

# THE PATRIOT.

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### GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA.

#### THIRD SESSION.

SENATE, WEDNESDAY.—The following bills and resolutions were on first reading:  
A resolution instructing our Senators and Representatives in Congress, to urge the increase of the pay of soldiers.

A bill fixing the first Thursday in August as the day for holding elections for members of Congress.

Mr. Sharpe—A bill to authorize the investment of trust funds in Confederate State securities. Referred.

Mr. Matthews—A bill exempting all who have employed substitutes in the Confederate army from service in Home Guard. Referred.

HOUSE, WEDNESDAY.—Mr. Carpenter—A resolution in regard to comparing the value for a Member of Congress in the 10th Congressional District. (Convenes the Sheriff at Asheville on the 15th day of December to compare the vote and declare the election.) Passed its several readings under a suspension of the rules.

#### BILLS ON FIRST READING.

Mr. McCormick—A bill to amend an act entitled an act for the relief of the wives and families of soldiers in the army. [Provision to appropriate three millions of dollars annually instead of one million—the amount heretofore appropriated for that purpose.] Referred to a select committee and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Brown—A bill to restrict the cultivation of cotton and tobacco. Ordered to be printed.

Mr. Waddell—A bill making Confederate Notes a legal tender for the payment of debts. Referred to Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Russell, of Brunswick—A bill to amend the 34th chapter, section 85 of the Revised Code. Passed on Calendar.

On motion of Mr. Sherwood, that portion of the Governor's Message which relates to the Guard for Home Defence, was referred to the select committee already named on the bills introduced concerning the organization.

SENATE, THURSDAY.—Mr. Warren introduced a bill providing for the punishment of negroes for manslaughter by whipping. Referred. Several persons were nominated for Justices of the Peace for different counties. The nomination for Watauga was referred to the Committee on Finance.

HOUSE, THURSDAY.—The only proceedings of interest in the House on Thursday was in relation to a series of resolutions, introduced by Mr. Avera, asserting the right of the people to meet and consult for the good of the country—denouncing mob violence and military aggression upon the freedom of the press; pledging the State to a firm maintenance of the decisions of its legal tribunals and applauding Gov. Vance for his manly defence of the State Judiciary. They further compliment the army for its gallantry and heroism, and urge a faithful discharge of duty in vigorously prosecuting the war for national independence. They further declare that formal negotiations for peace on the basis of separation from the United States should be instituted by the treaty-making power, and urge our Representatives in Congress to exert themselves to bring about such negotiations. They further recommend proposals from the Confederate authorities in the Federal Congress looking to the holding of a Peace Convention for the adjustment of difficulties, whose action shall be subject to the ratification of the people.

Mr. Avera moved that these resolutions be printed and made the special order for Wednesday next at 11 o'clock A. M.

Mr. Waddell expressed his regret at hearing such a paper read in the House—hoped the resolutions would not be entertained for a moment, and moved their indefinite postponement.

Mr. Allison was not prepared to vote either for their indefinite postponement. They required deliberation. He therefore moved that they lie on the table.

Mr. Allison withdrew his motion at the request of Mr. Grissom, who suggested a reference of the resolutions to a select committee. He said he was not prepared to vote for or against them. Some of them were of doubtful propriety. They involved the most vital interests of the people and the dignity of the State. He again urged a reference to a select committee.

Mr. Avera was willing that they should be referred but was desirous that they should be printed.

Mr. Allison renewed his motion to lay on the table, which motion prevailed.

SENATE, FRIDAY.—Bill by Mr. Graham in relation to the crime of arson.

Mr. Young, a bill to promote the growth of wool; and by Mr. Wright a bill to encourage the raising of sheep and the products of wool.

HOUSE, FRIDAY.—Mr. Sherwood from a select committee, reported "a bill to amend an act in relation to the Militia and a Guard for Home Defence." Passed first reading. Ordered to be printed and made the special order for Monday next at 11 o'clock A. M.

A message was received from His Excellency the Governor, transmitting the Report of the President and Board of Directors of the North Carolina Institution for the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind.

The message also announced the resignation of His Honor Judge Bailey.

On motion of Mr. Sherwood, the message and accompanying documents were sent to the Senate with a proposition to refer the report of the President and Directors of the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind to the joint standing committee on that subject.

A resolution to make public the secret proceedings of the present General Assembly (introduced by Mr. McCormick) was put on its 2d reading. Mr. McCormick moved that the yeas and nays be ordered. Not agreed to. The question recurring the resolution was rejected.

SENATE, SATURDAY.—Mr. Lassiter, from the Committee on Propositions and Grievances, reported back the resolution looking to the release of the pay of soldiers recommending its passage.

Mr. Holeman, from the Committee on Agriculture, reported back "a bill to promote the growth of wool," asking to be discharged from its further consideration.

Mr. Young, from the Military Committee, reported the bill relieving those who have employed substitutes in the Confederate army from service in the Home Guard asking to be discharged from its further consideration.

Mr. Pitchford, from the Committee on the Communication from the legislature of Georgia, reported a resolution authorizing the Governor to appoint, by proclamation, Thursday, the 10th of December, as a day of fasting, humiliation and prayer throughout the State, which under a suspension of the rules, passed its several readings.

A message was received from the House transmitting an engrossed bill to amend an Act entitled "an act for the relief of the banks and the people." (Legalizes their removal in cases of emergency.) Passed its several readings.

A resolution authorizing the Public Treasurer to issue duplicate Coupon Bonds in lieu of those stolen by the enemy from a citizen of Rocky Mount. Referred to the Finance Committee.

Mr. Outlaw introduced a resolution in regard to the per diem and mileage of members of the Assembly. (Establishes the per diem at \$12 and the mileage at thirty cents.) Adopted.

HOUSE, SATURDAY.—The only bills of importance introduced were  
By Mr. Harris of Cabarrus—A bill to provide for establishment of Graded Schools in North Carolina, and for other purposes. Referred to the Committee on Education and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Sherwood—A bill to regulate the fees of Sheriff and Clerks in the County of Guilford. Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. McLae—A resolution of inquiry concerning purchases of cotton and wool cards made by Governor Vance. Adopted.

Mr. Person—A resolution of inquiry concerning the salaries of Clerks and other employees of the several Departments and the officers of the steamer Advance. Adopted.

Mr. Flemming—A bill to amend the Revised Code in regard to the taking of the bonds of Sheriffs and Clerks. Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SENATE, MONDAY.—Mr. Graham, from a select committee, reported a bill in relation to the salaries of public officers, allowing the Judges of the different Courts \$3,000 per annum, Public Treasurer \$3,500, Chief Clerk \$2,000, Assistant \$1,200, Secretary of State \$1,500 and double fees, Comptroller \$2,000, Supl. of Common Schools \$2,000, Private Secretary to Governor \$500 and double fees, Solicitors and Attorney General \$40 for each Court; the several Clerks Auditor of Accounts \$2,000, Librarian \$500; Reporter of Supreme Court \$800, Clerk \$600 and double fees.

HOUSE, MONDAY.—The special order being the bill reported from the select committee, entitled "a bill to amend an act in relation to the Militia and a Guard for Home Defence, was put on its second reading.

Mr. Sherwood moved to amend the first section so as to require drills but once in every three months, instead of monthly drills.

Mr. Harris of Chatham moved to amend the amendment by striking out "three and inserting two," but subsequently withdrew the motion. The question recurring, Messrs. Cobb and Carter opposed the amendment. The latter thought that twelve drills a year were barely sufficient to preserve the Home Guard organization, and this was all the bill proposed. At length but twelve days were demanded of the citizen for the purpose of drill. This requirement was no hardship and would not interfere materially with agricultural or mechanical pursuits.

On motion of Mr. Cowles, a division of the question was ordered. On motion of Mr. Sherwood the yeas and nays were ordered. The House refused to strike out. Yeas 14, nays 60.

Mr. Brown moved to amend by striking out the proviso at the close of the 2d section which prohibits the use of the Home Guard in arresting deserters and recant conscripts beyond the limits of their respective counties. He proposed annulling this proviso because all the deserters might gather in one county and defy the law with impunity.

Mr. McKay opposed the amendment. He thought if it were adopted the farming interest would be injuriously affected. He understood that a force would be organized by the Confederate Government in the several States for the arrest of recant conscripts and deserters which would doubtless be adequate to these purposes.

Mr. Person urged the adoption of the amendment. He said that ample power should be given the Governor to enforce the law and to prevent the escape of conscripts and skulkers from one county to another. The amendment conferred this power, and he for one was willing to trust him with its exercise. He could not think that the Governor would abuse or pervert it.

The question recurring, the amendment was adopted. Yeas 58, nays 32.

Mr. Waddell moved to amend the 3d section, 15th line, by striking out the words "of the counties in which they reside." The effect of this amendment would be to call into service the persons exempted from Home Guard duty whenever the State is invaded.

Mr. Carter opposed the amendment on the ground that its adoption would render all the exemptions nugatory. The State was already invaded, and the invasion was likely to be a permanent one.

Mr. Waddell withdrew the amendment. Mr. Beall offered an amendment authorizing the Governor, in his discretion, to call out the classes exempted in case of invasion or insurrection. Not agreed to.

Mr. Harris, of Cabarrus, moved to amend, by adding to the list of exemptions in Section 3, the word "shoemakers." Not agreed to.

Mr. Craig moved to amend by inserting

after the word "academies" the words "chairman of Common Schools for each county." Not agreed to.

Mr. Russ moved to amend by exempting persons having substitutes in the army over fifty years of age. Not agreed to.

Mr. Henry, of Henderson moved to amend by exempting "all regular tanners," and modified the amendment by adding, at Mr. McKay's suggestion, the words "tanning for the public." The amendment was rejected.

Mr. McCormick moved to amend by exempting "Wardens of the Poor." Not agreed to.

Mr. Wallon moved to amend by exempting "one Salt Commissioner for each county." Not agreed to.

Mr. Kerner moved to amend by exempting "wheel-wrights." Not agreed to.

Mr. Cowles moved to amend by providing that exemptions made in the third section shall be in addition to and exclusive of the exemptions made to the existing law. Adopted.

Mr. Watson moved to amend by adding after the word "employees" in the third section the words "who are not already enrolled in the Confederate service." Not agreed to.

Mr. Shober moved to amend by adding a proviso authorizing further exemptions in the discretion of the Governor. Adopted.

Mr. Love moved to amend by inserting an additional proviso, to wit: That members of the Legislature under forty-five years of age shall not be exempt. Not agreed to.

Mr. Person moved to amend the first section by adding after the words "repel invasion and suppress insurrection" the words "or to execute the laws of the State." Adopted.

Mr. Carter moved to amend 3d section by exempting a public goater in each county. Not agreed to.

Mr. Stancil moved to amend by striking out in 1st section all after the enacting clause—in 2d section all after the word "deserters," and the whole of sections 3 and 5. Not agreed to.

Mr. Grissom moved that the House adjourn. Not agreed to.

Mr. Person moved to amend by adding, at the close of section 6, the words "and shall be under the rules and articles of war of the Confederate States." Not agreed to. The bill then passed its second reading. The proceedings of either House on Tuesday are unimportant.

WHAT THE STARS PROPHECY OF THE WAR.  
A correspondent of the Springfield (Mass.) Republican thus writes of the stars in their relations to the war:  
You published July 30, 1862, a prophecy of the rebellion, calculated by astrology. Many of your readers having forgotten it, some of the essential parts I repeat. Gemini is the ruling sign of this country. America declared her independence when the planet Herschel was in seven degrees of Gemini, and when South Carolina passed the secession act, December 20th, 1860, at 1 P. M., the same planetary influence was existing. Thus the Union has lasted one revolution of that planet around the heavens. Until Herschel passes out of Gemini, peace, as it be fore existed, need not be expected. After that time a more successful state of affairs will exist. The following is a brief compendium of future events during the present year:

After the 20th of October, some exciting news will be received from the vicinity of New Orleans, or some other extremely Southern point. I fear the latter will be unfortunate to the Federal cause. On the 10th of November, a compound junction of Venus, Mercury and the Moon will take place. The remainder of the month will be eventful. Movements are made in many sections, and the Confederacy assumes the aggressive in one particular section, but will eventually be quelled. Some victory to the Federal naval force is described. In December, some distinguished military man will arrive in another world. I hope it will not be General Meade. Both Meade and Foster have evil planetary influences this month. Let them be cautious. Important news from Charleston will be received this month. Also, a movement in the vicinity of Richmond, and in the Southwest by the Confederates. Highly important foreign news will be received at the close of the year.

Our people along the border have had a taste of the treatment they may expect should the Yankees ever succeed in getting possession of the country; and we are not anxious for a further acquaintance with the vandals. When the lamented Woodin fell at the Warm Springs, they stole his watch and stripped off his uniform; and after the second fight at that place, they stripped the clothes from our men who were killed. Before leaving that neighborhood, they robbed all the citizens in that region, carrying off negroes, horses, bed clothing, wearing clothes, table ware, in fact everything portable. Among the heaviest sufferers are Esq. Barnard, Mr. Rumbough at the Springs, Wm. P. Blair, Wm. D. Patton, Mrs. Garrett, Col. John A. Fagg, and G. C. Askew. It is said they did not leave a single horse on Spring Creek.—*Asheville News*.

FROM NEWBERN.—We learn from a source that we consider reliable, that Butler has been to Newbern and returned to Fortress Monroe. He was there two or three days the first of the past week, was feted, serenaded, &c. We learn from a gentleman right up from the lines that the "Beast" has shut down upon all returning to Newbern by our people. He says that they shall not return even though they take the oath. These are pretty hard papers on those outsiders who are so anxious to get back, but we see no help for it. We suppose the best way to get back to Newbern is to organize a force and whip Butler out. Who'll volunteer?—*Progress*.

FROM THE FRONT.—Gen. Vance's forces have been down in Tennessee during the past week. He had a pretty severe skirmish with the enemy, near Parrottville, and two or three wounded. He emptied several Yankee saddles.

Gen. Vance has been helping the Tennessee Unionists to gather their hog crop. Nearly a thousand fat hogs have been driven out. Some of them have passed here, en route to the great Confederate smoke house.—*Asheville News*.

### GEN. D. H. HILL.

It affords us pleasure in being able to place before our readers the annexed letter from the War Department to D. H. Hill, who demanded an inquiry into the cause of his relief from command in the army of Tennessee. Further reference is unnecessary. The letter from Adjutant General Cooper is sufficiently explanatory, and removes every imputation that may have been indulged in by the public or the press:  
ADJ'T. AND INSP'T. GEN'S. OFFICE,  
Richmond, Nov. 20, 1863.

LEUT. GEN. D. H. HILL:

GENERAL.—Your letter, of the 13th inst., requesting that a Court of Inquiry may be ordered to investigate your conduct with the army in Tennessee, has been submitted to the Secretary of War. In reply I am instructed to say that after careful consideration of the subject, there does not appear any adequate cause to justify an order for such Court. No charges have been preferred by your Commanding General or others against you, and no complaint, even of your military conduct, has been addressed to the Department. You have been simply relieved from duty at the request of the Commanding General. Your own military experience will readily satisfy you that the relief of an officer from his command constitutes no ground for a Court of Inquiry, and to allow it to be such could not be prejudicial to the service. Other considerations than those of military delinquency, such as contrariety of views, want of harmony, or the like, may have well induced such application. Indeed, with an officer of your past service and approved gallantry, military delinquency is a presumption not to be indulged by any one, and certainly not in the absence of all charge or complaint sanctioned by the Department. No injustice, therefore, is done you, as certainly no reflection on your well earned military reputation is intended by the Department, in declining, from general considerations for the interest of the service, to grant a Court of Inquiry on your application. Very respectfully, your ob't serv't.

S. COOPER,  
Adj't and Insp. Gen.

LINCOLN'S POWER OF ANALYSIS.—The *Mobile Advertiser* says:—Hanks' power of analysis is confessedly great, but even he finds it impossible to arrive at an ultimate analysis of the elements of the banditry of whom he is chief. In his reply to the committee requesting the removal of Schofield, he shows how near he can come to it—thus: "We are in civil war. In such cases there always is a main question; but in this case that question is a perplexing compound—Union and slavery. It has become a question not of two sides merely, but of at least four sides, even among those who are for the Union, saying nothing of those who are against it. Thus, those who are for the Union without but not with slavery—those for it without but not with—those for it with or without, but prefer it without—and those for it with or without, but prefer it without. Among these again, is a subdivision of those who are for gradual, but not for immediate, and those for immediate, but not for gradual extinction of slavery. It is easy to conceive that all these shades of opinion, and even more, may be sincerely entertained by honest and truthful men. Yet, all being for the Union, by reason of these different ways of sustaining the Union. There are two things in which all his "honest and truthful men" are agreed—lying and stealing. That is the compound, with no perplexity about it, and the analysis would stand thus. Those who prefer to lie—those who prefer to steal—those who prefer to lie and steal both, but had rather lie than steal—those who prefer to lie and steal both, but had rather steal than lie—those who don't care a dime which.

BRILLIANT DETOUR UPON THE ENEMY'S REAR.—The cavalry "arm of the service" in Northern Virginia is again making itself terrible to the enemy. The exploits of Mosby are making up in importance what they lately lacked in number and the accession of the young and dashing Reser to the post of a brigadier is already marked with results which forecast for him a future of distinction. On Friday last, we learn from Gordonsville, Gen. Rosser made a detour upon enemy's rear between the Rappahannock and the Rapid Ann, in the vicinity of Ely's Ford, and captured the large ammunition train, destroyed the greater number of the wagons, and brought off three hundred horses, several of the best wagons and ninety three prisoners. On Thursday the same source informs us, Mosby made a circuit into Culpeper, came upon Meade's headquarters on the railroad, a few miles this side of the court house surprised and captured one of Meade's clerks or aids, burnt the cars, which comprised the headquarters, and brought off a number of yankees, together with a large lot of horses and wagons. It is more than probable that the prisoners were captured by Mosby in Fairfax, and that he burrowed the cars on his return. The prisoners from these raids have arrived in Richmond.—*Enquirer* 30th.

CONSUMPTION OF COAL.—The Washington Union, of the 7th says:  
The quantity of coal required for Government vessels is really incredible. There are three hundred and fifty steamers afloat in the service burning coal. The Ironsides alone burns two tons per hour, forty-eight tons per day, or sixteen thousand tons per annum. One million five hundred thousand tons is the estimated quantity required for this species of the service.

We stated last week that the notorious thief John Mincey, was delivered by the Sheriff of this county to the military authorities for the purpose of being tried as a deserter and murderer. It has since come to light that the man who came here for Mincey were accomplices of his, and forged the order from the Secretary of War. They were dressed in soldiers clothes, and pretended to belong to the Virginia army. By means of the forged order, they procured an order from Gov. Vance for the delivery of Mincey. They and Mincey no doubt belong to a gang of thieves who are going about stealing negroes, horses and pocket-books.—*Charlotte Democrat*.

RESIGNED.—Judge Bailey, one of our best Superior Court Judges, has resigned. The present session of the Legislature therefore, will have to fill the vacancy.

### DANVILLE ITEMS.

From the Appeal.  
DR. JAMES C. GREEN.—We are delighted to learn that this long-imprisoned young surgeon has been released from his confinement at Fort Norfolk and is now in Richmond, having been admitted to exchange in virtue of the recent arrangements for the exchange of surgeons. It will be remembered that Dr. Green was held as a hostage for Dr. Rucker.

DISKASE AMONG THE PRISONERS.—We regret to learn that the smallpox and typhus fever have appeared among the Yankee prisoners here, and that one or more have already died.

SALE OF PATRICK SPRINGS.—Davis & Vaden have sold the "Patrick Springs" property, including the furniture of the establishment to Capt. Wm. H. Werth for \$50,000.

TOBACCO TRADE.—For some time past there has been great activity in the trade of manufactured tobacco, and large numbers of wagons have been employed in transporting the article from this place to Greensboro, to be shipped thence to the Southern markets. There is a lull however at present, the Southern traders probably being unwilling to lay in more supplies until the result of the campaign in Tennessee is known.

ANOTHER INSTALLMENT.—On Monday evening about six hundred more prisoners of war reached this place from Richmond, making the total number now in custody here about twenty-six hundred. We noticed the arrival, a few days ago, of three hundred and eighty beavers, sent to feed the Yankees. The officers in charge of the prisoners say they expect six thousand to be sent to Danville, in all.

Western North Carolina may now be reported clear of the Yankee horde who have lately been seeking so persistently for a permanent foothold in this mountain country. To the untiring vigilance and unquestioned gallantry of Gen. Robt. B. Vance are the people mainly indebted for the happy riddance. No man ever accomplished more with the means at his command.—*Asheville News*.

PRACTICAL DESCRIPTION.—J. M. Hicks, and Haywood Lamb, of Company 1, 22d North Carolina Infantry were sent to the city yesterday from Camp Holmes, near Raleigh, to be tried for frequent desertions. These gallant men have braved the frowns of sundry courts martial and dared the dangers of more than one ignominious death. They have doubtless been put to the last proof if it will be necessary for them to give of their pluck.—*Enquirer*.

For the Patriot.  
HABEAS CORPUS.—CONTINUED.

MESSRS. EDITORS.—In resuming the subject of my last communication I must reiterate my respect for the administrators of the law—both State and Confederate. I cannot however respect any misinterpretation or misapplication of the law, and neither can I respect that facility and eagerness with which our Chief Justice is deciding, almost daily at Richmond Hill and occasionally elsewhere, cases under writs of Habeas Corpus which were used out by persons who are in controversy with the Confederate States, and endeavoring, a very large proportion of them, to evade military service which is assuredly due themselves, as well as our common country in this the hour of her greatest extremity.

I believe nevertheless, the writ of Habeas Corpus, is properly characterized, as "the great writ of right,"—and I believe also that this great writ, is most essential as a means of protection to the people, against actual oppression and tyranny, on the part of reckless and wicked rulers and also against the machinations of their sycophants, captains and emissaries. I shall therefore always sustain the sanctity of the Habeas Corpus, when issued in a proper case, and by the proper authority. As a freeman and a friend of the liberties of my country, I shall always, (under such circumstances) uphold and magnify its consecrated authority and power—without any circumscription of the same.

At the same time, my own observations very recently, have satisfied me, that this writ may be granted, under the forms of law, to persons who have no right whatever to avail themselves of its privileges, and who are neither oppressed, or in any danger of oppression, and in this way, that the inestimable privileges of this writ may be most sadly abused and perverted,—and it may be well, in this connection, to refer to a case lately decided at Richmond Hill, which was carried up under a writ of Habeas Corpus, from my immediate neighborhood, and with which I am therefore somewhat familiar.

A brave and patriotic boy, who was only about fifteen years old proposed to enlist some two years ago under Lieut. Bowdoin of our county, who was a very correct, intelligent and popular officer. But the Lieut. knew well his duty in the premises, as a recruiting officer and being unwilling to treat the parent amiss, or to violate an important and just provision in the army regulations of the Confederate States, promptly informed the manly boy that he could not receive him as a recruit, without the consent of his father, whereupon that consent was very soon granted, and the son entered the service of his country on an equal footing with all other volunteers. But it so happened that the young soldier came home not long since, under a furlough, and presently, it was understood that Judge Pearson would release him from the service under a writ of Habeas Corpus, on account of his age—accordingly the necessary arrangements were made, and the son was carried to Richmond Hill, where an *ex parte* hearing was had, and as the father was prepared to prove, that the son was only about seventeen—Judge Pearson of course found no difficulty in releasing him.

And this case, doubtless only one of many cases of the same sort, which have found favor and an ignoble quietus, before the same jurisdiction—and I must believe (however much I may regret it) that our Chief Justice has either misunderstood his duty, or otherwise fallen very far short of it, in his application of the law in all such cases—and although I am no lawyer, I am still not unwilling to stake my reputation as a man, and as a patriot, on the issue of unsoundness, (so far as all events as this particular case is concerned) both as to the civil and military law,—and in conclusion I think it is high time, that these slipshod decisions of Judge Pearson should be brought in this way, before the bar of public opinion, in order that he may experience something of

the force of that earnest reprobation, which naturally springs at this time, from the lightened and manly patriotic feelings of all delinquents, even though they may occupy the highest judicial positions in the State.

I have now shown pretty clearly as I trust, that the Habeas Corpus has been used, strangely, if not shamefully misapplied and perverted at Richmond Hill, and it so, the impolicy of the issuance and trial of this writ, by any State Judge, where the party applying for it, or seeking a transfer to the Common Government, is fully established,—and if the law, is "a rule of right," based upon the "eternal principles of justice and truth," or otherwise, if the writ is beneficial acting by rule, then the more and much more important position, as to the illegality of this writ, in the premises is also fairly established. Your correspondent will therefore close the discussion of this subject so far as he is concerned. He may however notice hereafter several singular and extra judicial opinions of Judge P. which have been propagated broadcast over the country, by persons, whose proclivities they happened to suit, and who have derived considerable "aid and comfort" in doing so, against the present demands of patriotism, and the duty we owe in this crisis of her fate to our native country.

A CONSERVATIVE OF STOCKS.  
Nov. 20th 1863.

For the Patriot.  
THE CURRENCY.

MESSRS. EDITORS.—Much has been said, and written by the capitalists of the country upon the subject of the currency and they as well as all others, agree that something must be done to save it. The necessity for this is too apparent and generally admitted to require an argument. How this is to be accomplished is a question that seems to have called forth many opinions, most of them I believe from moneyed men. The income tax for January has not been paid in, and although it is not sufficient to reduce the value of the currency to a healthy standard, very few proposals are prepared now to say what it will lack. The farmers have just been called upon to pay one tenth of their produce to the government; and are now required to fatten their hogs out of the remainder of their crops, and pay one tenth of their pork also. This is equivalent to 12 1/2 to 15 per centum of their incomes. Most other incomes being in arrears and consequently pay upon their net earnings only. The very necessities of the country cause appeals to be made to the benevolence of farmers, owners of perhaps any other class of our property, and in most cases they have responded liberally. They are constantly called upon to sell their produce at reduced prices, and many of them do it daily in the most generous cases, and even when they are ruling market prices for their productions, they are compelled to export money for manufactured articles at prices ranging from thirty to one hundred per cent higher than they paid in price there.

Many of our farmers have sons in the army to whom they are compelled to contribute money, clothing and other provisions, and though a "labor of love" it still nothing to their own prices. Very few farmers have accumulated during this war large sums of money—some have. These facts it must be very apparent that a large majority of the farmers are called upon to pay the large money tax and loan; or have they the currency in sufficient quantity to fund to pay those taxes and coupons, and a law requiring other ways to place them at the mercy of capitalist manufacturers and extortioners—a thing always to be deprecated, and one that at this time, as it will paralyze their energies and endanger our prospects of supplies. Something must be done to reduce the value of currency and restore our condition.

I would suggest the following resolutions by Congress as embracing in my opinion the easiest and most acceptable plan, as being least oppressive for relieving the country of its redundant paper currency. Let Congress levy a tax of five per cent upon all the property in the Confederate States to be collected by the first day of April next. Amend the titling law so as to exempt the potato crop so as to leave one tenth, after the hogs are fattened, of the produce of the farm, except cotton, tobacco, whisky and brandy, of which the government should take one half. The farmer afterwards ten per centum of his net profit. And on the first day of July tax him 50 per centum on his bacon, lard, wheat, flour, oats, hay, &c. that he may hold more than a sufficient supply his family until the first day of following January. Tax all incomes above five hundred dollars to five thousand dollars twenty per centum; and all incomes above five thousand dollars fifty per centum. Let the specific tax upon the professions, professional and other pursuits remain. Cause an assessment to be made every ninety days, and collect a tax of five per centum upon all Confederate Treasury Notes, not funded above the sum of five dollars, from the holder, except those who die in the field, and their wives. No man without regard to age or condition, no conscription that may be levied from physical causes he is unfit for, but put him to work in some government workshop, where he may learn a trade. And if a foreigner, not subject military duty, put him in the penitentiary of any State in which one may be found failing to show that he had been regularly assessed to be dealt with as a fraudulent returns. Such laws would force the farmers to sell their surplus. They would heavy taxes, and would force those having large sums of Treasury Notes to give them. For the same reasons they would cause those who have large incomes to give with the government, and the plan of conscription would go far to prevent fraud. Two objects of vital interest to the country would thereby be gained, by turning loose of the supplies of the country, and the absorption of Treasury Notes, which we would feel assured. To accomplish these desirable ends however, Congress must make all the Treasury Notes of equal value, and fundable at 50 per cent. Very respectfully,  
REEDY FORD