

NORTH CAROLINA ARGUS.

This Argus for the people's rights doth an eternal vigil keep— No soothing snail of Mata'son can lull his hundred eyes to sleep

[7.] C. W. FENTON, EDITOR. [273.]

WADESBORO', J. C.

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ADVERTISING—\$2 00 per square of ten lines for first insertion and \$1.50 for each subsequent insertion. For inserting only one time, \$2. Obituaries over five lines one dollar per square.

We did not issue a paper last week, for the reason, that not only were we sick and totally unable to attend to business of any kind, but two of our small force were also sick, and unable to work. This left us with only one assistant, who, though he has all the will, on account of his youth, is of little service without some one to guide his efforts. Our readers will, we hope, appreciate our condition, and make due allowance therefor. We are doing our best to get out a paper this week. If we fail, the fault will not be ours. God help us, we are poor and needy and helpless creatures, at best—but when, for our good, He sees proper to deprive us of health, to the end that we may be made to feel our weakness, and acknowledge our dependence on Him, it behooves us to receive his chastisements meekly; for, if we are properly exercised thereby, they will work in us the peaceable fruits of righteousness.

Friday, 8th of April, having been set apart by the President of the Confederacy, as a day of fasting, humiliation and prayer, it has been proposed that it be a real fast—that the people abstain from eating, on that day, (only what is sufficient to prevent sickness) that they, nevertheless, give out, as usual, and supply so far as it goes, the wants of the poor and needy—thus, for one day at least, giving a bountiful repast to those who, in these times of want and scarcity (in the midst of plenty,) seldom enjoy it. This is the proposition of a minister of the Gospel.

With pleasure we announce that the Reverend Charles F. Deems will address the people of Anson, at the Court House, on Tuesday, of Court week. Mr. Deems is devoting himself to the noble object of raising a fund for founding a School for the education of the children of our brave soldiers. He has met with great success in the counties where he has lectured on the subject, and doubtless, the people of Anson will act with their wonted liberality in promotion of a cause so noble, and full of good, in the future, to the children of the brave men who have died in the cause of Southern Independence. Go and hear him.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of the Confederate States meets in Charlotte on the 5th day of May next.

Congressional Election, Third Thursday in April. Soldiers' vote on the Second Thursday.

Col. J. P. Jones, C. S. Army, has been assigned by the President, as Inspector of the armies of the Confederacy on the staff of Gen. Bragg. Gen. Bragg said of this officer, twelve months since, in recommending him for the position of Brigadier General, that, "as a Colonel he has no superior, and as an Inspector, where the highest qualities of a soldier are exhibited, I do not know his equal." The same opinion was expressed by Gen. Jos. E. Johnston. Col. Jones starts immediately on a tour of inspection to Gen. Beauregard's Dept.

The following tribute to North Carolina appears in a communication to the Marietta Rebel, dated on the 10th, at that place:

Being personally acquainted with the Governor of North Carolina and appreciating her estimable people I would be false to myself and false to them did I not endeavor to remove any stigma that might rest without a cause upon them. Severe criticisms have been too much indulged in and public sentiment flowed too freely in reference to that champion of civil rights and his loyal adherents. Whatever may be said derogatory to his position or of his constituents are unqualified statements and unwarrantable assertions. The people of North Carolina are the same noble, kind hearted, patriotic people that they ever have been. They are using every means, exerting every influence and straining every nerve for the accomplishment of the great end. There is no privation too great, no hardship too burdensome for her gallant sons. The prompt and vigorous re-enlistment of her troops testify to their unflinching devotion to a cause they so heartily espoused, and to-day they stand forth as a living monument of her present greatness and a glorious model of Spartan valor.

Carolina, be proud of your offspring! and may the day never come when the triumphant foe shall tread upon, with polluted steps, the graves of your departed Great.

Carolinians, be true to the land that gave you birth! The sun may cease to give its light, the moon forbear to shine, the stars which sparkle as so many diamonds in the sands thrown from the fiery wheels of God's chariot of day be erased from the firmament, but as true as the needle to the pole, so will North Carolina be true to herself, her country and her God. H. 4th Texas.

MEETING.

At a meeting of a portion of the citizens of Anson county, at the Court-House in Wadesboro', on the 19th March, 1864, Alex'r. Little, Esq., was called to the Chair, and H. A. Crawford appointed Secretary—when the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, We are desirous of having among us the two gentlemen who are understood to be Candidates for the office of Governor of the State, to wit, Z. B. VANCE and W. W. HOLDEN, Esqs., and have them discuss the issues that may be before the people in said Election, therefore,

Resolved, That the Chairman appoint a Committee of three to address said Candidates, jointly, inviting them to visit this county at such time as may suit their mutual convenience during the campaign, and would respectfully suggest Tuesday after the Second Monday in April (it being the week of our County Court.)

Resolved, That these proceedings be sent to the N. C. Argus and the Confederate for publication, and that the Observer be requested to copy.

Pursuant to the first resolution, the Chair appointed Dr. E. F. Ashe, G. B. Threadgill and J. R. Hargrave. On motion the meeting adjourned.

A. LITTLE, Chairman.

H. A. CRAWFORD, Secretary.

President Davis has issued his Proclamation naming Friday, 8th of April, as a day of humiliation, fasting and prayer, in accordance with the recommendation of Congress.

[For the Argus,

CAMP 43D N. C. REG'T,

KISSON, N. C. March 18, 1864.

No change in the status of military affairs in this Department since my last. The operation of laws, passed by Congress, beginning to excite some interest in military circles. The Act reducing the rations of Commissioned Officers, to the "same in quantity and quality" as that of privates, is a very impressive lesson in "domestic economy," but of which they have no right to complain, and which, while it increases the supplies, to that degree it will be productive of good, in sealing up a fruitful source of discontent among the privates. If any officer could be so unreasonable as to murmur, he should not forget the provision, which was no doubt, intended as a sort of compromise between the stomach and the purse, allowing him to purchase clothing from the Quartermasters Department at Government prices. For even if he be so fortunate as to belong to a North Carolina Regiment and is supplied with cloth by the State, he has attained, in the science of economy, a degree, which is certainly not taught by the practice of the times, if he can pay the modest sum of four or five hundred dollars, simply for having it made up, after deducting from his eighty, ninety, or one hundred dollars, per month—one half or two thirds of it, with which he must pay for meat and bread alone—to say nothing of tobacco at five Dollars per pound and meat whiskey at one hundred and twenty-five Dollars per gallon—indispensable luxuries in "high life" in camp and the appreciation of which, is conclusive evidence of good taste, high culture, and polished refinement.

The currency and tax bills, like all laws of importance and magnitude, will be unjust and oppressive in individual instances, but they are no doubt the best that could be devised under the circumstances, as they were framed, after long, tedious, anxious, honest efforts by the best financial ability in the South, and it is to be hoped will restore our currency to health and vigor, and rescue our country from that bankruptcy to which the short sighted, contracted, financial policy of the past, was rapidly driving it. The Military Bill will add largely to our numerical strength if enforced, for "an intelligent member of Congress" according to a Richmond paper, said it would bring in 80,000 principals of Substitutes. To use a popular camp phrase, I think it will be very late "before our dirty, ragged, decimated ranks, will be filled up and adorned, by 80,000 of these neatly clad gentry with their bleached hands, white haversacks, &c. If we get half that number and can by hook or crook prevail with them to go in ranks, hosts will be added to our strength, for at least one third of them will be those, who, in the beginning—no, before the beginning of the war—"snuffed the battle afar off" and proclaimed, in the pride of their gigantic strength, burning zeal and glowing patriotism, "Let 'em come, we will whip ten to one." Of course all who hired substitutes are not of this class, unfortunately for us, for in that case, it would only be necessary to give them "elbow room" to trash out the whole Yankee nation "before breakfast." A friend at my elbow suggests, that Congress had under discussion a bill creating an "Invalid corps," and since the hopes and patriotic ardor of those who were so keen for the fray, have been so uniformly and unkindly blasted by the vigorous examination of medical Boards declaring them "physically unable for field service" it would no doubt be very gratifying to them, if this or some similar institution could be established, provided they could so far impose upon the skill of a Board, as to be allowed to enlist. He says, further, something about the indifference of Editors to the known wishes of those who "were going to South Carolina in ten days if North Carolina didn't secede." He, in rather an uncharitable if not dictatorial spirit, says that the papers should inform them by advertisement, in editorials, &c., that a recruiting office is opened at Raleigh where men of their aspirations and laudable ambition can be accommodated.

The suspension of the writ of Habeas Corpus has been termed "a necessary evil." I attributed this notion of Congress in my last letter to the disloyalty and disaffection, in certain sections, which threatened to assume dangerous proportions. This is apparent to every one, and though a fearful power has been entrusted to the hands of the Executive, it remains to be

seen whether he will transcend the bounds which the interests of the cause and the good of the country prescribe. The Constitutionality of the suspension is sustained by two Judges of our Superior Court, and as a law-abiding people, we will stand by it. It will not, cannot affect a loyal citizen, but as I said, it is a fearful power to grant to any man! For, if President Davis would not grapple at prerogatives, which in the American sense of the word, would make him a tyrant or a despot, he will possess more of the virtues which exalt and adorn the statesman, more of the goodness and greatness, which will throw around his future name a halo of moral grandeur, than most men, surrounded by similar circumstances could exhibit. His prudence, sagacity, discrimination and sense of justice in the exercise of this extraordinary power will determine whether it be an "evil." It is perfectly natural for a people reared under an institution and a form of government which teaches them that their rights are to some degree entrusted to their own hands, and for the preservation and recognition of which they are to that degree individually and voluntarily responsible—it is natural, that they should look with distrust and apprehension upon any innovation upon those cherished rights or the least departure from the "old landmarks" of our fathers.

But if we are determined to be free—if we prefer the chances of establishing a Government, with our own hands securing our rights and interests, to the certainty of placing the galling yoke of despotism on our own and the necks of our posterity, by a return to a union of perpetual brail, strife and contention—if we prefer liberty to bondage—if we prefer honor to disgrace—if we prefer the manly freedom which courses in the veins of every true Southern, and the chastity and social dignity with which the chivalry of the South has crowned her fair daughters, to the gloomy depths of social and moral degradation to which a surrender of our cause would assign us—we have but to stand together and devote all our energies to the cause and strengthen it by strengthening the confidence of your son, or husband, or brother in the field, and by yielding a cheerful and ready support to the Government. Submit to the inconveniences arising from unwise or unjust legislation for the time—they can be remedied. Submit to the hardships and privations of the war. Submit to the call which your bleeding suffering country makes upon you and come to the field, if you do have to leave behind you those who were most eager for the "bloody day"—it does not lessen your responsibility to your country, nor your obligation to defend her. You may not have been in favor of secession—you may have been standing with the olive branch over your head, when the howling waves of fanaticism hushed the imploring cry for peace. So was I, but that does not alter the great fact that my liberty is in peril, that the honor and interest of my family, myself and my country demands my aid to defend her. Submit to this and more, if need be, but never, NEVER, NEVER submit unconditionally to Abraham Lincoln. I never believed in the doctrine of secession, much less that it could be peaceable—I never believed that England, the mother of Abolitionism, or any of the great powers of Europe would intervene in our behalf, unless impelled by some commercial interest which involved, almost, their existence. I believe, and thank God for it, that I had nothing to do in bringing about this war. But what of all this? What does it amount to? When the wild conflagration of war, intensified by fierce and atrocious barbarities, and the red glare of whose fiery waves makes the heavens lurid with horror, and threatens to leave in its destructive sweep, naught but a trail of dreary desolation, as ghastly as the gloomy abodes of death—must I fold my arms and say I had nothing to do in kindling the spark, and although my all is imperilled, I say let it rage?

If you are not satisfied as to who are to blame for this bloody war, wait until it is settled, and then you may inquire. These divisions, dissensions and bickerings must yield to harmony and unity—respondency give way to confidence and determination, then, and until then, we will look in vain for the end. Then will the lonely hearts of the "loved ones" at home, and the proud spirit of the warworn veteran, unite in an anthem of praise, for that blessed peace, which will hover over us, as "a cloud of dew in the heat of harvest."

For the Argus,

CAMP 20TH REG'T., N. C. TROOPS,

March 17th 1864.

There is a great difference between the soldiers and the citizens at home. I was sorry that the people at home were so low spirited, and I was afraid the soldiers were so too; but I find them very different. Although his (the soldier's) life is a hard one, he is still willing to stick to it rather than submit to our cruel and unrelenting foe; and if the people at home will do their duty, the Banner of Independence will be unfolded to the breeze and our young Confederacy, instead of being subjugated by the Yankees, will be a free and independent Government. I say, if the people at home will do their duty—for they certainly have duties as well as we. Some, perhaps, will inquire what their duty is? We can tell them that it is not their duty—nor is it a mark of patriotism, or that of a gentleman, while their country has called from home all men fit for military duty, and while such men are in the field of honor—for those who are left at home to be trying, with all their might to put everything out of the reach of the soldier's family. I mean both something to eat and to wear. There are men in Anson, who complain a great deal about the fitting law. They say if the South is taken of the land that

the people will starve, and a great deal of such stuff as that. But when they happen to have anything to sell they will run it off to some market out of the county and see the soldier's family starve for the sake of getting a big price for their produce. Now and then you will come across a clever fellow, who says he does a duty, but ten chances to one, he will be like a certain gentleman in Anson who has the honor of putting Es after his name, a justice of the peace—the man who so much concerned about the welfare of the soldier family that he puts himself to the trouble to pay the sum of money the county has seen fit to give the monthly—who a few days since, killed a beef and beef of a sympathizing nature, was good enough to send a small mess of it to a Volunteer's family. The wife of the soldier, not being in the habit of getting such things free of charge—although the meat was sent without her asking for it—asked the price of it when it was delivered, and was informed that there was no charge for it, and with many thanks to the kind gentleman for his liberality, the wife proceeded to dress it, and she and her children ate it. But when she went to get her monthly dues from this gentleman which the county had furnished for her, this kind and liberal gentleman had taken out seven dollars of it for his beef, which he had so liberally given her, and which he said he charged nothing for. Everybody knows this is not the way in which the people at home should work to promote the welfare of their country. The above is true, and should it be necessary we could give the names of the parties and produce evidence.

A SOLDIER.

For the Argus.

CAMP 14TH N. C. REG'T., March 16, '64.

DEAR ARGUS: As there is no news in this Department, you cannot expect any. Generals Lee, Longstreet and Ewell left for Richmond yesterday morning, saying "Maryland, my Maryland." Rumor says another raid to Maryland and Pennsylvania, for the health of the army, is contemplated. These rumors north don't prove very healthy, if we are to judge from last summer's—and we have no assurance of a better success now than then. But if Old Bob says so, we are in—let the consequences be what they will. The Regiment was called together to-day, for the purpose of choosing between Vance and Holden for our next Governor. After a few speeches, the vote was taken—Vance was unanimously chosen—with shouts of up with Vance and down with the traitor. We are right-side up with care in the army, and hope Vance will be the unanimous choice of the people. We have not heard, as yet, who the Candidates for Congress are. But let them be who they may, you may put down for the man who will support the Confederate Government and the war to the bitter end. Notwithstanding liberty and independence will satisfy the soldiers of the army of Northern Virginia, and we want no men in office who are not for the same. We recommend to the careful consideration of our citizen Gov. Vance's speech, (at Wilkesboro') and hope, with the facts therein set forth, that no one will do anything to the contrary. We know something of the outrage of our contemptible foe, and know such will be the inevitable fate of every citizen and soldier in the Confederate States, should we allow them to succeed in their foul designs.

No union sentiments expressed by those who are cowardly to come out openly and face the music, or save them. All will share alike in the ravages of our enemy. None will escape. These truths before our eyes should arouse every man to do his duty both at home and in the army. Those at home can render their assistance by planting and raising largely of the necessities which are required to sustain life and live freely with the Government and the poor who depend on them for support. This is all we ask—the remainder we will perform willingly and to the utmost extent of our capacity. With everything to cheer from home, we promise nothing shall be wanting on our part, to close this cruel war by next fall.

We very often hear of a cavalry company stationed at Ansonville. If what we hear be true they are eating quite a swell, parading the streets in ragged uniforms and dough faces. What a happy squad. This is not the pomp, pride and circumstances of what we cannot conceive what is. We wish them much pleasure, and a happy issue out of our county.

Yours,

MOCUS

For the Argus.

CAMP OF 4TH N. C. CAV. NEAR WOODVILLE,

BERTIE CO., March 12th, 1864.

DEAR ARGUS: We returned to North Carolina from a vigorous campaign in the Old Dominion. We received a warm welcome from the citizens of our State, and while in Scotland Neck we were entertained by men who appreciated the hardships of a soldier's life. Nothing was too good for the soldier large presents were made to the whole Regiment—bacon, beef, cabbages, lard, pepper, &c. The lard—the things we fight for—visited our camp, did with us at our tents, and danced with us at their honor laden with luxury. Here we could not stay. We came to forage in Bertie, and we expected to be treated in the same style. But oh! how different. Citizens are cold and formal, killingly polite. Conquer money don't buy chewing tobacco, and the diet, though they flock by hundreds to see the Regiment drill, come not near our camp, nor invite us to their houses. This we have silently endured, waiting the horse-carts pass day after day frightened beauty. The enrolling officer of this District was arrested and informed me that he would get one hundred conscripts from this county, but let an of