

The Western Democrat.

OFFICE ON THE WEST SIDE OF TRADE STREET

CHARACTER IS AS IMPORTANT TO STATES AS IT IS TO INDIVIDUALS, AND THE GLORY OF THE ONE IS THE COMMON PROPERTY OF THE OTHER.

\$3 per annum IN ADVANCE

W. J. YATES, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1862.

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CONSCRIPTION.

HEADQUARTERS CAMP OF INSTRUCTION, Near Raleigh, June 25th, 1862. SPECIAL ORDER NO. 1. I. All persons subject to the provisions of the act of Congress entitled "an act further to provide for the Public Defence," approved the 10th of April 1862, and known as the Conscription Act, are hereby ordered to appear at their regular Regimental muster grounds in their respective counties, on the 8th day of July, prox.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, RICHMOND, MAY 19, 1861. GENERAL ORDER, NO. 37. I. The following act and regulations in reference thereto, are published for the information of all concerned.

II. The following are exempt from enrollment for military service: 1. All persons subject to the provisions of the act of Congress entitled "an act further to provide for the Public Defence," approved the 10th of April 1862, and known as the Conscription Act, are hereby ordered to appear at their regular Regimental muster grounds in their respective counties, on the 8th day of July, prox.

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G. W. Randolph of Virginia, Secretary of War.
C. G. Memminger of South Carolina, Secretary of the Treasury.
S. R. Mallory of Florida, Secretary of the Navy.
Thos. H. Watts of Alabama, Chief of the Department of Justice or Attorney General.
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R H Battle, Secretary to the Governor. Salary, exclusive of fees, \$3,000.
Rufus H. Page, Secretary of State. Salary \$800.
Daniel W. Courts, Treasurer. Salary \$2,000.
W. R. Richardson, chief clerk to the Treasurer. Salary \$1,200.
C. H. Brogden, Comptroller. Salary \$1,000.
Oliver H Perry, Librarian.

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The General Assembly commences its session on the third Monday of November every alternate year.

ATTENTION TO ALL.

200 Reams of Writing Paper,
100,000 Envelopes,
Just received at the store of
KOOPLMAN & PHELPS,
May 27, 1862

Wil., Charlotte & Ruth, Railroad--
WESTERN DIVISION.

On and after Monday the 15th instant, the Passenger and Mail Train will be run on this Road daily (Sunday excepted) as follows:

GOING WEST.	ARRIVE.
7 00 A. M.	Charlotte
7 45 "	Tuckersge, 7 43 A. M.
8 15 "	Brevard, 8 10 "
8 40 "	Sharon, 8 37 "
	Lincolnton, 9 00 "
GOING EAST.	ARRIVE.

By order, V. A. McBEHE, Acting Master of Transportation. Lincolnton, April 4, 1861.

R. W. BECKWITH

WATCHES, JEWELRY, PLATED WARE, &c.

The War.

The Campaign in Maryland.

A condensed and correct statement of the operations of the Confederate Army.

A correspondent of the Richmond Dispatch gives the following statement of affairs from the time the Confederate army first crossed the Potomac into Maryland until it returned to the Virginia shore: WINCHESTER, Sept. 20.

I proceed to give you a condensed statement of the important events which have occurred on or near the upper Potomac, within the last few weeks. On Saturday the 6th of September, the Confederate army reached Frederick City, in Maryland, encamping, for the most part, a mile or two southeast of the city, on the side towards Washington. But few forces actually entered Frederick until Tuesday the 9th. On that day and the next, our whole army took up the line of march, passing through Frederick westward, on the turnpike leading to Hagerstown. A part of the army proceeded to the latter place.

A few days after, one portion crossed the Potomac river at or near Williamsport, and marched to Harper's Ferry via Martinsburg. The yankee forces at the latter place fell back to Harper's Ferry, which place was invested by our forces on both sides of the river. The attack was begun on Sunday the 14th, and on Monday morning the 15th, the entire yankee army capitulated. It was commanded by Gen White. The federal General D S Miles was killed. We took over 11,000 prisoners, 1,000 runaway negroes, 13,000 small arms, 50 to 70 cannon, and a quantity of stores and ammunition. The prisoners were paroled, and the captured negroes, arms, and other property, sent back to places of safety.

On Friday the 12th, (two days after our main army had passed westward from Frederick,) Gen McClellan approached Frederick with his grand army from the direction of Washington, his first object being the rescue of the federal army at Harper's Ferry.

In this he was completely foiled by the genius of our noble chieftain, Gen. Lee. He had so arranged that Gen. Longstreet, [we think it was D H Hill] with his command, held McClellan in check until the yankee forces at the Ferry had capitulated, and this almost in sight of McClellan! Longstreet then fell back to unite with Jackson and A P Hill, who, having finished their job at the Ferry, marched to join him.

On Tuesday the 16th of Sept., the two grand armies encountered each other near Sharpsburg in Maryland. The scene of conflict was a valley about two miles wide, running south from Boonsboro to the Potomac river near Sharpsburg, the latter place being near the Maryland side of the Potomac, and some miles up the river from Shepherdstown. This valley is divided by the Antietam creek, which runs down it into the Potomac a few miles below Shepherdstown. On the east of the valley and of the Antietam, lay McClellan, with the abrupt Blue Ridge mountain behind him. On the west side of the Antietam lay Gen. Lee's army, with high mountains in his rear.

The battle commenced on Tuesday afternoon, was renewed on Wednesday, and continued till the night of that day. At that time Jackson had driven back the enemy's right wing for several miles, while Hill and Longstreet had also forced back his centre and left--we holding the battle field, but McClellan still holding a position between the Antietam and the Blue Ridge.

The battle was one of the hardest fought of the war. The Hon. Alex. Boteler, in a speech made at Winchester, just after his arrival from the army, stated that it was estimated our losses would not exceed in killed, wounded and missing, 5,000, while that of the enemy was estimated at 20,000. There was no fighting on Thursday. On that night our army crossed, without molestation, and in good order, to this side of the river near Shepherdstown. Of the plan for their future movements I know nothing.

son's and Ewell's divisions were thrown to the left of Gens D H Hill and Longstreet. The enemy advanced between the Antietam and the Sharpsburg and Hagerstown turnpike, and was met by Gen. D. H. Hill's and the left of Gen. Longstreet's divisions, where the conflict raged, extending to our entire left. The enemy was repulsed and held in check; but prior to the arrival of the divisions of McLaws, Anderson and Walker, who had been advanced to support the left wing and centre, as soon as they had crossed the Potomac on the morning of the 17th, that portion of our line was forced back by superior numbers. As soon, however, as these forces could be brought into action, a severe conflict ensued. The enemy was driven back, our line was restored, and our position maintained during the rest of the day.

In the afternoon the enemy advanced on our right, where Gen. Jackson's division was posted, and he handsomely maintained his position. The bridge over the Antietam creek was guarded by Gen. Toombs' brigade, which gallantly resisted the approach of the enemy; but their superior numbers enabling them to extend their left, they crossed before the bridge and forced our line back in some confusion. Just at this time, between 3 and 4 P. M., Gen. A. P. Hill, with five of his brigades, having reached the scene of action, drove the enemy immediately back from the position they had taken, and continued the contest until dark, restoring our right and maintaining our ground.

When the battle closed, after having raged furiously during the entire day, we retained possession of the field and the enemy retired to his former position. Our loss was considerable. Gen. Branch of N. C. and Gen. Starke of Miss., were killed, and Gens R H Anderson, Wright, Lawton, Armistead, Ripley and Ransom, wounded, though not dangerously. We learn from persons who left the field, that Gen. Lee held the field on Thursday, and took measures to renew the engagement, but the enemy had disappeared from his front. After removing the wounded and burying the dead, Gen. Lee recrossed the Potomac and established his headquarters at or near Shepherdstown.

NORTHERN ACCOUNTS.

From the Richmond Enquirer. Late Northern papers state that Gen. Reno was killed on Sunday evening, the 14th, in the battle near Boonsboro, or South Mountain, as the Yankees call it. He was shot dead while issuing orders, about 7 P. M.

Gen. Miles, who was struck by a shell, just as he had ordered the white flag to be raised at Harper's Ferry, on Monday morning, had his leg immediately amputated, and died that night.

Gen. McClellan has been again disgracing himself by false dispatches. He is a mighty hero according to his own story, but the falsehoods are worthy his Chickahominy fame. The fight at South Mountain on Sunday he telegraphs as "a glorious victory" and he quotes Gen. Hooker as authority for saying that Gen. Lee admitted he "had been shockingly whipped." And as if Gen. Hooker was not enough, he quotes rumor as stating that our loss in that battle was seventeen thousand men.

Now the truth is that General Lee has distinctly said that the battle referred to was a repulse of the enemy, although he had his whole force, and we but a portion of ours. The statement of our loss is absurd. We had hardly that number engaged. Surely, McClellan is the last man who can be excused for resorting to rumor. His most chastened dispatches are themselves as reckless as ordinary rumor; what must his rumors be! One of the enemy's letter writers says:

"I estimate that two thousand will cover the list of our casualties. I think that the enemy's loss in killed and wounded will not exceed our own. Altogether we captured two thousand prisoners."

As there seems to be considerable confusion, even in some of our own papers, as to the time and places of the late battles, we will state them: At Harper's Ferry, on Sunday evening and Monday morning, at the Blue Ridge or South Mountain Passes, near Boonesborough, on Sunday; and at Sharpsburg on Wednesday.

INCREASING DISTRESS IN THE ENGLISH MANUFACTURING DISTRICTS.

The London Times has been sending a special correspondent into the manufacturing districts to ascertain the truth in regard to the suffering and privation there, growing out of a stoppage of trade, consequent upon the American war, the loss of the cotton supply, &c. His first report appeared in the Times of the 26th ult. From him we learn that--

"In Preston alone there are 23,000 persons receiving parochial and charitable relief. The population is only 83,000, so that more than one-fourth are steeped to the lips in misery. In addition to the 23,000, there are thousands endeavoring to subsist on half-wages, or less than one-half. Half-time does not imply half-pay, for the use of Surat cotton renders it impossible for the hands to earn their customary wages. The amount lost to the operatives by the failure of employment is calculated at £13,000 a week. The slight compensation to the suffering amounts to little more than £1,000 a week; so that, in point of fact, £1 is made to do the duty of £13.

"In one court I found a poor woman with three children, whose husband had three days' parish work and an extra relief of 3s., in all 6s. a week for the five. All their furniture was gone but a table and two chairs, and all five slept in one bed, which was placed in a dark hole with not a ray of light finding its way into it--such as we should hardly think too good to store coals in. All their clothes had been pawned, and most bitterly of all did the poor woman lament a good black suit of her husband which was 'in' for 10s., and which they could never hope to 'redeem.'

"Another family of six people, in the same court had to live on 8s. a week, that is, 2s. 2d. per week or 2id. a day for each.

"In another house, I saw a sight which will be before my eyes for many a day to come. It was a little low stone-floored room, its only furniture a table, a stool and a bed. On the bed was stretched an object--I could not tell whether it was a man or a woman--worn to the bone, a very skeleton; in fact, her body covered with putrid sores, with not a rag on her, literally naked but for the coarse sheet which was spread over her. The bed on which she lay was a rough brown sacking stuffed with a handful of straw. She had lain there I don't know how long; her husband had lain there before her and died on the same bed. She was the mother of two girls, factory operatives, who earned or were relieved with a few shillings--I forget how many, for I own I was too much shocked at what I saw to listen to figures.

"Even among a somewhat better class the suffering is hardly less extreme, and sad were the tales to which I had to listen of the gradual descent from comfort to utter destitution. In one little house, huddled all together, was a family of eleven, all of which had been twenty-eight weeks out of work, and for fifteen of these they had existed on something less than 1s. per head. The Relief Committee had just raised their pittance to 16s. for the eleven. Before the bad times the family earnings had been about £3 15s., and they had had to part with nearly all their furniture.

A man, his wife, three daughters and two sons had only one bed among them, and only a dirty blanket and a dirty quilt, one to be under and the other over them. Of course the children slept on the bare boards.

"But perhaps the strongest illustrations of the distress actually chargeable on the present crisis are the cases of respectable men who have hitherto kept themselves in comfort and endeavored to provide for old age and infirmity. There was no difficulty in finding plenty of these. At one house I visited a young couple, not long married, who between them had earned £2 a week. They had both been out of work for some time, and when their savings were exhausted they had at last applied to the parish. Their present income was exactly 5s. 6d. a week, out of which their rent was 2s. 7d., leaving them 3s. a week for subsistence.

must be greatly improved. It is very suitable, however, to coarse fabrics, and with coarse fabrics we must be content until such time as America sends her produce here again, or the cotton of other countries improves in quality as well as in quantity.

"We have shown how small is the present stock of cotton, and, looking to the immediate future, the prospect is gloomy in the extreme. Chief reliance is placed upon the supply of Surat sorts, but it is not by any means encouraging to find that the total quantity from this source now afloat and on the way to England is only 90,000 bales more than it was at this time last year, being 290,000 bales against 300,000 in 1861. From no other source can the deficiency now indicated be made up, save with time. Assuming that the American crop is not released, and allowing for the probable supplies from every other quarter, competent authorities estimate that during the next six months there will be only sufficient cotton to admit of the operatives having two days' work a week, and this is upon the supposition that not a single bale will remain in stock at the end of that period.

The latter anticipation, of course, will not be literally fulfilled, but there is too much reason to apprehend, as we have already hinted, that the pressure on the cotton manufacturing districts will become yet more intense. A well known Manchester firm have given public expression to an opinion that its severity will be the greatest during the autumn and winter months, from October to February next.

The Peace Society of London has issued an address to the people of the United States, urging that the time has come when an attempt should be made to arrest the destructive conflict that is now being carried on. It depreciates any interference with American affairs, but such as would prove acceptable to Americans; but says: "Surely, the idea of friendly mediation may be entertained without any derogation of national dignity." It argues that there are only two alternatives to issue out of the war--either the utter extermination of one of the parties to it, or some form of accommodation and compromise between the contending sides. It asks: "Is it not better to have recourse to the latter at once, before the feelings of the North and South become hopelessly inflamed with the most bitter animosity and vengeance?"

INCIDENTS.

"Personae," the army correspondent of the Charleston Courier, mentions the fact that our soldiers were in the habit of supplying their own urgent want of shoes &c., by stripping them from the feet of the dead yankees, who certainly had no further use for them. Personae says, "If you could see our bare-footed and ragged men, you might think there was even a virtue in stealing from a defunct enemy. And he adds: 'Among the amusing occurrences of this kind, it is related of a soldier belonging to the Eight Alabama Regiment, that he found a yankee in the woods, but being separated from his regiment, did not know what to do with him. While soliloquizing, the officer who gave me the incident rode by, and his advice being asked, he told the soldier he had better let the prisoner go. 'Well,' said the Alabamian, 'I reckon I will; but look here, yankee, you can't leave till you've given me some of them good clothes.' Strip! I want your boots and breeches." The yankee protested against any such indignity, and appealed to the officer to protect him. The Alabamian also pleaded his cause. 'Here's this fellow,' said he, 'come down here a robbing of our people, and he's stayed so long it's no more a right he should pay for his board. I don't want him to go round in his bare legs any more'n he wants to; and I mean to give him my old clothes.' 'A fair exchange is no robbery,' replied the officer, 'and as you have no shoes and a mighty poor pair of pants, I reckon you had better help yourself.' 'Now, yankee, you hear what the boss says, do yer; off with your traps and let's trade.' The last thing my friend saw, as he rode away, was the two worthies, in their 'bar legs,' stripping for an exchange."

A correspondent of the Washington Star, speaking of the conduct of some of the people of Maryland after the Confederate Army withdrew from Frederick City, says:

"That there exists a strong Union sentiment in Maryland, Capt. Davis says that there can be no doubt. After the rebel army left, and the Federal army had entered, farmers came in voluntarily from all sections of the country around, and gave information as to the whereabouts of the Confederates--That was more to the point, and best evidence of their Unionism; they told the truth in every instance. The citizens of Frederick City, too, made preparations to receive and entertain the Federal soldiers to the best of their ability, and spread before them such food as they had, and had water ready to allay their thirst. All the stores that had been closed on the approach of the Secession Army were opened to the Unionists, and the only question that appeared to concern the people was whether the Union army was strong enough to prevent the Secessionists from retaking the place."

"We do not think Maryland will ever belong to the Confederacy, and there's no use of fussing about it."

A CONSPIRACY--The New York Herald has discovered a conspiracy among politicians of the Abolition stamp to depose the virtuous and patriotic Lincoln, and place John C. Breckinridge at the head of affairs. We venture to predict, that if they could succeed in their purpose the Herald would be the first to toss its hat for the new-comer and help Abraham with a hearty kick into the obscurity of private life. That there will be a conspiracy in the North some day or other to depose the Washington despot, we do not doubt; for the fresh succession of disappointments and disasters, which inevitably awaits the profligate Administration of the United States, cannot fail to bring his demented subjects to their senses. Their only road to deliverance lies in the overthrow of the cabal which is exhausting their strength and blood and treasure to carry on a scheme of subjugation, which is impracticable, and which none but men whose reason had been completely driven from its throne by furious passions would ever have attempted.