NORTH CAROLINA ARGUS.

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

44.] C. W. FENTON, EDITOR. [256.

WADESBORO', N. C.

THURSDAY.....NOVEMBER 19, 1863.

☞ The Right Rev. Bishop Atkinson will preach in the Episcopal Church on Wednesday evening, the 18th inst., at candle lighting.

☞ On Sabbath next, the Lord permitting, the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be administered in Lebanon (Presbyterian) Church, Rev. Mr. Veitch—known as the Mineral Spring Church.

☞ Look to your Smoke-Houses and Corn-Cribs. Look to your pigs and sheep. Thieves are abroad. Some white niggers, who ought to be in the army, assisted by black niggers, are prowling about at night, the one party to steal, the other to receive and hide the proceeds. Look sharp. Shoot some of the rascals as a warning to others.

☞ STRAY SHEEP.—Two sheep escaped from Alex. Robinson. They are abroad. One of them had a piece of rope attached to one of his legs—that one belongs to the *Argus*. Please return them both—especially the *Argus* one.

☞ We have been informed that there was no necessity for the action of those women of Lilesville, who lately took possession of six sacks of flour at Baucum's mill, leaving $5 each, as compensation therefor. We have been further informed that even if the necessity existed, the act of seizure was not the, for that, had they made known their wants in the proper quarter, they would have been promptly relieved. We fear these women have done themselves injury in the estimation of the public, especially of those who have heretofore been most prompt in giving liberally of their substance to make them comfortable. To aid the families of soldiers, and to prevent their suffering, we will do all that is in our power, nor shall we blame them, if provisions can be procured in no other way, *if they help themselves*. It is the duty of those who promised that they should be taken care of when their husbands went to the war, to see that they have all needful assistance, and, we repeat, if *they* neglect a duty so sacred in consideration of the tremendous sacrifice of comforts, health and life of the natural guardians and supporters of these families, then, we say, they have a right to help themselves. But that time has not yet come, and we believe, never will come, in Anson, for there has been no lack of disposition or will, on the part of the authorities to do for them, and there are others, whom we could name, and more whom we know not, who are constantly doing something for their comfort. There are others, whom we might name, who though possessing the ability, have done nothing, and *will* do nothing, unless they are compelled. Some, too, who have no sons in the army, who were rich *before* the war, and have made themselves much richer since the war began, by the meanest kind of niggardliness and avaricious grasping and hoarding, and who now boast that they have as much Confederate money as they want, and will sell their produce only for gold or silver—whose barns are full and whose smoke-houses are stuffed to repletion—these are the men, (if any) who should be waited upon, and politely *compelled* to do their duty to the common weal, in case of necessity.

The Magistrates of the County, at a meeting held on the 10th, resolved as follows:

"That in the opinion of the Justices present, some public action should be specially taken to make provision for the pressing wants of the poor of this county, and that they believe the most practicable method is to obtain a commutation of the tax in kind, as to corn due from the citizens of said county at such rates as the Secretary of War may think just, and that S. W. Cole, the Chairman of the County Court of Anson, be authorized and requested to address the Secretary of War on the subject, and forward to him a copy of this resolution.

Resolved, That Jas. L. Lock be requested to advance to any Commissioner who may require it, such an amount as he may need to supply the allowance made to soldiers' families in his district during each month.

We know not to whom the flour belonged which was taken from Mr. Baucum, but we know that the loss will fall upon him, and we know that he and one other individual who had flour at his mill, and which was taken, have done their whole duty to soldiers' families and the poor generally, and that had either or both of these gentlemen been applied to, they would have freely given relief, had it been necessary. Fact is, there are some people which it is impossible to satisfy, who hesitate not to resort to means which do not justify the end. For instance, we are informed that certain women of this beat, some time ago, made application to a gentleman of another beat for assistance, stating that they were in a suffering condition—that they had been denied assistance at home, and were compelled to apply to him. He immediately gave them all they asked and sent them away. On inquiry, however, he found that he had been deceived—that these women had not been denied, but that they had gone with the same complaint to two other individuals of different beats, and had obtained aid from each, though they had plenty at home. Now this sort of conduct is wrong and will operate not only to the injury of the parties but it will be detrimental to others who are doing the best they can and are trying to help themselves, and who find it unnecessary to resort to deceit to obtain anything they need. Now, it is a fact, that the relief extended to these families, and also to the poor generally, outside of County and State Appropriations, falls upon the generous and noble souls, who sell to them provisions at low prices, and give when necessary. There are many who will neither *sell* nor *give*. There are others who will *sell* at the *highest* prices, and there are others still who have no corn or meat to sell, to soldiers' families, who sell by the hundred bushels or pounds to speculators, or send it off to foreign markets, where they can obtain the highest prices. Our opinion has always been that those who *can* do and will *not* do, should be *made* to do, and that the proper authorities should authorize, in case of necessity, the *pressing* of the produce of such people, at Government prices to be sold to these families at cost.

We cite the people of North Carolina to the noble example of their sister State, South Carolina, and urge them to imitate an example so worthy.

THE RIGHT SPIRIT.—Throughout South Carolina a rule is very generally observed which is worthy of imitation. Soldiers' families are supported by the several counties, but when they purchase corn, the invariable price to them is only one dollar per bushel.

This is the "right spirit." The man who refuses, having the means, to aid, to the extent of his ability, the wives and children of the men who are fighting for their homes and firesides, is not worthy to enjoy freedom—nay, he cannot enjoy it. His soul is too infinitesimally small to appreciate the blessing.

[For the Argus.

FROM THE THIRY-FIRST REG'T. N. C. T.

Sullivan's Island, S. C., Nov. 7, 1863.

Mr. Editor: After my kindest respects to yourself, I write a letter for the *Argus*, in which I will give a statement of our present health, condition and situation here, more particularly of Co. B, that our Anson friends are glad to hear from us through your columns. The health of the soldiers is remarkably good. A few days since, only one in Co. B, out of sixty present, reported not able for duty. We enjoy ourselves much better now than in the sickly months of August and September, when our rations were coarse and scanty, and there were no furloughs being granted. Now our rations are better and more of a variety, and several of our company have had furloughs of late, who were punctual to get back at the proper time. Some are at home now, and others are animated by the hope of going soon. Though a private, I am proud of the confidence that exists in Co. B; that its character has never been stained by desertion. I am not only proud of the patriotism that has been manifested by the men and officers, in that they have been true to their trust, but also of that which has been exhibited by its friends and loved ones in Anson and elsewhere, in that they have not influenced or harbored the first one of its noble number as a deserter. Our condition as to clothing will do for the present; but as winter is approaching, a large majority of us will need heavier clothing. We are rather awkwardly situated here, owing to the narrowness of the Island, not having level ground enough to drill and camp upon. We have settled down the best we could beside the sand banks, which have been formed by nature, as if by man, for the identical purpose for which we now dwell among them.

Many and mysterious are the works of Nature upon the sea and upon the shore. I love to stand beside the sea and look and think upon the works of my Creator, knowing that he has a purpose in all that he has made, and that His purposes are unfolding every day. While, I have been thus standing, with my eyes upon the foaming billows in the distance, and my thoughts far beyond my sight, praying that I may know more of these things, a large wave has suddenly broken at my feet, which I thought was of some use to me. [illegible] "stand go no farther," and I obeyed. My walk illustrating "thus shalt thou go, but no farther," as the waves of the ocean of life are controlled by the command of Him who rules the world. [illegible] the two great parties that are now in arms against each other.

President Davis was around to see us on the 5th of this month. I suppose he was well pleased with the appearance and condition of the soldiers and fortifications about Charleston. From the view I had of him, I was no less pleased with his appearance as an officer. I was well pleased with the honorable and feeling position he manifested towards his adversary when he so gracefully uncovered his head, that they might look upon him, not as a fiend or a demon, but as a noble foe, worthy of his station. Then, with a most graceful farewell salute, which evinced not only to Longstreet as his true hearted countryman, but to command us as heaven. Though he spoke not a word in his address, was manifested as much sympathy and interest in his bleeding country's welfare as tongue could express. Having fronted each flag in this way, he soon was out of sight. May he notably have [illegible] to have, and possess the confidence of his countrymen, but may he have the grace and inspiration of God to [illegible] qualify him to discharge his duty to God and his countrymen. Chief Magistrate, if [illegible] will, I hope [illegible] can be able to break the [illegible] of peace to [illegible] and much wearied hopes. "We are [illegible] without a shepherd, having no Chaplain in our Regiment, to impart unto us the bread of life. Yet some continue to hear the voice of the good shepherd who knoweth his sheep and are known of his, and pass in and out through him and find pasture to the joy and comfort of their souls, while others are going on in their sins, fearless of God and regardless of man. These things ought not so to be. We ought to have a preacher in our Regiment. But while I am thinking upon these things, it is a great consolation to me to know that we have praying friends and loved ones at home who, no doubt, have offered the weary arms of faith, inasmuch that death has passed by their doors. Husbands and sons have been spared. Wives, mothers, sisters and fathers continue to pray. May God help us all to pray and to pray aright and save our bleeding country for Christ's sake.

A PRIVATE IN CO. B, 31st.

For the Argus.

HIGH MOUNT, N. C. [illegible]

DEAR ARGUS:—In perusing your [illegible] last well-worn columns last week, my attention [illegible] a communication concerning the raid that took place in Lilesville not long since, and, Mr. Editor, it instantly brought to my mind the time when we were engaged in making up a company to meet the proud invaders of our beloved South. Though I was no [illegible] I thought it my duty as well as that of every other true hearted Southerner, to do all that I possibly could for the good of my country, and I am willing to continue to do all I can for the support of our government, we can't do [illegible] in a range in which [illegible] is at stake. Many gentlemen of standing in the county seem entirely to have forgotten the promises made to men of families when they were urged to enlist in our army to brave danger and endure hardships to save our homes and property from desolation and ruin. Now those men have done their whole duty, and who can deny it? Gentlemen, allow me to ask who have fulfilled their promises? Have you divided your bacon and corn? You, who bade the men of families go on—that you would share, if need be, the *very last* pound of bacon and bushel of corn that you possessed! Instead of doing as you promised, it seems that your cribs and smoke-houses have been locked, and thus the soldier's wives have been compelled to make raids here in *our own county*, and who can blame them? I must say *I* do not, presuming that necessity compelled the act. Mr. Editor, you see something must be done for the poor families in our midst and that soon. The winter is approaching, and they must needs suffer if we give them no assistance.

I suppose that there be a meeting of the citizens of Anson in the Court House, in Wadesboro', on the last *Saturday* in November. Let all attend who sympathize with the poor (that is, every patriot.) Remember our proceedings are to be public, that the soldiers in the army may see what we, who are at home, are doing for them. I do hope to see every man's name in our county appended to the list of contributions.

Yours &c., J. C. CARAWAY.

For the Argus.

Anderson, Nov. 15, 1863.

The operations in this neighborhood against the deserters and recreant conscripts have been very successful. Since the latter part of September, Capt. J. W. Little, with his Enrolling Officers, and Lt. Colonel G. Worth, with the Home Guard, have taken and sent on to Raleigh some two hundred men of them with reputations as notoriously bad as any men could possibly have. Three of these hard cases are now in jail awaiting their trial under civil law for highway robbery and burglary. One of them is named Moffin and the other two Floyd. These last two are carrying very ugly wounds in their shoulders received while attempting to escape from some of Holden's men, who, by the way, have within the last week commenced operations below this in Moore and Montgomery. Moffin and the Floyds are identified as having been among those, who, during the past summer held insurrection under a perfect system of terror—entering people's houses, and after knocking the occupants about, stabbing them of everything they could carry off—guns and pistols, wearing apparel, leather, shoes, bedclothing, money, and even needles and pins, as I heard a lady depose yesterday they had taken from her house. Owens, the most notorious of the gang, is still out, but he will no doubt be soon caught.

FACT.

FIGHT ON THE RAPPAHANNOCK—TWO OF OUR BRIGADES REPORTED CAPTURED—A GENERAL ADVANCE EXPECTED, &c.

The Wigs of Monday bringes us the following very unwelcome intelligence:

About 8 or 9 o'clock on Saturday evening, a force of Yankees, a portion of Meade's army, variously estimated at from 15,000 to 20,000, advanced on Hays' Louisiana and Hoke's North Carolina brigades, who were picketing on the northside of the Rappahannock, near Kelly's Ford. The enemy being in overwhelming force, the two brigades were cut off and overpowered, and many of them taken prisoners. A small number were killed and wounded. Gen. Hays, we understand, escaped with a few hundred men, while a small number of the North Carolina brigade escaped. We also lost four pieces of artillery, but saved the horses and equipments. The prisoners captured are estimated by some at 1,000 or 1,500, and by others at a much larger number. The numerical strength of the two brigades will scarcely exceed 3,000 men. We learn that General Hays himself was captured at the time, but subsequently escaped. Gen. Hoke is an distinguished officer, and his North Carolina brigade was commanded by the Senior Colonel, whose name we have been unable to learn, though contending on overwhelming force, that regiment is represented to have fought most gallantly, and paid the ground with large numbers of the enemy killed and wounded.

[illegible] FIGHTING IN VIRGINIA.

Richmond, Nov. 16th, 1863.

There seems to be no doubt that Meade is advancing with his whole force, and battle on the Rappahannock is daily expected. [illegible] in the late affair at Kelly's Ford, in which the brigades engaged were flanked and overpowered by a force greatly exaggerated. Our loss in killed and wounded will not exceed three hundred, and the loss in prisoners from six to eight hundred, including Col. Penn, of the 13th Louisiana. The Yankees lost very heavily, including several commissioned officers.

[illegible] Yankee raid. Mr. Sanders recently made a speech in Louisiana in which he said:

"We have been deceived, we have been hoodwinked, we have been deceived, we have been hoodwinked, we have been deceived, we have been hoodwinked, we