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RETALIATION.

The remarks we made yesterday on the rules of war, suggested by the Sherman-Hampton controversy, do not seem to agree with the opinions entertained in Richmond.

We showed conclusively, yesterday, as Sherman had previously shown to Wade Hampton, that foraging was a legitimate war right; that Sherman's army differed in every essential from a band of guerrillas; that it was prosecuting perfectly proper and regular warfare; and that therefore his soldiers were entitled, when captured, to the same privileges and treatment which the custom of all civilized nations accords to prisoners of war.

Hampton claims the right of judging the conduct of Sherman's soldiers, and of punishing them too. Some days ago he caught a party of them simply foraging and immediately hung them to a convenient tree, affixing an ignominious placard to their bodies.

General Sherman, on learning of this, sent a communication to the rebel, telling him that such treatment of prisoners would not be permitted, but that for every soldier so hung he should hang a rebel from the prisoners then in his hands, very significantly adding that he could stand this mode of warfare as long as the rebels could.

Hampton replies by threatening to hang two Federal soldiers for every rebel hung by Sherman. Now what a picture is here presented of the humanity and christianity of this great American people in this nineteenth century.

Hampton threatens retaliation. The rebel congress wants retaliation. The Richmond press blatantly echoes cry, retaliation. Well, let us

have retaliation. The national army has suffered indignities, outrages, cruelties, flagrant enough. Let a stop be put to it. If retaliation will stop all this let retaliation be the war cry.

GOLD.

It is one of the phenomenon of the times that, notwithstanding the draft just commenced in the north for three hundred thousand men; notwithstanding the increased taxes imposed by the last congress, and the new loan of six hundred millions of dollars just authorized; notwithstanding that Richmond is yet neither captured nor evacuated, the confidence of the people in the stability of the government and its power to put down the rebellion rather increases day by day.

AN INTERDICTION ON TRADE WITH THE REBELS.

The publication to-day of the order of General Grant, suspending treasury permits for trade in Virginia, North and South Carolina and Georgia, and declaring all contracts made under such permits void, will cause general consternation among cotton and tobacco speculators, who have made calculations of reaping large fortunes from their operations under way and in contemplation.

THE RESULT OF REBEL CRUELTY.

The startling fact has been derived from rebel official sources by a correspondent with the Army of the James that during the past two years sixty-four thousand national soldiers have died in rebel prisons. Of these thirty thousand were buried at Andersonville, Ga.; twelve thousand at Danville, Va., and ten thousand at Richmond.

WASHINGTON ITEMS.

WASHINGTON, March 15, 1865. MEDALS OF HONOR PRESENTED TO SAILORS. To-day five sailors, who were among the fifteen who, under Lieutenant Cushing, blew up the rebel ram Albemarle, when eleven were captured, two drowned and two escaped, were presented with medals of honor, prepared by the Navy Department.

PRESIDENT'S PROCLAMATION TO DESERTERS. The Provost Marshal General has issued a circular in conformity with the recent proclamation of the President, pardoning deserters on certain conditions, instructing all officers and employees of his bureau to give prompt attention to the receiving and forwarding of such deserters as may present themselves in accordance with its provisions.

RUMORED ARRIVAL OF REBEL PEACE COMMISSIONERS AT CITY POINT.

There are rumors in town of the arrival of peace commissioners from Richmond at City Point, en route for Washington. These reports have led to a good deal of talk and all kinds of suppositions; but they have not as yet been ascertained to be true.

GENERAL HOOKER DESIRES SERVICE IN THE FIELD. A strong effort has been made to have General Hooker assigned to an active command. It is understood that he has been applied for, and will soon be sent into the field.

THE NEW CONSUL GENERAL TO HAYTI. Prof. H. E. Peck, of the Oberlin College, Ohio, has been appointed commissioner and consul general to the republic of Hayti, vice B. F. Whidden, resigned. The salary is seven thousand five hundred dollars per annum.

THE PRESIDENT'S HEALTH IMPROVING. The health of Mr. Lincoln is so greatly improved that he was able to-day to give audience to a host of visitors, including the members of

his Cabinet, and to accompany Mrs. Lincoln to the German opera this evening.

The Occupation of Winoboro.

The editor of the Winoboro News furnishes the following incidents of the occupation of that town by the federal army:— The main army was preceded by a body of "bummers," as they call themselves, who rode into town helter skelter, and proceeded to ransack public and private property. A few hours afterwards, the Twentieth corps, under General Geary, made its appearance, stationed guards in and around the town, and re-established order.

COMMERCIAL.

We have already printed the ruling rates of gold in New York on the 16th, when it closed at 175 1/2. We received yesterday the details of the previous day's (the 14th) market, which we append:— CLOSING PRICES AT GALLAGHER'S N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE.

Table with 2 columns: Commodity and Price. Includes Gold, Canton Co., Cumberland Coal, New York Central, Erie, Hudson, Reading, Michigan Southern, Illinois Central, Cleveland and Pittsburg, Chicago and Northwestern, Chicago and Northwestern Preferred, Chicago and Rock Island, Pittsburg, Ft. Wayne and Chicago, Mariposa.

New York, March 17. Gold, which was steady yesterday morning, gave way again late in the afternoon, and closed down town at 169. Stocks were firm in the morning, but closed weak. Governments sold heavy. At the evening board gold closed at 167 1/2.

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENTS THEATRE.

Stage Manager,.....Mr. JOHN DAVIS.

Fourth Night of the Engagement of MR. & MRS. HARRY WATKINS

Thursday Evening, March 23d, 1865, will be presented the thrilling legendary drama of KATHLEEN MAVOURNEEN.

Kathleen Mavourneen,.....Mrs. H. Watkins. Terence O'Moore,.....Mr. H. Watkins.

To conclude with the laughable Farce of WHO SPEAKS FIRST.

To-morrow, Friday, benefit of MRS. HARRY WATKINS.

Admission.—Dress Circle, \$1 00; Parquette, 50 cents; Centre Gallery, \$1 00. Doors open at 7. Curtain rise at 7 1/2 o'clock.

VAN SICKLE, Tobacconist, No. 12, Market Street.

AFTER three raids on his Store, has a small quantity of Tobacco left. 6c.

STORAGE! STORAGE!! STORAGE for light articles, not contraband, may be obtained at usual rates at CASSIDY & VAN AMRINGE'S

STRAYED. A SMALL Colored Boy, about 4 years of age.— Any information of his whereabouts will be thankfully received by the subscriber, or the mother of the boy. [21 It] BENJ. MOTTE.

FOUND. A MARE AND COLT, which the owner can have by proving property and paying charges. CHARLES H. HUSSEL.

TO RENT. A VALUABLE RICE PLANTATION, on the Cape Fear River, about six miles above Wilmington, with a good Threshing Machine and Corn Mill. Attached to the Rice Plantation is a Corn Farm, containing about sixty-five or seventy acres of land, enclosed by an excellent fence.

Payment will be received in a portion of the produce. D. B. BAKER. March 18th, 1865.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

HEAD Q'S DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON, } Wilmington, N. C., March 21st, 1865. Notice is hereby given, that all Joiners' and Carpenters', and Mechanics' Tools not now actually used by the Government, must be turned in immediately to Capt. Blackman, Assistant Quartermaster, just above the Custom House.

All Axes above the number absolutely necessary for household purposes, must also be turned in. Good Mechanics who bring Tools, will find immediate employment. Receipts will be given for property taken.

Rewards will be paid for information as to where Tools can be found.

By order of Brig. Gen. HAWLEY. E. LEWIS MOORE, Capt. and A. A. G.

ABANDONED LANDS AND PLANTATIONS.

There appears to exist a most urgent demand for immediate action in relation to the abandoned Plantations and Lands in this vicinity. Until some authorized Agent, appointed under the recent act of Congress relating to abandoned lands, appears for the purpose of assuming control, it seems an urgent military necessity that they should be occupied as far as possible, and put in process of cultivation.

After full consultation with the military authorities, the plan of leasing to active and reliable persons, white and colored, will for the present be adopted. Leases will be given to such parties for such an amount of land as they can give assurance of their ability to cultivate; also for Turpentine and Tar privileges. It will be required of all parties so leasing that every reasonable effort will be made to give immediate employment not only to freedmen and their families residing and remaining on said lands, but to white and colored refugees who have recently come within the federal lines.

For the purpose of expediting this matter, it is hoped that truly loyal parties will bring and send in reliable statements of abandoned lands, their situation, extent and locality. The Local Treasury Agent for Wilmington, ULYSSES H. RITCH, Esq., will receive and act upon applications for leasing the lands in question. His office, for the present, will be at the Court House.

In a few days he will probably move to a room in the City Hall building. Every effort will be made by him to co-operate with the military authorities in promoting the objects alluded to.

D. HEATON, Sup. Sp'l Ag't Tr. Dep't. Wilmington, N. C., March 20th, 1865.

TO CITIZENS.

As a necessary sanitary measure all grounds, particularly back yards, where matter detrimental to health is collected, will be cleaned at once. All persons occupying premises are hereby directed to cause them to be cleaned without delay. The offal and rubbish which cannot be safely burned may be drawn without the immediate city limits. For this purpose, if necessary, all carts, wagons or drays may be temporarily impressed, and those not having them can obtain them by applying to Lieut. S. S. Hicks, 6th Conn. Vols., at the Provost Marshal's office.

By order of JOSEPH C. ABBOTT, Brevet Brig. Gen., Commanding Post. Wilmington, March 20th 1865.

HEADQ'S DIST. OF WILMINGTON, } Wilmington, N. C., March 16th, 1865. SPECIAL ORDERS, } No. 13.

[EXTRACT.] \* \* \* \* \*

IV. Mr. Thomas H. Hawley, at the old stand of Hedrick & Ryan, Market Street, Wilmington, is authorized to open an Intelligence Office.

Persons wishing employment, a house or farm, servants or mechanics, and those wishing to hire, will make application to him.

By order of Brig. Gen. J. R. HAWLEY: E. LEWIS MOORE, Capt. & A. A. Gen'l.

A CARD. New York, 505 Broadway, March 1st, 1865.

To my former friends and patrons of Wilmington, N. C., and surrounding Country:

Having located myself in this City, I am prepared to offer at our house, (South & Baldwin) next building below "St. Nicholas" Gents' Shirts, Drawers, Collars, Cravats, Ties, &c., &c., a full assortment of Furnishing Goods.

Ladies' Linen Under Garments of all kinds, beautifully made, accurately cut and of the best material—Linen, Cotton, Silk and Flannel. Also a complete assortment for Misses and Boys.

One hundred Girls work on the premises, and all garments made under the immediate supervision of the proprietors. Mrs. Wintle's Card appears in another column to which the attention of Ladies is directed. Respectfully,

O. S. BALDWIN. March 1. 24-w-is.

NOTICE. I HAVE OPENED A STORE on Princess, between Water and Front Streets, for repairing Watches, Clocks, Jewelry, and all kinds of Glass, China, Gold and Silver Ware. Custom solicited. ROBERT W. PATEN. March 17th, 1865. 16-4\*

WANTED. A SEWING MACHINE Wheel and Treadle. Also Gold and Silver, at my Store on Princess Street. ROBERT W. PATEN. March 17th, 1865. 16-4\*