

N. C. LEGISLATURE.

[For previous proceedings, see first page.]

Tuesday, Nov. 29.

SENATE.—The resolution proposing to increase the pay of private soldiers to \$45 was amended by striking out the definite sum per month mentioned, and requesting our Representatives to use their best efforts to procure an increase of pay. Mr Matthews called for the yeas and noes and the resolution passed—yeas 43, noes 3.

The bill to pay the expenses of Judges passed its third reading.

Two ballots were had for Secretary of State without effecting an election.

HOUSE.—Mr Person offered a resolution of inquiry, requesting the Governor to inform the House what officers of State (alluded to in the message) could be turned over to conscription without detriment to the State government.

This resolution elicited discussion in which Messrs Person, Shepherd and McLean stated the reasons upon which were based their respective votes on Mr Grissom's motion to postpone indefinitely "the bill to repeal all exemptions of State officers."

Mr Fowle regretted that the bill introduced by the gentleman from Haywood, and intended to burn as a fire brand on the Conservative side of the House, had no other result than that of embarrassing his own political friends.

Mr Love asked whether the gentleman from Wake intimated to him, in introducing the bill in question, the purpose of throwing a fire-brand into the Legislature.

Mr Fowle replied that, that was the obvious purpose of its introduction. That was the gentleman's intention. Charity itself forbade any other construction.

Mr Love said he had no such purpose. The bill expressed his views and he introduced it in compliance with the wishes of his constituents.

Mr Fowle proceeded at length in opposition to the resolution. He held generally that the officers retained were necessary to the service of the State and that there were fewer exempted in this than in some of the other States. He adverted to the fact that they constituted the only reserve force for the defence of the State, and alluded incidentally to the fact that Georgia had 30,000 such reserves, while North Carolina retained but 13,000 all told.

Even this estimate was much too large as many of these officers held several offices at once, either one of which would secure his exemption from conscription. He for one should oppose to the last any interference of Confederate authority with officers exempted by the laws of this State.

After further debate in which Messrs Amis, Carter, Cobb and others participated, the resolution was laid on the table, on motion of Mr Grissom, yeas 74, noes 37.

Those who voted in the affirmative were Messrs Allison, Albright, Amis, Ashworth, Banks, Beam, Benbury, Best, Blair, Bond, Berrie, Bryan, Caldwell, Calloway, Calvert, Carson of Alexander, Carson of Rutherford, Carter, Clapp, Cowles, Cunningham, Craize, Davis of Franklin, Duke, Edloe, Erwin, Fayette, Elyat, Fowle, Gibbs, Gidney, Grissom, Hadley, Hanes, Harrington, Harrison, J. H. Headen, W. J. Headen, Henry, Herbert, Holton, Horton of Watanga, Horton of Wilkes, Isbell, Johnston, Jordan, Little, Lowe, Lyle, Mann, McAden, McCowan, McGehee, McLean, McMillan, Morrissey, Murrill, Patterson, Patton, Perkins, Peace, Powell, Riddick, Rogers, Russ, Russell, Sharp, Shepherd, Shober, Simmons, Smith of Johnston, Stipe, Waugh, Wheeler, Young—74.

Those who voted in the negative were Messrs Allison, Austin, Baxter, Bethune, Boyd, Brown of Madison, Brown of Mecklenburg, Cahoon, Cobb, Crawford of Rowan, Crawford of Wayne, Davis of Halifax, Faison, Farmer, Gaskins, George, Grier, Harris, Hassell, Hawes, Joyner, Judkins, Lane, Latham, Lewis, Love, Murley, Outerbridge, Person, Reichardt, Ship, Smith of Cabarrus, Smith of Duplin, Stancill, Strong, Yarn, Wooten—37.

Mr Fowle introduced "resolutions concerning negotiations for an honorable peace," which were laid on the table and ordered to be printed. [See resolutions in another column.]

Mr Russ, of Bladen, a bill to prohibit the fermentation or brewing of Grain. Mr Allison, "a bill to incorporate the Trustees of the Orphan Educational Fund."

An engrossed bill, from the Senate, "to prevent the spread of small pox," passed its first reading. A bill in reference to the Trustees of Sardis Academy, in Mecklenburg county, passed its third reading.

Mr Bryan, presented a petition from the owners of Hickory Nut Turnpike, praying to be allowed to increase their rates of toll. Referred.

Wednesday, Nov. 30.

SENATE.—The joint select committee on the subject of Public Printing, reported a bill to ensure the State Printer just compensation—rates to be determined by a conference between the Auditor of Public Accounts and a practical printer.

A message was received from the House praying concurrence of the Senate in the appointment of a select joint committee on Confederate relations.

Concurred in, and Messrs Pool, Hall and Wright appointed as Senate branch of such committee, to which were referred the resolutions and amendments as to slave labor previously discussed.

The Senate then went into a joint election for Secretary of State, and no choice being had on several ballots, adjourned.

HOUSE.—Mr Grissom, from the military committee, reported a bill to exempt from Home Guard duty one militia in each county, or such as have an annual custom grinding of 3000 bushels, recommending that it do pass. Also, a resolution asking the repeal of an act to authorize the ordering the Senior Reserves from the State, with the statement that though the committee favor the proposed measure they believe the Confederate authorities would pay no attention to any such remonstrance and ask to be discharged from its further consideration.

Mr Phillips, of Orange, introduced resolutions protesting against unjust and unconstitutional imprisonment in North Carolina. Ordered to be printed, and made the special order for Tuesday next at eleven o'clock, a. m.

Mr Amis, of Granville, to procure the release of certain infirm citizens of North Carolina now held to military service at Wilmington. Agreed to.

Mr Herbert, of Cherokee, setting forth the annoyance of provost guards and requesting their abolition. Agreed to.

Mr Headen, as to the expediency of exempting the property of soldiers from taxation. Agreed to.

Mr Sharpe, to make horse-stealing, horse-breaking in the day time felonies, and to outlaw deserters. Agreed to.

Mr Reinhardt, of Catawba, introduced a bill to increase the punishment for horse stealing to death for the second offence.

A bill to aid the Florence and Fayetteville R. R. was rejected on second reading by yeas 10, noes 95.

Thursday, Dec. 1.

SENATE.—Mr Odom, from the joint Select Committee on a system of tithing, reported that such system was injudicious.

Todd R. Caldwell, Esq., Hon. David Outlaw, Hon. E. G. Reade, Hon. J. A. Gilmer, Hon. T. S. Ashe and Hon. W. T. Dortch, were nominated for Confederate States Senator, and the Senate proceeded to vote as follows:

For Hon. E. G. Reade—Messrs Adams, Berry, Dick, Jones, Lassiter, Odom, Pool, Snead, Saunders, Winstead, Jagley and Straughn—12.

For Hon. J. A. Gilmer—Mr Spawker, Messrs Bogle, Horton, Lindsey, Matthews, March, McCormick, Patterson, Patton and Whitford—10.

For Hon. T. S. Ashe—Messrs Crump, Ellis, Leitch, McEachern, Smith and Wright—6.

For Hon. W. T. Dortch—Messrs Aycock, Courts, Grier, Hall, Harris, Pitchford, Powell, Spreight, Taylor and Ward—10.

For Hon. W. H. Smith—Messrs Wyone and Wiggin—2.

For Hon. R. S. Dinnell—Messrs Arendell, Blount, Mason, Stubbs and Warren—5.

For Hon. J. M. Morehead—Messrs Bryson and Miller—2.

The committee to superintend the election for Senator reported that the whole number of votes cast in both houses was 157, of which Mr Reade received 64; Mr Dortch 40; Mr Gilmer 15; Mr Ashe 11; Mr Dinnell 8; Mr Smith 9; Mr Morehead 8. The rest scattering. No election.

A message from the House proposing to go into election for Public Treasurer, and informing the Senate that Jonathan Worth, Esq., is in nomination, was concurred in. Mr Worth received 44 votes in the Senate. Mr Speight voted for Mr Courts; Mr Ellis for Mr Patrick Murphy. Whole number of votes cast 146; of which Mr Worth received 144, and was duly elected.

The Senate proceeded to vote a second time for Senator, as follows: Reade 18; Dortch 10; Gilmer 10. The rest scattering.

An election for Secretary of State was then gone into, the result being announced as follows: Williams 60, Richardson 41, Bain 37, Faribault 22, Huske 8 and Dunn 6. A second ballot resulted, Faribault 40, Richardson 40, Williams 28, Bain 18, Huske 13 and Dunn 4. On the third ballot—Mr Bethune being nominated and Mr Williams withdrawn—the vote was, Bethune 56, Richardson 40, Faribault 39, Bain 7, Huske 4 and Dunn 4. No election.

Mr Stubbs put in nomination Mr P. A. Wiley for Secretary of State.

HOUSE.—The Speaker announced Messrs Fowle, Cunningham, Hanes, Love and Allison, as constituting the House branch of the Joint Standing Committee on Confederate Relations.

Mr Brown, of Mecklenburg, presented a petition from the citizens of Mecklenburg county, praying a repeal of so much of an act, passed at the last session, authorizing the appointment of tax collectors in certain counties, as relates to the county of Mecklenburg. The petition was accompanied by a bill to this effect, which had its first reading.

Mr Shepherd, a resolution requesting information of the Governor relative to the expenses incurred in the execution of the Conscription Acts and the arrest of deserters in this State. Adopted.

Mr Shepherd, from Finance Committee, a resolution requiring Major H. A. Dowd, to pay into the Treasury the sum of \$2,272,990, alluded to in the Governor's message as being held by that officer to the credit of the State. Passed first reading.

Mr Little introduced "a bill authorizing payment of bounty to citizens of this State employed in the naval service."

A bill to incorporate the Bingham School; a bill to incorporate the North Carolina Company of Chemists; a bill to empower 21 magistrates of the county of Wake to transact county business; a bill to charter the Ockeeck Iron Company; a bill for the relief of suffering prisoners of war from North Carolina, and a bill to authorize the Public Treasurer to issue certain coupon bonds, passed their third reading.

At noon the House proceeded to execute the joint order for an election of Confederate States Senator. The following named gentlemen were nominated, viz: Hon. Edwin C. Reade, W. T. Dortch, John M. Morehead, John A. Gilmer, W. H. Smith, Thomas S. Ashe and Todd R. Caldwell. The House proceeded to vote and Mr Reade received 52 votes, Mr Dortch 30, Mr Gilmer 5, Mr Dinnell 3, Messrs Shepherd and Carter 1 each, Mr Smith 7, Mr Ashe 6, Mr Morehead 6. The committee afterwards reported 157 votes given—necessary to a choice 79—no election.

On motion of Mr Shepherd, a message was sent to the Senate proposing to elect forthwith a Public Treasurer. The Senate concurring, Mr Shepherd nominated Mr Jonathan Worth, the present incumbent, who received the unanimous vote of the House.

The joint select committee on the subject of salt reported that the State salt works at Wilmington should be removed to Lockwood's Folly Inlet, Brunswick county, that \$1,000,000 be appropriated therefor, and that the contract proposed with Stuart Buchanan & Co., for salt is an advantageous one, and that \$200,000 be appropriated to expedite the transfer of salt from Saltville, Va. to this State.

A bill to incorporate the North Carolina Company of Chemists passed its third reading, with other bills of a private nature.

Friday, December 24.

SENATE.—Mr Miller presented a memorial from sundry citizens of Cleveland county. Mr Ellis introduced a bill to fix the pay of members of the Legislature for the present session at \$45 per day and 50 cents per mile to and from their places of residence. A resolution was passed declaring that Provost Guards should be abolished. The Senate voted a third time for Senator, with the following result: Reade 18, Gilmer 10, Dortch 10, Ashe 6, Outlaw 3, Smith 1. The whole vote in both Houses stood Reade 66, Dortch 36, the rest scattering. No election. The name of Mr Dortch was then withdrawn. In a ballot for Secretary of State, Mr Faribault came within two votes of being elected.

HOUSE.—Mr Headen introduced a bill in relation to the Militia and Home Guard—subjects members of the Legislature to Home Guard duty except during sessions of the General Assembly. A resolution favoring the suppression of the Distillery at Salisbury was passed.

Saturday, December 3.

Being private bill day, nothing of much public importance was done in either House. The Senate adopted the bill increasing members pay to \$45 per day and 50 cents per mile traveling expenses.

NORTHERN ITEMS.

The news is of little importance with one exception, and that is the following telegram from Nashville, dated the 26th:

Hood's army, numbering probably forty thousand men, have been for several days past concentrating south of Columbia, Tennessee. Our forces, meantime, have evacuated Pulaski, Huntsville, and Decatur, which places are in rebel hands. In Hood's front, near and about Columbia, are the Federal forces commanded by General Thomas.

FROM PETERSBURG.

There seems still to be considerable activity manifested along the enemy's lines, but nothing has developed. The recent wet spell no doubt materially interfered with Grant's plans for winding up the campaign, and we are beginning to think he has given over all serious movement against this portion of our lines. Probably he may be merely awaiting the termination of Sherman's raid through Georgia, ere he risks the safety of his army in an assault upon our strongly fortified position.

The enemy have at last commenced the erection of quarters for the winter, and are pushing them ahead with all possible rapidity. These quarters extend from a point near the river around beyond the Weldon railroad, some distance in the rear of their fortifications. These preparations have been postponed as long as practicable, with the hope, no doubt, that the army would be wintered in the comfortable houses of Petersburg and Richmond. Grant has eventually discovered the facility of all such hopes. The wooded country in this section has long since been thinned out by the demand for fire, and the building of winter quarters will no doubt clean out all the remaining timber of any value.

Some fifteen or twenty deserters came into our lines night before last, claiming the protection offered them in the provisions of Order No. 65, which every one of them will receive from the Government. According to the nationality, they come with the Order in their pockets, printed in English, German or French. They give no information except that thousands of their comrades are awaiting favorable opportunities to follow them. —Petersburg Express, 30th.

The Christian Sun, published in Petersburg says: Our cruel and barbarous foes seem to have tried in their effort to destroy the lives of helpless women and children in Petersburg. For three or four weeks past scarcely a shell has been thrown directly into the city. The number of shells thrown into the city during the time the shelling was progressing was truly astonishing. Some approximation to the number may be arrived at, when we state that six hundred thousand pounds of Yankee shell have been collected by parties in the city and vicinity and sold to the Ordnance Department. The department has already paid out forty eight thousand dollars for these shells. Many of these shells buried themselves in the ground too deep to be resurrected, and have not been found. We may safely put down twenty thousand shells as the number poured upon the helpless non-combatants of Petersburg, and yet, strange to say, only four white persons have been killed, and not more than ten or twelve colored persons and twice as many of each race wounded.

FIGHT ON JAMES RIVER.—The following official despatch was received by the War Department at Richmond Tuesday night from Gen. Lee: Headquarters Army Nor. Va., } November 29. }

Gen. Pickett reports that three monitors and land batteries of the enemy engaged the battery at Howlett's this morning. One of the monitors was struck several times by our guns. Two have been withdrawn. No casualties on our side. R. E. LEE.

SALES.—There was sold on the 24th, at Edwards & Co's auction room in this place, 130 shares of Western N. C. Railroad stock, at from \$138 to \$200—hundred dollar shares.—Salisbury Watchman.

Complaint has been made to us that one of the Conductors on the N. C. Railroad, on Friday night last, put the wife of a soldier and her little son off near Clayton, because she could not pay her fare. We call the attention of the President of the Road to this statement, and if our information is not well founded, we will make the correction. We believe, however, it is well founded, and if so, the Conductor ought to be dismissed.—Raleigh Standard, 29th.

BANK STOCK, &c.

On the 15th of December next, I will sell ONE HUNDRED SHARES OF STOCK in Union Bank of Charleston, S. C., belonging to the Estate of James Latta, deceased. Also, one Cent of 4 per cent Bond for \$1150. By order of Administrator of said Estate, JAMES L. HARRIS, Nov. 28, 1864. Auctioneer.

Tax-in-Kind Notice.

All persons who have not made their returns of Wheat, Corn, Hay, Peas and Beans are requested to do so by the 10th of December, or the Assessors will be compelled to visit their premises and make the assessment for them. JAS. J. BLACKWOOD, W. M. THITT, Assessors Tax-in-Kind, Mecklenburg county, N. C. Charlotte, Nov. 28, 1864. 31-pd

NOTICE.

All persons having claims against the estate of William D. Howard, deceased, will present them to me for payment within the time prescribed by law, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. G. D. BROOM, Executor. Nov. 28, 1864. 41-pd

NOTICE.

Having obtained letters of administration on the estate of my husband, James T. Lee, deceased, I will sell at the house of Samuel Hewitt, in Union county, on the 8th day of December next, the following property, viz: Hogs, Cattle, Road Wagon, one Gold Watch, Household and Kitchen Furniture, &c. Also, on the 9th of Dec., at the house of John P. Morris, in Providence, Mecklenburg county, I will sell Corn, Fodder, Hay, Peas and Farming Tools. Terms made known on day of sale. M. E. LEE, Administrator. Nov. 21, 1864. 31

Southern Express Company.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., Nov. 21, 1864.

On and after this date all Boxes which are securely fastened and strapped, containing stores for N. C. Troops in the field, marked to the care of Surgeon General Warren, Raleigh, will be forwarded without expense to either shipper or consignee, and will have preference over all other freight excepting that of the same class from other States. L. F. BATES, Asst. Supt. Nov. 21, 1864. 41

NOTICE.

The undersigned having qualified as Executrix of the last Will and Testament of Samuel M. Withers, deceased, at the October term, 1864, of Mecklenburg county court, all persons having claims against the Estate of said Testator, are required to present the same for payment within the time prescribed by law, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. MARGARET M. WITHERS, Executrix. Nov. 28, 1864. 1m-pd

Real Estate for Sale.

A small Plantation will be sold privately, containing about fifty-three acres of land, with all the improvements. This land lies within five minutes walk of the Court House in Charlotte, and is sold before the 1st of December, possession will be given the 1st of January, 1865. For particulars inquire of the subscriber on the premises. ASA GEORGE. Nov. 28, 1864. 41

FROM GEORGIA.

General Wheeler came up with several thousand of Kilpatrick's men on Sunday morning, 27th, near the Waynesboro Road, defeated and drove them three miles. Later accounts represent Wheeler as having drubbed the enemy wherever he encountered him, as having captured a considerable number of horses, and completely scattered the organization of the raiders. But a small portion of Waynesboro was burned, our cavalry having come up in time to stop the conflagration.

The Georgia Railroad is being rapidly repaired, and hopes are expressed that ere long through tickets will be in request to what was once Atlanta.

Every movement of Sherman is said to be known to the Commanding General.

A brisk skirmish is said to have taken place at Sandersville, on Friday morning, 25th November, between a squad of the enemy's cavalry and a portion of Wheeler's, in which the enemy were repulsed. They left their dead upon the field, and fifteen prisoners in our hands.

On Thursday, another body, in attempting to cross the Oconee, some fourteen miles below the bridge, were attacked and driven into the stream.

Reports from the field are very interesting—Wheeler has been fighting the enemy for thirty-six hours. He commenced fighting them in Jefferson county, and has been harassing them continually.

The bridge over Briar Creek has been rebuilt, and the trains will run through as usual at Waynesboro. The telegraph is at work. Gen. Wayne occupies Millen.

The enemy have not crossed the Savannah River. The report that five hundred of them were over was entirely unfounded. The ferries are guarded on the Carolina side.

The gallant Wheeler is between the enemy and Augusta, and is driving them back. Sherman will yet feel how strong is the blow dealt by a man who stands upon his own hearthstone to deal it. The country is strewn with dead Yankees and horses.

The latest news last night from Waynesboro, was that Wheeler was still fighting the enemy and driving them.

Too much credit cannot be given to Wheeler and his command for what they have done toward crippling the enemy and impeding his march. He has been in the saddle for fifteen days and marching and fighting continually. We may easily imagine the fortitude, the heroic endurance that is necessary to bear up a command under such circumstances.

Thirty-five Yankee stragglers captured near Warrenton, were brought down the Georgia Road yesterday evening.—Augusta Register, 30th.

It is very generally conceded that Sherman, avoiding both Augusta and Macon, has gone on his winding way, either to Savannah, Brunswick or Port Royal. To reach either Brunswick or Savannah, he has to traverse a barren waste of land, to meet, as he approaches his destination, swamps impenetrable to an army, save by causeways, which could easily be destroyed before him. Should he attempt to reach Port Royal, he will probably cross the Savannah at Sister's Ferry. On the South Carolina side, immediately opposite this ferry, the soil is porous and marshy. There, too, he may possibly encounter masked batteries and other obstacles too numerous to mention.

We know some very good news and see some very excellent signs. Be patient; the fruit is not yet ripe.—Augusta Constitutionalist, 30th.

We are still without definite information from Sherman's army, except that it is feeling its way cautiously, with the cavalry in advance. He will find "a hard road to travel" with the hundreds of cannon and thousands of muskets that will be pointed at him. He is, however, too far off yet for any satisfactory opinion to be formed on the subject.

Our forces here are daily increasing, new works are being erected and old ones strengthened, and we shall soon be prepared for the invaders, come in what force he may. 3,000 well tried troops will be added to our number to-day, led by one of the most experienced Generals in the Confederacy—Others are expected in a few days, whilst in Sherman's rear a storm is gathering.—Savannah Republican.

LATER.

The telegraphic communication with Millen has been reopened. Wheeler was still fighting the Federals on Wednesday. Results unknown.

It is reported that a party of Sherman's scouts visited Demera's Ferry on Sunday. They remained some time in that vicinity taking observations. It is thought by many that Sherman will endeavor to cross the Savannah river at that point.

It is said that during one of the skirmishes between Wheeler and Kilpatrick, that the latter was so hard pressed that he lost his hat—and escaped only because he had a fletcher horse than his pursuer. The Yankee General certainly had a narrow escape.—Augusta Chronicle, 1st.

The news from Georgia is very cheering—Sherman was reported Tuesday morning very slowly and cautiously feeling his way. General Wheeler had driven back his advance forces from Millen to the Ogeechee Bridge. The enemy are said to have suffered severely. After this repulse, our scouts report Sherman's main body turned, and was moving off precipitately in the direction of Brunswick, Ga. A large column is reported moving in the direction of Darien, Ga. Our forces are following them up closely, and it is hoped will be able to intercept and capture a large number before reaching the coast.—Charleston Courier, 1st.

FROM THE COAST.—The telegraph being still silent, and there having been complete failure of the Western and Savannah mails last evening, we have absolutely not a word of later intelligence of Sherman's whereabouts.

We have, however, stirring news from the coast. Early yesterday morning the enemy's transports landed a force, estimated to number about 5,000 men, at Boyd's Landing, on Broad river, about 8 miles from Grahamville. Meantime, a smaller force, ascending Bear creek, attacked the railroad near Coosawatchie, but were speedily repulsed. They then returned, and, joining the main body at Boyd's landing, the entire force advanced towards Grahamville, where, in the afternoon they encountered our advance guard.

At last accounts, yesterday, fighting was going on at Grahamville, but we have no particulars. There is reason to believe, however, that our force is already sufficient to cope with the foe, and is, besides hourly receiving reinforcements.—Charleston Mercury, 1st.

Wanted to Purchase.

50 Barrels best Molasses, 200 Bags Family Flour, in exchange for Salt, Farmers' Iron, Sugar, or Cash. STENHOUSE & MACAULAY. Nov. 21, 1864. 41

NOTICE.

We positively forbid all persons—white and black, poor and rich—from fishing in our Mill Pond. Any one caught violating this notice will certainly be prosecuted. We can no longer bear the deprivations that have been committed on our premises. PARKS & WALLIS. Oct. 24, 1864. 41

REPORT OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL OF NORTH CAROLINA.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE, RALEIGH, NOV. 19, 1864.

His Excellency, Z. B. Vance, Governor of North Carolina.

Governor—I have the honor to submit for your information the following report of the operations of the several Departments under my control, for the last six months of the fiscal year ending the 30th of September, 1864.

1. NORTH CAROLINA TROOPS.

The Troops in the service of the State have been actively employed under the direction of the commanding officers of the several military districts in which they are located. They necessarily serve under the command of Confederate Generals, and while so serving are fed by the Confederate Government, but are paid and clothed by the State. Hence if they can be turned over to the Confederate Government without violating the terms of their enlistment, I recommend that it be done. The enclosed return marked "A" shows an aggregate of this force of three thousand four hundred and twenty-nine.

Since my last report the State Reserves have been organized by the Conscription Bureau, and many recruits sent to the Regiments in the field.

The following is a statement of the number of troops furnished by the State of North Carolina for service in the existing war with the United States:

Table with 2 columns: Description and Number. Includes: Number of Troops transferred to the Confederate States, 64,636; Number of Conscripts between the ages of 18 and 45 as per report of Commandant of Conscripts, dated September 30, 1864, 18,585; Estimated number of recruits that have volunteered in the different companies since date of original rolls, 21,608; Number of Troops in the State service for the war, 3,429; Number of Junior Reserves, 4,217; Number of Senior Reserves, 5,686.

Total number of Troops, 118,160. These troops have been organized as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Regimental/Company Name and Number. Includes: Regiments of Artillery (3), Cavalry (6), Infantry (60), Junior Reserves (1), Senior Reserves (1), Battalions of Artillery (4), Cavalry (4), Infantry (3), Junior Reserves (5), Senior Reserves (4).

There are thirteen unattached companies. In addition to these there is one company from this State in the 10th Virginia Cavalry, five in the 7th Confederate Cavalry, four in the 62d Georgia Regiment and one in the 61st Virginia Infantry.

2. MILITIA AND GUARD FOR HOME DEFENCE.

The Guard for Home Defence throughout the State has been employed in apprehending deserters and returning them to the army and in aiding the civil authorities in preserving order. In the last four months they have returned to the army 1289 deserters and recaptured Conscripts, 421 of whom have been apprehended and the rest surrendered themselves under your proclamation of the 24th of August last.

In addition to these duties the Guard west of the Blue Ridge have been kept almost constantly in the field to repel invasion from East Tennessee and to operate against disloyal citizens who have gone over to the enemy.

With the view of keeping in the field as many of this class of troops as might be necessary, and at the same time to interfere as little as possible with the industrial pursuits of the country, they have been divided into three classes, each to serve in succession, and for short periods of time.

The Guard in certain counties have been designated for service on the western frontier, and those of the remaining counties for service in the eastern part of the State. The first class of these latter have about completed their first period of thirty days' service and are now being relieved by the second class.

It seems impossible to obtain correct returns of the Guard for Home Defence, but it is believed that the officers are in proportion to the effective men as four to fifteen. This disparity arises from the great reduction of the members originally enrolled occasioned by the law of Congress of February last, which takes out all above the age of forty-five years, and decreases the number of exemptions from service in the Confederate army. It therefore becomes necessary to re-organize this force—or what would be better, to repeal the law of its organization, and to organize a force for field service, to be composed of all officers and others of the militia physically fit for such service. This force to be organized into companies, battalions, regiments, brigades and divisions, and the commissions of the officers to be in force only when called into the field—at all other times the organization to be merged into the regular militia, where the officers and men must serve with their militia rank. This would necessitate the suspension of the commissions of militia officers while serving in this new organization.

Should the Guard for Home Defence be abolished and another organization substituted, fine should be given for the change to the end that the public service do not suffer thereby.

There are in the State 2550 militia officers, and 1312 Home Guard officers, and of these hold commissions in both organizations.

3. ROLL OF HONOR.

The plan adopted for carrying into effect the resolution of the General Assembly in regard to this work was given in my last report. The officer charged with its execution has been indefatigable in collecting necessary information. The several regiments, battalions and unattached companies, have, with few exceptions, been received and transcribed in the books kept for that purpose. But little information of the many changes that have taken place during the present year has been obtained, owing to the constant moving of the troops, but as the campaign will soon close, advantage will be taken of it to collect more material and thus continue the work from time to time until the close of the war.

4. QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT.

This Department has furnished clothing, camp and garrison equipage, pay, bounty, and transportation for the troops, and paid other miscellaneous accounts.

The disbursements from the 31st March, 1864, to 30th September, 1864, are as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes: Clothing, Camp and Garrison Equipage, \$3,765 50; Forage, 3,597 85; Wood, 1,500 00