

State Review

THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

The eloquent address of the President to the armies will be found below. It needs no eulogy, says the Richmond Enquirer—its every word is replete with love and affection for the brave devotio that called it forth. It reflects equal honor on him who wrote it, as on those whose patriotism prompted it.

It is the public official acknowledgment of the invaluable services rendered by the re-enlisting soldiers to the country. It speaks not only for the President, but is the expression of the love and gratitude of every citizen. It is the voice of the nation returning thanks to its brave defenders—the grateful homage of a whole people to their protectors.

It will be felt not only by the army, but will find a responsive sympathy in the heart of every Confederate. It sounds the bugle-note of hope and confidence, reanimating and reassuring to all the people.

This victory by the soldiers over self is an example for the people; they, too, have a victory to win—a victory over unrighteous mammon, a victory for their country.

Read the noble address of the President, and earn a similar one by a like devotion to the cause:

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, Richmond, Va., February 10, 1864. General Orders, No. 19.]

The following address of the President is published for the information of the army.

By order, S. COOPER, Adjutant and Inspector General.

Soldiers of the Armies of the Confederate States:

In the long and bloody war in which your country is engaged, you have achieved many noble triumphs. You have won glorious victories over vastly more numerous hosts. You have cheerfully borne privations and toil to which you were unused. You have readily submitted to restraints upon your individual will, that the citizen might better perform his duty to the State as a soldier. To all these you have lately added another triumph, the noblest of human conquests—a victory over yourselves.

As the time drew near when you who first entered the service might have been expected to claim relief from your arduous labors and restoration to the endearments of home, you have heeded only the call of your suffering country. Again you come to tender your service for the public defence—a free offering which only such patriotism as yours could make—a triumph worthy of you and of the cause to which you are devoted.

I would in vain attempt adequately to express the emotions with which I received the testimonials of confidence and regard which you have recently addressed to me. To some of those first received, separate acknowledgments were returned. But it is now apparent that a like generous enthusiasm pervades the whole army, and that the only exception to such unanimous tender will be of those who, having originally entered for the war, cannot display their zeal in the public service. It is therefore deemed appropriate, and it is hoped, will be equally acceptable, to make a general acknowledgment, instead of such special responses. Would that it were possible to render my thanks to you in person, and in the name of our common country, as well as in my own, while pressing the hand of each war-worn veteran, to recognize his title to our love, gratitude and admiration.

Soldiers! By your will, (for you and the people are but one,) I have been placed in a position which debars me from sharing your dangers, your sufferings and your privations in the field. With pride and affection my heart has accompanied you in every march; with solicitude it has sought to minister to your every want; with exultation it has marked your every heroic achievement. Yet, never in the most arduous march, nor in the weary watch, nor in the desperate assault, have you rendered a service so decisive in results as in this last display of the highest qualities of devotion and self-sacrifice which can adorn the character of the warrior patriot.

Already the pulse of the whole people beats in unison with yours. Already they compare your spurs and unanimous offer of your lives for the defence of your country, with the halting and reluctant service of the mercenaries who are purchased by the enemy at the price of higher bounties than have hitherto been known in war. Antiquated by this contrast, they exhibit cheerful confidence and more resolute bearing. Even the murmurs of the weak and timid, who shrink from the trials which make stronger and firmer your noble natures, are stilled into silence by the spectacle which your presence. Your brave battle cry will ring loud and clear through the land of the enemy, as well as our own; will silence the vain glorious boasts of their corrupt partisans and their pensioned press; and will do justice to the slumbers by which they seek to persuade a deluded people that you are ready to purchase dishonorable safety by degrading submission.

Soldiers! The coming Spring campaign will open under auspices well calculated to sustain your hopes. Your resolution needed nothing to fortify it. With ranks replenished under the influence of your example, and by the aid of your representatives, who give earnest of their purpose to add, by legislation, largely to your strength, you may welcome the invader with a confidence justified by the memory of past victories. On the other hand, debt, taxation, repetition of heavy drafts, disquisitions occasioned by the strife for power, by the pursuit of the spoils of office; by the thirst for the plunder of the public treasury; and, above all, the consequences of a bad cause, must tell with fearful force upon the over-strained energies of the enemy. His campaign in 1864 must, from the exhaustion of his resources both in men and money, be far less formidable than those of the last two years, when unimpairing means were used with boundless prodigality, and with results which are suggested by the mention of the glorious names of Shiloh and Perryville, and Murfreesboro' and Chickamauga, and the Chickahominy, and Manassas, and Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville.

Soldiers! Assured success awaits us in our holy struggle for liberty and independence, and for the preservation of all that renders life desirable to honorable men. When that success shall be reached, to you, your country's hope and pride, under Divine Providence, will it be due. The fruits of that success will not be reaped by you alone, but your children and your children's children in long generations to come, will enjoy blessings derived from you that

will preserve your memory ever living in their hearts. Citizen-defenders of the homes, the liberties and the altars of the Confederacy! That the God whom we all humbly worship may shield you with his Fatherly care, and preserve you for safe return to the peaceful enjoyment of your friends and the association of those you most love, is the earnest prayer of your Commander-in-Chief. JEFFERSON DAVIS.

NORTH CAROLINA ARGUS.

This Argus for the people's rights doth an eternal vigil keep— No sleeping strain of Mal's son can null his hundred eyes to sleep.

[5] C. W. FENTON, EDITOR. [260]

WADESBORO', N. C.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1864.

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From the Raleigh Confederate. IMPORTANT INQUIRY.

Since the public have understood that we are connected with the press, numerous enquiries pour in upon us, of what the Government will do with regard to the agitation of the Convention question now on foot in the State.

We do not pretend to be informed of the purposes of either Government. That at Richmond has, we believe, no organ, and we do not know if Gov. Vance has, nor is it likely that either would commit to outsiders the policy it intends to pursue. But we are willing to give our individual opinion, for the benefit of all concerned.

The movement of the agitators is full of peril. The artful guise in which it is covered is as thin as gauze. The Government is not deaf to the warnings uttered, nor blind to the threatening aspect of affairs. The effort to conceal, will not hide the purpose of the agitators. It is known that they mean revolution. If they can drift over the dangerous rapids of the preliminaries into the smooth waters of a Convention, they hope, under the form of a recognized authority, to consummate the secession of North Carolina from the Confederacy, and the purchase of a peace from Lincoln, by the sacrifice of the other States—by the violation of faith and honor, and by submission. Their fierce denunciation of our Government—their legislation to thwart its policy—the refusal of legislation to aid and assist it—the judicial "licks at it" in the facility for discharges from the military service—the threats defiant and oft repeated—not of remedy, legitimate and rightful, but of force and revolution,—and following all this is the movement begun by which alone revolution can be accomplished—and the leakage of the weaker vessels. All this tells the tale—but like the veiled Prophet of Khorassan, the visage is not hid and the deformities are apparent. What will the Government do? Will it let the movement run to completion? No. If it would surrender the Confederacy, consign our rulers, our military leaders, all our chief men to sure destruction—our army to a mortifying abasement—our flag to dishonor—our property to confiscation—our wives and daughters to servility low and ignominious—our homes to desolation and ourselves to a degrading servitude under the brazen rule of Yankee meanness; mixed with impudent audacity, if the Government will suffer these things, then this agitation will be let alone; to pursue its course.

But if President Davis and Governor Vance, and our Congress, and Lee, and Johnston, and Beauregard, and our military officers and soldiers have a stake, and they feel it, upon our success, then agitation will be obliged to stop. How? It may readily be perceived, how that difficulty may exist as to which Government should move first—whether one assumes to act alone, or both in concert—whether it were better to crush the eggs or let them hatch, that the nature of the brood may be discovered—that the geese, and other harmless fowl may be separated from the cooatrices.

The difficulties, however, will not be long of settlement; and our opinion is, that the arm that has for long been stayed in forbearance, is about to fall. When it does fall, its hand will grasp the leaders in an iron, which tighter than a vice. No matter whether they be found within the bar, or presiding on the bench, or sitting among the audience in the Sunhedrig of agitation. If martial law be established in North Carolina—if the habeas corpus be suspended—if a military force be placed in our midst—if the leading agitators are arrested and punished,—some by death, others by banishment, others by forced enlistment into the front of our service—if the necessary inconveniences of this kind of rule be obliged to be substituted for the mild sway of the civil law, the responsibility will be on the head of agitators who teach that "our Government is a despotism" to be resisted—that "forbearance towards it is no longer a virtue"—that North Carolina is "the key-stone to be withdrawn from its arch," that the "arch may tumble"—the responsibility will be on those officials who are suspected of undue sympathy with skulkers and deserters and who place impediments in the way of the service by imposing unnecessary restraints upon its officers.

Towards these responsible agitators the public opinion will be directed justly and properly; and upon them will the hand of Government be necessarily laid.

No protection can be taken under the shield of free speech and press. The freedom of speech and press do not comport with that devilish license which in time of war hazards the National existence.

Complaints are made to us by subscribers at White's Store and Moreen, of the non-arrival of the Argus at these places. They go regularly from this office. The fault lies not at our door.

It is pleasant, in the midst of so much selfishness and cold-hearted indifference to the wants and actual necessities of the poor to record examples of noble disinterestedness like the following: Thomas Rail, and Abner Flower, residing near Morven, sold a short time since, to soldiers' wives, Corn at \$3 per bushel. We also learn that one, or both, of these gentlemen sold 8, rap to soldiers' families at \$2 per gallon.

For the Argus.

FROM THE "ANSON INDEPENDENTS."

Kinston, N. C., Feb. 17.

DEAR AGENTS: With embarrassment I attempt to drop you a few lines, while my comrades in arms are amusing themselves as best they can.

Were I not aware that many more competent than myself could tell you of many incidents that would interest the reader, I would not feel so cramped when attempting to write for the public; but, knowing as I do, my own inability and the ability of others, I shrink at the thought; but as our friends would be glad to hear, I attempt to give a short sketch of what we have done since our return to loyal North Carolina.

On our arrival at Kinston, N. C., we immediately started in the direction of Newbern, and traveled seven miles and camped for the night. Started very early next morning in the same direction and that night, drove back and captured all the pickets between Gum Swamp and Creek, where we met the enemy in force, when a warm conflict ensued between the sharpshooters; but our Generals showed the skill of the Yankees and crossed over with but little loss, capturing all that were not swift upon the heel, for those who escaped soon had a in their hell-like dens protected by the fortifications around the city. Our forces having accomplished all intended at present, returned to camp, having captured 285 privates, nine commissioned officers, and destroyed the U. S. gunboat, Underwriter, killing and wounding one hundred of the enemy and losing 25 in killed and wounded. We also captured some artillery, ambulances, wagons and horses, &c. &c. We also captured some Buffaloes, (deserters from our ranks) and when captured, in arms against the flag they had sworn to defend) and of course they will not eat any more provisions that our freed Holden labors so strenuously to provide—and were he and his clan now situated as they are, North Carolina would be more like herself.

While speaking, I will remark that Holden has been the cause of more desertion in North Carolina, than all the trials and tribulations with which the soldier has had to contend in the army; and why I express myself so freely, is because I am a private, and converse and associate with that class; one not being afraid to speak before another. In the battles around Richmond, that of Fredericksburg and others, North Carolina lost many noble sons, but she has had as good soldiers to desert her ranks as ever fell upon the bloody field, the only difference being, those who deserted were of less information and led away by the clamorous crew that support Holden in all his acts; and now, having done much mischief would think of being the next Governor of North Carolina, in order that he might fully betray us into the hands of our enemies. But Mr Holden is not alone the Speculator is fast winding up the contest. If not stopped in his dirty work, the army, though now in tolerable condition, will, by this devil, the Speculator, become demoralized, and return home, first to kill the evil One, and then supply his family with provisions; returning to his command to avenge the blood of his lost brothers at Gettysburg, Pa., or elsewhere, and onward the conflict must go till our independence is obtained; and the sooner the Speculator ceases to sell corn at \$12.00 per bushel, and will let the poor women have it at a reasonable price, the sooner there will be a change for the better; but, Speculator of Anson, if you wish all you have to be lost, just go on a little longer. Eleven dollars per month wont feed a family, when corn is \$1.10; and for you to tell me that this price is caused by the scarcity of corn, would only be adding sin to sin, for which you will have to answer, for we know more about it than that. Present the gold and one and two dollars will buy plenty of corn, and if the men at home don't save the currency, who will?

Do your produce go for Confederate notes, and act like men of sense, or it will be sometime before the war is finally settled and peace and prosperity restored to our distracted country. If you have more Confederate money than you want, recollect the soldier has none, and for what he has done, give his wife a few bushels of corn. Now don't say that you have not got any corn to spare; but if you are going to deny her, just tell her plainly that you have got none to sell for Confederate notes. If she has not got specie, give her the corn, and mark it, it will be better for you.

Respectfully,

For the Argus.

FROM CO. "K," TWENTY-SIXTH REGT. N. C. TROOPS.

Feb. 14th, 1864.

Mr. Editor: Perhaps some of our friends at home would like to know of our whereabouts, and how we are getting along, therefore I have concluded to inform them, as best I can, if you will allow me a small space in the Argus.

We are now doing picket duty on the Rapahan for forty days, from the 24 inst. All is quiet along the line. I suppose you have all heard of the excitement here about a week ago, therefore I shall not say anything about it. It has been very warm here, until yesterday, when snow fell to the depth of two or three inches. The men are in very good spirits, and our ranks, although so severely thinned at Gettysburg and at Bristol, are fast filling up, which, if continued, we will have enough for a very good killing next summer.

The soldiers in this army, especially the North Carolina, are fast re-enthusiastic for the war. I am proud to inform our friends in Anson, that two thirds of this company re-enlisted the 14th, and there are yet others who will. So cheer, up friends at home, though our soldiers have suffered long and hard, yet they are determined to gain the independence of the Confederacy. Let our people at home lay aside their bickerings, and unnecessary murmurings, and give us and the Government a hearty and cheerful support, and we promise that all will be well in the end.

I see no good reason why the people in Anson should be so despondent. To a gaudy spot of the Confederacy—you have never heard the roar of cannon here. Anson has never been made a battle-field. The enemy have never marched through Anson and robbed you of your earthly possessions. You have never seen the smoke of your burning homes, and I heard from your wives the anguish heaped upon them by the Northern soldiery.

I must confess that I was surprised to know that the people of Anson were so despondent. No one will question that the present condition of our country demands our serious attention. Yet, there is one enemy that I fear, and who is lurking in the hearts of some men—not to do their duty. Come to the army! You see no timidity here. The sight of a thousand bayonets causes no alarm, but rather excites courage. If we do our duty, that is, if all men able to bear arms will take the field, all danger can be averted. Abandon no interest necessary for the successful prosecution of the war. We have plenty of men to do it all the hosts of Lincoln. When the President calls, go—don't look around for a law to test your constitutional rights. Where would the habeas corpus be if we had all looked after these rights at the beginning of the war. Ask the soldiers, they will tell you. All of you recollect when this company left Anson. They were young and old men, and none of them were forced to leave! Call upon her honored dead, and ask them, and they will answer, they were impelled by patriotism—devotion, to their country. Let their spirit rise up and rebuke that spirit which would now refuse to go—if there be any. Ask the refugees what was done with the union man who truckled to the invader to save his property, and they will tell you that he was more cordially despised and more inhumanly treated than any one else. There is no sympathy in my heart for the Yanks, except the justice they do such men. I had rather leave my parents in rage, and I love them as well as any man does his, with liberty, than with wealth and subjugation.

There is one other thing that deserves your attention. Go to the solitary hut of the soldiers' family, and see that they have suc-

stance. They may not be of your class in society—yet pour the cup of comfort in their hearts. Let it not be written that his family entered while you had a plenty, who, day by day and night by night, walks his sentinel rounds to protect you.

But as I only asked you for a small space in the Argus I will close. I look forward hopefully to the future. There is no cause for despondency. But let us trust to that Providence which has given peace to other lands, and that God will speak peace to us.

Respectfully yours,

LEWIS J. A. P.

From the Richmond Examiner.

Imputations against the fidelity of North Carolina are simply incredible. Apostasy to the Confederate cause on the part of that State, is both morally and physically impossible. Her population are intelligent. Her schools equal to any on this continent in number and erudition. The people are more generally educated than any in the South. Except in a few districts they are largely slaveholding; and the industry of the State is highly remunerative. The people are shrewd, practical, firm, and industrious. They thoroughly understand their material interests, and their State pride is a proverb. She went out of the old Union with a unanimity exceeded by no other State. She has contributed to the war with a profusion excelled by none. Her regiments are numerically more replete than any in the army; she won the first battle in the war, at Bethel; and her troops vie with the rest in the re-enlistments now going on. Her western mountains were lately filled with deserters from all the States; now, by the energy of her Government and the co-operation of her people, the mountains are cleared of those degraded wretches.

We have seriously inquired how and where North Carolina has shown herself delinquent in action, and no one has been able to point out the occasion or the place. The charge is against her intentions, the imputation is upon her secret designs. This fact is encouraging; her acts are irreproachable. There are vicious men in every State; and doubtless they are to be found in North Carolina. That these persons would persuade the State into a course of apostasy and suicide; that they would engage the Commonwealth itself in measures which must render the name of North Carolina, like that of Arnold, a synonyme of infamy throughout the world, is entirely possible. But that they have accomplished no overt mischief, as yet, is very certain. We cannot believe that the North Carolina people will meet in Convention for the purpose of deserting the South; and if they meet, we cannot believe that the fathers, sons and brothers of the brave North Carolinians that have bled on every field in this war, will bring themselves to the dishonor of proposing terms of capitulation to the enemy, and of stigmatizing the gallant dead with the guilt of traitors. The agitators and traitors in the bosom of that State may excite discontent and assemble meetings; but when they have done this much, they will have done all they are capable of accomplishing. They cannot bring the people of North Carolina to the point of practical infamy; they cannot consummate their designs. A few Confederate victories in the spring will quiet these bad men forever; they will dread to see their names in print; they will be sorry they were born. The very people with whom they have tampered will turn from them with the withering contempt of virtue and courage; and they will bear all their lives the brand of traitors.

It is not difficult to understand the popular feeling in North Carolina, which has given these agitators encouragement that to tamper with treason. The feeling there is no doubt the same as prevails throughout the Confederacy. It is a mingled feeling of disappointment, discontent and alarm in regard to the mal-administration of public affairs. The people feel embarrassed between two conflicting duties; the duty of stern and energetic remonstrance as the only means of checking the career of mal-administration which is hurrying the cause to perdition; and the duty of avoiding any action which may itself imperil the cause. In Virginia the popular judgment is in favor of silent tolerance of abuses; in North Carolina it seems inclined to the alternative of remonstrance. If it were our prerogative to advise the good people of that State, we would warn them against the agitators to whom they have given probably, too much ear, as well as against any action which could, in the least degree, tend to alarm our own people or to encourage the public enemy. Remonstrance is a duty, but agitation, to the point of disturbing the public mind and embarrassing the public action, becomes a crime.

In Virginia we have been very patient under abuses, and allowed nothing to shake our fidelity. When charged with degeneracy, inefficiency, and impotence for battle, Virginia's silent answer was to send Jackson, Johnston, Lee, and a hundred and twenty thousand troops to the Confederate armies. The fairest portions of our territory have been desolated, ten thousands of homesteads lie in ashes, and hundreds of thousands of our families are homeless refugees. Much of this ruin is the direct result of mal-administration. Still the most loyal of our populations is that of the country thus overrun and destroyed. Whole sale and wide spread pecuniary ruin has not bent the spirit of our people. They are as resolute and hopeful now as in the bright spring of 1861. Whilst suffering the heaviest calamities and last terrors of war, we have endured much more from our own Government than North Carolina. We have been submissive to a foreign yoke of the most galling character. In Richmond and the East, the domestic provost administration has been established under the control of Marylanders; in the West our people have been turned over to the domination of Kentuckians. The conduct of this police of strangers has not been exemplary; and just complaints against them can get no hearing. Not long ago North Carolina took fire because the appointment of a single tax gatherer was given to a native of another State. Virginia has submitted to systematic injury of this sort, but we cannot dwell upon this humiliation; we will not enlarge on the particulars of this very sore subject. Let North Carolina, before listening to domestic agitators, consider what her twin sister has endured, before she lifts a finger or breathes a whisper for unconstitutional redress.

We are gratified to announce the fact that the Ladies' Card Factory at Greenwood, S. C., is completed, and ready to turn out one hundred pair of Cards per week.

The Northern House of Representatives on the 15th adopted a resolution, by sixteen majority, declaring that the United States Constitution should be amended so as to abolish slavery in the United States.

Congress has put an end to blockade running. We shall have no more luxuries. Articles of necessity only are to come in.

Fifteen out of twenty European sovereigns have agreed to attend Napoleon's Congress. The Sultans will attend in person.