NORTH CAROLINA ARGUS.

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

C. W. FENTON, Editor.

WADESBORO', N. C.

THURSDAY.....NOVEMBER 12, 1863

☞ We have seldom been more gratified than we were on Sabbath morning last, Rev. T. A. Ware, Agent of the Soldiers' Tract Association, visited this place and preached in the Methodist Church, from the words "Godliness, with contentment, is great gain." Would we could write out his sermon, that all might read it, for he most conclusively showed that godliness was a great gain in a wordly point of view, to say nothing of the inconceivably greater gain in a world to come. His mission here was in behalf of the Association which has for its object the printing and dissemination among the soldiers of religious literature especially religious newspapers, which have accomplished so much good in our armies. He contrasted the condition of our fore-fathers in the first revolution with that of their children in the second war of independence, and, certainly, no one acquainted with the facts, can have a doubt of the vastly superior condition of the latter over the former, nor can he entertain a doubt of the certainty of the ultimate complete triumph of the Confederate arms over the forces of their implacable enemy, their trust being, as was their father's, in the arm of the God of battles. His illustrations of the object of his mission were simple, beautiful, powerful, affecting to tears many of his auditors. We are proud to say that his mission among us was eminently successful—the collection amounting to $1204 00.

THE ELECTION.

Anson—Ashe 378; Christian 79.

The Raleigh Progress of the 7th, says that Turner's majority in Wake, Orange and Granville is 1,63 while the vote in Warren is reported to be 440 for Arrington and 52 for Turner, leaving Nash and Franklin to hear from. This renders Turner's election certain by a majority ranging from 500 to 1000.

In the 3d District it is thought that Leach is elected, in fact gentlemen up from Goldsboro' yesterday inform us that the friends of the other aspirants, at that place, had given it up. As far as heard from the vote stands, between Leach and McRae, 1,542 to 860—a majority of 682 for Leach, and Duplin, Sampson and Craven to hear from, besides, probably, some scattering votes yet to be received from the army. We received the following special dispatch from Goldsboro' yesterday:

Goldsboro', Nov. 6.—Sampson county is reported to have given a majority for Leach. Jones gives Leach 17 and McRae 9. Leach's majority in Johnston, including army vote, is out eight hundred. Nothing from Onslow.

If Sampson has gone for Leach there can be no kind of doubt about his election, the contest being between him and McRae. Devane and Faison have received some votes but are far behind the other two.

The returns from other Districts come in slowly. We have appealed to our friends to send us the returns but even from the adjoining counties from which we expected returns by mail before this time, we have nothing.

In the 7th Christian is thought to be elected, but we have received but few returns from that District. The vote at Pittsboro' was 99 for Ashe and 87 for Christian.

Gilmer, having no opposition, is certainly elected in the 6th while there is scarcely a doubt about the election of Fuller in the 4th.

In the 8th the contest will be close between Ramsey and Lander. The former leads the latter several hundred, but there is three counties to hear from, which counties are expected to give Lander a majority.

The 2d District is in doubt. Yellowley beats Bridgers in Lenoir and Green, but Pitt, Edgecombe, Halifax and Wilson are to hear from.

P. S.—Since the above was in type we have learned that Wilson had gone for Yellowly by a small majority; the 47th Regiment gives Turner 198 and Arrington 40, and the official vote of Union county, including army vote, gives Ramsey 321 and Lander 270.

"HE LEFT A VERY LARGE PROPERTY."

This is the closing sentence of a recent obituary, says an Exchange, and it suggests some reflections:

What a pity he was obliged to leave it! He had taken great delight in accumulating it. As he added field to field, farm to farm, he looked with pride upon his extended domain; conscious that he was the largest land holder in his county. His cattle, if not wandering upon a thousand hills, ranged over more than that number of acres of rich pasturage. Stocks, notes, bonds, mortgages crowded his safe. And it was the fruit of his own industry, energy and good judgment. The rust of usury and the canker of extortion had not spotted any of his gold. It was well and fairly earned, and he loved it all the more because it was so. It grieved him to leave his large property, to depart from the world as poor as he came into it, and to enter the other world utterly destitute of the wealth he so much loved in this. But he had to leave every cent of it.

He might have taken it with him. Rather let us say, he might have sent it forward in advance of him. As the capitalist who contemplates moving to a foreign country, converts his property into drafts, and remits from time to time to the land of his future residence, so he might have made remittance to that undiscovered country; so that on his arrival there, he would find abundant treasures laid up in Heaven for him.

Every dollar which he had given—consecrating it with sincere prayer—to assist in carrying the glad tidings of salvation to the ends of the earth—every contribution in aid of the many christian enterprises for the glory of God and the good of man—every cup of cold water given to a disciple in the name of a disciple—every tear of a pious sympathy for the suffering—every gift of kindly charity to the needy—would have added to the store of his durable riches. He might have been rich towards God, and a joint-heir with Jesus Christ to an inheritance incorruptible, undefiled, and that fadeth not away. If it was sad for him to leave that large property, how much sadder that he sent none before him?

It is much more pleasant to go to, than to leave a large property. The man who, poor in this world's goods, but rich in faith, closes his eyes upon this life, goes to take possession of a large property. He owned not a foot of land on earth; but for him, "sweet fields beyond the flood stand dressed in living green." His food here was coarse, perhaps, scanty; but there he will eat freely from the tree of life which yields twelve manner of fruits. His garments were plain and poor; but there he shall be clothed in white robes washed and made white in the blood of the Lamb. He associates here with those who are despised and rejected of men; but there his companions will be an innumerable company of angels and the general assembly and Church of the first born! Who would not rather go to a large property than leave it?

☞ We are informed that six women, the wives of soldiers, from the Lilesville beat, having tried in vain to purchase corn, proceeded to Benaum's mill, and not finding anything there for sale, took possession, each, of a sack of flour, put them into a cart and drove off, leaving thirty dollars, ($5 each) to pay the damage.

General Thomas sends the following official bulletin:

CHATTANOOGA, October 29.—*To General Halleck:*—In a fight lasting all day the enemy attacked Gary's division, posted at Wahatchie, on three sides, broke his camp at one point, but was driven back in gallant style by a portion of his force, the remainder being held in reserve. Howard, while marching to Gary's relief, was attacked in the flank by the enemy occupying in force two commands of the hill near the left of the road. He immediately threw forward two of his regiments and took both positions at the point of the bayonet, driving the enemy from his breastworks and across Lookout Creek. In this brilliant success every one of the officers and soldiers of the 11th and 12th corps is entitled to the highest praise.

(Signed) GEO. THOMAS,
Major General.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT.—*Atlanta, Ga., October 29, 1863.—Lieut. Gen. L. Polk, Atlanta, Ga.—General:*—After an examination into the causes and circumstances attending your being relieved from command with the army commanded by Gen. Bragg, I have arrived at the conclusion that there is nothing to justify a Court Martial or Court of Inquiry, and I therefore dismiss the application.

Your appointment to a new field of duty, alike important and difficult, is the best evidence of my appreciation of your past service, and expectation of your future career.

I am, very truly and respectfully yours,
JEFFERSON DAVIS.

☞ We are authorized by Mr. Lamar to say that the invitation of the members of Congress, to the Rock Convention, was intended for the members of the present, as well as those elected to the next Congress.

Editors of other papers please notice this and strike the word elect out of the notice.—*Sparta and News.*

President Davis has a very contemptible opinion of extortioners and those who owe, but dodge, military duty. "If I were a young girl," said he, in a late speech and wanted to marry, I would rather lean upon the empty sleeve of a soldier who had lost an arm in battle than upon the mitten or arm of him who stayed at home and grew fat."

SACRIFICE FOR LIBERTY.

'Tis ever more the same! The generous seed
Demands the brave shall fall—the noble bleed.
Yet, later days the examples which they leave,
The living should avenge their, and not grieve!
Their blood prepares the soil for Freedom's tree,
And hallows all that's dear to Liberty.
Honor and great renown attend the brave,
Who die that homes and father land to save.
Their children flourish in an honored name;
And triumph nobly in a father's fame.
But keen the pang when woman sells the prey,
To pass as fodder than the wish to slay.
And keener gain to freedom when she dies,
Stricken on the hearth, the last, best sacrifice!

Send your little child to bed happy. Whatever cares press, give it a warm good night kiss as it lays its pillow. The memory of this, in the stormy years which fate may have in store for the little one, will be like Bethlehem's star to the bewildered shepherds.

For the Argus.

REFORM.

Mr. Editor:—In my recent trips over a tolerably wide scope of country, I have heard many things as to the causes of the present high prices, and their tendency to go still higher. It has been asserted that the true cause was the redundancy of Confederate issues, and the want of confidence of the people in the Government ability to redeem these issues. This may be to some extent, the cause, but it is not the true cause. One of the causes begun in the Government's allowing, in the first place *substitutes in the army*. The great majority of the men who employed substitutes, finding themselves out of pocket to the amount they paid for substitutes, resorted to speculation in articles not at first considered actual necessaries of life, to reimburse them to the amount they had paid for their substitutes; and high prices in one class of articles led to an advance in others, eventually ending in speculation in all. Another class, joining issue with the parties who put in substitutes, and who have helped to bring about this state of affairs, is the great body of those who have paid out of the service under the Quaker, and other exemptions of that class, who think that they, too, have the right to draw out of the people the amount they have been obliged to pay to buy themselves and one or more members of their families out. The "physically exempt," belonging especially to the agricultural portion of the population, were no way behind these classes. They had not the same excuses for exacting high prices, but they did not want to be behind anybody else in making money. Another class is the great body of manufacturers in the country. Seemingly and at first sight the clause in the exemption act of April 21, 1862, allowing them but 75 per cent. is a fair profit for them. Perhaps it would have been if prices had been allowed to remain where they were when the act passed. But soon discovering while the law could be turned to their advantage, they were content to let the prices of everything they had to use rise very high—the higher the better for them. The larger the amount they have to pay for any article necessary to carry on their business, the greater, in the aggregate, their profits must be. Another class helping to swell prices to the highest figure, are the men over forty five who have to give a portion of their produce to government as tithes. They consider that what they have to give to the government is a dead loss to them unless they can make it up out of what they may have to sell, after the government gets its portion, out of the non cultivation or non production. In all these classes and causes combined, I consider, will be found the reasons for the present high prices in everything. There is no scarcity in the country, even of general things of agricultural products. In some few isolated spots the crops are bad—but they are not of such an extent as to affect the general crop, and to give excuse for an advantage on that score.

The remedy for the evils under which we are labouring lies in the power of the government. In the first place let Congress abolish the substitute business, and repeal the [illegible] clause of the exemption act. Next put all men up to sixty years of age, under the operations of the conscript act. Next establish an Assessor and a board for each district or county, something similar to the board at present acting under the impressment law, who shall fix the rate at which every thing manufactured or produced in the country shall be sold; allow the men from 45 to 60 to be looked upon, in a military point of view, as a great body of reserves who shall with all others be permitted to remain at home to manufacture or cultivate the soil so long as they will sell at the rates fixed by the Assessors; but let the first infringement be punished by sending the guilty party into the army. Require the great body of the physically exempt owning property over a certain amount to pay a tax to the government, as the Quakers do; for many of them, while unable to do military service, can superintend and labor on farms, and in workshops and factories as well as many able bodied men.

TROY.

For the Argus.

A REVIEW.

Mr. Editor:—One day last week the wives of six soldiers in the neighborhood of Lilesville went to Mr. Beaudin's mill, and helped themselves to six bags of flour, (five lbs. each) leaving $5 each in payment. Who can blame them? They had tried in vain to buy corn and wheat from the rich farmers around—the piteous wails of their suffering little ones were ringing in their ears as well as painful sights and shivering limbs they innocently wondered why "father did not come home," whenever for bread. God keep them! But this is only the beginning, Mr. Editor, and without an alteration (radical) of a similar nature may be looked for all around us. I speak what I know—soldiers' families are suffering, not only for provisions but for shoes, clothing, &c. Goaded to desperation by this state of things, and the neglect of those who are able to relieve them, "bread or blood" may be their cry.

Then may the merciless, grasping, avaricious, miserly man, who now turns a deaf ear to the appeals of our soldiers' suffering families, call upon the hills and mount to fall upon and hide him. The plea of weak woman ruling all this may provoke a smile, but she can get her pound of flesh, and will get it, if from no other source.

Last Sunday evening, while the cold November blast whistled roughly by, a soldier's wife, *barefoot*, was trying to cut wood near the road along which, warmly, may be called, flounced the negroes of a rich speculator, for a large property her husband was fighting. Five cents, rich man, he gave in change to last him two years—yet a tax pock will be paid! This is only one case of many. "But," says somebody, "we have a Congress and Conscript Office to distribute it." Surely *they* are to blame! Yes and I say the whole Congressional and with a Conscript damn, and I can prove it, but have not time now. *Shall they have to be done with it quickly!* In the meantime, the women start out on another tour, and what to do, they know not.

ME.

P. S.—The last part of the story I had almost forgotten. Some of the flour belonged to original secession, to some of men in South Carolinian who I know [illegible] "rangers." Keep [illegible] "no war" [illegible] the men that are fed and drink all the blood shed, &c., &c.

"You heard

Me."

For the North Carolina Argus.

Wadesboro', N. C., Nov. 6, 1863.

Mr. Editor: As information has reached me that reports prejudicial to Lieut. S. W. Ellerbe's reputation, are in circulation in the county, relative to his behavior during the engagements around Gettysburg, I deem it but justice to all interested, to give an unvarnished account of the affair, so far as he is concerned, and let the public mind unbiassed decide for itself. I therefore respectfully ask for a small corner of the Argus, feeling sure that you are ever ready to see justice given to all. Early in the morning of the 1st of July when but few, if any of us anticipated an engagement with the foe that day, Lieut. Ellerbe reported to me his inability to march in his proper position in the regiment, owing to the condition of his feet, which were, at that time, almost bare, and considerably bruised and blistered. I immediately recommended him to fall back and report to the surgeon, which he did, and was informed by Dr Brewer (as he has since told me) that every ambulance and wagon was already crowded and overloaded and therefore he could offer him no place to ride, but encouraged him to try and keep up with the brigade without hobbling to keep his place in the line—this the Lieut. did, as the column was moving quite slowly, until we were within about four or five miles of Gettysburg. Orders were then received for the brigade to hurry forward, and the occasional roar of the artillery in advance of us, gave us to understand that there was work ahead. The brigade started off at quick time, and often double quick, and Lieut. Ellerbe was left, and did not overtake us until late in the evening, after the brigade had bivouacked for the night. He was therefore not in the battle of the first day, but was at this post from the night of the 1st up to the morning of the 3rd day. He was with the Company during the terrific cannonade and shell that swept over and around them with but little intermission during the entire day of the 2nd, and was also with us, (he being the only Lieut. I have with me, Lt. Threadgill and Polk both being disabled one from sickness—the other from an injury from a piece of shell, received the first day,) when we assaulted in the night attack on the enemy's position. During that ordeal, which was well calculated to try men's souls, and to expose any cowardice a man might harbor, let it be ever so latent or deeply concealed, Lt. Ellerbe showed no disposition to waver, but, with his face to the foe, seemed cheerfully to leave the issue with his Maker. The morning of the third found him at his post, and during our march to the rear of the mountain on which the enemy had taken position, he relieved me of the command of the company for a few minutes, until I could get out a dose and get some medicine to temporarily check the disease, with which I was then suffering, and from which I am now recovering. When within something less than a mile of the enemy's batteries, they unexpectedly opened upon us, the column halted to let them have a pass to the rear, during the halt, Lt. Ellerbe and a few other officers, owing to the fury with which we were being shelled, took shelter behind a large rock that was convenient and when the brigade moved forward, which was almost at a double-quick, he was again left, not being able to keep up. He therefore went back to the wagons, and the next day, when they were sent towards the Potomac, Lt. E. went back with them, and I did not again see him until I met with him in Richmond, just before my return home. This, Mr. Editor, is a short, but true statement of the whole affair, and it is for an unprejudiced public to say whether the fact of Lt. Ellerbe's almost bare feet being unable to withstand the hard rocks of a McAdamized turnpike was his misfortune or his fault—at any rate, whether or not they consider it a test of his bravery—I, for one, take pleasure in stating that my opinion of Lt. Ellerbe's courage is not changed, and I am further requested by Lt. Threadgill to make the same statement for him, and trusting that Lt. Ellerbe will receive full justice at the hands of the public generally,

I am very respectfully,
R. T. BALL, Capt Co. I,
43d Regt. N. C. Troops.

THE BIBLE AND SCIENCE.—Lieut. Maury, at the laying of the corner stone of the University of the South (which by the way, was set on foot by Bishop, now Lieut. General Polk) said:

I have been blamed by men of science, both in this country and England, for quoting the Bible in confirmation of the doctrine of physical geography. The Bible, they say, was not written for scientific purposes, and is therefore of no authority. I beg pardon; the Bible is authority for everything it touches. What would you think of the historian who should refuse to consult the historical facts of the Bible because the Bible was not written for the purpose of history. The Bible is true, and science is true; and when your man of science, with vain and hasty conceit, announces the discovery of a disagreement between them, rely upon it, the fault is not with the Witness of his records, but with the "worm" who essays to interpret evidence which he does not understand.

When I pioneer in one department of this beautiful science, discover the truths of revelation and see they reflecting light upon each other, and each sustaining the other, how can I, as a truth-loving, knowledge-seeking man, fail to point out the beauty, and rejoice in its discovery? and were I to suppress the enthusiasm with which such discoveries ought to stir the soul, the waves of the sea would lift up their voice, and the very stones of the earth would cry out against me.

As a student of physical geography, I regard the earth, sea, air and water, pieces of mechanism, not made with hands, but to which nevertheless, certain offices have been assigned in the terrestrial economy. It is good and profitable to seek to find out these offices, and point them to our fellows. And when after patient research, I am led to the discovery of any one of them, I feel with the astronomer of old, as though I had "thought one of God's thoughts, and to make

CHATTANOOGA.

The eyes of the Confederacy are now turned to the hostile forces drawn up in line of battle before Chattanooga, and we doubt not but within a few days one of the most desperate conflicts of the war will take place between Bragg and Thomas. President Davis has recently been to the camps of our veterans, has counselled with our commanding General, and assured himself, as he tells the country, that all is well, and that we may look for a great victory when the hour of trial comes. The armies are in motion and we shall not have many days to wait.—*Progress.*

EDUCATION.—Wm. S. Mann, Esq., recently deceased, left a legacy of $2,000 to Richmond College, of $2,000 to the University of Virginia, and of $2,000 to the Virginia Military Institute.