

Western Democrat. CHARLOTTE, N. C. Tuesday, February 14, 1865.

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THE N. C. LEGISLATURE adjourned on Tuesday morning last to meet again on the third Thursday in May next, unless sooner called together by the Governor.

The Legislature at the late session passed a law permitting the Piedmont Railroad (running from Greensboro to Danville) to change the gauge of that Road to suit the gauge of the Richmond and Danville Road; but providing that within six months after the close of the war the present gauge shall be re-established.

Two bills were passed on the subject of Roads—one imposes a fine of ten dollars for each failure to work on public roads, to be collected on warrant before any Magistrate; the other provides that where public roads are opened the damage shall be assessed by freeholders after the road is opened—this law to apply in all cases of the kind now pending in Courts. The road must be opened first and damages fixed afterwards.

A new Home Guard law was passed, which will be found in another column.

Corporations, for an Act of incorporation, are required hereafter to pay a fee or tax of \$500.

INCREASE OF SALARIES AND FEES.—The Legislature passed an Act increasing the salaries and fees of certain public officers in this State. The Raleigh Progress publishes a synopsis of the Act which we give below:

For the year 1865: Governor \$15,000; a Counselor of State \$40 per day when engaged in public business, and 30 cents per mile to and from his home; Judges \$7,000 each; Treasurer \$7,500; chief clerk to the Treasurer \$3,500, second clerk \$2,500; Secretary of State \$3,500 and four times the fees heretofore allowed; Comptroller \$3,000, and his clerk \$2,500; Governor's private Secretary \$2,500 and quadruple fees; Supreme Court Reporter \$1,500; Clerk to the Supreme Court \$1,500 and quadruple fees; Marshal \$15 per day while attending the Court; County and Superior Court Clerks, Sheriffs, &c., quadruple fees; State Salt Commissioner \$3,000 and traveling expenses; Surgeon General the pay of a Brigadier and traveling expenses; State Auditor \$4,500, his first clerk \$3,000, second clerk \$1,500; Superintendent of Common Schools \$2,500; keeper of the Capitol \$1,500; Adjutant General the pay of a Major General; Commissioners of the Sinking Fund and their clerk each \$50 per day while engaged in public business.

THE MAILS.—Charlotte is on the highway of travel, with two trains a day running through, yet it is a rare occurrence to get a mail from north or south in regular time, or anything approximating regular time. After making all due allowance for bad weather and the embarrassments of the times, it is hard to understand what detains the mails from Richmond, Raleigh and Columbia.

THE RAILROADS.—The Legislature passed resolutions to appoint a committee to investigate the management of Railroads in this State and inquire how many of the Railroad Companies have violated and forfeited their Charters. The committee consists of Messrs Giles Leitch of Robeson, J. W. Ellis of Columbus, S. P. Phillips of Orange, John L. Brown of Mecklenburg, and D. G. Gwolk of Wake. Those having charges to prefer against the Railroad Companies would do well to communicate with this committee. We give the Post Office of each member of the committee:

Giles Leitch, Lumberton. D. G. Fowle, Raleigh. S. F. Phillips, Hillsboro. J. L. Brown, Charlotte. J. W. Ellis, Whiteville.

We think the above named Post Offices are correct, though we are not certain about those of Messrs Leitch and Ellis.

SOUTH CAROLINA.—The Governor of South Carolina has issued a call to arms to the people of that State. It is pointed, as will be seen by the following extracts:

"The doubt has been dispelled. The truth is made manifest, and the startling conviction is now before you all. The invasion of this State has been commenced! our people driven from their homes, their property plundered and destroyed, the torch and the sword displayed, as the fate to which are destined. The threats of an insolent foe are to be carried into execution, unless that foe is checked and beaten back.

I call now upon the people of South Carolina to rise and defend, at once their own rights, the honor and the flag of their State. I call upon every man to lay aside selfish considerations, and prepare to do his duty to his State. Let the suggestions of ease and comfort become inglorious and unworthy; let those ends only be honorable which conduce to the defeat of the foe let all who follow now, or hesitate, be forever and forever banished from the soil of the South. There is no room for a man of manly heart in a class of men; they are the men who will fight for their country. I give you timely warning to all. The period is near when private business must be, for a season, suspended. While there is yet time, let all prepare to set their houses in order."

"In every quarter of the State, in every District, village and town, let the men stand with their arms in their hands. When required to move, let them do so with expedition and hope. Until required to move, let them be vigilant, and prepared to repress disorder and put down all violence."

"You have led the way in those acts which united the people of our sister States in this confederation of States and their secession from the Government of the United States. You first fired the gun at the flag of the United States, and caused that flag to be lowered at your command. As yet you have suffered less than any other people. You have spoken words of defiance—let your acts be equally significant. In your sister States; with the people of those States; with the people of your State; with the determination to be free, and in your hatred to the foe; you will not falter in that stronger sympathy which is derived from a common suffering."

"You have defied a tyrant; do not apprehend his power. You have dared to do fear not to die. No worse fate can befall him who has pride in the ancient honors of his State than to see it governed by those who hate it, and insult with their voices, the virtues we have been taught to cherish."

"Once more I say to you, your State is invaded. Once more I call upon you to arm in its defence. All who unite with us are more than brothers; all who desert us are as false as the foes which assail us."

"Be as resolute as your cause is just, and triumphant success awaits you."

IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Holders of Confederate States Securities are informed that Dr. J. G. M. Ramsey, heretofore Confederate States Depository at Knoxville, Tenn., but now of Charlotte, N. C., has been authorized by the Secretary of the Treasury to take up the coupons on Eight and Seven per cent Bonds, and also to pay the interest schedules on the 7.30 Notes. Printed forms for these schedules will be furnished to parties applying at the Bank of Charlotte, where the Depository can be found.

This arrangement will prove a great public convenience to this section of country.

VICE-PRESIDENT STEPHENS arrived in this place on Saturday evening on his way South. It is stated that he intends canvassing Georgia in favor of prosecuting the war. Mr Stephens has done much exertion in Georgia by his rather vacillating course—it remains to be seen whether he can contract it.

We think it bad policy for families of women and children to leave their homes at the approach of the enemy. It strikes us that the best plan is for all non-combatants, along the enemy's line of march, to remain at their own homes as long as they are permitted to do so. We know it is a risk to stay, but it is also a serious risk to leave home with no certainty of finding shelter elsewhere. The interior towns are now crowded to overflowing, and vacant houses are not to be had. It is so in this place, and we learn the same is the case elsewhere.

We believe a public meeting was held in this place on Saturday last, but as the proceedings have not been furnished us for publication we suppose it was not desired to make them public through this paper.

To John L. Brown, Esq., we are indebted for valuable legislative documents.

We hope some of our brethren of the press who have given the Sorghum a fair trial in the manufacture of Rollers, will give us the result of their experience.—Fayetteville Telegraph.

We have always used the Sorghum or Chinese sugar cane sirup in making Rollers, in preference to any other kind of molasses. We have worked Rollers made of it for nine months, and the Roller we are now working has been in use over six months; and we think it does good work, considering the cold weather and the old type we are using. Make the Roller soft and hang it up (if in summer) for a week or two, in a cool place, to dry and get tough.

ACTION OF THE YANKEE CONGRESS.—The Yankee Congress have adopted an amendment to the Constitution of the United States abolishing slavery. The amendment was carried by a two-thirds vote, a few of the democrats voting for it. It is stated that when the vote was announced the Republican members went through a regular hurrahing and hugging frolic. Of course, the Lincolnites claim that this action abolishes the institution in the southern States, but they will find that that point will have to be settled on the battle field.

Before the amendment can become a law of the United States it must be ratified by the Legislatures or Conventions of two-thirds of all the States; and as the Yankees have control of twenty-eight States (several new States having been admitted into the Union since the commencement of the war) the required two-thirds vote will be obtained by either four or four means.

We learn that Maj. W. W. Pierce, Confederate Quartermaster for this State, office at Raleigh, has been dismissed from office. If there has been gross mismanagement, as reports say, why do not some one of the Raleigh papers inform the public? This is no time to conceal official mismanagement.

The Raleigh Conservative announces that Major R. H. Hooper has been appointed Chief Quartermaster of the District of North Carolina.

THE PEOPLE MOVING.—Since the return of our Commissioners from the conference with Lincoln and Seward, two very large public meetings have been held in Richmond, and a determination expressed to use every effort to sustain the Government and prosecute the war for independence. Speeches were made by President Davis, John A. Gilmer of North Carolina, and others. Paper resolutions will do very little good now.

Meetings have also been held in North Carolina, Virginia, Georgia and other Regiments.

The following are two of the resolutions adopted by the 5th N. C. Cavalry:

Resolved, unanimously, That we deem it proper to renew the pledges made by us one year ago, upon the occasion of our enlistment, to serve our country in weal or woe as long as the foot-steps of a foe pollute our soil.

Resolved, unanimously, That we send word of cheer to the loved ones at home and bid them be of good heart. By the blessings of God, under the leadership of our beloved General, R. E. Lee, the army will yet conquer an honorable peace.

RETURNED TO DUTY.—A correspondent of the Columbia Carolinian, writing from Asheville, N. C., relates an uncommon occurrence as follows:

"A certain Captain of Kirk's tory command was a Lieutenant in one of the S. C. Regiments in 1862, but being cashiered, raised a company and joined the enemy. He came in a few days ago with one hundred men, reported to Col. Palmer for duty, and is now said to be doing good service, slaying bushwhackers right and left."

The Yankee despatches, touching the peace negotiations, make a stronger case than even the report of our Commissioners. It appears from them that Mr Stephens, in his earnestness to work out a solution of this dreadful difficulty, and to stop the horrors of war, asked only for a temporary recognition, with an assurance that, if such were granted, then an arrangement might be made, which would amount to a practical union of North and South. This was making the point fine. It was possibly as extreme a ground as any true man in the South could acquiesce in. But, even this was refused. No recognition either of States or Confederacy, could be allowed even for the moment; and no negotiation could be entered on, except on the preliminary assurance, that submission would follow; and the acceptance of the laws and constitution of the United States—the proclamations of Lincoln—and the abolition of slavery. And what a spectacle was here presented. In the very moment when he was thus arrogantly dictating as a conqueror, the terms which would be granted, Lincoln interspersed the occasion with one of those rude and brutal exhibitions of buffoonery, which has made him famous, as the chief of Babboons.

These Yankee despatches say our Commissioners went into a fit of meriment over the exhibition. It is scarce credible. But if it be true, it shows how the exquisite mimicry of an ape may disturb the most solemn occasions.—Raleigh Confederate.

Latest News. We give such news as we have been able to gather up to the time of going to press. Everything from the South appears to be indefinite. Sherman's movements are not yet fully comprehended.

Passengers who arrived here on Sunday from the South report that a fight took place at Orangeburg on Friday last, and that the enemy was repulsed. Orangeburg is on the S. C. Railroad, about 50 miles from Columbia. If a fight occurred at that point, it is likely it was with a portion of the enemy's cavalry, who flanked our troops at Branchville.

The enemy around Petersburg and Richmond have made no further movement since Monday and Tuesday, when they were chastised severely.

Below Wilmington everything is reported quiet, except the occasional shelling of our position at Sugar Loaf by the enemy's boats.

SHERMAN'S MOVEMENTS. The enemy's movements so far seem to threaten both Augusta and Columbia. On Tuesday as appears by official reports, they gained possession of the Augusta branch of the South Carolina Railroad, occupying Blackville and other points. Foster's troops are still believed to be on the railroad.

A dispatch from General Wheeler, dated February 7th, says: "I had started my command for Blackville this morning, but before reaching that place, my pickets were charged by three brigades of cavalry, which drove them beyond the village. Dillard's Tennessee brigade being in the vicinity, met and charged the enemy, driving them back into the village. Having but two brigades which could be brought against the enemy, I determined not to attack so superior a force. After sitting until nearly dark, I withdrew across the Edisto."

A dispatch from Branchville, February 8th, says: "The enemy have made their appearance along the railroad beyond the Edisto. They burnt a house within a mile and a half of the railroad bridge. About seven o'clock yesterday our troops were withdrawn to this side of the railroad and the bridge burned."

A dispatch from Orangeburg, February 9, says: "The enemy are in front of the Edisto line, near New Bridge and Duffan Bridge. The main force is said to be near the railroad. Skirmishing took place to-day near Branchville Bridge. The enemy show no disposition to force a crossing of the Edisto."

A dispatch from Gen. Wheeler, Orangeburg, February 8, says: "All the crossings on the Edisto, above and below, are fully guarded. A large column of the enemy's infantry is in front of Cook's bridge, and are now moving to strike between Graham's and Blackville."

Kilpatrick is at Blackville with three brigades of Yankee cavalry.

EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS. We are gratified to announce on the authority of the latest Northern news, that an agreement has been made to exchange all prisoners on both sides. This is good news for the prisoners now confined in both sections, as well as gratifying to their relatives and friends.

FROM CHARLESTON. A force of the enemy, from two to four thousand strong, drove in our pickets about 8 o'clock Friday morning at Grainball's, on James' Island. Some skirmishing took place, but no general engagement. The action was confined to the entrenchments they had thrown up, believed to be feints. A force also attacked our troops on the Salkathetic Friday morning, but were easily repulsed. They also advanced upon the Charleston road near the Blue House and opened with artillery, but made no impression on our lines. Intelligence from the road report the enemy moving on Augusta.

THE BATTLE OF HATCHER'S RUN, NEAR PETERSBURG. Grant's movement on the right of our lines was brought to a conclusion with the operations of last Monday. His troops were on that evening driven by General Mahone into the entrenchments they had thrown up on Hatcher's Run. The next day they made feints on our lines, but they were only feints. This still held the position gained on Hatcher's Run. This extends Grant's line to the westward some three miles.

But if he gains any advantage thereby, we do not see it. He is further from Petersburg, and is not nearer to the Southside railroad. He lost about one thousand five hundred killed and wounded, and about fifty prisoners. Our whole loss will not reach five hundred. We regret to state that Colonel Houston, of this State, was killed in the fight on Monday. It is now said that General Sorell's wound is not considered mortal. The dead on both sides have been buried.

The enemy is erecting two or more observatories opposite prominent points on our right. One of these is in front of Cook's bridge, nearly opposite Pegram's house. It has already reached a height of between one hundred and two hundred feet, and it is said, will be run up to three hundred feet. It is located about two miles from our lines.—Richmond Dispatch.

If all the men in South Carolina who are able to walk don't choose to turn out and help beat back the enemy, we do not think they have any right to censure the President because Sherman marches through the State. The President cannot stop Sherman unless he has more men to place under our commanding officers.

Brig. Gen. Bryan Grimes, of North Carolina, has been made a Major General and assigned to Rodes' Division, of Early's (Ewell's) corps.—The division consists of two North Carolina, one Georgia, and one Alabama brigades. Gen. Grimes is an excellent officer, and will admirably fill the place of the gallant and lamented Rodes.—Raleigh Confederate.

FROM WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA.—A correspondent of the Raleigh Standard, writes as follows: Morganton, Feb. 3, 1865. You may have noticed in the Salisbury Watchman a rumor of a threatened raid in this County, wherein it is stated that some two or three hundred of the enemy were in the neighborhood of Piedmont Springs. It is all a false alarm. The whole country has been thoroughly scoured by our forces, and there are no evidences that the enemy has been in that region.

CAPTURED.—We learn that Lieut. Col. J. M. Neal, of the Home Guards, was recently captured by some of Kirk's raiders. Col. Neal resided in Marion, McDowell county, and was captured about midway between Marion and Morganton, on Muddy creek, near Bridgewater. We have heard no particulars, more than that he was alone, of course expecting no danger in that region.

We also learn that Mills Higgins, former sheriff of McDowell, was recently visited by a gang of desperadoes—deserters and Tories—and much injury done to his property.—Raleigh Progress.

CABARRUS COUNTY.—Col J. C. Barnhardt, 84th N. C. Militia, writes to Dr. McEachern, Senator from Cabarrus and Stanly, that Cabarrus has furnished to the C. S. service: volunteers, 1295; conscripts, 301; private reserves, 84; light duty men on service, 31; detailed and engaged on Government work, 29; detailed and exempted for N. C. railroad, 8; deduct from light duty men and others discharged, &c., 30; total, 1751; Home Guard duty at least 80 men.

Up to October 1st, 1862, he writes, we had 13 deserters, and since that time I do not think the number has much more than doubled. Also, up to that time, killed in battle, 88; died from wounds received in battle, 48; died from disease, 174; total lost up to that time, 310, out of 1379 men.

"BY THE GOVERNOR."—The following notice appears in a Columbia journal: Married, February 4, 1865, at the residence of the bride's father, by his Excellency Governor Magrath, Dr. J. F. Heuser, of Mobile, to Rachel, eldest daughter of J. C. Lyons, Esq., of Columbia.

That's "a new wrinkle," certain.

THE military situation in this department, as far as we may judge from despatches received, is, to say the least, slightly foggy. In other words, we do not see our way clear. Whether Sherman's objective point is Augusta, Charleston, Columbia or Richmond, or all four, does not, to unskilled eyes, yet appear. One thing, however, is certain—that every mile of ground the Federal army leaves behind it, provided the latter is promptly met and attacked at the proper time, is so much gained for us. We have troops—our generals are watchful—and we firmly believe that, within twenty days, there will be such a concentration of strength and assault as will make the Yankee commander tremble for his safety. He may be permitted to move on our railroads and to penetrate our interior, but these triumphs must be short.—The condition of the country will compel him to go forward or back, and that right quickly. If he comes forward, a reception awaits him unlike that which he encountered in his career through Georgia; if he goes to Charleston, he may find himself afflicted in front and rear; if he returns the way he came, that will be just what we all desire him to do, and we shall be content to let him alone.—On the whole, though some hearts are perturbed with expectations of a sudden appearance of the enemy, we think the aspect not discouraging, especially if our people will but do their duty. By all means, wherever Sherman advances, let him find nothing on which to feed man or beast.—Columbia Carolinian, 10th.

FROM WILMINGTON.—The enemy seem to have been amusing themselves this forenoon by way of wasting their ammunition. It is not known precisely where the heavy reports of cannon come from, but it is generally believed they proceeded from the fleet outside, shelling Hoke's lines—merely to annoy his troops.

It is reported that the enemy have succeeded in getting two monitors inside the bar—one is believed to be the Montauk. They lay about three miles below, and out of range of Fort Anderson.—A number of wooden boats are also in the river above Fort Fisher.

The enemy have a garrison at Smithville of about four hundred men.—Wil. Journal, 18th.

FROM NEWBERN.—We are under obligations to a friend who has conferred many similar favors before, (says the Goldsboro Journal,) for a copy of the Northern Times of the 3d inst. There is little of interest in it, though there is something that is instructive. The outside of the sheet is devoted almost exclusively to the publication of Mr Dick's speech in the Legislature. Of that speech the Yankee, Mills Joy, says:

"At the urgent request of a large number of our readers and friends, we give almost our entire out of this issue to the publication of Mr Dick's great speech in the North Carolina Legislature. It will bear reading."

Gen Grant at Morehead City.—The Times, amongst its Beaufort items, has the following: "Lieut. Gen. U. S. Grant honored our harbor with his presence last Saturday. A special train came down from Newbern with General Palmer, the military commandant of North Carolina, who had an interview with 'Unconditional Surrender.' After his interview with Gen. Palmer, Gen. Grant departed."

Fire in Plymouth.—An incendiary fire broke out in Plymouth, N. C., on Saturday last. Some cotton warehouses were consumed, together with about \$10,000 in cotton. Most of it belonged to Mr James C. Stevenson, of Bertie county. No doubt exists of incendiary origin.

NOTICE. All persons having claims against the estate of Joel Alexander, deceased, are notified to present them for payment within the time prescribed by law, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. L. HUNTER, Ex'r. Feb. 6, 1865 4t-pd

Administrator's Notice. As Administrator of Matthew L. Wallace, deceased, I will sell at the residence of Abraham Smith, on Friday the 3d of March, all the unpledged property of the said deceased, consisting of two Horses, a few Cattle and Hogs, &c. All persons indebted to the deceased are requested to settle, and those having claims against him must present them within the time prescribed by law, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. L. HUNTER, Adm'r with the Will annexed. Feb. 6, 1865 4t-pd

NOTICE. Application will be made to A. C. Williamson, Esq., Confederate States Depository at Charlotte, after thirty days notice, for a Duplicate Certificate of the 4 per cent Loan for Twelve Hundred Dollars issued in the name of Mrs. M. P. Robinson, Number 130, dated 1st March, 1864. The original of said Certificate having been lost, all persons are hereby cautioned not to trade for the same. JAMES P. LEAK, of Rockingham, N. C. Feb. 6, 1865. 1u

DIVIDEND NOTICE. The Directors of the North Carolina Military Institute, have this day declared a dividend of Fifteen per Cent on the paid up capital of the Corporation. The same will be paid to the Stockholders in Confederate States Treasury notes on demand, and on presentation of their certificates at the Branch Bank of North Carolina, Charlotte. THOS. W. DEWEY, Sec'y and Treas'r. Feb. 6, 1865 1t

REHOBOTH FURNACE, In Blast. 3 miles north-east of Iron Station, Lincoln co., N. C. The proprietors are prepared to do Casting of all kinds. Address, SHIPP & REINHARDT, Iron P. O., N. C. Dec. 5, 1864. 1t

\$500 REWARD. Ran off from my residence, a mulatto boy named BILL, aged about 22 years, weighs about 150 pounds, and is about 5 feet 7 inches high. Said boy was formerly owned by Mr. Dulac, of Randolph county. Has a black slouch hat, dark frock coat, grayish pants, almost a new pair of shoes; has a good forehead, slim features, no whiskers; has a feminine voice and is slightly stoop-shouldered. Also, said boy is supposed to have \$250 in gold, which was stolen at the time of his leaving, \$50 of which will be paid for his arrest if found on him. P. S.—I am informed that the above named boy went off with some soldiers going to the army near Petersburg. He was formerly a waiter to some army officer. WM. TRELOAR, Charlotte, N. C., Jan. 30, 1865. 2tpd

SALT. 150 Bags King's VIRGINIA SALT for sale. Inquire at ELIAS & COHEN'S, Jan 29, 1865 1u

\$100 REWARD. Ranaway from the residence of A. B. Henderson, on the Catawba River, about the 1st of September, 1864, a negro boy named JIM, the property of J. T. Jones, of Norfolk, Va. Said boy is about 12 or 13 years of age, brown color, very smart and intelligent, and quick to answer when spoken to. He is supposed to have gone off with some cavalry company towards Virginia. A reward of One Hundred Dollars will be paid for his delivery to me in Charlotte, or for his confinement in any Jail in the Confederacy, with notice to me of such confinement, or I will pay half the above sum for any information that will enable me to recover him. ROBT. F. DAVIDSON, Agent of J. T. Jones, Esq., of Norfolk, Va. Charlotte, N. C., Jan. 23, 1865. 6t-pd

Bank of Charlotte, N. C., } January 18, 1865. } This Bank has declared a dividend of three dollars and fifty cents per share, payable to stockholders in notes of the Confederate States treasury on demand. J. J. BLACKWOOD, President. Jan. 23, 1865. 3t

SALT! SALT!! VIRGINIA SALT, In exchange for Bacon, Pork, Corn or Molasses. YOUNG, WRISTON & ORR. Nor 28, 1864 1t

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 the 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, Nov 21, 1864 1t

NOTICE. I have received 150 pairs of Cards, for distribution to the soldiers' families in Wakeletburg county, and will be at the Commissary's office in Charlotte on Monday, 13th inst., and daily thereafter, to attend to their distribution. None need apply except those in needy circumstances, and that use the cards themselves. Those who are not known here must come recommended by the Commissary of the company where they reside. B. W. ALEXANDER, Feb. 13, 1865. 6t

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