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THE NEW HOME GUARD LAW.

An Act to Increase the Efficiency of the Home Guard Organization.

Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That whenever the Guard for Home Defence shall be called into service beyond the limits of their respective counties, the Governor may cause two or more companies to be consolidated into one company so as to make not less than sixty-four men, rank and file, to each company; said company so consolidated shall elect from the Captains commanding the companies so consolidated a Captain to command such consolidated company, and from the first Lieutenants, Second Lieutenants and Junior Second Lieutenants of such companies, an officer of each said ranks, to be assigned to duty with such consolidated company, such of the officers of companies so consolidated as may not be elected for service with such consolidated company, shall be required to perform service as non-commissioned officers or privates in the consolidated company, formed of their original companies, and while so serving their commissions shall be suspended.

Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, That the Governor may in like manner cause two or more battalions or regiments of the Home Guards when called into service beyond their respective battalions or regimental limits, or when called into service within such limits in connection with other portions of such force, to be consolidated; said battalions when so consolidated to be composed of not less than three companies, and said regiments when so consolidated to be composed of more than ten companies. The Governor may assign to the command of such consolidated company, battalion or regiment any officer or officers from the battalion or regiments so consolidated.

Sec. 3. Be it further enacted, That the Governor may, in his discretion, in constituting the consolidated companies contemplated by the first section hereof, take the one-fourth, one-third, or one-half of any company as at present organized with a due proportion of its officers, out of which to constitute such consolidated company, and such of the officers of companies as at present organized, as may be placed with fractions of their companies, to form a consolidated company, as may not be elected to command such consolidated company, shall be required to serve in such consolidated company as non-commissioned officers or privates, and while so serving their commissions shall be suspended.

Sec. 4. Be it further enacted, That all Quartermasters and Commissaries of regiments or battalions of Home Guards as at present organized, that may not be assigned to duty by the Governor with a consolidated battalion or regiment, shall be required to serve as non-commissioned officers or privates, in some company of their present command, and while so serving their commissions shall be suspended.

Sec. 5. Be it further enacted, That the Surgeon General, by and with the advice and consent of the Governor, shall appoint a Medical Board for each Congressional District in this State, whose business it shall be to examine all persons claiming exemption from Home Guard duty, on account of physical disability, that these examinations shall be made at such time and under such rules and regulations as may be established by the Surgeon General, and that the members of said boards shall receive the same pay and allowances while on duty as the Confederate Conscription Boards.

Sec. 6. Be it further enacted, That when such companies, battalions or regiments, have been consolidated as herein provided for, they shall continue in such organizations until further provisions shall be made in their behalf.

Sec. 7. Be it further enacted, That the second section of "an act in relation to the Militia and a Guard for Home Defence," ratified the 7th day of July, 1863, be, and the same is hereby amended by inserting the words "these" in the ninth line of said section, and inserting the word "they" that the third section of "an act in relation to the Militia and a Guard for Home Defence," ratified the 14th day of December, 1863, be, and the same is hereby amended by inserting the words "regular" and "militia" in the words "regular" and "militia" in the words "and," and that the proviso at the end of said section be, and the same is hereby amended, so that the words "and the proviso at the end of said section, there shall be exempt from Home Guard duty all county trustees, regular and public tax-payers, batters and shoemakers skilled in their respective callings, and who were employed in the same prior to the first day of January, A. D. 1863, and have continued to be so employed since that time."

Provided, tanners shall sell one-third of their leather to indigent soldiers' wives and widows for their own use at schedule prices.

The Western Democrat.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.

The Chronicle and Sentinel of this morning contains a two column editorial on the subject of State sovereignty, and calls on the Legislature of the State to interpose her absolute sovereignty between the people and the despotic legislation of a subservient Congress. --Augusta Telegraphic Dispatch.

The Chronicle and Sentinel had better call on the people of Georgia to interpose themselves between Sherman's army and the vital parts of the Confederacy. While the Augusta Chronicle & Sentinel is engaged in assailing the government and instilling opposition in the minds of the people of Georgia against the measures of Congress, the yankees are marching through the State just as they please, destroying property and murdering citizens. If the people of Georgia are subjugated by the enemy State sovereignty is dead, forever dead; and before the "Chronicle and Sentinel," Gov. Brown, &c., continue their fuss about "sovereignty," it would be more creditable for them to do something to stop the march of Sherman. After Sherman's trip through Georgia it sounds rather ridiculous to hear any one in that State talk about "sovereignty."

VIOLATING THE SABBATH.

From an article in the Charleston Courier on the subject of "National Sins," we copy the following in regard to violations of the Sabbath day:

How many things are done on Sunday on the plea of necessity or urgent expediency. In the days before railroads when wagons furnished almost all the communication between our great marts and the producers of the country, the Church goer in the country, or even in towns and villages, was often saluted by the sounds of the bells, and not unfrequently by the rude oaths of the teamsters accompanying a wagon.

Driving the wagon on Sunday was adopted by many even who would not, as others did, start a trip on that day--and yet the number of cases to the contrary was sufficient to afford data for a comparison.

Old and experienced observers have reported after full inquiry, and investigation, and reports from others, that even as a matter of thrift and profit in the time of trips and the condition of teams, the wagoners who respected the Sabbath had the advantage.

It happened often that a Sabbath-keeping wagoner, on his Sabbath encampment, selected, if possible, with reference to opportunity of attending worship, was passed by a friend or fellow of the rule knowing no Sundays on the road, and was sometimes jeered or rebuked for his foolish precision and expensive scruples--and that before the next Sabbath, or often in two or three days, the "go ahead" man of all days would be passed by the team of his more considerate friend.

Such cases were often noted and reported by old men versed in the wagon line, and such instances can be and have been collected and reported for all the departments of business and trade.

CHRONOLOGICAL RECORD

Of Events during the Campaign of 1864.

The Richmond Sentinel publishes the following memorandum of the transactions of the year 1864. It would be worth while to preserve it for future reference:

JANUARY--3. Gen W E Jones fights and routs the enemy's raiders in Lee county, Va., capturing 400 raiders and 3 pieces of artillery.

FEBRUARY--17. U S troop of war House-sonic blown up off Charleston harbor by Lieut. Dixon, with a torpedo boat. Lieut Dixon, and his crew never heard of afterwards.

MARCH--14. Monday--Fort De Russey on Red river captured by the enemy.

MAY--4. Gen Grant crossed the Rapidan at Ely's and Germanna Ports, and advanced on Lee.

JULY--2. Gen Early arrives at Winchester, bound for Maryland.

SEPTEMBER--1. Sheridan's cavalry abandoned their attempt on Richmond and retreat. Heavy battle at Resaca between Johnston's and Sherman's forces. Johnston successful. Heavy cannonade at Fort Drewry on James river. Butler moving against it. Beauregard in command of the Confederates.

OCTOBER--1. Sheridan's cavalry after resting at the James moved back to Grant. General Gordon died of his wound of the 12th. General Ewell moved on Grant's right flank at Spotsylvania Court House, driving in the latter's lines.

on the enemy's works, near Bethesda Church.

JUNE--1. (Wednesday.) Heavy and continuous skirmishing between Grant's and Lee's armies, beyond Mechanicsville. Grant assailed Heth, Rodes, and Anderson, and was repulsed with much slaughter. Hampton and Rosser defeated the enemy's cavalry at Hanover C. H. and Ashland.

2. Ewell turned Grant's right flank, capturing intrenchments and 500 prisoners. United States steamer Water Witch, captured near Ossabaw Sound by Lieut Pelot.

8. Heavy fighting. Grant attacked our right under Kershaw, Breckinridge and Hoke, and our left under Heth, and was repulsed with great slaughter. Cavalry fight at Haves' Shop. Enemy driven. A night engagement in which Breckinridge and Hoke who attacked, are victorious over the enemy. Breckinridge's horse killed under him by a cannon shot.

5--Sunday. Battle near New Hope, Augusta county. The Confederates under Gen W E Jones, defeated by Gen Hunter. Gen Jones killed.

7. Gen Breckinridge returned to the Valley.

8. Sheridan crossed the Pamunkey, on an expedition against Charlottesville and Lynchburg.

9--Thursday. Gen Kautz attempted to capture Petersburg and was repulsed.

10. Quiet between Grant and Lee since the 3d. Forrest gained a brilliant victory at Tishomingo Creek, in North Mississippi. Morgan attacked Frankfort, Ky., without success.

11. Hunter, after occupying Staunton, appeared before Lexington. Resisted by McCausland. Entered the town. Gen Hampton defeated Sheridan near Trevilian's Depot. Morgan captured Hobson and his command at Cynthiana, Ky.

22. Hood successfully attacks Sherman. He made a flank march at night, 2,000 piers, 13 guns captured. Gen Walker killed. Gen McPherson U S A.

24. Gen Early defeats Gen Crook at Kerns with heavy loss, driving him through Winchester.

26. Early re-occupies Martinsburg. The railroad track torn up for the sixth time. The enemy retreat into Maryland.

30. Grant explodes a mine under our works, and a half miles east of Petersburg. Enemy pulsed with great loss in killed and captured, raiding party at Newnan, Ga., severely whipped by General Roddy. Atlanta shelled very furiously for several days past. Chambersburg burnt (in retaliation) by General McCausland.

31. Gen Stoneman whipped and taken prisoner near Macon, by Gen. Iverson. His command scattered or scattered.

[The above account is for the first six months of the year 1864.]

THE CONFEDERATE NAVY.

Many people, for the want of reliable information in regard to this important branch of Government, are disposed to underrate its advantages to the Confederacy. It is not generally collected that for certain prudential reasons, Congress has constantly refused to publish the official reports of the Secretary, and therefore, that public has been left in the dark as to the most important naval matters. It is not our purpose draw aside the veil in which Congress, for reasons satisfactory to itself, has shrouded the Navy department. But there are certain facts which may be made public with advantage to all concerned.

In the first instance, it has not been the extensive establishment that many people suppose. Sure expenditures, for all purposes connected with the navy, from the foundation of the Government do but a little exceed eighty-four millions of dollars. This includes everything. Its success, the ocean and in our harbors and rivers, consisting the overwhelming naval power of the nation have been marvellous. Our cruisers on the seas--only about half a dozen in number--captured and destroyed quite two hundred of enemy's merchant ships, with their cargoes, at a moderate computation, sixty millions of dollars or quite two-thirds the cost of our entire navy. While this has been going on, the enemy's navy has not been idle. It has engaged the enemy's more than thirty combats--many of them the most brilliant in naval warfare. It is true, we have reverses. It could not be otherwise, considering the odds against us. It must be borne in mind that our war vessels at home have been compelled in many cases, to fight the land forces of the enemy as well as his ships of war; and, in several cases, as in that of the Virginia at Norfolk, have been compelled to succumb to superior forces after the most brilliant successes on water. And, after all our losses, the navy is growing in strength. We do not deem it wise to state that strongly; but there can be no hesitating saying that it is far stronger than either the Yankees or our own people suppose it to be, and it will be twice as strong six months hence as it now.

The great service which our little navy almost the ocean has rendered the cause, has not been simply in capturing the enemy's merchant ships and destroying them; it has been in breaking his commerce, and so harassing his shipping as to drive it from the seas. It is computed by having the data and competent to make up conclusions, that the injury inflicted in this way amounts to quite ten times the cost of our own navy. If by sinking one dollar ourselves, we make the enemy sink ten, it strikes us as well fighting him to advantage. But we are doing better than this--after all our losses, we are largely over half of our navy left. One competent judge says we have lost about thirty-five millions of dollars by the way of ships and navy stores, and we have inflicted quite eight hundred millions of dollars in the way of damages on the enemy's commerce and shipping. We hope the hints will be remembered by those who are disposed to find fault with our gallant Confederate Carolinian.

THE "FOOL NIGGER" AND THEIR RETURN. During the recent raid on this place made by heretofore considered faithful servants--the Yankees and children--accompanied the Yankees, their return. In great glee they mounted stolen horses and mules of their owners, loaded with plunder, took their departure for the land of Abe Lincoln's rule. The vision of the so-called carriage, fine dress, luxurious eating, freedom and equality with their liberators, received the first rude shock but a few miles from town when they were compelled to dismount and trudge through the mud. Fatigued, hungry and cold, they strived might and main to keep up their apostles of liberty--fear of recapture by masters stimulating their fast-fading dream of idleness. The weather became bitter cold, and the negroes suffered terribly. The first to succumb were their children, being deserted by their brutish mothers to perish on the wayside. We heard one woman who, tired of her burden, threw her infant, not a month old, in the wayside thick and left it. We are informed that twenty-two of these Abe Lincoln millionaires have been frozen to death on the roads traveled by the Yankees on their return--mostly children. --Baltimore (Mississippi) Telegraph.

IMPORTANT REMOVED--A gentleman of high position in Georgia, reports that the President has under consideration a joint offer from England and France to guarantee our independence, provided the negroes be emancipated at the end of five years. This may account for the rabid desire of the Yankees for our ports of entry. It may also account for Blair's flying trip to Richmond.

We place no reliance in the rumors mentioned above.

A DINNER TWENTY MILES LONG--The New Year's dinner to General Lee's army, which was given on Monday, must have been a magnificent affair. Just think of a turkey, geese, ducks, chickens, and other fowl, port, vegetables and other delicacies, twenty miles long.