

# THE HERALD OF THE UNION.

Vol. 1.—NO. 23.

WILMINGTON, N. C., FRIDAY MORNING, MARCH 31, 1865.

PRICE TEN CENTS

THE HERALD OF THE UNION.

WILMINGTON, N. C., MARCH 31.

## LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

**Theatre.**—Benefit of Mr. H. Watkins. The last appearance but one of Mr. Watkins as his talented lady takes place to-night, which occasion we hope to see the house full as the deserts of this talented couple merit. It is an extraordinarily strong one. The final drama of The Pique Patriot will be acted with Mrs. Watkins as Isabel Carleton, and of the war-path, and Mr. H. Watkins as the hero. Before the war this play was very attractive in the southern as well as in the northern States. The Richmond press pronounced Mr. Watkins' Jocko the "greatest piece of negro acting ever on the stage," and it gained as great a popularity even in Great Britain. In addition to above Mrs. and Mrs. W. will appear as Mr. and Mrs. Hotwaughter in a well done domestic broil. It takes two to quarrel. The title is suggestive of fun, so that, take it all in all, it is self-sufficient amusement seekers find so much entertainment afforded in a single night's programme. The Pleasant Peers and Too late for the Train were repeated last night to a house which was filled despite the unpleasant state of the weather. Mr. and Mrs. W. richly earned the plaudits of applause which the very appreciative audience passed upon them.

**STORM YESTERDAY.**—A rainy spell from westward was followed yesterday by one of the sudden changes peculiar to this latitude. The wind veered around to the southwest and brought us a succession of small hurricanes, rain, and "blows." We have heard of no such thing beyond the removal of a few tiles and unceremonious tricks of old Bore's with awnings and the like, though the wind blew at times in the most dismally terrible way threatened to blow down the city.

**WHARVES.**—The vicinity of water street presented quite a business-like appearance yesterday owing to the large number of vessels at the wharves. There have been quite a number of arrivals during the past few days, and the work of unloading and transshipping supplies for the front rendered the district along the wharves quite busy. The stores, too, in the various streets are opening and Wilmington is fast returning to its former way of things.

**APPOINTMENT OF HARBOR MASTER.**—Captain Emerson, a gentleman long experienced in maritime matters on the Atlantic coast, has been appointed harbor master of this port. Captain Fitch, who has been acting in the return of Captain Ainsworth to his old post at Fortress Monroe.

**STREETS AGAIN.**—The rain yesterday interfered with the operations of the force engaged in cleaning the streets. Perhaps Jupiter Pluvius was on the labors of our energetic provost marshal, Colonel Randall, and thought it was his duty to give him some assistance with his showers of clouds.

**PAPERS.**—The arrival of steamers yesterday has given us another instalment of late newspapers. They are for sale at Tully's, in the basement of Cutter & French, opposite the Court Buildings.

**DEATH OF ANOTHER CITIZEN.**—Mr. J. P. Sharp, a well known citizen, died yesterday, after illness.

**The Army of the Potomac.**—WASHINGTON, March 24, 1865. Troops received from the Army of the Potomac that a great deal of firing has taken place lately, the rebels opening fire on some of the working parties, as well as at the Avery signal station, and upon passing railroad tracks, but so far the fire has done no injury. The firing on the same portion of the line has continued constantly at night, mainly to prevent the rebels from the rebel army. The rebels still refuse to exchange Richmond

the army on Wednesday a rumor prevailed that had taken place between Gen. Ord's and the enemy on Tuesday, but there is no foundation for it. Troops of General Ord were being drilled in camp and packing up, which probably led to the story. Several deserters came in last night, in a division of the Ninth corps, bringing arms and equipments with them.

Richmond Enquirer contains an admission that the South's readmission may become a question.

Persians, as ancient writers inform us, teach their sons to ride, pay their debts, and tell the truth. This was a long time ago.

## THE SOUTH.

### URGENT CALLS FOR UNANIMITY AMONG THE PEOPLE.

#### Appeal to the Virginia Slaveholders to recruit for the Negro Regiments.

##### GOVERNOR BROWN AGAIN PROCLAIMING TO THE GEORGIANS.

&c., &c., &c.

##### PATHEPIC APPEAL TO THE VIRGINIA SLAVEHOLDERS.

[From the Richmond Enquirer, March 23.]

The regular election for members of the legislature will take place to-day. Quite a number of candidates are desirous of representing the dear people, but as the candidates are more numerous than the officers several patriotic individuals will doubtless be elected to stay at home, while perhaps one or more of the present incumbents may be sent to the front "with muskets on their shoulders and bayonets by their sides." But that is a question for the dear people to decide, and we simply add—vote early. The enactment of the negro enlistment bill into a law is not by any means all that has to be done. The necessity that urged that law was not satisfied by its enactment, but still demands that the people shall by their action make the law successful. Unless the people will take the matter into their own hands, and by inducements urge the negroes to volunteer, and actually give them their freedom when they are enrolled, the effects expected from the law will be defeated. We cannot too earnestly urge this matter upon the people of Virginia, and they cannot act in the matter too fast. They cannot disguise the fact that every day the enemy is carrying off their negroes and enlisting them to fight against us. Slavery is clearly being bled by the army of the enemy, and though our people may defeat temporarily the laws of their own government, they cannot protect their negroes from the enemy. Every raid numbers by thousands its captured negroes, which are now not only withdrawn from production, but are enlisted soldiers in the armies of the enemy, and which might have made soldiers in our army. The law provides only for twenty-five per cent of the slaves of the military age being taken. Will not every slaveowner seek to induce one-fourth of his negro men to enlist, and give them their freedom? If an honest and earnest effort is made by masters, and inducements held out to negroes, General Lee can easily raise the reinforcements required by his army. It remains with the slaveowners to make this law for negro volunteers successful. If they will they can induce their negroes to volunteer; but if they will not act—if they prefer to let the law fail and seek not to induce their negroes to volunteer—then the country will have to consider of such changes in the law of slavery as shall make that institution perform its full share of the national defence, and from an element of weakness convert it into one of strength. This law met not only with that strong opposition incident and natural to violent resistance, but the discussion indulged in after its necessity was established and its passage certain was calculated, if not designed, to defeat its operation and render it fruitless. We hope that the patriotic slaveholders will not, by indifference or care of property, permit the law to prove of no value; but that they will conscientiously set to work to induce their slaves to volunteer, and send forthwith to the army their quota of slaves. Many of the best officers are anxious to obtain command of negro regiments, and many of the veteran regiments are willing to receive negro companies. General Lee has urged the measure, Congress has passed the act, the success or failure rests with the people.

##### UNANIMITY PREVAILING ALL OVER THE SOUTH.

[From the Canton (Miss.) Citizen.]

All over the confederacy we hear of largely attended and enthusiastic public meetings being held, where the stern resolve—"No submission—no reconstruction—no subjugation—no independence or death"—is the characteristic feature. Perfect unanimity prevails everywhere. On the 1st instant, a public meeting of this character was held in this place, when a series of the right kind of resolutions were unanimously adopted, resolutions of unshaken confidence in God's providence and the justice of our cause, and the meeting was addressed by Judge A. H. Handy, Dr. W. F. Camp, Captain Franklin Smith and General T. C. Tupper. The restoration of General Joseph E. Johnston was especially urged.

##### A SPECIMEN OF SOUTHERN UNANIMITY.

[From the Canton (Miss.) Citizen.]

The following is the resolution offered by Hon. Wm. Yergler, of Hinds county, which elicited such a lively discussion:— Resolved, by the State of Mississippi, That the laws proposed in the congress of the confederate states to employ, for the use of the government, all the cotton and tobacco belonging to the people, and to conscribe and arm slaves, and place them in the army, with a promise of emancipation upon condition of loyal service, are inexpedient, impolitic and unconstitutional; and, if passed, will tend to impair confidence in the government, and establish a

precedent dangerous to the rights and liberties of the people of these states.

ANOTHER SPECIMEN OF THE SAME SORT. [From the Canton (Miss.) Citizen.]

The telegraph yesterday announced that Georgia is going to operate against the government in arming negroes. We guess the negroes will go into the service regardless of the Georgia legislature. This fight must be won, and the slaves must be used in it when necessary. GOVERNOR BROWN EXHORTS THE GEORGIANS. [From the Richmond Whig, March 23.]

MACON, March 9, 1865.

Governor Brown sent a special message to the Legislature, expressing his gratification that it concurs with him in almost everything recommended in his late message, except a convention. He fears the people may in future imperatively demand a convention at a time less favorable for calm deliberation and the selection of delegates of known patriotism and loyalty. But while we may differ as to the best means of correcting abuses admitted by all to exist, it is the duty of every patriot to do all in his power to fill up, strengthen and sustain our gallant armies, and provide for the comforts of the families of our soldiers. He recommends the passage of a law to compel all civil officers who are exempt to faithfully and promptly arrest and retain all deserters and stragglers; congratulates the Legislature, country and army on the restoration of General Johnston; appeals to Georgians at home and in the field, while they demand the correction of abuses and maintain the landmarks of liberty, to never permit our proud honor to trail in the dust, nor our cause to suffer, but strike with heroic valor in the thickest of the fight, till freedom and constitutional liberty be firmly established.

##### PURIFICATION OF THE REBEL CAPITOL.

[From the Richmond Whig, March 23.]

Some of the penitentiary hands were yesterday employed in scrubbing and scouring out the Capitol building from top to bottom. The Congressmen and their constituents left it in a most filthy condition. Its hall, corridors and lobbies, were literally choked up with cigar stumps, quids of tobacco and peanut hulls.

##### REBEL OPINIONS OF WIGFALL.

The Raleigh Confederate and the Lynchburg Virginian are very severe upon Senator Wigfall for his course towards the President. The Confederate says hereafter all confidence in him will be lost. The Virginian classes him as a factionist and firebrand, and adds—If this croaking and factious Senator would devote his eminent talents to reconciling the unhappy differences that have sprung up between the respective departments of the government, instead of constantly and persistently venting his spleen upon the President, he would render much more acceptable service to the country. The Virginian is also very trenchant upon the Senate for its shortcomings generally.

##### ANARCHY IN EAST LOUISIANA.

[From the Richmond Sentinel, March 23.]

According to all accounts a fearful condition of things exists in East Louisiana. The country is infested with jayhawkers, robbers and murderers. Persons are frequently found dead by the wayside. Women have also been killed. In short, anarchy reigns supreme.

##### FROM NEW ORLEANS.

##### Lew Wallace's Mission to Mexico.

##### MOVEMENTS OF THE ENEMY IN THE SOUTHWEST.

The New Orleans correspondent of the N. Y. Herald, writes as follows:—

I have already informed the readers of the Herald of the arrival in this city of Major General Lew Wallace. At first it was supposed that he would be assigned to active service in the field, but it now turns out that he was sent from Washington on a special mission to Matamoros, Mexico, for the purpose of inquiring into the alleged arrangement between Mejia and Slaughter, whereby refugees from freedom on one side and Mexico on the other were turned over to the tender mercies of these wretched. General Wallace has not yet returned from Matamoros. His delay may have been occasioned by even a more serious question than that which he was sent to inquire into, viz: the expulsion from Mexico of Mr. Etchison, the American consul, and the closing of the consulate at Matamoros by order of the imperial government. This news, or rather the first rumors of it, reached New Orleans before General Wallace left this city for Matamoros; but before he could have arrived there Mr. Etchison, Mr. Pierce, the ex-consul, and about seventy refugees, arrived at Southwest Pass on the steamer Patron. This may have hurried General Wallace's departure.

Trade in cotton has been prohibited by Gen. Forrest throughout the whole of his department, and all lines of communication in his command have been closed. This is supposed to be preparatory to an offensive movement. His force now numbers about 6,000 men.

A large portion of Hood's army is scattered from Rodney, Mississippi, to Yazoo city. Black mail is being levied on all cotton going out of the rebel lines in their jurisdiction.

Judge Gray, a Texas lawyer, has been sent by the Richmond government to the Trans-Mississippi Department to take charge of the rebel cotton trade. He announces that no cotton shall leave his department unless the twenty-five per cent assessed by the federal government is taken off.

## HIGHLY INTERESTING.

### OFFICIAL REVELATION of REBEL STATE SECRETS.

#### THE MILITARY STRENGTH OF THE CONFEDERACY.

##### Lee Believes the Cause Hopeless.

##### STEPHENS' PLAN FOR PEACE.

&c., &c., &c.

A correspondent of the Tribune furnishes the following interesting account of affairs in the confederacy:

WASHINGTON, March 23, 1865.

Information has been placed in my hands touching several points of great importance in regard to the rebellion, its military strength, its condition, the opinion and hopes of its political and military leaders, and the judgment of one of its most prominent men upon the possibilities and terms of peace. Without comment of mine, I submit them to you, with the single remark that for every fact I am about to state there is unimpeachable authority, and that these statements bear in themselves evidence of their authenticity and credibility.

First as to the military strength of the confederacy: The figures which I give do not date later than Feb. 4th, 1865, at which date they were not merely accurate, but were compiled from the official of the Confederate War Department.

On the 4th of February, 1865, the entire available force of the confederacy was 152,000 men. They were distributed as follows:

Lee's army.....	64,000
Bragg, including Hoke's division.....	9,000
Beauregard and Hardee.....	22,000
Dick Taylor, D. H. Hill and Howell Cobb.....	7,000
West of Mississippi.....	50,000
Total.....	152,000

The 22,000 under Beauregard and Hardee includes the late army of Hood, and all the forces which evacuated Savannah and Charleston. The 9,000 of Bragg include all the garrison of Wilmington. These 31,000 constitute the bulk of the army now under Johnston in North Carolina, with such additions as have lately been made. The 7,000 under Taylor, Hill and Cobb, are or were scattered through Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi, part of them constituting the present garrison of Mobile.

Of Hood's army the following is a correct numerical statement:

Entered Tennessee.....	47,000
Came out.....	17,500

Net loss of that campaign.....29,500  
In East Tennessee and West Virginia there were in February but 4,500 men altogether, and the greater part of them were transferred March 1, and thereafter to Lynchburg.

##### GEN. LEE'S TESTIMONY.

A committee of the rebel senate was engaged early in the present year in an inquiry into the condition of the confederacy. Among the witnesses summoned before them was Gen. Lee, and the following are extracts from his testimony, on the 24th January, 1865:

**Question by Senator Hunter**—What is your opinion as to evacuating Richmond, and withdrawing the army to North Carolina?

**Answer**—In my opinion, it would be a bad movement. The Virginia troops would not go to North Carolina; they would go home.

**Question**—Do you think we have troops enough for the next campaign?

**Answer**—I do not. We cannot last till mid-summer.

**Question**—What do you think of the policy of arming 200,000 negroes?

**Answer**—If we are to carry on the war, that is the least of evils; but in such an event the negroes must have their liberty.

**Question**—Do you think we could succeed by putting the negroes into the field?

**Answer**—That would depend on circumstances. We could at least carry on the war for another year.

**Question by Senator Hill**—What is the sentiment of the army in relation to peace?

**Answer**—It is almost unanimous for peace.—The men will fight longer if necessary, but they believe we cannot continue the war through another campaign.

**Question by Senator Graham**—What is your individual opinion on the subject of peace?

**Answer**—I think the best policy is to make peace on the plan proposed by Mr. Stephens. The people and the country ought to be saved further sacrifices.

**Question by Senator Walker**—If peace be not made before spring, will you consent to take command of all the armies of the confederacy, with unlimited powers?

**Answer**—I will take any position to which my country assigns me and do the best I can, but I do not think I can save the cause now.—No human power can save it. Had I been assigned such a place one year ago, I think I could have made our condition better than it now is.

**Question by Senator Orr**—You think, then,

[Continued on the 4th page.]