

NORTH CAROLINA ARGUS.

This Argus o'er the people's rights doth an eternal vigil keep—
No soothing strain of Mait'son can lull his hundred eyes to sleep.

C. W. FENTON, EDITOR.

WADESBORO', N. C.

THURSDAY:.....MARCH 12, 1863.

THE SABBATH WELL SPENT.

A Sabbath, well spent,
Brings a week of content,
And strength for the toils of to-morrow.

A Sabbath profaned,
Whatsoever is gained,
Is the sure forerunner of sorrow.

Mr. JAMES DUN, of Cribb's Creek, informs us, that he has one hundred and fifty bushels of Corn to sell, but that none other than Volunteers wives and children, can obtain a bushel of it, at any price. The families of Volunteers can procure it at one dollar per bushel, and not one cent more.

Mr. John S. LITTLE, last week, sent to Mr. J. A. Liles, at Lilesville, twenty-five bushels of Meal for distribution among the needy soldiers' families of that district. We are likewise informed that Mr. Little will not sell corn for more than one dollar per bushel, nor meat, for more than twenty cents per pound, to needy soldiers' families in his neighborhood. This is noble. We do begin to hope that enough good men will be found in Anson to save the county from the fate of Sodom.

We are informed that there is not a man in Smith's beat, who will charge the wife of a soldier more than one dollar per bushel for corn.

FAITH AND WORKS.

Inasmuch as faith without works is dead, and inasmuch as we have faith to believe that the gentlemen who have offered to give certain quantities of Corn to the needy families of our soldiers in the field, provided a certain number of others would give a like quantity, are sincere, and not only willing but anxious to perform their part of the bargain, and inasmuch as it has been asserted that these offers were made in the belief and hope that they would not be accepted, and that therefore these gentlemen could afford to be thought generous, at so cheap a rate, and inasmuch as we believe all assertions of the kind to be false and slanderous, we call upon these gentlemen, regardless of what others may do or not do, to come forward and give to the poor the several quantities proposed to be given by them.

In thus acting, they will not only show their faith by their works—but they will be doing good, and saying to others—do as I do, not as I propose to do. Example is better than precept.

There are some men in the South, who are doing more to subjugate the country than the Yankees. The distiller. Though the distillation of grain is prohibited, there are some that are boiling up the corn, regardless of the law. There are some, who do not distil themselves—but get their wives and daughters at the dirty work, thus thinking to escape punishment. Do they not know that the husband is responsible for the wife? We hope they will find it out.

The man who has large cribs of Corn and refuses Confederate money therefor. These men are enemies to the Confederate cause. An exchange says: "What are the poor soldiers' wives to do? we know they have no other kind of money but the Confederate, which their husbands send them, of their small wages, \$11 per month. What will be the consequence if such a state of things be permitted to pass unnoticed? will it not have a bad effect in the army of the South? Who will be content to stay in the army and fight the battles of his country, when he knows that his wife and children are suffering for bread. They will not bear it; they will throw down their arms and come home to the rescue of their families. Shall these men be permitted to hold on to their corn, while these poor women are suffering for bread because they have not gotten the Bank notes to pay for corn? Is there no remedy, we would ask? We think there ought to be.

"To my wife," by a private in Co. B, 31st Reg't, will appear in our next.

There being little or no news this week, which we hope will be appreciated by our readers. See first and fourth pages.

For the Argus.

Has God Sent this War upon Us?

In one sense he has, in the other, that of blame, he has not. In his moral government, God has ordained that certain sequences or results shall follow certain causes. With a nation righteous-ness is followed by exaltation, sin by reproach. No form of Government, no "Constitution" no code of Laws, Monarchical, Democratic or even Theocratic, can sever this connection, or prevent the downfall of a Government or people where sin prevails, especially in the officary and high places. When sin prevails among the rulers and in high places it affects the body generally. Neither Union, nor Secession, neither Confederation nor State Sovereignty, neither a Kingdom of Cotton or Spindles nor any other creature can separate downfall from sin. Though sin be covered with never so many excellent laws, with wealth and "refinement," and though the land be thundered and covered with Statesman's speeches and documents, and though every man be a "patriot," yet all, is but the painting with flesh color the blue skin that covers the mortifying matter and fever beneath, so long as there is sin. The wrath of God points through all this to the sin, just as the needle points through the intervening rubbish to the loadstone beneath.

The Law-Giver has ordained this relation and what he has joined together no man can put asunder. In this sense God has sent the war upon us, i. e. by his decree it follows the condition of its existence—sin.

With the cause, God has nothing to do beyond permission. He permits moral agents to do right or to do wrong. In the former he approves with the promise of good, in the latter he disapproves with the threatening of evil. Setting good and evil thus before men he says "choose," i. e. decide whether you will do right or wrong. If we do right we receive the good, if we do wrong we suffer the evil. The doing right or wrong is for us to determine—the result is of God. As the evil is not suffered unless the wrong is done, and as the wrong does not exist but by man's determination, it follows that man is to blame for the existence of evil. In this view that locates the blame, we have brought this war on ourselves. We are guilty; God is clear. The relation between cause and effect—wrong and evil—is of God. The creation of cause and per consequence of effect, is of man.

But is there no way by which the cause and effect may be severed; the wrong being done may not the evil be avoided. The mercy of God reveals the only way: "At what instant I shall speak concerning a nation and concerning a kingdom to pluck up and to pull down and to destroy it, if that nation against whom I have pronounced turn from their evil, I will repent of the evil that I thought to do unto them." Jeremiah. So did he with the wicked but penitent Ninevites: "And God saw their works that they turned from their evil way, and God repented of the evil that he had said he would do unto them and he did it not." Jonah.

Yet a people may so fill up the cup of their iniquity, that judgment must come, though "Noah, Daniel and Job" were among them. The iniquity of a land may so overwhelm the righteousness in it, that the hot fire-courting odor in its polluting ascension to "the Judge of all the earth," shall suck down the vengeance of God. For such God says "pray not for this people, neither lift up cry nor prayer for them, neither make intercession to me; for I will not hear thee." "The Moses and Samuel stood before me, yet my mind could not be toward this people." What is our condition? Curable, we believe, but not as we are doing. To have remained in the Union would not have saved us. Secession and Co-operation will not do it. Reconstruction will not do it. The lint of King Cotton and the panacea of Queen Quack will all be used on the bruises and sores of our sins, which thereby will be nothing bettered, and which the balm of Gilead alone can cure.

Had I the privilege I would indite for our Confederacy what would have been better as a motto for the once United States—**RIGHTEOUS, we stand, WICKED, we fall.** '94

Our Planters and Farmers hold our liberties in their hands, and a few days or weeks will decide the issue—if they plant largely of bread stuffs, we are safe, if not, we will certainly suffer, and may be undone.

The Yadkin Factory, near Gold Hill, was destroyed by fire on the 27th ult.

We publish below, for the information of all concerned, the Act of the Assembly appropriating one million of dollars for the benefit and use of the wives and families of indigent soldiers, that now are or hereafter may be in the service of the Confederate States. The Raleigh Progress says:

We hope each county will at once appoint a commissioner in accordance with the provisions of the bill, that the money may be received and applied; and let it be honestly applied to the persons for whom intended and not appropriated by those to whom it may be entrusted for distribution, as has been the case in some instances with salt intended for the use of soldiers' families. If there are any honest men left—any not entirely possessed by the demon of speculation—let them be selected for the distribution of this money that the wants of the wives and children of our brave defenders may be relieved as far as possible.

AN ACT for the relief of the Wives and Families of Soldiers in the Army.

SEC. 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, and it is hereby enacted by the same, That the sum of one million dollars be and the same is hereby appropriated to the use and benefit of the wives and families of indigent soldiers, who now are, or may hereafter be in the service of the State, or Confederate States, and all of the wives and families of indigent soldiers who have been or may hereafter be killed or die in the army or service of the country.

SEC. 2. Be it further enacted, That at the earliest practicable time, it shall be the duty of the Chairman of each County to notify the justices of his county to meet in the Court House, for the purpose of electing some person, to be styled a county Commissioner, a majority of the Magistrates being present.

SEC. 3. Be it further enacted, That the sum of one million dollars, as aforesaid, be equally divided amongst the several counties of the State according to the white population, to be ascertained by the census of 1860.

SEC. 4. Be it further enacted, That as soon as the Commissioner aforesaid, shall be elected and enter into bond with approved security, by the Court, it shall, and may be lawful for the Treasurer of the State to pay said Commissioner the amount due his county, of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, and the Treasurer shall be allowed for the same in the settlement of his accounts.

SEC. 5. Be it further enacted, That at the Court and at the time of the appointment of the County Commissioner, it shall be the duty of the Court to direct and establish such rules and regulations in the division and distribution of the money appropriated to the use and benefit of the wives and families of the indigent soldiers as to afford the greatest relief and comfort to them, whether the same shall be paid them in the whole, or in part, in cash or provisions, with power to purchase or receive produce or provisions of any kind from the State, in lieu of money, or such amount as the Court shall from time to time prescribe.

SEC. 6. Be it further enacted, That all counties that are or may be in the possession of the enemy shall receive the amount that they may be entitled to under the provisions of this act in North Carolina Treasury notes, and that the said counties shall receive the money direct from the Treasurer of the State without being subjected to the provisions of the bill in regard to the action of the justices, the said amount of money to be paid to the County Trustees of said Counties, and to be by them distributed according to the provisions of this bill. The said Trustees giving bond to the State in double the amount received by them to be distributed.

SEC. 7. Be it further enacted, That this Act shall be in force from and after its passage.

Read three times and ratified in General Assembly this 10th day of February, A. D. 1863.

R. S. DONNELL, S. H. C.

GILES MEBANE, S. S.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Office of Secretary of State:

I, Jno. P. H. RUSS, Secretary of State in and for North Carolina, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the original on file in this office. Given under my hand this 6th day of March, 1863.

JNO. P. H. RUSS, Secretary of State.

An army correspondent of a Northern paper says that the following interesting scene took place in the army of the Potomac not long since. A chaplain wanted a horse, and without much ceremony took one belonging to a Virginia farmer, but his possession of the property was very brief, as the following conversation shows: The chaplain rode into the presence of his superior officer, and was asked where he got that horse? The chaplain says, "Down on the road there." The officer remarked, "You had better take him back again." The chaplain says, "why Jesus Christ, when he was on earth, took an ass from his owner whereon to ride into Jerusalem." The officer replied, "You are not Jesus Christ; that is not an ass; you are not on your way to Jerusalem, and the sooner you restore that horse to his owner, the better it will be for you."

In consequence of the "dead-shot" apple brandy manufactured in these squally times, we understand the Life Insurance Companies refuse to insure the life of any individual who is in the habit of taking "occasional" toddies.

The Vicksburg Whig states on what it considers good authority that Gen. Magruder has captured the Yankee man-of-war *Isopoklyn*.

Last week 165 conscripts were enrolled in Forsyth county.

DEATH IN THE STAGE.—Alexander Nifong, a sick soldier returning from the army, died in the stage between High Point and Salem, on Thursday morning last.

A correspondent writes us from Burke County that some men, who profess to be soldiers from the army are going through that County with their poor horses from house to house, taking all the corn they can find and leaving the soldiers' wives and children to suffer. It seems that hundreds of broken down cavalry horses have been sent to this State to be fed. We have heard of them before, leaving their desolating trail through various Western Counties. It would be better to give them away or shoot them, than to deprive the people of corn to feed them. Our correspondent says that if this thing is not speedily stopped "many a poor soldier will die the awful death of hunger." We are sure that Gov. Vance will do all he can to remedy the evil complained of.—*Standard*.

OFFICIAL FROM GEN. BRAGG—GEN. VAN DORN'S VICTORY.

CHATTANOOGA, March 6.—The following official dispatch of Gen. Van Dorn's late engagement has been received. The fight took place at Thompson's Station and not at Franklin, the enemy making the attack: "TULLAHOMA, March 6.—To Col. B. S. Swift: The enemy attacked Van Dorn yesterday at Thompson's Station, between Columbia and Franklin. He drove them back handsomely, and captured five regiments of infantry—twenty-two hundred officers and men. Our loss is not yet reported. (Signed) BRAXTON BRAGG."

THE INDIANOLA NOT BLOWN UP—OFFICIAL FROM GENERAL PEMBERTON.

RICHMOND, March 6.—The following official dispatch was received to-day: JACKSON, Miss., March 5.—To Gen. S. Cooper: General Stevenson, Commanding at Vicksburg, telegraphs, March 4th, as follows: "The *Indianola* is not destroyed. We are at work to raise her. One eleven inch gun was burst. The others are not injured." (Signed) J. C. PEMBERTON, Lieutenant General.

We have the following additional details in a dispatch from Maj. C. S. Severson, a gallant officer and perfectly reliable source of information. It was received at 6 o'clock last evening.

COLUMBIA, March 6.—Generals Forrest and Van Dorn yesterday had an engagement near Franklin. Gen. Van Dorn brought on the fight in front, Gen. Forrest flanked in their rear, capturing twenty-three hundred prisoners, and twenty-five hundred small arms. Forrest after capturing the prisoners pursued the enemy, who at last accounts were in full retreat. The prisoners arrived here last night. Our loss small. Maj. C. S. SEVERSON, A. Q. M. Gen. Forrest's Staff.

The morale of this fight is very considerable. It checks the advance of the enemy in an important direction. It encourages a large body of fresh troops, who were engaged on our side; and it has scattered an entire division of Rosecrans' army. Three rousing cheers for Van Dorn and Forrest! (*Chattanooga Daily Rebel*).

The Washington Chronicle, of the 3d instant, says the Government is a heavy loser by the destruction of the ship *Jacob Bell*, as her duties would have amounted to \$175,000.

The London Times says: "It is clear that the blockade of Charleston was not raised at the time of the attack by Commodore Ingraham on the Federal fleet and that there was not even an intermission of it."

The London Post takes a similar view. The Liverpool Post announces the arrival of the Confederate steamer *Sumter* in the Mersey.

CARGO OF THE JACOB BELL—ACTION OF THE KENTUCKY LEGISLATURE.

RICHMOND, March 6.—The ship *Jacob Bell* had a cargo of twenty-two thousand packages of tea, twenty-five thousand rolls of matting, five thousand boxes of fire crackers, four hundred boxes of fans, eight thousand mats of cassia, and two hundred and ten boxes of camphor, the whole valued at over a million of dollars. The *Florida* burned the vessel and transferred the passengers and crew to a Danish vessel, which conveyed them to St. Thomas.

The Kentucky House of Representatives have adopted thirteen resolutions, reported from the Committee on Foreign Relations.

The second resolution re-affirms the loyalty of Kentucky to the Government; the third recognizes a marked difference between the Government and the Administration; the tenth recommends a National Convention to propose amendments to the Constitution; the eleventh recommends a Mississippi Valley Convention with the view of consulting how to preserve the whole Government and preventing one or more States from seizing the mouth of the Mississippi; the twelfth declares that the laws of the State must be maintained and enforced. The Senate will probably concur.

The North Carolina Soldiers.

One of the Northern newspaper correspondents, who professes to be booked up upon matters and things in the South undertakes to assert that the gallant soldiers of North Carolina are suspected of being less loyal to the Southern cause than the soldiers of other Southern States, and to have some secret hankerings after the old Yankee Union.

This is only a Yankee libel. Its motive is as manifest as its malice, and it can impose upon no one but the half knaves and half fools by whom it was invented. It is part and parcel of an insidious scheme which the Yankees have long been laboring at, to sow the seeds of jealousy and distrust in the minds of a portion of our people, and to distract and divide by these acts those whom they cannot conquer by their arms. They pay a sorry compliment to the intelligence of North Carolina when they expect to deceive them by such shallow artifices, and reflect still more grossly upon their magnanimity and patriotism. We profess to be as well informed at least as any Yankee newspaper upon men and things in the South, and it is news to us that the soldiers of North Carolina, or of any other Southern State, are looked upon with distrust and jealousy by their Southern compatriots. On the contrary, we have never heard but one voice, and that of unqualified and enthusiastic admiration, of the sacrifices and heroism which North Carolina has manifested in this war. From the field of Bethel to the battle of Fredericksburg the soldiers of North Carolina have stood in the front ranks, and reaped laurels as bright and imperishable as ever crowned human brows. In saying this we give utterance to the unanimous opinion of their gallant brethren in arms, and of the whole Southern community. It would suit the base cunning of the Yankees to alienate North Carolina, if they could, by making her believe that she is not appreciated by other Southern States, but sensible people cannot be imposed upon by such shallow trickery. They will ask why North Carolina should be look-