

Hillsborough Recorder

THE CONSTITUTION AND THE LAWS—THE GUARDIANS OF OUR LIBERTY

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No. 2279.

An Act to increase the Efficiency of the Home Guard Organization.

Sec. 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same.* That whenever the Guard for Home Defence shall be called into service beyond the limits of their respective counties, the Governor may cause two or more companies to be consolidated into one company, so as to make not less than sixty-four men, rank and file, to each company; said company so consolidated shall elect from the Captains commanding the companies so consolidated a Captain to command such consolidated company, and from the First Lieutenants, Second Lieutenants and Junior Second Lieutenants of such companies, an officer of each of said ranks to be assigned to duty with such consolidated company, such of the officers of companies so consolidated as may not be selected for service with such consolidated company, shall be required to perform service as non-commissioned officers or privates in the consolidated company formed of their original companies, and while so serving their commissions shall be suspended.

Sec. 2. *Be it further enacted,* That the Governor may in like manner cause two or more battalions or regiments of the Home Guards when called into service beyond their battalion or regimental limits, or when called into service within such limits, in connection with other portions of such force, to be consolidated, said battalions when so consolidated, to be composed of not less than three companies, and said regiments when so consolidated to be composed of not more than ten companies. The Governor may assign to the command of such consolidated battalion or regiment any officer or officers from the battalion or regiment so consolidated.

Sec. 3. *Be it further enacted,* That the Governor may, in his discretion, in constituting the consolidation companies contemplated by the first section heretofore, take the one-fourth, one-third, or one-half of any company as at present organized with a due proportion of its officers, out of which to constitute such consolidated company, and such of the officers of companies as at present organized, as may be placed with fractions of their companies, to form a consolidated company—as may not be elected to command such consolidated company, shall be required to serve in such consolidated company as non-commissioned officers or privates, and while so serving their commissions shall be suspended. The Governor shall have power to discriminate in favor of farmers and mechanics, when he calls out a less number than the whole of a company, also to declare vacant the office of an officer who is declared by a medical board permanently disabled for field duty, militia or Home Guards, or of an officer who absconds to the enemy.

Sec. 4. *Be it further enacted,* That all Quartermasters and Commissaries of regiments or battalions of Home Guards as at present organized, that may not be assigned to duty by the Governor with a consolidated battalion or regiment, shall be required to serve as non-commissioned officers or privates, in some one company of their present command, and while so serving their commissions shall be suspended.

Sec. 5. *Be it further enacted,* That the Surgeon General, by and with the advice and consent of the Governor, shall appoint a Medical Board for each Congressional District in this State, whose business it shall be to examine all persons claiming exemption from Home Guard duty on account of physical disability, that these examinations shall be made at such time and under such rules and regulations as may be established by the Surgeon General, and that the members of said Boards shall receive the same pay and allowance while on duty as the Confederate Conscription Boards.

Sec. 6. *Be it further enacted,* That when such companies, battalions or regiments have been consolidated as herein provided for, they shall continue in such organization until further provisions shall be made in their behalf.

Sec. 7. *Be it further enacted,* That the second section of "an act in relation to the Militia and a Guard for Home Defence," ratified the 7th day of July, 1863, be, and the same is hereby amended, by striking out the word "these" in the 9th line of said section, and inserting the word "the;" that the third section of "an act to amend an act in relation to the Militia and Guard for Home Defence," ratified the 14th day of December, 1863, be and the same is hereby amended, by inserting between the words "regular" and "millers," the words "and public," and by inserting between the words "millers" and "blacksmiths" the word "and," and that the proviso at the end of said 3d section be and the same is hereby repealed: That in addition to the exemptions specified in the acts aforesaid, there shall be exempt from Home Guard duty all county trustees, regular and public tanners, hatters and shoemakers skilled in their respective callings, and who were employed in the same prior to the 1st day of January, A. D., 1863, and have continued to be so employed since that time.

Provided, tanners shall sell one-third of their leather to indigent soldier's wives and widows for their own use, at schedule prices.

Provided, that no provision of this act shall be so construed as to exempt from militia service any person mentioned herein, in case of actual servile insurrection or invasion of the county in which he resides, by Federal forces, except the persons and classes mentioned in 3d section of an act in relation to the Militia and a guard for Home Defence, ratified the 7th of July, 1863.

Sec. 8. *Be it further enacted,* That this act shall be in force from and after its ratification.

Read three times and ratified in General Assembly this 23d day of December, A. D., 1864.

R. S. DONNELL, S. H. C.
GILES MEBANE, S. S.

SABBATH PHYSIOLOGY.

The Almighty rested one seventh of the time of creation, commanding man to observe an equal repose. The neglect of this injunction will always, sooner or later, bring mental, moral and physical death.

Rest is an invariable law of animal life. The busy heart beats ever, from infancy to age, and yet for a large part of the time it is in a state of repose.

William Pitt died of apoplexy at the early age of forty-seven. When the destinies of nations hung in large measure upon his doings he felt compelled to give an unremitting attention to affairs of state. Sabbath brought no rest to him, and soon the unwilling brain gave signs of exhaustion. But his presence in Parliament was conceived to be indispensable for explanation and defence of the public policy. Under such circumstances, it was his custom to eat heartily of substantial food, most highly seasoned, just before going to his place, in order to afford the body that strength and to excite the mind to that activity deemed necessary to the momentous occasion. But under the high tension, both brain and body perished prematurely.

Not long ago, one of the most active business men in England found his affairs so extended that he deliberately determined to devote his Sabbaths to his accounts. His views were so comprehensive, so far seeing, that wealth came upon him like a flood. He purchased a country seat, at the cost of four thousand dollars, declaring that he would now have rest and quiet. But it was too late. As he stepped on the threshold, after a survey of his last purchase, he became apoplectic. Although life was not destroyed, he only lives to be the wreck of a man.

It used to be said that a brick kiln "must be kept burning over Sabbath;" it is now known to be a fallacy. There can be no "must" against a divine command. Even now, it is a received opinion, that iron blast furnaces will bring ruin if not kept in continual operation. Eighteen years ago, an Englishman determined to

keep the Sabbath holy as to them, with the result as his books testified, that he made more iron in six days than he did before in seven; that he made more iron in proportion to the hands and size of furnace, than any establishment in England which was kept in operation during the Sabbath.

In New York, the mind of a man who made half a million a year went out in the night of madness and an early grave, in only two years, from the very strain upon it by a variety of enterprises, every one of which succeeded.

"It will take five years to clear them off," said an observant master of an Ohio canal boat, alluding to the wearing out influences on the boatmen, who worked on Sabbaths as well as on other days. As to the boatmen and firemen on steamers on the Western rivers, which never lay by on Sabbaths, seven years is the average of human life. The observance, therefore, of the seventh portion of our time, for the purposes of rest, is demonstrably a physiological necessity, a law of our nature.

Hall's Journal of Health.

THE WIDOW MAKER.

The wisdom of the wise is sometimes condensed into an apothegm—a short maxim which embodies the result of years of labor in the search after truth; and in this convenient form passes into every-day speech, and serves to guide the conduct of every day life. "Know thyself," says one. "Know the occasion," says another, and the amount of practical wisdom which these maxims contain, has recommended them to the adoption of all succeeding ages, as excellent mottoes to be remembered and observed, in the formation of our character, and the disposition of our plans and purposes.

In like manner, a man's character is sometimes summed up in one phrase, and a name is given to him, as indicating that character, by which he will be known in all subsequent history, and which will serve to distinguish him, as an individual, from all his race, for the possession of those good or evil qualities which have made his designation appropriate. Thus we have such appellations as "the good," "the wise," "the meek," "the bold," as indicating that their possessors were distinguished by the exhibition of these virtues. Such surnames as "the butcher," "the dog," "the beast," as appropriate expressions by contemporaries of what must be the judgment of history on the character of those who are doomed to bear them.

But how unmeaning are all these opprobrious names, and how slight is their suggestion of wickedness, by the side of that which heads this article, and which we find applied by the New York Day Book, to the President of the United States.

"The widow-maker!" What a concentration of all that is horrible in the crime of murder, is to be found in this "new name," which the judgment of his own people has added to the many by which that most unfortunate of all rulers is even now known throughout the civilized world. We cannot dissent from the appellation as being unworthily bestowed, when we remember the long, long catalogue of husbands who have been hurried to their graves by the nod of this despot of the new world. For we must hold him guilty of all the blood that has been shed, from that of the first martyr in this revolution, down to the last man who has yielded his life in this destructive war. Three millions of men have perished since the United States began the invasion of the South, and throughout both sections of a once happy land the wail of the widow and the orphan has never ceased to pierce the skies. That cry ascends day and night, and calls for vengeance upon one unhappy man—the author of all this misery. And that ceaseless cry will be heard and answered. If not in this world shall come the retributive judgment, at least at the bar of divine justice the demands of the widow will be met and answered. "The name of the wicked shall rot," but the memory of the wicked man, "the widow-maker," will be "pl-

lorried in infamy," high upon the rolls of those whom earth detested, while it feared. When they shall meet at the final "compt," the widow's look

"Shall hurl his soul from heaven,
And send'st shall catch at it."

GOD OVERTHROWS NATIONS.—"At what instant" God speaketh, a nation's overthrow is sure. As all sources of good are at His disposal, so are all causes of evil. When He bids pestilence, storm, and famine enter upon their terrible work, who can resist their ravages? The demon of war He controls, and overrules the wrath of man so that it shall effect His purposes. Who can preserve what God designs to destroy? He can muster the very elements into the war he wages against a nation devoted to destruction. The heavens shall be brass over their heads and the rains withheld for a season, and the ground shall refuse its increase, and gaunt famine extirpate a wretched people. The pestilence shall marshal its invisible armies and hurl them, in sweeping ruin, over the land. Or, one godless nation He may make His rod for the punishment of another still more wicked. What is the history of the world but the history of nations planted, and builded, and then plucked up, pulled down and destroyed? Has not this been witnessed of the Assyrian kingdom on the banks of the Tigris—the Chaldean on those of the Euphrates—the Persian, reigning from the Indus to the Mediterranean—Damascus and Idumea—Judea and Samaria—Greece and Rome? The warlike States of the Philistines, and the commercial republics of Phœnicia have all flourished and decayed. How have so many brilliant creations of human industry vanished? Where are those ramparts of Nineveh, the palaces of Persepolis, those temples of Balbec and Jerusalem? Where the fleets of Tyre, the dock yard of Arad, the workshops of Sidon? The history of nations has been a history of rise, progress, prosperity, decline, decay and fall. Philosophers may hunt for human causes of all these disasters and think they have found them; but a profounder philosophy, looking beneath surface theories, uniformly finds moral debasement forerunning national calamities, and, connecting the one with the other, rises to the conception of a sovereign, just and ruling God.

When, we anxiously inquire, by what power shall we attain peace and independence?—by what power shall the might of our enemies be overcome, and their purpose disappointed?—We do not enter upon the ultimates of the answer until, passing beyond human agencies, our faith rests upon an intervening God. Admitting his being, we cannot doubt that the power belongeth unto Him.

Burrows.

THE NEWSPAPER BUSINESS.—Whatever else may be said of newspaper men, it cannot be said of them that they are extortioners. A few figures will show this. For almost every article they consume in their families or in their business they have to pay prices regulated by Confederate currency paid for gold coin. At present one gold dollar demands from forty to fifty Confederate dollars—say forty. We charge for our daily paper at the rate of sixty Confederate dollars per year, which is just one dollar and a half per year in gold. Before the war no man would think ten dollars per year too much for a daily paper. At that rate our subscription price should now be four hundred dollars, and yet we charge but sixty. When newspaper readers murmur at the advance of the price of newspapers let them just think of this. The Wilmington papers have just raised their rates of subscription and advertising. The daily papers of that city now are \$25 for three months, and advertising is \$5 per square for each insertion. The simple truth is all newspapers will have to increase their rates or stop, or else a great change in other matters must take place. Some general standard of value must be recognized, and we don't care much what they may be.

State Journal.