

For the Western Democrat.

FRUIT TREES.

MR. EDITOR: I was pleased with a remark in your paper some weeks since that "the man who plants a shade tree is a public benefactor." This is true, for he puts something beautiful where nothing stood before. But it is more true of the man that plants a fruit tree, which is beautiful and useful at the same time. What is more beautiful than a well ordered orchard in the Spring, with its green leaves, fragrant blossoms, and its singing birds and murmuring bees; and what combines so perfectly the useful and beautiful as the same orchard in Autumn loaded with fruit and filled with fragrance? These considerations would seem enough to induce every one to go to work and plant an orchard of well selected fruit. But the great question in this money-loving age is, will it pay? The price that poor fruit brings in this town answers that question.

Why is it then, when every one admits that an orchard is beautiful, useful and profitable, that so few pay any attention to the subject? If our field crops were managed as poorly as our orchards we would certainly starve. I think the main reason why farmers do not pay more attention to their orchards is, the returns are not so quick as from corn, wheat and other crops. If we could get a good crop of wheat the first year I think more attention would be paid to the subject. But we ought to recollect that we are not obliged to plant an orchard every year—that when once established it will yield a good return for many years if a moderate degree of attention is bestowed upon it. Then, fellow-farmers, let me urge you to pay more attention to this subject. Now is a good time to plant fruit trees. Don't put it off till next year. Do it now, and your orchard will soon repay you for any expense you may incur in getting a good selection of the various kinds of fruit trees. The price of young trees is higher than usual this year, but money is plentier and the demand for fruit is increasing every year.

For the Western Democrat.

MR. EDITOR: Since writing my last article, published in your paper last week, I am delighted to see that Congress has authorized the suspension of the habeas corpus. This is right and I hope our authorities will not allow those to escape who have been sowing the seeds of treason and discord here in the South. Has not the Government the right and power to protect the loyal portion of our people from the evil effects of the teachings and operations of the disloyal? Certainly it has, and the suspension of the habeas corpus will keep certain individuals from embarrassing the government in its endeavors to defend our homes and secure independence. This writ was suspended last year with good effect, it is necessary to suspend it occasionally in all wars, and all countries have been obliged to do so in times of public danger. Good and true men, who really desire the Confederate cause to triumph, ought not to object to the suspension, but it is expected that the evil disposed will try to raise a great hue and cry against it. But mark what I say, those who conduct themselves as true southerners and obey the laws of their country, will never suffer any inconvenience from the suspension. Only the disobedient and disturbers of the public peace need be under apprehension of arrest and punishment. Thousands of men have entered going into the army by taking advantage of the habeas corpus and the aid of some lawyers and a few Judges, but it is to be hoped that these evasions will be stopped now, and that our gallant boys in the field will be aided in the fight by many of those who have managed heretofore to keep out. Will not that be right, just and equitable? In order to do this, and save our cause from injury by the conduct and practices of the disloyal and dissatisfied, it is necessary to suspend the habeas corpus, which Congress has authorized the President to do whenever he may deem necessary.

A TRUE CONSERVATIVE

DIPLOMATIC MISSION.—A correspondent of the Atlanta Register says: Brigadier-General Wm. Preston, whose troops won such distinction at Chickamauga, is safely on his way to Mexico as Minister Plenipotentiary to that court. He sailed early in January from a Confederate port. He was formerly Minister to Spain under Buchanan. He is instructed to make a treaty with Maximilian, based upon the mutual recognition of the two Governments, with commercial clauses, granting reciprocal privileges of trade and commerce. A recognition by Maximilian will be tantamount to a recognition by France.

Capture of a Yankee Steamer and a Brigadier General.—The following is an official dispatch from Western Virginia:

DUBLIN, Va., Feb. 15.—On the 3d inst., Major Mounman, with a detachment of forty men of the 16th Virginia cavalry captured the armed steamer B. C. Lee, at Winfree's, Putnam county, Virginia, with a valuable cargo and twenty-nine prisoners, including Brig Gen Seacombe, commanding forces in Kanawha Valley, a captain, two lieutenants of his staff. Gen Seacombe and two officers of his staff are here now, and will be forwarded to Richmond to-morrow, unless you order otherwise, in charge of Lieut Ventigian, the gallant young officer who boarded the boat with only twelve men. Col Ferguson, whom I sent with my regiment, the 16th Virginia cavalry, to the Lower Kanawha some weeks since, has made several captures and rendered valuable service.

SAMUEL JONES, Maj Gen.

A NEW ALABAMA.—We have information which leads us to believe that another swift-headed steamer, armed and equipped for her peculiar vocation, has made her escape from British clutches, and is by this time playing havoc among Yankee merchantmen. She is said to be under the command of Capt North, with Capt Hamilton, of this State, familiarly known as Jack Hamilton, as First Lieutenant. A more gallant brace of spirits is not affixed than North and Hamilton, and if they have a craft worthy of them, we doubt not that ere long we shall hear New York, Gideon Welles, and his horse-marine-navy howling with new rage at the exploits of "another Southern pirate"—Columbia Carolinian.

A PEACH BLOSSOM.—A friend informs us that he found an open peach blossom on one of his trees on Rockfish on Sunday the 14th, with a number of others nearly ready to burst. This is very early for blossoms; but fortunately there has come a cold spell, which we trust will keep them back.—Fry Observer.

To guard against the destruction by frosts of this desirable fruit crop, a very simple remedy has been suggested, which is well worth trying. A tub of water placed under a fruit tree while in full bloom will prevent frost from injuring the blossoms.—Greensboro Patriot.

Announcement.

We, as soldiers, respectfully announce THOMAS R. MAGILL as a candidate for the House of Commons for Union county, at our next regular election in August, and as such will be voted for by

MARY SOLDIERS IN THE ARMY.

December 22, 1862

THE IMPRESSMENT OF MEAT.

The following is the bill passed by Congress for the impressment of meat for the army:

A Bill to be entitled "An act to authorize the impressment of meat for the use of the army, under certain circumstances."

SECTION 1. The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That whenever the President shall declare that the public exigencies render it necessary, impressments of meat, for the use of the army, may be made from any supplies that may exist in the country, under the express condition that just compensation shall be afforded to the owner of the meat taken or impressed, and subject to the following restrictions and limitations:

Sec 2. The power to direct such impressment shall be conferred upon the Secretary of War; but he shall not reduce the supplies of any person below one half of the quantity usually allowed for the support of himself, his family and dependants for the year. He shall exercise the said power by orders directed to the officers or agents he may employ, who shall have explicit instructions as to the mode of its execution, and injunctions that the same shall not be abused.

Sec 3. That these orders shall direct that a notice shall be given to the owners of the meat concerned, his bailie or other agent, declaring the quantity required, the price offered, the existence of a necessity, and whether possession is to be taken of the same immediately, and with whom the risk of the safe keeping is to be, pending the negotiation, and in what manner the compensation shall be settled, in case the offer is not accepted—service of which notice shall be a condition precedent to any impressment or seizure by the impressing officer.

Sec 4. That upon the service of this notice upon the owner of any meat liable to impressment, the owner shall hold the same, subject to the claim of the Confederate States, and shall be entitled to just compensation, according to the provisions of this act; and if the necessity is declared by the impressing officer to be urgent, he shall deliver the possession to the impressing officer upon his demand, who shall give a receipt therefor, as provided in the sixth section of this act.

Sec 5. That for the ascertainment of the quantity of meat liable to impressment under this act, and also for just compensation for the same, where the owner and the impressing officer cannot agree, the impressing officer shall appoint one loyal and disinterested citizen of the county, district or parish, in which the meat impressed shall be at the time of impressment and the owner of the meat so impressed, his agent or other bailie shall appoint another, who shall, upon oath, ascertain the quantity liable to impressment, and the value of the same at the date of the notice served upon the party, which oath may be administered by the impressing officer, and which ascertainment of the quantity and value shall be conclusive evidence thereof; and if the assessors cannot agree, they may associate with them a third person, of like qualification, to make said assessment.

Sec 6. That whenever an impressment shall be made, under this act, it shall be the duty of the impressing officer to give an official certificate, showing the quantity taken, the company, battalion, regiment or other command, for whose use it is required, the compensation to be paid, the circumstances of necessity that existed, which certificate shall be evidence of a claim against the Confederate States, and shall be promptly paid by the disbursing officer of the command for which the meat was taken, or by the chief of the bureau having charge of disbursements for similar objects.

THE HABEAS CORPUS.—We have undoubted information of the passage of a bill by Congress to suspend temporarily the privilege of the Habeas Corpus act.

We have for sometime foreseen that this would become a necessity—and in our private conversations we were free to speak of it, with the hope that our opinion might have some avail, to stop the causes which were likely to bring it about.

But the suspension of the Habeas Corpus will not produce any inconveniences to good and loyal people. The civil law will still have its force and authority in all matters touching the rights and persons of the citizens, except when by treasonable or seditious practices they choose to bring themselves under military law.

But this suspension will have one good effect, that ought to gratify every father, wife, child or other person who has a son, husband, parent, kindred, or friend in the army. It will fill up the ranks of that army—it will send other men, who have not done anything but yawn and stretch, to help the men who have done all the work—It will save from or share death with many a gallant hero. It will shield the army from "judicious" attacks that knocked men out of the service, and it will do no harm to any but the evil disposed.—Raleigh Confederate.

CAPTURE OF A NOTORIOUS BUFFALO.—No event which has occurred during this war could have given more satisfaction than will the one which it is our pleasure to announce this morning. The renegade and Buffalo, Capt Hoggard, who has been so long a terror to Eastern Carolina, was captured on Friday night last, and is now a prisoner in the Confederate lines. Hoggard has been depredating on people of Bertie, Gates, Chowan and counties contiguous, for some time past, at the head of one hundred renegades who, like himself, should have deemed it a dear privilege to fight for their native State. Having been considerably annoyed by members of his lying in ambush for Captains Bowers and Davis, of the "judicious" command, and had but recently sent them a message, that he would capture them at an early day, or lose his life in the attempt. But sometimes would-be captors are themselves captured, and such has been the fate of the unfortunate Hoggard. Hearing that Hoggard would visit his wife on Friday night last, Capt Bowers denounced his command, and proceeded to the residence of Hoggard, in Bertie county, nine miles from Windsor. Arriving at their destination unobserved by the enemy, Hoggard's home was speedily surrounded, and a loud rap at the door given. "Who's there?" enquired a feminine voice from an upper window. "Friends!" was the quick response. "What will you have?" enquired Mrs Hoggard. "An interview with the Captain," responded a voice from below. "Wait until I strike a light," replied the female from above, and in two minutes more the door was opened, and the renowned Buffalo confronted 25 as during the looking rebels as ever drew Yankee blood. Finding resistance in vain, Hoggard instantly surrendered, and is now securely confined in Dixie.—Petersburg Express.

\$100 REWARD.

Ranaway about the 1st May last, a negro girl named JANE, belonging to the estate of A. A. Coffey, dec'd. Said negro is 15 or 16 years old, about 5 feet 6 inches high, very dark. She has very large feet, toes turned out, much more than common. It is supposed that she is in the neighborhood of Charlotte, N. C., and is passing herself as free. I will pay one hundred dollars for the apprehension and delivery of said negro to me, or if lodged in any jail so that I can get her.

PLEASANT VALLEY, LANCASTER DIST., S. C.

R. O. POTTS, Admr. Feb 2, 1864

QUANTRELL'S GUERRILLAS.

A correspondent of the Texas Telegraph, contributes to that paper "Sketches of Quantrell's Men," and gives the following account of the fight between the Yankee General Blount's escort and the guerrillas under Quantrell:

Towards the middle of September the guerrillas reunited at Blackwater, and were ready in a few hours to leave the rendezvous for their march South. Cold nights and occasional frost had warned them to leave Missouri, and like poor houseless birds of passage, beaten by the pitiless storm, they sought a more genial climate, where the grass was green and Federal less numerous. Small parties of Feds were occasionally seen and bagged as they approached the border of the Cherokee country. But nothing occurred of any particular interest until they had penetrated the Indian country to some distance.

On the 10th of October, without guide or compass, without the slightest knowledge of the country, but marching in good order—for the "sign" was getting fresh—they suddenly came upon a party of Federals tearing down some houses belonging to the exiled Ridge party. A dozen or more unsuspecting Pines and negroes, with a few Feds, came up to the advance guard of the guerrillas, but the larger portion, not liking the "lay out," and scenting the danger, fled towards the fort, which Col Quantrell had not yet discovered. About sixty of Todd's men, under the leadership of Lieut Taylor, gave chase to the flying Federals, while the rest, under "Old Quant" and Todd, were dispatching the miscreants who remained. A few of the retreating Feds were overtaken and shot down, the others, more fortunate, "levelled" themselves to reach a place of safety; and, all at once, Taylor came in full view of a strong fort, surrounded with breastworks and ditches. This was a new feature in the case; and it was very evident that something novel and mysterious was actuating the Feds' movements, for they were running to and fro, some gazing eagerly at the advancing force of Taylor, without an attempt at preparation for resistance; while others still seemed to be expostulating vehemently with the terror-stricken Yankees, who had so madly rushed in.

Flags were flying as if on a gala occasion, music was heard within the fort, and the officer appeared in full uniform, as if for dress parade. They were not long in a state of suspense—for it takes us longer to tell it than it took Lieut Taylor to form his men and dash like a thunderbolt upon the breastworks. The boys rushed on, screaming like demons—and amid the horrid din the amazed Feds heard the shout-for "Old Quant." That charge was magnificently ferocious and superbly desperate. But for the inauspicious yell for Quantrell, every man might have entered the fort and carried it by storm. But a perfect shower of lead greeted the storming party, and only five succeeded in leaping the rope that was stretched over the breastworks. The names of those immortal heroes are Lieut Taylor, Sergt Berry, — Hultz, George Shepherd, and Peyton Long. Each man brought down one of the enemy as he leaped in; but it was impossible to stay and contend against 300, who poured an enflaming fire upon the guerrillas from every angle of the fort.

Just at this juncture our boys retreated to the spot where the command had been left; but here was something new also. Taylor found the whole command in line of battle, motionless as statues, with Quantrell at their head on his war-horse, looking as grim as the Sphinx of Egypt at a brilliant avalanche of horsemen forming beautifully about three hundred yards in front. The whisper ran through the line, "It is Old Blount, and he thinks we are Federals coming out to give him a reception!" It was true. There rode Gen Blount and staff, glittering in blue cloth and gold lace, and about 200 of his body guard. Just then the cavalcade moved, and the band commenced playing Yankee Doodle. Quantrell moved also; but the quick eye of Blount discovered something wrong, and called a halt. But the guerrillas by this time were under a full gallop, and down they swept upon the brilliant cortege like an avalanche and hurled them to the earth. The struggle was short and fierce, the shock terrific, as guerrilla rode over both horse and his rider, and dashed out the brains of the latter as he passed. Again and again they turned fired, charged and re-charged, until the ground was strewn with the dead, ambulances overturned, and horses flying madly in every direction. Here occurred one of those thrilling incidents, one of those marvellous episodes that cause whole nations sometimes to pause with breathless wonder, and whole armies to half and gaze with amazement and admiration.

Lieut Col Curtis, Adjutant General on General Blount's staff, rode a magnificent horse, richly caparisoned, and was himself dressed in the richest uniform of his rank. He was a remarkably handsome man, fair and rosy, eyes blue as those of the fairest blonde of his own clime; pale, fair, tall, slender figure—with features as beautiful as those of a woman. He was well armed with pistol and sabre, and used them gallantly. He sees that his force is defeated, and determines to escape. But as he turns his horse's head he encounters the fierce eye of a young guerrilla as handsome, as brave and well armed as himself, bearing right down upon him. He observes the Adjutant endeavoring to escape; calls to him to stop and fight. He does turn to meet the guerrilla now swooping down upon him like an eagle on its prey. The Yankee fires a long range gun—but misses his aim; he draws his six-shooter and rapidly, nervously discharges the contents at his adversary, who all this time is gaining on him and dashing straight at him. As an eagle swoops down his prey, gracefully and grandly ferocious, beautiful even in the act of destruction, so does Peyton Long, the young hero, gallantly beat down on the "cute" Yankee; he reserves every shot, while Curtis is wasting his; he dashes upon him—both pause for an instant, as if in mutual admiration—but only for a moment. Peyton Long watches his antagonist, and sways his body to the left to escape the sabre cut of the Yankee; the next instant the inevitable sixshooter of the guerrilla is pointed to the head of the splendid-looking fellow; it is the work of an instant; Peyton strikes like an eagle, and all is over! A shout of triumph arose from the throng of guerrillas, who had ceased the fight to watch the encounter between this well-matched couple.

Long saw his antagonist fall heavily to the earth, and his noble heart essayed to pity and assist him; but the stern mandate, the inflexible canon of the guerrilla's creed, "kill and spare not the Yankees," written by Gen Blount outlawing every guerrilla, written by those hands before him and approved by that fluttering heart, dried up the fountain of commiseration and brought him back to himself and his duty.

The fight was over, although the Feds continued to fire random shots from their artillery in the fort. The fruits of this victory were in killed, three Majors, one Lieut-Colonel, five Captains, several Lieutenants, every member of Blount's staff and personal effects, several ambulances and a large number of horses were captured. The loss of the guerrillas was one or two wounded and some horses killed.

EXECUTION OF DESERTERS.

Extract of a letter from a member of the 2d N. C. Regiment, to his mother:

Our leaders have taken a method of stopping desertion from the ranks, which I highly approve, and which will, I think, stop it in the future.—That method is the death penalty—shot to death with musketry. There has been several executions lately, and I have witnessed four of them from our division. The day after I last wrote, two deserters from the 53d North Carolina Regiment were shot in the presence of the Division. There was a snow of four inches thickness on the morning of the execution. The whole division formed, by brigades, three sides of a square, and in front of the open side two stakes were driven in the ground, close together. The culprits were brought to the stakes, the proceedings read sentence of the court-martial read to them in a loud voice. A preacher then approached them, and knelt down and rehearsed a prayer, that was scarcely audible to the division, who uncovered their heads in adoration of the Most High. The "amey" came at last, the culprits had their hands tied behind them, and facing the troops were made to kneel with their backs to the stake, to which they were then fastened. A pause then occurred. The time when they were to die lacked a few minutes of expiring. The officer superintending their execution had his watch in his hand, while the ticking minute hand quickly sped its round of time. The troops were silent as the grave, and with their pale faces, the condemned took a long and last look at earthly things, while the sun at that moment peeped from beneath the clouds, and making its rays dance and sparkle over the crystal snow, seemed to appear for the express purpose of giving those doomed men a last lingering look of earthly beauty. Ere they were ushered into that ocean of eternity. But the fatal hour has arrived. The officer puts up his watch, a platoon of soldiers moved to the front a few paces from the condemned, handkerchiefs are bound over their eyes, a clear ringing voice commands "Ready," and the click of the musket locks gives a sharp metallic ring. "Aim," and twenty muskets are concentrated towards the victims; "Fire!" a rattling report of fire-arms, a whole volume of smoke, and as it clears away, the inanimate forms of two men lay in their last convulsions, while their life-blood rushed forth from a dozen wounds crimsoning the pure white snow at their feet. A Surgeon steps up, places his hand on their pulses, turns to the division, lifts his hat, and that sign denotes that their lives have departed, and the deserter is summoned before the Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of Creation in Eternity. The whole division move by the flank and pass the dead bodies as they proceed to their quarters, while a detail is left to bury them in dishonored graves that have been previously dug in the vicinity.

There are others to blame besides those poor misguided and erring victims. Sometimes it is a wife who has thus murdered her husband as Eve deceived Adam; sometimes it is false friends who have persuaded them from their duty; very seldom are they prompted to desert through cowardice, but by far the greater portion are influenced by that accursed faction in North Carolina, who try to cause the people to despair, and openly attempt to persuade the people that the government is rotten, and on the eve of disruption. Many widows and orphans, afflicted mothers, grief-stricken sisters and brothers, and surrounding friends have just come to call on God to send down his wrath on those vile and corrupt agitators and defamers, who have robbed them of husband, son, brother or friend—aye, murdered him, and brought his family to disgrace. Yesterday there was another execution in the presence of the brigade. He was from Randolph county, and left a wife and five children. He belonged to the 4th North Carolina Regiment. I went with my Captain to visit him on Friday, while he was under guard at Division Headquarters. He took his sentence hard. On being questioned why he deserted, he answered that he did not like the regiment, and said the reason why he did not come back under the President's Proclamation was because of the teachings of the Standard, that led him to believe that the government was corrupt and would soon go down, and that North Carolina would return to the Union again. He has two brothers that are deserters. He said he had written them to come in and deliver themselves up, and listen no longer to the sycoph songs of these arch traitors of their life, honor and liberty. Our whole Division has enlisted for the war, or for life. There is no despondency here in the ranks. Determination to do to the bitter end is the will of all.

From the Charlotte Bulletin (by request.) MR. EDITOR: I hand you a copy of the official report of the execution of James King, of Richmond county, N. C., in which his dying expression is recorded testimony against the editor of the Standard newspaper of Raleigh, as the cause of his untimely and ignominious death. The family of this deluded soldier, with the families of a hundred others, who are now groaning under the shame and degradation brought upon them by a similar fate of their friends, for deserting their colors, their cause and their country, in front of their invading enemy, can point to the same paper and its editor as responsible for the ignominious shame and disgrace which is attached to them, as well as for the untimely ushering of their friends into eternity.

How can a human being, who acknowledges his responsibility to a God of judgment, persist in a course which brings to his ears every week the dying testimony of his victims. If his responsibility to his fellow man and his country will not restrain him, can it be possible that he is indifferent to the fate of his never dying soul that he will continue to stain it with the blood of his fellow men.

Provost Marshal's Office, Rhodes Division, Feb. 9, 1864. Col. Bryan Grimes, Com'd 4th N. C. Reg't. I deem it my duty to make known to you the last words of private James King, co. E, of your regiment, who was executed for desertion on the 30th of January ult. After bandaging his eyes I told him that he had but two minutes more to live, and asked if he had any message he wished to send to his relation or friends. He replied, "I have no message. I only wish that my body may be sent to my friends, but I wish to say to you, Lieutenant, though others persuaded me to do what I did, the reading of Holden's paper has brought me to this, but thank God I shall soon be at peace."

As it may be the wish of his friends or relations to know in what spirit he died, I make this statement, and if you think proper you may convey it to them. Very respectfully your ob't serv't, J. M. GOFF, 1st Lieut. Co. I, 5th Alabama Reg't.

RUNAWAY.

From the plantation of Mrs. R. A. Hunter, in Sharon neighborhood, a negro man named WASH, about 35 years old, medium size, and copper color. It is supposed that he has been persuaded off by some mean white person, and may be trying to make his way to the Yankees. A reward of \$100 will be paid for his apprehension and delivery to me, or his confinement in any jail. J. W. HUNTER, Feb. 2, 1864.

NORTHERN ITEMS.

The yankee papers state that \$1,000,000 worth of property was destroyed by the Confederates in their recent raid on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. 70 loaded wagons were captured by the Confederates and several hundred horses, and two important railroad bridges were destroyed.

Col. Streight, who recently escaped from Richmond, is reported as arriving within the yankee lines.

The yankee House of Representatives have adopted a resolution declaring in favor of amending the Constitution so as to abolish slavery everywhere.

The U. S. Supreme Court has decided the Valandigham case adversely to the petitioners. In New York, on the 15th, gold was 60 1/2 premium, and advancing. The yankee currency will soon be in no better condition than the Confederate.

THE CREOLES OF LOUISIANA.—A Massachusetts chaplain, Rev Mr Hephworth, writes of the Louisiana Creoles:

Just beyond Carrollton is an immense and magnificent estate, owned by one of these Creoles. His annual yield of sugar is fifteen hundred hogsheads. He might have taken the oath of allegiance and thus saved his property; but he would not. The work of depredation commenced; and he bore it without a murmur. First he took his wagons, harness and mules; he said nothing, but scowled most awfully. Next he emptied his stables of horses for the cavalry service; he did not have even a pony left, and was compelled to trudge along on foot; still nothing was said. Next he took his entire crop, ground it in his own sugar house, used his barrels for the molasses and his hogsheads for the sugar, and marked the head of each "U. S." not a murmur. Then came his negroes, three hundred and more, house servants and all, took it into their woolly heads to come within our camp lines. The Creole was most completely stripped; still he stood in the midst of the ruins, cursing Ab Lincoln, and wishing that he had eight instead of four sons in the rebel army.

Announcement.

We, as soldiers, respectfully announce Capt. J. E. MOORE as a candidate for Sheriff of Union county at our next regular election in August, and as such will be voted for by

MARY SOLDIERS.

Feb. 16, 1864

DR. J. M. MILLER,

Charlotte, N. C., Can be found at his Office next door to Hutchison's Drug Store, opposite the Democrat Office. Jan. 12, 1864.

State of N. Carolina.—Mecklenburg Co. Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions—Jan. Term, 1863.

James Hood vs. Martin Harky. Petition for the partition of the Lands of John Harky, deceased.

It appearing to the satisfaction of the Court that Martin Harky, the defendant in this case, resides beyond the limits of this State, it is ordered by the Court that advertisement be made in the Western Democrat for six weeks, commanding said defendant to appear at the next Term of this Court to be held for said county, at the Court House in Charlotte, on the 2nd Monday in April next, and plead, answer or demur to this petition, or judgment pro confesso will be entered against him.

Witness, Wm. Maxwell, Clerk of our said Court, at office in Charlotte, the 24th Monday in January, 1864. WM. MAXWELL, Clerk.

NOTICE. The firm of WILLIAMS, OATES & CO., is this day (Jan. 1st, 1864) dissolved by mutual consent. All persons interested will call and close their accounts with either of the undersigned.

L. S. WILLIAMS, L. W. SANDERS. January 12, 1864.

Salt! Salt! Salt! We will exchange Virginia Salt for Pork, on as good terms as any body. YOUNG, WRISTON & ORR. December 1, 1863

Exchange Notice, No. 8. ADJT & INSPR GENERAL'S OFFICE, RICHMOND, VA., Feb 4, 1864.

General Orders, No. 14. The following order is published for the information of all concerned.

CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA, War Department, Richmond, Feb. 1, 1864.

1. All prisoners heretofore held by the United States authorities, whether officers, soldiers or civilians, received at City Point, before the 1st of January, 1864, are hereby declared exchanged.

2. All officers and men of the Vicksburg capture, who reported for duty at Enterprise, Miss., at any time prior to the 14th of November, 1863, and whose names were forwarded to me by Maj Gen John H. Forney, are declared exchanged.

3. All officers and men of the Vicksburg capture, belonging to the 1st Tennessee Heavy Artillery, who reported for duty at Marietta, Ga., and whose names were forwarded to me by Col. A. Jackson, are declared exchanged.

RO. OULD, Agent of Exchange. (Signed) Adj't and Inspector General. Feb 9, 1864

Lost. A Book was taken from my house called "Ten Nights in a Bar Room." I have heard who has it in their possession. If the person does not bring it or send it to me shortly, I shall be compelled to pursue the same course Mr Kahnweiler did. A word to the wise is sufficient. R. T. HOLTON. January 25, 1864

Conscription Office, RALEIGH, N. C., February 11, 1864.

The following "Notice" from the Bureau of Conscription, is published for the guidance of all concerned. Compliance with its directions will save applicants for exemption or detail much unnecessary delay in the investigation of their claims.

By order of the commandant, E. J. HARDIN, Adj't.

NOTICE. CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA, War Dept., Bureau of Conscription, Richmond, Jan. 25, 1864.

Paragraph X of General Orders No. 82, Adj't and Inspector General's Office, of 1862, requires that the applicants for exemption must in all cases be made to the Enrolling Office.

If the local Enrolling Office has not the power to act, or is in doubt, he will after investigation under Circular No. 2, current series, refer such applications, through the proper official channels, to this Bureau. All such applications addressed to this Bureau will necessarily and invariably be returned for local investigation, and the applicants will thus have useless loss of time and prolonged suspense.

Appeals from adverse decisions of the local officers, and of the commandant of Conscripts for the State, will be forwarded by them for hearing when any plausible grounds of appeal is set forth.

Commandant of Conscripts will give this notice extensive circulation in the local press of their respective States. By order of Col. Preston, Supt., C. B. DUFFIELD, A. A. G. Feb 16, 1864

Gentlemen, Look Here. I have a Repairing shop at Mr Allen Cross's old stand on College street, nearly fronting the Steam Mill. Wood-work and Blacksmithing will be done on Buggies, Carriages and Wagons at short notice. Any one wishing good work done will please give me a call. Jan 25, 1864

SCHEDULE OF PRICES FOR NORTH CAROLINA.

We, the undersigned Commissioners of Appraisement for the State of North Carolina, do hereby declare the following to be the uniform prices for property impressed for the use of the government for the next two months, subject to alteration through circumstances, mean while, occur to make it advisable:

Table listing various commodities and their prices, including Apples, Bacon, Beans, Brandy, Beef, Butter, Corn, Flour, Hides, Iron, Molasses, Nails, Peas, Potatoes, Pork, Quinine, Rice, Salt, Sugar, Soap, Tea, Tobacco, Wheat, and Wool.

HIRE OF LABOR, TEAMS, WAGONS AND HORSES. Baling long loam forage, per hundred pounds 60. Shelling and bagging corn, sacks furnished by government, per bushel, 25.

Hire of two-horse teams, wagon and driver, rations furnished by owner, per day, 12 00. Hire of two horse teams, wagon and driver, rations furnished by government, per day, 8 00. Hire of four-horse teams, wagon and driver, rations furnished by owner, per day, 22 50.

Hire of four-horse teams, wagon and driver, rations furnished by government, per day, 16 00. Hire of six-horse teams, wagon and driver, rations furnished by owner, per day, 35 00. Hire of six-horse teams, wagon and driver, rations furnished by government, per day, 18 00.

Hire of laborer, rations furnished by owner, per day, 3 00. Hire of laborer, rations furnished by government, per day, 1 75. Hire of laborer, rations furnished by owner, per month, 75 00.

For the information of all persons concerned, we publish the following instructions, with the hope that they will be strictly obeyed: No officer, or agent, shall impress the necessary supplies which any person may have for the consumption of himself, his family, employees, slaves, or to carry on his ordinary mechanical, manufacturing or agricultural employments. E. V. BLACKSTOCK, H. K. BURGWYN, Com's Appraisements for State of N. C. Raleigh, Feb 16, 1864.

BLACK PEPPER. Excellent Black Pepper for barter or sale at MOODY & PRITCHARD'S, February 2, 1864