCE.—We have long been of opinion that the most unadvisable evils under which the United States government has labored, are the Congress which annually assembles at Washington in the worst. If it was so before the present revolution, far worse is it now. The very first day of the present session was signalized by many propositions of intensely furious character, against slavery and against everything but that impracticable idea, subjugation, which is evidently in high favor among the fanatics who fill those halls.

It will be seen from the remarkable Washington letter of the N. Y. Herald, that even Lincoln himself is at points with the ultra party, represented in the Cabinet by Cameron, Welles, and probably others, and in Congress by the Lovejoys and Elliotts and Stephens; and that a very decided schism is manifested in Lincolnland. The President seems to have sense enough to see that to carry out the views of Cameron and his followers, would be as fatal a blow as any that the Confederates themselves can strike. The correspondent of the N. Y. Times is even more emphatic in expression as to the effect upon Western Virginia, Kentucky and Missouri, of the adoption of Cameron's propositions. The others, more ultra than Lincoln, are too mad to realize anything but their own fanaticism. The Herald writer thinks that Lincoln will not yield to them. We think he will. The hot haste with which the Lovejoys, &c., offered their resolutions, on the first day of the session, apparently to get the start of the President, shows that they do not mean to be driven from their ground.—Fayetteville Observer.

NORTHERN NEWS.—The N. Y. Tribune, of the 4th, says that a correspondent of the Standard, writing from Washington, gives the following account of Seward's last declaration, which the correspondent heard Seward utter: The effective part of the war on our side is over; there may be more fighting, but the less of it the surer we are of speedy peace. Every battle saved which can be honorably avoided is a gain to the cause of the Union. The real danger is over; if we escape the danger of our foreign affairs all will be well.

The N. Y. Herald, of the 6th, publishes dispatches, which say that Rosecranz has gone into winter quarters at Wheeling.

The Norfolk Day Book gives sundry extracts from Northern papers which have probably come through by flag of truce from Fortress Monroe.

From the Missouri news we should judge that the Confederates were in possession of a larger portion of Missouri than had been generally supposed. The Federals had paraded their recapture of Lexington with a force of a few hundred men. Lexington, and indeed all the river towns and counties west of Jefferson city, are now in possession of the Confederate forces. This is the richest and most populous portion of the State, always excepting the city and county of St. Louis.

The N. Y. Herald urges retaliation against Canada by putting an end to the reciprocity treaty with that country, and by other acts of hostile legislation. The Northern presses and people are very bitter against the Canadians for their supposed sympathy with the Southern movement.

A certain Lt. Col. Reynolds has been appointed Resident Agent at Port Royal, under the general regulations relative to securing and disposing of the property found or brought within the territory now or hereafter occupied by the United States forces in the "disloyal States." He has been ordered to report to the Secretary of the Treasury. Reynolds is to be the agent to see that there is a fair division of the property stolen by the freebooters.

Old Gen. Cass has written a letter justifying the arrest of Mason and Slidell, and endeavoring to show that it was in strict accordance with the right of search question as maintained in correspondence with the British Government, in 1858.

MARRIED.

In this county, on the 4th inst., by Wm. Means, Esq., Mr Thomas P McGinn to Miss Amelia S Leadwell. In Milton, on the 3d inst., Hon. George Howard, Superior Court Judge of North Carolina, to Miss Anna Stimp, eldest daughter of Dr. Wm L Stamps. In Union county, on the eleventh instant, by S. H. Parker, Esq., Mr J. T. Hasty of Anson, to Miss Eliza Brown of Union. In Greensboro, on the 4th inst., Mr S C Dodson to Miss M E Dougherty. In Iredell county, on the 26th ult., Mr John L Brown to Miss Mary R. Eckett. Also, on the 5th inst., Mr R G Poston to Mrs Ellen A Ball.

DIED.

In this county, on the 26th ult., Mr John H McCord, aged 48 years. In the Mississippi River, 60 miles above Memphis, Mr Thos T McKey. He was a native of Iredell county, N. C. and removed to Arkansas about 3 years ago. In Yorkville, on the 1st inst., Dr. William Moore, aged 70 years. At Rock Hill, York District, Mr John Aycock, aged 40 years.

The Presbytery of Concord will hold an adjourned meeting at the Street Church on Friday the 20th inst., at eleven o'clock, A. M., for the purpose of attending to the ordination and installation of Mr S C Alexander.

Stolen. Stolen from the side of my door on Saturday night, 20th inst., between 8 and 9 o'clock, one Gilt Frame Show Case, of Snuff and Tobacco sample. The Case is 24 x 24 inches, and has in it samples of Lorillard's Snuff and Tobacco. The labels on either the Bottles or Papers can be identified. I will give a reward of \$5 to any one who will detect the thief. J. D. PALMER, December 17, 1861.

RECRUITS WANTED. CAPT. J. M. MILLER wants 40 or 50 men for his Cavalry Company now in service in Virginia. Apply to J. P. ALEXANDER.

Examination of Teachers. The Examining Committee for Mecklenburg county will meet at the Street Church on Friday the 20th inst., on the fourth Saturday in this month (being the 28th day) for the purpose of inquiring into the qualifications of those who may desire to teach Common Schools. E. N. HUTCHISON, M. D. JOHNSTON, December 17th, '61.

DISSOLUTION. The partnership that heretofore existed under the name of J. G. WILKINSON & CO., was dissolved by mutual consent on the 13th inst. All those who are indebted to the said firm will please call at the store of J. G. WILKINSON and settle up, as all claims against the firm will present them for settlement. J. G. WILKINSON, THOS. TROTTER, Dec 17, 1861.

WATCHES, JEWELRY, &c. The subscriber respectfully announces to the public that he has purchased the entire stock of Watches, Jewelry, Clocks, Silver and Plated Ware, Walking Canes, Fancy Goods, &c., that belong to J. G. WILKINSON & Co., which is now offered to the public low for cash only. Particular attention given to Repairing Watches and Jewelry. J. G. WILKINSON, Dec 17, 1861.

\$30 REWARD. I will pay the above reward to any person who will apprehend and deliver to me my boy SAM, or confine him in some jail so that I can get him. Said boy ran away about the 4th of December instant. He may endeavor to get to the neighborhood of Philadelphia church in this county, as he has some religious there, or he may go to Ashe county, as I bought him of Stephen N. Wilson, who lives in that county. Sam had on when he left, a brown Hazy coat and a black wool hat, has a scar on his forehead, and is about twenty-one years old. Said boy escaped from the Railroad near Columbia, S. C., and may be lurking somewhere down there. JOHN WOLFE, December 17th, '61.

EXECUTOR'S SALE. I will sell at the plantation of Dr. D. R. Dunlap, deceased, about 3 miles south of Charlotte, on Monday the 5th of January next, the following property, viz: 3 horses, 2 mares, 12 or 14 head of cattle, among them several good milk cows; 27 head of pork; long hogs now being fattened for sale; 5 or 6 breeding sows; eighteen or twenty hogs in range; 500 to 600 bushels corn; 7 stacks fodder; 3 stacks hay; shucks, and other provender; one four horse wagon and gear; one two horse carriage and harness, nearly new; one set blacksmith's tools; several plows and other farming tools; one thrashing machine and gearing; one wheat fan; one straw-cutting and one corn-sheller. Also 25 or 30 acres growing crops of wheat and oats together with other property. Terms: Cash ready money or by note, payable on the 4th of December next. SAM'L J. LOWRIE, Ex'r. Dec 17, 1861.

I will Rent at the Court House, on the 1st of January, the Plantation lately belonging to said deceased, lying about ten miles north-west of Charlotte, on the Beattie's Ford road, for the ensuing year. The Plantation is in good soil, about one hundred acres, and good land for cultivation. There is a small but comfortable house on the premises. SAM'L J. LOWRIE.

NEGROES FOR HIRE. Eighteen or twenty likely NEGROES for hire public on the first of January, or privately before that time. SAM'L J. LOWRIE, Dec 17 '61.

Headquarters N. C. Militia, ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE, GENERAL ORDER NO. 3. Raleigh, Dec. 7, 1861. The following persons will be exempt from Company drills, except once in three months: All workmen in any factory engaged in working for the State, or making arms, lead or powder, or in ship building for the State or Confederate States, the necessary employees of Telegraph or Express lines, or Daily Press, Ferry-men and keepers of Canal Locks, State officers and other persons whose employment in the service of the State is incompatible with their attendance on Militia drill, and persons excused under the Militia Law. This order will not be understood as excusing any person from Militia duty when called upon to rebel an invasion, or suppress an insurrection, or from Regimental drills and musters. By order of the Commander-in-chief, J. G. MARTIN, Adjutant General, Dec. 17.

AXES! AXES! Any person having OLD AXES which can be worked over, will find sale for them at this department. The axes must be delivered to SYLVESTER SMITH, Esq., who will give receipts for them, which receipts will be cashed on presentation at this office. J. DEVEREUX, Quartermaster, December 17th. Raleigh, N. C.

NOTICE. Treasurer's Office, A., T. & O. Railroad, Charlotte, Dec. 12th. The Sixth installment of the Capital Stock of the Atlantic, Tenn. & O. Railroad Company, subscribed in the town of Statesville, is due on the 7th of January next. The Eighth installment of the stock subscribed at Mount Mourne, Iredell county, and the Ninth installment of all stock subscribed in Mecklenburg county, is due and payable on the 22d of January.

If the stockholders desire the work to continue they may pay their stock more promptly, as the Treasurer must have money. M. L. WRISTON, Treasurer, 95-51.

St. Mary's School, Raleigh, N. C. Rev. Rev. Thos. Atkinson, D. D., Visitor. Rev. Albert Smedes, D. D., Rector. The next Term of this SCHOOL will open January 6th, 1862. For a circular containing full particulars, apply to the Rector. Raleigh, N. C., Dec. 17.

TO THE CITIZENS OF CHARLOTTE. CHARLOTTE, December 12th.

My name has been announced in the different papers of the Town as a candidate for Mayor. This is an honor unsolicited by me, yet being the act of my friends, I do not feel at liberty to decline; and while the condition of the country permits me to remain at home, my services are due and will be ever given to the town in which I was born and raised, and where all my interests lie. Should my services be again needed abroad, in defence of our Confederacy, I feel that in responding to this call to strike for our homes and our independence, I would be doing as my fellow citizens would approve, and feel convinced that the Commissioners would fill my post acceptably during the time that duty calls me to the field. W. A. OWENS.

For the Western Democrat. QUERY.—Do those persons who appear to be so much exercised to know whether Capt. Owens is going to rejoin the army, and who oppose his re-election