THE STATE JOURNAL, BALEIGH, N. C., WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 1863.

# THE STATE JOURNAL.

## WEDNESDAY, April 8, 1863.

At the last session of Congress that body failed t pass a tax bill when the whole people were loudly demanding the measure. We believe the Conservative press were especially loud in its censure of the omission, and forthwith proceeded to launch out into condemnation of the administration of Mr. Davis for this non-action of Congress.

Congress has now, it is understood, nearly matured a bill of the kind. At once the cry of opposition is raised by this same Conservative press against the bill, and the administration is assailed most furiously. Were the opposition aimed at the details of the bill, we could give credit for its honesty. But as the provisions of it have not yet been matured, as we cannot know what the terms of it will be until it finally passes both houses, and it is not known that the President will approve it when passed, we take the incipient howl of opposition which is prepared to burst into a regular hurricane of denunciation as only the hypocritical ululations of the hired mourners at a funeral.

There is no principle and no honesty in the opposition to the tax bill before Congress as it now stands, because no one feature of it, as yet, has any binding force. It is only at this stage the special action of the members entitled to no more weight than their respective private judgments.

But a tax bill in some form is necessary and inevitable. The Government must be supported and the people must furnish the money in some form and at some day. If the Government goes on its present course of issuing vast quantities of paper currency, making no preparation to redeem it, it will soon be worthless. Like the notes of an individual who borrows from every person and pays none, the Government will soon find no one so credulous as to take its faithless promises.

If however, the people see the government making provision to meet its engagements, its money will be freely taken and full value given in every material which it needs.

Thus by a firm credit the debt of the country will be less and the people in the end will save immense sums of taxation by advancing at this time the means of fixing the credit of the Government securely.

At the present value of the currency a pound of

FROM OUR KINSTON COBRESPONDENT. KINSTON, April 5. EDITORS STATE JOURNAL :-- We have news from the Tar River county this morning, to the effect that Gen. Hill has completely beseiged Washington, N. C. Our troops have the town thoroughly encompassed, the enemy hemmed in at every point and cut off from all communication both by land and water, our troops having captured the enemy's batteries at Hill's, situated on the banks of the Tar River, seven miles below the town, which position gives us an open field and a fair fight with the Yankee shipping, should they attempt to pass up the river with reinforcements for Washington.

I learn, since writing the above, that two gunboats followed by several large transports loaded with troops from Newbern to reinforce Washington, attempted to run by our blockade at Hill's Point, on day before yesterday, when they were fired upon by our batteries, and so badly damaged as to be forced to put back. They could not pass our guns and at last accounts the enemy were landing troops below our works at Hill's Point, but I failed to learn on which side of the river they were landing.

Two flags of truce have been sent into Washington, by Gen. Hill; one demanding a surrender of the place, and the other forewarning the women and children to leave the town without delay. The abolitionists preemptorily refused to accede to either proposition. Gen. Hill has not yet shelled Washington, but will doubtless do so very soon, unless the Yankees surrender quickly.

Cannonading has been heard in the direction of Washington at almost any time for the last few days; but I learn that it is our troops engaging the enemy's boats along the river. This news, if true, is important and I have no

right to doubt one word of it, for it comes from most reliable sources.

#### ARMY CORRESPONDENCE STATE JOURNAL. CAMP NEAR FREDERICKSBURG, )

March 30th, 1863. MESSRS. EDITORS :- As I have noticed the Journal and several other North Carolina papers, and have seen nothing said about the 23rd N. C. Regiment, I think it nothing but right that something should be said, and if nobody else will say any thing, I will say a few words myself, though I do not feel myself at all competent.

This regiment has been engaged in most of the bat-tles from Williamsburg to Fredericksburg. It was engaged in and suffered s verely in the memorable battle of Seven Pines, in which its loss was terrible. Not less than 27 officers were killed and wounded, while the privates suffered in proportion. It was engaged in the series of battles fought around Richmond, likewise the memorable battles of Boonsboro' and Sharpsburg, in both of which its sufferings were intense.

Col. D. H. Christie, its noble commander, is a soldier by education and practice, and is noted for his bravery and the superior discipline of his regiment. We are now on the South side of the Rappahan-

		AN ABSTRACT OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES WAR TAX FOR THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA FOR THE YEAR 1862.									
		<ul> <li>61 Sampson,</li> <li>62 Stanly and Union,</li> <li>63 Tyrell and Washington,</li> <li>64 Wake, First District,</li> <li>65 Wake, Second District,</li> <li>66 Wayne,</li> <li>67 Warren,</li> <li>68 Wilson,</li> </ul>	ngh ngh n, n, n, n,	HHHHOOK	<ul> <li>41 Martin,</li> <li>42 Moore and Montgomery,</li> <li>43 Mecklenburg,</li> <li>44 Northampton,</li> <li>45 New Hanover, First District,</li> <li>46 New Hanover, Second District,</li> <li>47 Newbern,</li> </ul>		FEFODOOF	Caswell, Cherokee, Ja Chatham, Cleveland an Davidson, Davidson, Davie and Y. Duplin, Edgecombe,	<ul> <li>9 Buncombe, Madison, Yancey and Mitchell,</li> <li>10 Catawba and Lincoln,</li> <li>11 Caldwell and Burke,</li> <li>12 Cabarrus,</li> <li>12 Cabarrus,</li> <li>13 Craven,</li> <li>14 Cumberland,</li> <li>15 Chowan and Gates,</li> <li>16 Camden and Currituck,</li> <li>16 Canden and Currituck,</li> </ul>	d Watauga tes, mbus,	DISTRICTS.
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n ll er n st ig	\$3,303,404 \$	$\begin{array}{c} 800\\ 3,090\\ 11,439\\ 24,800\\ 345,036\\ 1,530\end{array}$	$35,380 \\ 19,370 \\ 5,000$	66, 27, 42,	20,671 807,405 757,688 299,695	00.8	$\begin{array}{r} 230,685\\ 1,317\\ 50,090\\ 2,378\\ 305\\ 700\end{array}$	4,637	46,985 700 98,260	\$`243,500 1,525 14,950 -26,800	Rail Road and other Corpora- tion Stock
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or th	\$268,373	3,222 265 6,270 15,169 10,702 4,908 13,372 2,158	4,85 1,02	14,76 14,76 2,89 58	5,98 5,98	2,350 2,50 2,50 2,50 2,50 2,50 2,50 2,50 2,	, 6864466 68 56655866	7,2 7,7 2 5		\$ 4,2571 4,352 4,352 4,352 4,352 4,3556 4,3556 4,3556 4,3556 4,3556 4,3556 4,3556 4,3556 4,3556 4,3556	Silver Plate
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meat is worth fifty cents. If the value of the Confederate notes were increased to that degree that the same meat could be bought for twenty-five cents, of course the expenditures for this article would only be one half what it now is. So in proportion with every thing else, and the people hereafter would have not more than one half of the debt upon them which is now being incurred by the want of some prop to the < credit of Confederate currency.

A stringent tax bill every body admits will secure this prop by lessening the volume of the currency and inspiring confidence in the honesty of the Governmeet to meet its liabilities, undeterred by the arts of demagogues and the mschinations of malcontents. Why not pass a heavy tax-bill with liberal exemp-

tions to the poor and the soldier ? There can only be too objections urged against the

measure. One is that the people dont want to pay any taxes

at all, for any purpose w.This is the plea of the demagogue, with no sense, no honesty and no policy in it. Another objection is that the Confederate Government is a tyranny and it does not become freemen to submit to its exactions.

There are some in the country who think and talk in this way. They say we have no confidence in the cause of the Confederacy, we never supported its creation, we have no love for it now and never had. we are not solicitous in seeing it sustained, and we wish it destroyed; therefore, we are willing to pay 'no taxes to sustain a cause we detest.

There is a policy in the reasoning of the latter class, a most destructive one. It is the policy of reconstruction, which has never been abandoned by a portion of our public men.

They forget one thing however. It is this, if the Confederacy, goes down, all their money will be worth nothing, and by sacrificing their country they will have destroyed themselves.

Demagogues and malcontents, then have already began their warfare upon the tax-bill. They will keep it up, and they will mislead many people into joining in the opposition.

But these things always have to be encountered by every free Government. The truc friends of the people, and the true supporters of our independence, as they have heretofor , so they must still battle against predjudice, ambition and treason, and in the end they will prove triumphant.

A tax-bill in some form is one of the necessities of of bur situation. We have no hope that one can or will be framed irce of objection. Such a one has never been framed by any legislative body. But the common good must be sustained at the expense of some inconvenience.

A VALUADIE TABLE .- Through the politeness of the Confederato Tax Receiver for this State, Wm. K. Lane, Esq., we are enabled to lay before our readers an abstract of the Confederate Tax paid by the State of North Cs.rolina for the year 1862. This table will be found to possess considerable value, and should be

nock waiting for the approach of the enemy. All is quiet now, and as the sun pours forth its brilliant rays upon our sunny soil, it seems like it would never be disturbed again by the roar of cannon or the sharp crack of the musket; but we expect to have to mest the enemy again and to face the cannon's mouth. And if we do, we will do it trusting alone in Him who has always stood by us and been our shield when · T. B. M. danger was nigh.

### The Voice of the People.

We continue extracts from our private letters. A subscriber writing from Hookerton, says:

"I send you five dollars for your Weekly, and when that amount is expended give me notice and I will respond to your call. I am anxious to see your paper sustained, and all other papers that will lay on upon old Buffaloe Holden, for I think he is one of the worst enemies we have in North Carolina. He is the big Buffaloe, and I am in hopes he will meet with what he deserves some day."

Another subscriber writes us as follows from Bertie county :

" Enclosed you will find two dollars for which you will please send your weekly paper to ----. I do not know the price of the Weekly. If this is not enough, I will send you the balance for the year. "I am a subscriber to your paper, and a willing one at that. It is such a strong war sheet, and advocates the freedom of the South in such a way, that it is, or at least ought to be, a welcome visitor to all. • • • I am trying to get all near me to take it. Holden's paper comes to this office ' thick

"There is a certain Union man in this county who has done more harm to us in this section than all others. He has bought a great quantity of cotton, and there is a report of his selling some of it to the Yankees. He and Holden did correspond in regard to it. The substance of the correspondence I am not aware of. But there is one thing certain, Holden and this man have done the Confederacy a great injury down here. This man is speculating in all the necessaries of life. He has done much towards depreciating (ur currency. He has been a merchant in Roxobel for some time, and consequently has some influence with the lower class of people. He has kept men here from joining the Confederate army, and caused them to join the Buffaloes. This cannot be proved. He was afraid to talk before Vance was elected Governor. but now, like Holden, he thinks the people will sanction all he says.

and heavy.

"Mr. Editor, this is not half. It is time his actions were looked into. There are strong Southern men here who are atraid to move for fear he will send the Buffaloes against them (for we expect them daily.) Will you please call the attention of the authorities to things down here."

We leave the people and the authorities to ponder the forcgoing, and for the present we suspend our extracts. The voice of the people shall be heard and as surely shall yet prevail.

We conclude for to-day with the following from a subscriber in Edgecombe :

" If it is not incompatible with the public interest I would like to know who "An Original Secessionist" is. He rakes that abolitionist Holden just right." It is incompatible with the desire of " Original Secessionist."

Affairs in Norfolk.

The following items are culled from a letter from a lady in Norfolk to her son, who is stationed in one of the batteries near this city : I wish to tell you something about the negroes, and

Peter H. Whitehurst. The negroes are doing as they please perfectly unrestrained ; they have parties and balls every week-last Tuesday night they had a very large one on Union street, and I am told they had every delicacy which could be bought or stolen. Last week, I and Mary (my daughter) started over to Portsmouth, and as we got near Barry's store we met two negro men, one of them looking me full in the face, said, "when white w men see a gentleman coming they must get out of their way," and he pushed me down, and the other pushed Mary on the street. On recovering I looked to see if there were no gentlemen who would protect and defend us. There was one man standing near, but he said if he were to do anything he would be seriously isjured. Is not this a sad state of things? But we are hoping for the day when we shall be delivered, and we will prtiently bear up under our troubles. Now for Peter II. Whitehurst. He has been unremitting in his efforts to oppress and afflict every Sccessionist in the city. A week ago he went to one of the Banks and exchanged for other money all the Virginia Treasury notes which he had, and then went to Gen. Viele and told him that the only way to humble and bring to their proper sense these secosh women was to prevent the circulation of Virginia Treasury notes, (this is the only money the soldiers could send home to their families which would pass here in Portsmouth.) Immediately Viele issued a proclamation, prohibiting the circulation of these notes, and it will astorish you to know that Peter H. Whitehurst is now going about and buying from the poor families these notes at fifty cents to the dollar, and openly boasts if the war lasts two years longer he will be a millionaire. Petersburg Express.

arefully aid aside for future reference. Our advertising friends will bear with us for one issue we are sure.

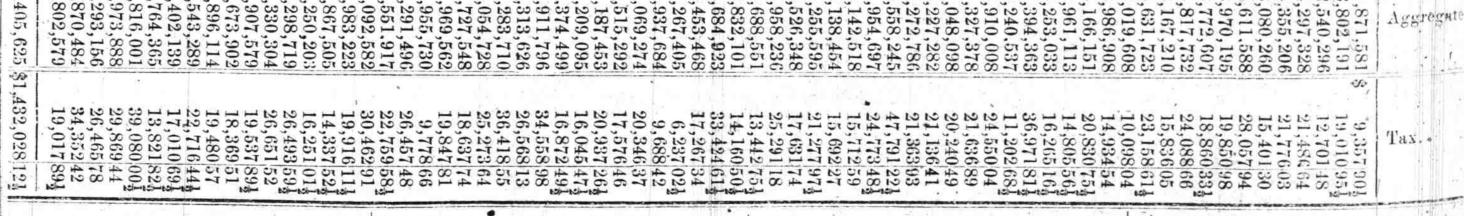
J. S. H. Beatty writes to us on business, dating his letter "Duplin Roads, W. W. R. R." There is no such postoflice, and hence we cannot reply to him, not knowing how to direct our letter. Should this meet Mr. Beatty's eye, he is informed that his money never came to hand.

We take this occasion to request all persons writing to us to name their posiofice, and all subscribers wishing their papers changed from one office to anothcr, to state the office from which as well as that to which the paper is to be sent. A little attention to -this matter will save us many hours of labor, and sccure prompt attention to their requests.

-----If the press of the country will imitate the example set by the Argus, as explained in the following ex-- tract from that paper, many a field intended for cotton and tobacco, will bear a crop of corn. Many a man, who will face his conscience and shut his soul against the appeals of patriotism, will cower before , the just lashings of the press. Let a record of those whose sole hope is gain, and whose hearts rejoice in the troubles of their country, as affording them an op\_ portunity to gather money, be kept, that hereafter, when they boast of patriotism or desire promotion, their ambition may be confronted by their shameless baseness in this hour of trial :

We have been promised by gentlemen, whose op-portunities of procuring the information are good, a list of the names of Planters who plant, this year, more cotton than will be necessary for home consumption. We will publish this list, that the people and the army may know and distinguish their friends from their epemies.

The enemy seem bewildered on the Yazoo. The expedition up Deer Creek proved an abortion, and the boats composing the expedition have left that section altogether. At Greenwood they have been signally repulsed and fell back to let their wounds heal, and make more collossal preparations for the next assault on Fort Pemberton. They look on this as the most feasible route to Vicksburg, and we think as soon as reinforcements are received, another attempt to remove the snag above Greenwood will be made. Vicksburg Whig, 31st.



#### An Absurd Rumor.

The following sensible remarks, from the Lynchburg Republican in connection with a most rediculous s neation story which has been atloat in this city for the last two or three days, we commend to all who may have been timid enough to place any reliance in it: There was an idle rumor affoat in our city vesterday, to the effect that President Davis was going to issue a proclamation announcing the evacuation of Virginia as a military necessity growing cut of the scarcity of provisions. We hardly suppose that any sensible man has given a moments credence to such a senscless report. A moment's reflection will teach any one capable of being taught a single idea, that if the evacuation of Virginia was a military necessity the President would have had too much prudence to announce it in an official bulletin to our enemies ; and it is a not less self evident proposition that to evacuats Virginia for the want of provisions would simply be to "jump from the frying-pan into the fire."-Where would our armies go for better supplies ? If the provisions are in North Carolina or Georgia they can be much easier transported to the Army of the Potomac, than the army can be transported to the provisions. Besides, to abanden Virginia on account of a lack of supplies would be to surrender all we have in Virginia at this time, and all we can promise ourself by the new crop of present summer. To give up the most valuable agricultural country in the world to the devastation of the enemy would be a very foolish way to feed our armies. But the rumer is too silly a one to demand notice,

and we have merely alluded to it, because there are a great many silly people in the world, who can blow a bladder into a bailoon of tremendous proportions .--Virginia is not going to be evacuated for any cause. and while there may be some scarcity of supplies in our army, it is simply because the necessary transportation has not been available for some time, and becarse the mode of executing impressments for some time has been such as to deter farmers from sending forth their products to market. There is plenty in the country to feed our armies until the new crop comes in, and enough of muscle in our army to whip the hosts of fighting Joe Hooker whenever that gallant Yankee may think proper to cross the Rappahannock.

The cause of the breaking of the bridge in Richmond recently, as the prisoners were marching over it, it is said to have been not their weight, but the fact that they were marching to music and keeping the step. This same thing caused one of the strongest iron bridges across the Loire in France to fall in 1855, with a regiment passing over. The regular tramp of a large number of men is the most trying ordeal a bridge can undergo. Some suspension bridges have notices prohibiting the marching of bodies of men to music across. The remedy is to march men across bridges in broken step. The same principle in marching is exhibited by the fly wheel. Let a heavy fly wheel be a few pounds out of balance, and get rapidly in motion on the upper floor of a building, it will shake it down.

The Literary Board. This Board met in this city on the 27th ult., at the Executive Office, all the members and the General Superintendent of the Common Schools, being present. The Spring distribution of \$100,000 was made to the several counties of the State, and the Board adopted measures to guard and increase the Literary Fund. to make it very efficient and available to the important interests for which it was founded. The Board unanimously adopted among others the

following resolutions: Resolved, That this Board appreciating the condition of the country and looking to the future history of this Common wealth, do hereby urge upon all Boards of Superintendents, School Committees and our citizens generally the absolute importance of an energetic and general effort to perpetuate and to increase in number and efficiency the common schools of the State, and that they are called upon to give to the General Superintendent their warmest co-operation. Resolved, That the funds of the Board under proper management are ample, together with the School tax from the people, to furnish and perpetuate in every School district in the State, an efficient school for a good portion of the year. Resolved, That it is the carnest desire of the Board,

that the Boards of Superintendents and School Committees, shall annually expend the entire amount of School Fund to the credit of each County in keeping up the Schools, and that they employ competent femakes as well as male teachers, and cspecially, when it can be done, wounded and disabled soldiers, at such prices as will renumerate them for-their services,

Resolved, That the assessments made for Compos Schools to those Counties which are now or may in possession of the enemy, shall be placed to credit of said Counties on the books of the Board, shall be disbursed to them as soon as this can be properly used.

Subsequently the following resolution was mousiv adopted :

Resolved, That it be respectfully recommended the officers of the Common Schools and to Wall of the State generally, to exert themselves for the adoption of measures for the education of young men, wounded and disabled in the army, in order that they may be enabled to pursue the occupation of traphing or other callings for which they may be physically qualified.

Prof. Sterling and Rev. C. H. Wiley were appointed delegates from the Board to the Teachers' Conven U., Christian Advocate.

MISTAKEN .- The Raleigh Standard is in errof in saying that every member in this State, who was in his seat, voted against the Tax Bill which recently passed in the House of Representatives. Every member from this State voted for the bill, escept one, the member from the Rateigh District. It i said that the bill was passed by a very large majority. The Standard was led into the error by the vote on the "Assessment Bill," a supplemental bill prescribing rules and regulations for putting the Tax Law in operation. All the N. C. members voted against the supplemental bill, probably because they consid ered it too complicated, - West. Democral.