

This Argus is the people's right doth an eternal vigil keep— No soothing strains of Mal'son can lull his hundred eyes asleep

31.] C. W. FENTON, EDITOR. [278.

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FOR GOVERNOR.

Z. B. VANCE.

ELECTION IN AUGUST NEXT.

THE TRUE CONSERVATIVE PLATFORM.

The supremacy of the civil over military law. A speedy repeal of the act suspending the writ of habeas corpus. A quiet submission to all laws, whether good or bad, while they remain upon our statute books. No reconstruction, or submission, but perpetual independence. An unbroken front to the common enemy, but timely and repeated negotiations for peace by the proper authorities. No separate State action through a Convention; no counter revolution; no combined resistance to the government. Opposition to despotism in every form, and the preservation of our Republican institutions in all their purity.

THE GEORGIA PLATFORM.

Upon which it is claimed that Mr. Holden stands, it will be perceived by reference to the article below, which we take from the Daily (Raleigh) Conservative, is Gov. Vance's own platform, and that Gov. Brown is indebted to him for it. Read the article and you will be convinced that Holden has stolen our Governors' thunder. He stands before the people of North Carolina, dressed in borrowed feathers, and like the jackdaw he copies after, will be stripped of his appropriated costume, and appear a jackdaw still. By the by, why does not Mr. Holden appear in public, with Gov. Vance, and give expression to his sentiments, that the people may hear and judge for themselves? Mr. Holden is no speaker. He cannot make a speech, and, alongside of Vance, would be a flash light in the presence of the midday Sun. He knows this, and cunningly evades the encounter. All attempts to make it appear that Holden stands on the Georgia (Vance's) platform, will be vain and futile, for it is not so. Read the following extract from Vances' speech at Fayetteville:

"Gov. Vance spoke here to-day (22d inst.) to an immense audience. The whole square was crowded with ladies and gentlemen. His speech showed he had been in advance of Gov. Brown and A. H. Stephens opposing the bill to suspend the habeas corpus. He read a letter addressed to President Davis protesting against the passage of the bill; he sent letters also, to Congress urging them to oppose it. Said he did not take as strong ground against the bill as he will before the Legislature in May. He showed he was for peace, and had written to the President urging that measures be taken to close the war by negotiations, in December last. He paid a handsome tribute to the Vice-President. He showed that Holden was not with Gov. Brown. He read a letter from Gov. Brown saying that a Convention in any State at present, looking to separate State action, would be unfortunate, injudicious, &c. He said the only remedy was with the people through their representatives. He said he had invited Holden to meet him at appointments made for him by the people, but Holden declined. The speech was well received, and immense enthusiasm exhibited by the people during its delivery."

There is not the shadow of a difference between the position of Gov. Brown and that of Gov. Vance in regard to the great questions of negotiations for peace, suspension of the writ of habeas corpus, and the maintenance of civil liberty even amid the clash of arms and the struggle for freedom. Three months before Gov. Brown's celebrated message made its appearance—as early as December, 1863—Gov. Vance called the attention of President Davis to the importance of negotiating immediately for peace, and urged him in the name of humanity, religion, and a bleeding country, to propose to the enemy an amicable adjustment of our difficulties. About the same time, he wrote to Gov. Brown, urging upon him to make a similar appeal to the Richmond authorities, and to unite in the work in securing peace to our suffering people.

The efforts subsequently made by Gov. Brown in behalf of negotiations, were prompted by Gov. Vance, and the results of an understanding—an agreement—concerted plan—between the two patriotic and Conservative Executives, as can be proven by the most overwhelming testimony. The modes selected for giving expression to their sentiments respecting this vital matter, were decided upon according to the discretion of each respectively; and, though Gov. Vance preferred to urge his views upon the President in a less conspicuous manner, from motives of public policy, there was not the slightest difference of opinion as to the importance of "peace measures" on the part of the administration. These are facts of history; and we challenge their contradiction. As regards the support of habeas corpus, Gov. Vance likewise anticipated Gov. Brown, as he did Mr. Stephens, in protesting, alike against its suspension, and exercise on the part of the President, of the dangerous powers confided to him in that respect. He was the most in opposing that unfortunate measure as he has been frank in advocating its repeal. He was the

sentinel who sounded the alarm and the leader of the fiercest assault upon it. His record in this and in all other respects is the embodiment of that conservatism which teaches, vigilance, decision, and unwavering courage in all that relates to the liberties of the people. Who can present a purer, prouder or more conservative record? And, yet, in view of all this—notwithstanding his advocacy of peace negotiations, his opposition to the slightest infringement upon popular rights, his hostility to everything which savors of tyranny or oppression, his devotion to the honor and interests of North Carolina, and his well known championship of the only measures by which independence can be secured and liberty preserved—he is denounced by those who applaud Gov. Brown for doing precisely that which he had done earliest, best and most successfully. The people of North Carolina will never countenance such injustice to one of their most faithful and consistent servants. If Gov. Brown is right and worthy of support and commendation; then, is Gov. Vance doubly so, since he originated the very policy which finds such ardent admirers in those who oppose him. Like Gov. Vance, Gov. Brown is opposed to separate State action,—to a Convention—for he has so declared over his own signature,—and only favors negotiations through constitutional channels. And yet, one is heralded to the world as a "true conservative" as worthy of a nation's praise and gratitude;—while the other, who entertains precisely similar views in this regard, is proclaimed a "destructive," pronounced an apostate from the conservative faith, and held up to the people of the State as a man who has sacrificed their rights and violated their confidence. Can the citizens of North Carolina be deceived into making a hero of Gov. Brown, and a traitor of Gov. Vance, when as regards these great issues, they stand upon the same platform, and have acted in perfect concert for months past? So far as these matters are concerned, these two patriots must stand or fall together, for history has wedded them inseparably and forever. As much as Gov. Vance desires peace, it is through the duly constituted authorities alone that he would negotiate for it, and only upon the basis of nationality and independence that he would accept it. The attempt to secure it in other modes or on different terms, would only involve us in deeper ruin; and he loves his country too much to trifle with its destinies at such an hour as this. He favors a repeal of the act suspending the writ of habeas corpus, not only because it is a dangerous precedent in itself, but for the reason that the dissatisfaction and distrust engendered by it, tend to divide the energies of our people, and thus to jeopard the success of the cause of freedom. His motto is neither "the Constitution as it is and the Union as it was," nor "separation at any and every sacrifice," but "liberty and independence, now and forever, one and inseparable." This is sufficiently conservative for a large majority of his fellow citizens, as the election in August will attest.

The Extract which follows is from a letter addressed to us by a soldier of the 14th N. C. T., dated April 24, 1864. "The boys are confident of success. All we want you to do, is to defeat Holden, and all will be well. He Holden, is playing a deep game. He has men posted all along the Railroad lines, distributing documents to soldiers, with the view of imposing upon the ignorant and unsuspecting."

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Who voted for Breckenridge, the secession candidate for the Presidency in 1860? W. W. HOLDEN.

Who contended that the election of Fremont to the Presidency in 1860, would have been sufficient cause of itself for dissolving the Union without any overt act? W. W. HOLDEN.

Who was the father of secession in North Carolina? W. W. HOLDEN.

Who pledged three years ago "the last man and last dollar" for the vigorous prosecution of the war? W. W. HOLDEN.

Who is trying to get on "Gov. Vance's Platform" and elbow Gov. VANCE off? W. W. HOLDEN. And who will fail in accomplishing this daring feat? W. W. HOLDEN.

Who do Abraham Lincoln and the Yankees regard as their best friend in North Carolina? W. W. HOLDEN.

Who originated and is in favor of the proposition for North Carolina to hold a Convention, and "take her own affairs in her own hands"? W. W. HOLDEN.

Who has boxed all the points of the political compass, and been "everything by turns and nothing long"? W. W. HOLDEN.

Who will be badly beaten for Governor the 1st Thursday in August next? This self-same remarkable man, W. W. HOLDEN.

THE TWO PLEDGES.

North Carolina "will make good her act of the 20th of May, 1861, with her last dollar and her last man, if such a sacrifice should be required at her hands." [Raleigh Standard, May 22, 1861, Governor, "you and I may differ in politics, but I hope my right arm may rot off, if I ever raise so much as my little finger against you."—Mr. Holden at the Governor's Mansion the night of the mob.

THE PLEDGES REDEEMED. "I announce myself a candidate for the office of Governor of North Carolina, as a conservative after the straightest sect. W. W. Holden." [Raleigh Standard, March 3rd, 1864.

FROM THE 43d REGT.

This is to inform the friends, at home, of the 43d Regt., Co. H, I and K, N. C. T., that I was with the boys a few days ago and was put in charge of sundry articles, clothing, &c., &c., to bring home for their friends and families. Owing to the pressure of freight on the road, I was compelled to leave them at Tarboro' until an opportunity of forwarding them on, when I will see to getting them home, and notify them thereof. JAMES BOGGAN.

Plymouth is a small sea-port town in Washington county, N. C., about 150 miles East of Raleigh, and 8 miles south from Roanoke River where it enters Albemarle Sound. It is connected with the Sound by a small inlet called Nag's Head. Before the war, Plymouth contained about 1,000 inhabitants.

NEAR PLYMOUTH, April 20th, 1864. "SHERIFF—Dear Sir: This is the proudest day for North Carolina since the war began. The key to the waters of the State is in our hands. This morning we completed our victory, took about 2000 prisoners, and strange to say, we lost only about 200 in all, notwithstanding, we charged their forts, strongly garrisoned by infantry and heavy guns, over the most rugged swamps, and level fields. The boys are buoyant and flushed with enthusiasm. Nearly every one got as much plunder as he could carry. I write to let the Argus know that only 3 from Anson, were wounded all slightly, Wm. Meeks, Wm. Mosely and W. J. Ascraft. All the rest safe. Yours in great haste, L. L. POLK.

GREAT-FIRE IN WILMINGTON. WILMINGTON April 28.—The fire last night on the west side of the river consumed the office of the Wilmington and Manchester Railroad and 50 cars of the Georgia Central. Every building south of the depot, including the Confederate Cotton Press, ferry boat Marion, railway, and all the cotton stored south of the ferry—about six thousand bales. Loss estimated at from 6 to \$10,000,000.

On Sunday morning, the 17th, our cavalry pickets near Plymouth found a negro spy coming into our lines wearing the dress of a field-hand, and having a red handkerchief tied around his head. Under this dress was found the full uniform of a Yankee soldier. The negro was hung on the spot.

A SOLDIER ACCIDENTLY KILLED.—Lieut. Lane of the 50th N. C. T. was accidentally killed at the Depot of the Central Road at this place on Sunday last, by being caught between the platform of the water tank and the train of cars while in motion, thus horribly crushing him, and causing immediate death. [Greens Patriot 21st.

The noted outlaw, "Bill Owens," we are glad to learn from the Fayetteville Observer, has at length been captured, and is now in jail at Asheboro'. This notorious scoundrel has long been prowling around in Randolph and adjoining counties, robbing and killing people, and attempts to arrest him have been hitherto unsuccessful. But the Sheriff recently hearing of his whereabouts, summoned his posse and went in pursuit. He was discovered in a brush with his wife—no arms about him, and none of his associates to be seen. He has a dangerous wound, received, as he says, in that affray at Simon's last February. He is now where, it is to be hoped, justice will reach him. Peter Warner, a detailed soldier from the army, was met with and summoned by the Sheriff, and was one of the Sheriff's posse when Owens was taken, and Garner was the first man that "bearded the lion." There were no remains of any property or goods about the deserted camp, save part of a newspaper—the Raleigh Standard.—Confederate 20th.

LET NO MAN BE DECEIVED.

Extremes meet, says the Raleigh Conservative. Thus far in the canvass for gubernatorial honors, not one word against Gov. Vance's administrative acts has been urged—certainly nothing openly. All objections have been merely appeals to the prejudice of party feeling. The destructives are supporting Vance, therefore Vance is wrong, they say. This charge is only partially true. Many original secessionists who voted against him two years ago are now in his favor. But the great father of secession in North Carolina, he who, as much as any man, is responsible for this furious war and bloodshed; who, by his writings in 1850 and 1856, lashed the popular mind into a secession fever, and then, in 1861, voted the State out of the Union, is now Gov. Vance's opponent. "People in glass houses should not throw stones." Men who have labored to destroy one government cannot be expected to be good conservatives of another. The man who has spent the best part of his life in leading the people into quagmires, cannot be depended on as a guide through the "slough of despond," in which we are now plunging. He who has deceived you once will probably deceive you again. How can a man be trusted at all who has deceived you ten times? A man who has been a life-long conservative; who battled long and manfully for the life of the old government, against the secession party; can certainly be trusted in preference to the leader of that party. Don't Mr. Holden know that whenever he abuses original secessionists he strikes himself? What is an original secessionist? One who was one at the start, early, the first. Mr. Holden advocated the right of secession as early as in 1850; threatened it in 1856, if Fremont should be elected and voted it into effect in 1860. And now he sees the dreadful results of his teachings, he can't forsooth, abide the man for whom an original secessionist may vote, even under protest, and modestly offers himself to be voted for in preference to him who always opposed his doctrines.

Genl. Wirt Adams met and repulsed the enemy 1,500 strong near Mechanicsville, Miss., on the 20th ult.

Some of the Elylocks, in Montgomery, Ala. have been conscribed for discounting \$5 bills.

Leach is elected by about 2,000 majority.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT N. C. ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE. RALEIGH, April 14, 1864.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 12.

1. The following General Orders from the Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, C. S. Army, Richmond, Va. concerning impressments, are published for the information of all concerned: ADJ'T AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, RICHMOND, VA., March 7, 1864.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 30.

The following Acts of Congress concerning "Impressments" and the instructions of the War Department respecting it, are published for the information and direction of all concerned:

An act to amend "an act to regulate impressments," approved March twenty-sixth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, and to repeal an act amendatory thereof, approved April twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-three.

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That in all cases where property is impressed for the use of the army and Navy, or for other public use, under said act, the same shall be paid for, at the time of said impressment, unless an appeal shall be taken from said valuation, as hereinafter provided, according to the valuation agreed upon between the parties, or ascertained by loyal and disinterested citizens of the city, county or parish in which the impressment may be made, in the manner and according to the regulations provided in the first, second and third sections

of the above recited act, or in the eighth section thereof, where it is applicable.

Sec. 2. Whenever the officer making the impressment of property, under the act hereby amended, shall believe that the appraisement is fair and just, he shall endorse his approval upon the appraisement, and make payment accordingly; but if he shall believe that it is not fair and just, then he shall refuse to approve, and endorse, the reason of his refusal on the certificate, and shall have the right to appeal from the decision of the appraisers, by reporting the case to the commissioners appointed under said act to which this is an amendment, for their decision, whose judgment shall be final; and in the meantime, the property shall be held and appropriated by the officer impressing the same, who shall give a receipt therefor to the owner, who shall also have the right of appeal as herein provided.

Sec. 3. The said commissioners shall have power to summon and examine witnesses to enable them to fix the value of property impressed, which shall be a just compensation for the property so impressed at the time and place of impressment; and when the commissioners shall have fixed the value of property in cases of appeal, they shall furnish the owner and impressing officer with a statement of such value, which valuation by the commissioners shall be within three months from the time of impressment.

Sec. 4. That said commissioners shall be sworn faithfully to discharge all their duties under this act, and the act to which this is an amendment.

Sec. 5. That the tenth section of the act of which this is an amendment be stricken out, and the following inserted in stead thereof: "No slave laboring on a farm or plantation exclusively devoted to the production of grain or provisions shall be taken for public use, without the consent of the owner, except in case of urgent necessity, and upon the order of the General commanding the department in which said farm or plantation is situated."

Sec. 6. That the act amendatory of the above recited act, approved April twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, and so much of the first section of said act as requires an affidavit to be made by the owner, or his agent, that such property was grown, raised, or produced by said owner, or held, or has been purchased by him, not for sale or speculation, but for his own use or consumption, be, and the same is hereby repealed.

Sec. 7. That no impressment shall be made under this act or the act to which this is amendatory, for the use or benefit of contractors with the government.

Sec. 8. Nothing in this act shall be construed to authorize the impressing officer to enter an appeal from any decision of the local appraisers, under the seventh section of the act to which this is amendatory.

Approved, February 16, 1864.

1. Impressments according to this act, and the act to which this is an amendment, may be made for necessary supplies for the Confederate armies in the field, and for their accumulation in Magazines and at posts and depots, and to carry on the various operations of the Military Bureau connected with the War Department, whenever the same cannot be obtained by contract.

11. They may be made under orders from the General commanding armies, departments, corps, divisions, and by commanders of detached parties when a necessity arises therefor. These orders may be executed by appropriate officers of the staff belonging to the army. The Chiefs of the various Bureaux shall designate the officers and persons who shall be competent to make impressments under the authority conferred upon them.

111. Before any impressments shall be made, the impressing officer or his agent, will make an offer to the owner, his bailee or agent, in writing, for the purchase of the property, describing the property he wishes to purchase, the price he is willing to pay, and the mode of payment, and stating that, upon a refusal to accept the same, compensation will be made according to the acts of Congress for the regulation of impressments. This notice will be considered as binding the property until the completion of the negotiation for the sale and transfer of the same to the impressing officer. The property will remain in the custody of the owner and at his risk during the pendency of these proceedings, unless a delivery of the same be thereupon made to the impressing officer, with his consent. In case of a change of possession under these circumstances, the Confederate States will be regarded as the owner, and the property be held for its use and at its risk.

1V. In all cases in which the offer of an impressing officer is refused, he will proceed to adjust the price according to the first section of the act above recited; that is, by the judgment of two loyal disinterested persons of the city, county or parish in which the impressment may be made—one to be selected by the owner, his bailee or agent, and one by the impressing officer. In the event of their disagreement, these two will select an umpire of like qualification. The persons thus selected will proceed to assess just compensation for the property so impressed whether the absolute ownership or the temporary use thereof be required. If the impressing officer believes that the appraisement is fair and just, he will endorse his approval and pay for the property; and the right in the object impressed will become the property of the Confederate States. But if he does not approve of the appraisement he will decline to approve it and endorse the reasons for his refusal on the certificate for which, and report the case to the commissioners appointed under the 6th section of the act, to which the act above recited is an amendment, and in the meantime the property will be taken and a receipt describing the property and proceedings for the adjustment of the price and the appeal, given to the owner. The impressing officer will immediately report the case to the appraisers, with a statement of the quality and condition of the property and his opinion upon the subject.

V. No officer or agent will impress the necessary supplies which any person may have for the consumption of himself, his family, employees, slaves, or to carry on his ordinary mechanical, manufacturing or agricultural employments.

If any question arises as to the fact whether the supplies are necessary, or whether there be a surplus it will be determined by appraisers mutually selected according to the preceding section, and in this case the decision of the appraisers will be binding on the officer, who will not be allowed an appeal therefrom.

VI. These regulations are published as a substitute for the regulations contained in General Orders, No. 37 and 161, series of 1863.

By order, (Signed) S. COOPER, Adjutant and Inspector General.

II. The foregoing regulations are published as a substitute for the regulations embraced in the 1st paragraph of General Orders, No. 9.

By order of Governor VANCE: B. C. GATLIN, Adjutant General.