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The Western Democrat.

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W. J. YATES, Editor and Proprietor. CHARLOTTE, N. C., TUESDAY, APRIL 19, 1864. TWELFTH VOLUME---NUMBER 617.

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CONSCRIPT REGULATIONS.

CONSCRIPT OFFICE,
RALEIGH, N. C., April 2, 1864.

The annexed Circular from the Bureau of Conscription, directing the execution of the late Act of Congress known as the "Military Bill," is published for the information of all concerned. By order of the Commandant.

E. J. HARDIN, Adj't.

Bureau of Conscription,
RICHMOND, March 18, 1864.

CIRCULAR NO. 8.

I. General Orders, No. 26, A. & I. G. O., March 1st, 1864, is herewith made a part of this Circular, and Commandants of Conscripts are enjoined to proceed to the rapid and vigorous execution of its provisions, under the instructions and interpretation herein prescribed.

II. Under the terms of the 8th section of the Act of Congress published in General Orders, No 26. A. & I. G. O., and the terms of Circular No. 55, of the Bureau, last series, Commandants will proceed to organize the service in their respective States. In addition to the organization therein provided for, and in further pursuance of paragraph II. of the said General Orders, No 26, Commandants will forthwith organize in each county a Board, to consist of not more than three of the most reliable and intelligent citizens, between the ages of 45 and 50 years, and who have been enrolled and detailed for the service. These Boards will be charged with aiding the local enrolling officer in obtaining information concerning all applications for exemptions and detail, for agricultural or other industrial pursuits, and also in furnishing all information which may be needed in the duties imposed upon the enrolling officers.

The local and congressional enrolling officer will be required to supervise the action of these Boards, and promptly report to the Commandant unfitness or delinquencies on the part of the persons detailed for them. So long as the duties are properly performed, the persons so employed will be exempted from other service. Care will be used in the beginning to select proper men; and in view of the grave duties herein devolved upon the enrolling officer, he will, at his discretion, require the written opinion of the Board on claims for exemption or applications for detail, and may call on them for special information concerning matters pertinent to the office. In every case referred by the local or Congressional district enrolling officer to the Commandants, an opinion as to the merit must be endorsed or accompany the case, and the like rule will be rigidly observed by Commandants in reverting to this Bureau.

III. Commandants will order the immediate enrollment and examination of all persons within the prescribed ages, who are in the employment of any department of the government, and who are not specially exempted by the Act of Congress; and such as are found fit for service in the field may be detailed until the 10th day of April next, provided an application is made according to the terms of the 6th paragraph of General Orders, No 26, herein cited.

IV. Commandants of conscripts will forthwith transmit to this Bureau, recommendations for physicians to be employed in accordance with paragraph IX. General Orders, No 26, herein cited. Much complaint reaches this Bureau, concerning irregularities in the Medical examinations.—Loose or irregular examinations must not be permitted, and commandants will promptly report any well ascertained delinquency in the matter.

V. Forms for consolidated reports by the Commandant of conscripts will be forwarded; also forms for the Records of the Congressional District, and Local Enrolling Officers. These records must be accurately kept, and the reports based on them must be in clear and intelligible form, or they will be returned for revision and correction.

VI. Persons and classes enumerated in the 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, 5th and 6th articles of section 10th, except those referred to in the latter clause of the 4th article of said 10th section of the Act of Congress recited, shall be exempted. All other persons referred to in said act shall be detailed.

VII. Exemptions by Examining Boards.

1. Persons who shall be determined by the Boards of Examination to be incapable of performing active service in the field, and any of the duties mentioned in the 8th section of the said Act of Congress from causes of a permanent nature, shall be exempted from military service by the said board, who shall grant certificates thereof; which shall specify the causes of the incapacity, reciting in full the nature and degree of the disease or other incapacity, and the probable duration of the disability caused by it; and the parties shall not be subject to future examination, unless specially ordered by the Board of the Congressional district in which such parties reside, or by the Commandant of conscripts for the State, or by this Bureau.

2. When in the opinion of Enrolling Officers the causes for which exemption was granted to a person, after examination by the Medical board, have ceased to exist, they will make a report to the Board, stating the name of the person, when enrolled, when examined, and the disease or other cause of disability, with the reasons for believing it to have disappeared, and that the person is capable of performing active service in the field, or some of the duties mentioned in the said 8th section of the act aforesaid.

The Examining Board will then order the party to be brought before it for a re-examination. When a person is re-examined by the Board, his former certificate shall be surrendered and cancelled. If again found unfit for duty, a new certificate of exemption shall be issued to him.

3. Every certificate of exemption granted by a Board of Examination shall be approved by the Congressional district enrolling officer, which shall protect the person exempted from molestation by the officers of conscription, and from re-examination, unless the Board of Examination or the Commandant of conscripts or the Bureau of conscription shall order the same.

VIII. Exemption of Specified classes and Individuals.

1. Applications for exemption under the 3d and 6th articles of the 10th section of the act aforesaid, shall be made to the Enrolling officer of the county in which the applicant resides, who will thoroughly investigate the case, and if satisfied, by competent evidence, that exemption should be allowed, shall issue a certificate thereof; which must be submitted to the Enrolling officer of the Congressional district, for his approval.

2. Applications for exemptions under the 5th article of the 10th section of the act aforesaid, shall be made to the Commandant of conscripts for the State, who will grant the certificate of exemption authorized by law, to continue during compliance with the conditions prescribed by said act. Exemption, except for the President, Treasurer, Auditor and Superintendent, shall not be allowed to any officers and employees of a Railroad company, unless the president or superintendent shall certify, on oath, that the parties applied for are indispensable to the efficient operation of such railroad; that the number of persons exempted on said railroad shall not exceed one for each mile thereof in actual use for military transportation; that the exempts for such roads shall be reported by name and description once a month to the commandant of conscripts for the State through which such road passes, (or to the Bureau of Conscription), together with the names and descriptive list of any who may leave the employment of the railroad company, or who may cease to be indispensable to the efficient operation of the said road.

3. The exemption of overseers or agriculturalists on each farm or plantation upon which there are now, and were on the first day of January last, fifteen able-bodied hands between the ages of 16 and 50, will be allowed for the space of twelve months, and the certificate of exemption shall be granted by the officer taking the bond required by law, upon being informed by the commandant for that State that the bond is approved.

4. The bond required to be given upon the exemption of an overseer or agriculturalist, under the 4th article of section 10 of said act, shall be taken by the enrolling officer of the county or district in which such party resides, with the advice and assistance of the temporary Board aforesaid. It shall be payable to the Confederate States of America, in a penalty double the estimated value of the products to be delivered to the government, and conditioned for the faithful performance of the requirements of the 4th article of the 10th section of the said act. The value of the said products shall be assessed by the Enrolling officer, who shall take the said bond, with the assistance of the said temporary Board, according to the market value thereof at the time and place of assessment.

The said bond may be secured by a deposit of the amount of the penalty thereof in notes issued from the Treasury Department of the Confederate States, with any of the depositaries of the said Treasury, or by personal security, the nature of the security to be at the option of the principal obligor in the said bond. Should the person so exempted elect to give personal security, the sureties tendered by him shall justify their sufficiency under oath before some justice of the peace, but shall not be accepted unless the Enrolling officer taking the said bond, under the advice of the said temporary Board, shall deem them sufficient. Such bonds shall, after due execution, be transmitted to the Commandant of conscripts for the State, for file in his office, to be surrendered to the obligors when the conditions thereof are fully complied with; and the receipt of any Quartermaster or commissary, specifying that the amount of produce required by the bond has been duly delivered and accepted, will entitle the person to have the bond cancelled; and copies of such receipts should be forwarded to the Commandant of conscripts, to be by him forwarded to the Quartermaster General, through this Bureau.

IX. Exemption on account of Religious Faith.

Persons entitled to exemption as provided for in paragraph XII, General Orders, No. 26, A. and I. G. O., current series, will, on application, receive certificates thereof from the Congressional District Enrolling officer, on producing satisfactory evidence that they have complied with the requirements of the law.

X. Exemption of Officers of Confederate and State Governments.

Certificates of Exemption for officers of the Confederate and State Governments will be given by the Commandants of the States.

XI. Investigation of Applications for Exemption.

1. All other applications for exemption shall be made in writing to the Enrolling officer of the county or district in which the applicant resides; shall be supported by his affidavit and other sworn testimony, and dealt with according to the provisions of paragraph III of General Orders, No 26, A. and I. G. O., current series.

2. Every application for exemption should be carefully, minutely and thoroughly investigated by the local Enrolling officer, with the aid of the temporary Board to be organized under the 2d clause of paragraph II of this Circular, and be thereafter transmitted to the Commandants of conscripts for the State, with a report of facts, and their respective opinions on the merits of the application.

The report of facts should be somewhat in detail, setting forth in regular order the facts developed in the investigation, giving briefly the reasons for the opinion expressed, and instead of being put in the form of an endorsement, will be made on a separate sheet of paper.

The investigation should not be confined to an examination of the application and the papers that accompany it, or merely into the truth of the statements therein made, but should be directed with a view of ascertaining all the facts and circumstances of the case, and the exact condition of the parties with relation thereto.

XII. Details.

Agricultural Details.

1. The officers of conscription will give the most careful attention to the provisions of paragraph IV. G. O. No. 26, A. and I. G. O., current series, in connection with the last clause of the 4th article of the 10th section of the Act of Congress cited.

This paragraph embraces the whole system of details provided by law to maintain the industrial production of the country, in view of the public defence.

2. The investigation of every case presented must be the most precise and accurate which can be attained by the Enrolling officer (with the co-operation of the temporary Boards), and all action must be in direct view of the necessities indicated. Commandants will institute such modes of enquiry and report as will furnish the fullest testimony.

The policy of the law is to enforce the largest amount of production in every case in which the detail is made. The schedule of terms hereto appended will, it is believed meet a majority of the cases that are likely to be presented. Where it is doubtful whether the case is covered by the classification, Commandants will in general decide by reference to the plain intent of the law, or refer the matter to this Bureau, with full testimony and opinion. In all details there must be satisfactory evidence of the necessity, as expressed in General Orders, No 26, current series.

Schedule of Terms.

3. Where there are two or more farms contiguous, or within five miles of each other, measuring from the homesteads, having on each five or more hands, amounting in the aggregate to fifteen hands, or where one person has two or more plantations within five miles of each other, having an aggregate of fifteen or more hands, there may be detailed one person as overseer or manager of the two or more farms: provided there is on neither of the farms a white male adult, declared by the Enrolling officer and the temporary Board capable of managing the farms with a reasonable efficiency, not liable to military duty: and provided the person detailed was, on the first day of January, 1864, either owner, manager or overseer residing on one of the farms: and provided the owners of said farms shall execute a joint and several bond, on the terms prescribed for the owners of fifteen hands, except that such person shall not be allowed the privilege of commutation provided in the 4th article of the 10th section of the act recited.

4. Where details are allowed to persons having less than fifteen, and five, or more than five hands, they shall enter into like obligation as prescribed for the owners of fifteen or more hands, except that for each hand less than fifteen, down to five, there shall be supplied five pounds less meat, thus: each of fourteen hands, ninety-five; thirteen hands, ninety; twelve hands, eighty-five; * * * six hands, fifty-five; five hands, fifty pounds.

5. Where details are allowed to persons having less than five hands, they shall enter into like obligations to sell all their surplus productions to the Government.

6. All details herein prescribed to be allowed are subject to revocation by the Commandant of conscripts, on the report of the Enrolling officer that the person detailed is not habitually, industriously and in good faith engaged in the occupation for which the detail is granted. Enrolling officers are required to be unusually vigilant in supervising such details. Omission in this duty will constitute grave dereliction.

7. Enrolling officers are required to exercise the utmost caution in recommending details in the classes enumerated. It is by no means intended to grant them indiscriminately but to limit them as is consistent with the public good. All pertinent circumstances will be carefully enquired into. Among these are fitness for the field; ability or aptitude for the purposes of the detail; condition of the family; whether any, or how many are in the military service; public good, justice, equity or necessity, &c., &c.

XIII. Details for Public Necessity.

Applications for details, such as are not required for the service of any of the military Bureaux, or for service in any of the Departments of the Government, including service with contractors, will be made, accompanied by a descriptive list, to the Enrolling officer of the appropriate county or District, and be supported by the affidavit of the applicant, and other testimony under oath.

The Enrolling officer will institute a minute and searching investigation into all the circumstances of the case, the result of which will be set forth on a separate sheet of paper.

The District Enrolling officer may, if he approves the application, grant a detail for sixty days, and forward the papers through the Commandant, to the Bureau, for its action.

If the application is refused, the reasons in full will be endorsed; and in case of appeal, the papers forwarded to this Bureau, through the same channel.

If the persons for whose detail application is made are engaged in performing the duties on account of which details are asked, they will be allowed to remain until final action. If otherwise, they should be sent to camps of instruction.

XIV. Details for persons between 45 and 50, for Government Work.

Applications for the detail of persons between forty-five and fifty years of age, for service in any of the military Bureaux, or in any of the Departments of the Government, will be made, accompanied by a descriptive list, to the local or district Enrolling officer; and it must set forth the nature of the duties to be performed, the necessity for the detail, and the period for which it is required.

The District Enrolling officer, after investigation made and reported as directed in the preceding paragraph, may, if he approve the application, grant a detail for a period not exceeding sixty days, and forward the papers to the Commandant, for his action.

An appeal from the action of the Enrolling officers and the Commandant may be taken to this Bureau.

XV. Details of Artisans, Mechanics, etc.

1. Applications for the detail for service in any of the military Bureaux, or for any of the Departments of the Government (including contractors,) of artisans, mechanics, or persons of scientific skill, to perform indispensable duties, should be made, with descriptive list, to the Enrolling officer. The skill of the party, the duties to be performed, and why his services are indispensable, and the period for which the detail is required, must be distinctly set forth.

Applications for the employees of contractors must, in addition contain a certificate from the officer contracted with, or the head of the Department, that the services of the particular parties are required for the performance of indispensable Government work. The District Enrolling officer may grant the detail for sixty days, and forward the papers, through the Commandant (each expressing his opinion), to this Bureau, for its action.

If the application is refused, reasons in full will be endorsed, and in case of appeal, papers forwarded to this Bureau.

If the parties applied for are at work, they will be allowed to remain until action is taken. If otherwise, they should be sent to the camps of instruction.

Applications for the detail of contractors themselves must also contain the certificate of the head of the Bureau, required by the 11th section of the act.

XVI. All other applications for exemption or detail, not otherwise provided, will be made to the Enrolling officer, and forwarded through the proper channels.

XVII. Great care should be exercised in exempting or detailing able-bodied men between eighteen and forty-five.

No case should be acted on until after minute and thorough investigation as to the alleged private or public necessity, advantage, convenience, justice or equity, and as to whether persons not liable to service in the field may not be obtained.

XVIII. Reports.

1. Examining Boards in addition to the lists directed in paragraph VIII, General Orders, No. 26, A and I. G. O., current series, will furnish District Enrolling officers with lists of men in their districts found fit for military service, but unfit for service in the field, specifying in each case what duties they are capable of performing. Congressional District officers to furnish similar lists to county Enrolling officers, the object being to enable persons needing detailed men to see who are the subjects of detail, and to choose from them.

2. Enrolling officers will forward to the Commandant of conscripts, monthly, a report of all persons enrolled by them, and the action taken in each case.

These reports will be consolidated by the Commandant, with reference to the distinctions made in the Act of Congress, and the regulations for its enforcement, in duplicate; one copy of which will be forwarded to this Bureau, and one kept on file in the office of the Commandant.

XIX. Enrollment of Reserve Classes

1. Commandants of conscripts will proceed to enroll all persons between the ages of seventeen and eighteen and forty-five and fifty years, in execution of General Orders, No 33, A. & I. G. O., current series; which is herewith made a part of this Circular.

"ADJ'T. AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
RICHMOND, March 15, 1864.

General Orders No. 33.

1. The Bureau of Conscription will proceed to enroll all persons between the ages of seventeen and eighteen years, and between the ages of forty-five and fifty years, under the 8th section of the Act of Congress to organize forces to serve during the war.

2. Persons liable to enrollment will present themselves to the Enrolling Officer in the States east of the Mississippi River within thirty days from the day when the notice shall be given in the district or county by the enrolling officer for persons of this class to appear for enrolment. The failure to comply with this notice will subject the defaulter to a liability to be called into the general service with the class of persons between eighteen and forty-five, unless he shall have a valid excuse therefor, to be judged of by the Bureau of Conscription.

3. Any person liable to enrollment under this act may join any company for local defence which has been formed under General Orders No. 86, issued 26th June, 1863, for the war, or any other company for local defence which has been accepted into the service, and which, by the terms of its enlistment, is liable to serve any where within the State; or persons of this class may form new companies for local defence and special service, under General Orders No. 86 (1863), for the war, and select their own officers. By order.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General."

2. Commandants will keep a separate and distinct roll of persons between the ages of 17 and 18, and 45 and 50.

3. Commandants of conscripts will assign to duty, as a supporting force for conscription service, such persons as may be recommended by the Examining Boards as unfit for the field, but as competent for this service; and when as many as sixty-four such persons are so assigned, they will be organized into a company, elect their officers, and return their muster rolls to the commandants; and if there be not a sufficient number to form a company in each congressional district, then the commandant may assign a sufficient number of persons between 45 and 50 years of age, so as to complete a company for each congressional district. A competent officer, of the rank of colonel, will be assigned by this Bureau to organize such companies into a regiment, if there be the requisite number of companies; or into two battalions, if deemed preferable.

XX. General Instructions.

1. Commandants will always bear in mind that General Orders No. 26, is not only the basis, but forms a large portion of these instructions. They will habitually recur to its provisions to aid in the application of the other provisions of this Circular.

2. Commandants will of course refer cases of difficulty to this Bureau; but references which bear on their face that they are rather to avoid due responsibility or labor, will be retained without remarks.

3. The duty of the commandant of conscripts is, in accordance with these instructions, to maintain and invigorate the industrial production of the Confederacy, and supply its armies with men. This duty must be performed, or our struggle for liberty and independence will fail.

By order of Col. J. S. Preston, Supt.,

C. B. DUFFIELD,
A. A. General.

April 11, 1864

GARRET DAVIS.

This fine Horse can be found at my stable in this place, during the present season, on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and at the stables of W. T. Stitt, in Providence, on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. Terms, sixty dollars insurance.

R. RABE.

March 1, 1864 pd

A LIE WELL STUCK TO.

The New York Times, in a leader with regard to the extinction of the rebellion, treats with contempt the declaration of the Southern papers that the Southern people will never again live in peace with the Yankees. It says: "In the Carolinas and in Pennsylvania the whigs and tories went through the Revolutionary war about equally divided, till, *with Northern support*, the whigs triumphed, and yet history tells us that the 'subjugated' tories fell easily into the new order of things."

The Charleston Courier exposes the *lie* embraced in the three words which we have placed in italics, and shows that with the exception of Gen. Green, who was the only great military officer that Yankeedom ever produced, and who became a Georgian by adoption, the "Northern support" alluded to by the Times amounted to nothing. "A few feeble companies from Pennsylvania," says the Courier, "reached South Carolina and did service; but beyond this, and a few staff officers, perhaps, no Northerner ever pressed Southern soil in defence of the Revolution."

This is unquestionably true. The powerful army of which the Yankee General, Lincoln, made a gift to Sir Henry Clinton at Charleston—shutting himself up in that city while the enemy was all powerful by sea and land, and had nothing to do but blockade the harbor and throw a force of double his strength around it by land—was composed almost entirely of men from Virginia, North and South Carolina, and Georgia. To the best of our knowledge and belief, there were not half a dozen companies of Yankees among them. The large army which Gates afterwards so foolishly threw away at Camden was composed of the Maryland and Delaware lines, and of militia from Virginia and North Carolina, the greater part of the South Carolina militia being at the time engaged with Marion, Sumter, and other partisans, and fortunately being prevented from joining Gates by suddenness of the catastrophe which destroyed his army. The Georgia militia did not join for the same reason A large body of them was out with Col Clarke, and the overthrow of Gates was so sudden and so unexpected that they had not time to reinforce him. In Gates's whole army we are confident there was not a Yankee company. There certainly were no Yankees with Marion and Sumter, and they were the men who had most to do with the tories in South Carolina. Nor were there any Yankees in Green's army when he took command. That army was composed, at Guilford, of the Maryland Line, under the command of Col O. H. Williams, part of the Virginia Line, General Huger's South Carolina regulars, a part of the North Carolina Line, the cavalry of Cols. Lee and Washington, and the militia of Virginia and North Carolina. The whole force numbered 4,500 men—a considerable army in those days—and there was not a company of Yankee soldiers among them. The battle of King's Mountain was won by militia from North and South Carolina and Virginia. Certainly there were no Yankees *there*. The battle of the Cowpens was won by the Virginia and Maryland troops under command of Gen. Morgan, the Maryland Line being that day under the command of John Eager Howard There were no Yankees there. There were no Yankees at Hobkirk's Hill, or at Ninety-Six, or at Eutaw, or at Augusta, or anywhere else, during the whole time of Green's command. The statement, therefore, that "Northern Whigs," meaning Yankee Whigs, assisted to subjugate the tories in the Carolinas is simply a Yankee lie.

A Yankee historian named Hildreth, whose book we glanced over several years ago, says that when Cornwallis came to Virginia there was no body to oppose him, because the planters were all too busy taking care of their negroes! This lie has never been noticed that we know of, yet it ought to have been. The fact is, Virginia had at that very moment with Washington's army, lying before New York, at least five thousand regulars. She had two thousand more either with Green or with other officers, outside of the State, and twice that number soon rallied around Lafayette. She had sent the year before three thousand militia to the army of Gates, and she had just conquered, with her own troops, the Illinois territory—that splendid empire, embracing Illinois, Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan—which her statesmen, in a mad fit of generosity, afterwrds presented to the United States, which was the same thing with giving it to the Yankees.

We fought our own battles during the revolution, and we helped the Yankees to fight theirs The Southern troops throughout the war were the best and the bravest of Washington's army. They saved the army by their valor at Brandywine, when the Yankees, in a panic, abandoned their strong position at Chadd's ford. They carried everything before them at Germantown, and would that day have put an end to the war had they been supported by the Yankees. It was with the greatest difficulty that Lafayette could induce the Yankee portion of his troops to come farther South than Baltimore, when he was sent to rally the Virginia militia and make head against Cornwallis. The division of Wayne came near mutinying when ordered to Virginia. It was only during a few months of this year, (1781,) when Washington was manœuvering to circumvent Cornwallis, and while he was besieging him in York, that any large number of Yankee troops ever came south of the Susquehanna. To that siege, besides the regulars, Virginia sent six thousand men. The South assisted the North on every other occasion, but this was the only one on which the North ever assisted the South. The Rifles of Morgan assisted largely to win the field of Saratoga; but no Yankee bayonet assisted Morgan to win the field of the Cowpens.—*Richmond Dispatch.*

CURE FOR HOG CHOLERA.—Col E A Wyatt, of Dinwiddie county, after losing 30 or 40 of his hogs, changed their feed to raw turnips, and he informs us that not another one died after this. All that were suffering from the disease at the time recovered, and are now as healthy as ever, whilst none were subsequently attacked by it. We deem this information worthy of being given to the country, so that all may have an opportunity of profiting by it. We hope that it will be the means of saving to the people a vast quantity of meat which would otherwise be lost. From the result of Col Wyatt's experiment he considers the remedy a certain cure.—*Petersburg Express.*

PROVISIONS.

The Raleigh Confederate, to show that there is really no scarcity of provisions and no danger of starving, says:

The third tithing district embraces the counties of Carteret, Craven, Onslow, Duplin, Sampson, Wayne, Johnston, Jones, Lenoir and Greene.—According to the census of 1850, the population of these counties numbered in the aggregate one hundred thousand. Allowing for the addition by reason of the increase of population within the last decade, and subtracting the losses by war, by the running off of slaves, and by the occupation of the enemy, and of those who have gone to the army, and we will still estimate the figures at seventy-five thousand.

We have lately conversed with a friend who has access to the statistics furnished to the Department from that district; and we learn that there has been received in tithes of food and forage within that district, to the value of five millions of dollars, of which three millions may be estimated as for articles of food, valued at fair prices in times of peace. We further learn that the crop of potatoes alone pays all the expenses of gathering the tithes, and leaves the remainder nett profit for the benefit of the army. This table shows then, that within the area of ten counties, and for a population of not more than eighty thousand or seventy-five thousand, there are thirty millions of dollars worth of food, or four hundred dollars worth of food to each mouth—men, women and children—to which is to be added the original allowance of fifty bushels of sweet and fifty of Irish potatoes, one hundred bushels of corn or fifty of wheat, twenty of peas, &c., to be reserved by each farmer; and to this is again to be added the numerous articles of household supply, of poultry, game, fish, eggs, butter, lard, vegetables, &c., not tithed at all.

Why, with this state of things, should there be any scarcity of food to any one in the third district, much less any danger of starvation? These figures cannot be over the mark, and they are under it, to the extent that any unfair practice withholds the tenth of any article due to the government.

We will be glad if Tithe Quartermasters will inform us, for the public benefit, of the receipts in their various districts, of different articles, that we may work out exactly how much of food there is in the land; and if necessary, the names of those who have it; for the tithe law will tell us this. If it does turn out that there is no real scarcity, then no excuse will remain for the dishonest extortion which reduces the poor to the necessity of begging.

Then it will be incumbent on those having authority to impress, to protect the community against extortionate prices.

FACTS FOR THE TIMES.

Many persons are under misapprehension or in uncertainty as to several points connected with the currency, taxes, claims upon the Government &c, and the following answers to questions which have been addressed to us may prove generally acceptable.

All taxes due to the Government, *whether they are the taxes of* 1863, but not yet paid, or *the taxes assessed under the law of* 1864, may be paid in four per cent. bonds, *or in the certificates on which the four per cent. bonds are to issue.* Where a certificate is greater in amount than the tax proposed ot be paid with it, the collector will issue a new certificate for the excess--the tax-payer making up all fractional parts of a hundred dollars in money.

Five dollar notes, will be received in payment of taxes of all kinds, or may be funded at par in four per cent. bonds, until the first day of July next; at which time they also will be taxed one third

Nothing can be done with notes for a hundred dollars but to *fund them in four per cent. bonds* at two-thirds of their face, and subject also to a tax of ten dollars per month on each, from the 1st of April.

Notes under five dollars are subject to no tax or limitation, but remain current as heretofore at their full amount.

Notes of ten dollars, twenty dollars, and fifty dollars, may be paid in taxes or funded in four per cents., or exchanged for new notes—at two thirds of their value—until the 1st of January next, at which time all then outstanding will be worthless.

The idea has gained considerable circulation that claims against the Treasury, existing prior to the first of April, would be paid in the reduced currency, unless presented and collected before the 1st of April. *This is an error.* It is only true of such claims as had been adjusted and a warrant or draft issued for the payment. The settlement had then become a part of the public records, and the holder of such draft was of the nature of a depositor in the Treasury, and if he failed to draw his money, it became liable to the tax on the 1st of April But claims unsettled, or for which payment had not been tendered, will follow the usual rule of being paid in currency par at the time of payment.—*Richmond Sentinel.*

REMARKABLE FOUNTAIN.

The following is a beautiful description a fountain of water in Florida:

Taking a narrow path, I crossed through some dense underwood, and all at once I stood on the banks of the Wakulla spring. There was a basin of water one hundred yards in diameter, almost circular The thick bushes were almost growing to the waters edge, and bowing their heads under the ruripplod surface. I stepped into a skiff and pushed off. Some immense fishes attracted my attention and I seized a spear to strike them. The boatman laughed and asked me how far beneath the surface I supposed they were? I answered about three feet. He assured me that they were at least twenty from me, and it was so. The water is of the most marvellous transparency. I dropped an ordinary pin in the water, forty feet deep, and saw its head with perfect distinctness as it lay on the bottom. As we approached the centre I noticed a jagged grayish limestone rock beneath us pierced with holes thro' which one seemed to look into unfathomable depths. The boat moved slowly on, and now we hung trembling over the edge of the sunken cliff, and far below it lay a dark, yawning, unfathomable abyss. From its gorge comes pouring forth, with immense velocity, a living river.

Pushing on just beyond its mouth I dropped a ten cent piece into the water, which is there 190 feet in depth, and I clearly saw it shinning on the bottom. This seems incredible. I think the water possessed a magnifying power. I am confident that the piece could not be so distinctly seen from a tower 190 feet high. We rowed on toward the north side, and suddenly we perceived in the water, which were darting hither and thither, the long flexible roots and the wide luxurant grasses on the bottom, all arrayed in the most beautiful prismatic hues. The gentle swell occasioned by the boat gave to the whole an undulating motion. Death-like stillness reigned around, and a more fairy scene I never beheld.

So great is the quantity of water here poured forth that it forms a river itself, large enough to float flatboats with cotton. The planter who lives here has thus transported his cotton to St. Marks. Near the fountain we saw some of the remains of a mastodon, which had been taken from it. The triangular bone below the knee measured six inches on each side. Almost the entire skeleton has been sent to Barnum's Museum.

The Indian name of the fountain is beautifully significant. Wakulla means "The Mystery." It is said that the Spanish discoverers sprang into it with almost frantic joy, supposing they had discovered the long sought "*Fons Juventutis*," or the fountain of youth, which should rejuvenate them after their exhausting marches and battles.

THE STATE ELECTIONS.

Besides the election of Governor, about the result of which we have no apprehensions, a new Legislature is to be chosen at the next election in August. We trust that the people will be awake to the great importance of having true and patriotic men to fill the Legislative Halls—that they will choose no man of doubtful loyalty—no man who refuses to say what he is for and whom he is for, or who pretends to be for anything or anybody that may be acceptable to the particular crowd in which he may happen for the moment to be. Let us have no political weathercocks, no trimmers, no demagogues. This is not the time for that species of animal. The times demand men—true men, fearless men—men who are for the Independence of the Confederacy, at whatever cost, for no cost can be equal to that of subjugation or submission. Let us have no one who encourages the enemy and discourages our own soldiers and people by talking about a Convention to enable North Carolina to take her own affairs into her own hands, to withdraw the key-stone from the arch, so that the whole Confederate structure may tumble to the ground Let us have no man who proposes forever to blast the fair fame of North Carolina by basely deserting her sister States of the Confederacy and attempting to patch up a separate peace with the yankees—a thing which can't possibly be done, and would be inexpressibly base if it could be done. Let us send no one to the Legislature who is for any of these things, or who is for any one who is for them. Let us send no one who is not decidedly and openly against them all.

There is another thing we would beg the friends of the Confederacy to guard against, that is, against having too many candidates, whereby tricky men may perchance creep into the Legislature. No matter how strong the true men of a county may be, we would earnestly urge them to run no more candidates than they are entitled to have members. Give no occasion for dissention among themselves, no chance for a bad man to be smuggled in. In this time of trial, men can manifest their patriotism as well by standing aside as by obeying their country's call when uttered. Let it be the boast of some good and competent men that they do thus stand aside rather than create dissension. Where this is not done, and the persuasions of friends cannot reduce the candidates to the requisite number, public meetings, or conventions of the people, should be held, to give a fair direction to the people's votes, so that they may not be scattered among too many. But we hope this will not be necessary. We look for a more patriotic spirit among those who wish to be candidates.—*Fayetteville Observer.*

APPRENTICESHIP — *Reform Needed.* — We call attention to and endorse the following from the Macon Confederate:

Among other things of reformation in our new order of things, there is no subject which should receive more especial attention than the inauguration of some healthful system of apprenticeship. If we are to be truly independent we must educate and train mechanics from the youths of the country; and this education and training can never be efficient and attain excellence under the present loose system of apprenticeship which prevails at the South. There ought to be established certain terms of apprenticeship, sufficient to make those learning trades masters of their various arts, instead of turning them out upon the world jackleg workmen, who know nothing of what they profess.

In our own business, that of printing, we do not find one good printer in five of all who travel, masters of the art. Most of them have acquired an inkling or insight into the business by working a short while and then starting out in defiance of all obligations to their preceptors and their own best interests as journeymen—imagining as soon as they can set up four or five thousand *ems* reprint, that they are competent workmen, and must, therefore, in justice to themselves, command the wages due proficients of the art. We have been greatly annoyed by such workmen. In all candor, we believe that the old English rule of demanding pay for teaching boys the printers trade, instead of paying them for their inefficient services, is a good one, and would be the means of turning out a better and more intelligent class of printers.

We have given our own trade as an illustration of the imperfection of the mechanic arts at the South, as imparted under the loose and very objectionable system prevailing among us. It would be to the general welfare, not only of mechanics themselves, but of the country, if such a system of apprenticeship were enforced by special act of our Legislature as would make it legally obligatory on the part of masters and apprentices to serve a sufficient number of years as would ensure proficiency and expertness in the various arts and trades chosen by the youths of the country.