

THE NEUTRALITY OF KENTUCKY.

There is one point in the message of the Northern usurper, (says the Nashville Union,) that is calculated to open the eyes of all who have advocated neutrality in either of the Southern States. It is particularly adapted to the condition of Kentucky.—Many of the people of that State have advocated strict neutrality between the North and the South, believing that they would be enabled to keep themselves free from the controversy, and save their State from the horrors of war.

The Legislature of the State adopted resolutions declaring that Kentucky would remain neutral in the contest, and would not permit the passage of troops over her soil from either party. The Governor, in accordance with these resolutions, issued a proclamation warning both parties from violating this neutrality. Inasmuch as all of Lincoln's acts were gross usurpations of power and clearly in derogation of the Constitution, Kentucky had a perfect right to assume this position, because any allegiance she owes to the Federal Government is under and by virtue of the Constitution, and what is violated and disregarded, she is at perfect liberty to refuse obedience to an unconstitutional authority.

But it was a delusion to suppose that the usurper would respect this neutrality. Assuming that, whilst a State remains in the Union, it is bound to obey all its edicts, no matter how arbitrary or unconstitutional, he claims perfect allegiance and demands the right to prosecute hostilities against the Southern States across Kentucky soil. He says that this neutrality is impossible and would "in the hands of Unionists and feed the insurrectionists."

The objection to it, as thus stated, is that it will prevent Lincoln from carrying on a war of invasion against the States which lie beyond the neutral territory. He says it "recognizes no fidelity to the Constitution, and no obligation to maintain the Union." The truth is, that neutrality in this war simply brands Lincoln's acts as usurpations, and the Union which upholds them as a despotism.

But his acts being usurpations, and his Union a despotism, neutrality to it is not enough. Armed hostility to it can alone save a State from its encroachments, and preserve the liberties and rights of the States and of the people. Lincoln will not recognize such neutrality. Nothing will do but assert obedience to his tyranny, and submission to his usurpations. Will Kentucky obey, like a slave, this last decree of the usurper? Will she cringe and crouch at his feet and be driven by his scourge into internecine war upon her Southern sisters? Will she allow her soil to be made the theatre of hostilities forced upon her unwillingly by this tyrant, without raising her ancient manhood and chivalry and resisting an unconstitutional tyranny, carried on under the mockery of upholding free government upon the earth? Will she adopt all of Lincoln's sophisms, and approve his perjured acts, by which he has overturned the Constitution and would now make slaves of the whole South? The issue is fairly made up by the usurper, and Kentucky must now choose her course. It remains to be seen how she will act. Her glory or her shame depends upon the response she may give.

FROM PENSACOLA.

A correspondent of the Mobile Register, under date of Pensacola, July 2d, has the following:

"Gen. Bragg yesterday sent a note in charge of Assistant Inspector General Slaughter, with another officer, under a white flag, to Col. Brown, at Fort Pickens. They were met at the usual place of landing, and making known their mission, handed the note to the old colonel, who, with trembling hand, adjusted his spectacles. Scanning the superscription—"To Col. Harvey Brown, commanding at Fort Pickens,"—he insultingly returned the paper, and without form or ceremony left his guests, who, disgusted with his rudeness, returned it, unopened, to General Bragg. What its contents were is not known, or at least publicly. Old Brown is very pantheistic, and must be addressed as "Col. Harvey Brown, Commanding Department of Florida." The old fellow puts on a good many airs about his "department," small as it is.

"Gen. Wm. H. T. Walker, the hero of a hundred fields, visited the city to-day. He looks improved in health very much. He talks freely with his friends, and you can see light in every expression of his soldier countenance. He dined with Capts. Randall, Lanier and Crump, and his personal friends and brother officers in the old army."

The usual outrages committed by Lincoln's Vandal thieves, wherever they have found their way into the South, are being perpetrated in Martinsburg. All citizens suspected of fidelity to the South are arrested and thrown into prison—their property taken for the use of the rogues—and that which cannot be appropriated to their own use, destroyed. A day of reckoning is in store for them.—Winchester Virginian.

The Watchman.

RALISBURY, N. C.

THURSDAY EVENING, JULY 16, 1863.

¶ We are authorized to announce WILLIAM A. HOUCK, as a Candidate for County Court Clerk of Rowan.

¶ We are authorized to announce JACOB S. MYERS as a candidate for County Court Clerk of Rowan.

¶ We are authorized to announce OBDIAH WOODSON as a Candidate for the office of County Court Clerk of Rowan County.

¶ We are authorized to announce THOMAS McNEELY, a candidate for re-election to the office of Superior Court Clerk.

Aid-de-Camp to the Governor.—We learn from the State Journal that Ex-Gov. Bragg has received and accepted the appointment of Aid-de-Camp to Governor Clark. It is a good appointment.

Rain.—We had a delightful rain on Tuesday. It was worth thousands upon thousands of bushels of corn to Rowan county alone.

The Richmond (Va.) Examiner, in a well written article of considerable length, complains of the course of certain men and newspapers by invidious remarks and comparisons in regard to what that State has done and is doing, in the present struggle. If the Examiner's allegations are true, and the ground of its complaints just, it is deplorable.

Reversed.—Our army has met with a sad reverse of fortune in Western Virginia—to what extent we cannot learn with entire satisfaction. We give in another place the most reliable news we could find. We have no doubt that our men were overpowered by a number vastly their superior; nor have we any doubt but they made their mark upon the enemy. We must, however, expect some reverses. The fortunes of war are never invariably on one side.

NORTH CAROLINA RAIL ROAD COMPANY.

The Annual meeting of this Company was held here last week; but the absorbing interest of the war, led us, as no doubt it has many others, to overlook the doings of that very respectable body of men who usually assemble to look after the concerns of this great Road. It was presided over by that venerable and most worthy public servant, Hon. J. M. Morehead. R. B. Roberts, Esq., and some other very clever gentlemen not now remembered, were Secretaries. A number of good things were pleasantly said by the gentlemen who participated in its deliberations during the short time we were present on Friday morning. Business was despatched speedily and in excellent temper; so much so, that we felt a real pleasure at the meeting for the first time in many years.

An election was held on Friday for four Directors on the part of Stockholders, which resulted in the choice of Messrs. Caleb Phifer, Gen. McRae, Giles Mebane and Thos. Webb. At a subsequent meeting of the Board, (which in addition to the above gentlemen, comprised Messrs. Paul C. Cameron, D. M. Barringer, Wm. T. Dortch, John L. Shaver, Delany, R. General, Sam'l Hargrave and T. Hawkins.) Mr. Paul C. Cameron was elected President. We have not received a copy of the annual reports, and can think of no particular action of this meeting deserving of special notice here.

Brigadier Gen. Rich. Reins, is organizing a Regiment of negro Zouaves in Richmond, Va. They are well spoken of.

The Richmond Examiner speaks in very disparaging terms of the Yankees in that city, and thinks it unwise in the Governor to strip the city of native troops, leaving these men behind. They are not fit to trust as soldiers in the field, nor to be left as faithful citizens to take care of the women and children and the public property. The time is at hand when every man must be openly either for or against us.

The State Journal believes there are traitors about Raleigh. And the Raleigh Register had a paragraph a few days ago about the "Union men" who were discontinuing their subscriptions, from which it might be inferred that that class of men in the State were numerous enough, on its list at least, to give it serious concern. We hope and believe that all these unfavorable things are only the creations of unfounded fears.

They have reports in the North that the South wants a compromise and a settlement, and will be therewith content. Their papers are jubilant over this news, and say—submission,—nothing short of absolute and unconditional submission!

The fact is, the only compromise the South will accept, is independence of the North or annihilation. We do not now, never did, and never expect to belong to the North, and they have no right to ask or expect submission from us.

KENTUCKY, OH! KENTUCKY.

Where are the descendants of the glorious old "bushers of Kentucky?" Can it be possible that the land of Clay, Crittenden and Breckinridge, has sunk so low in courage and patriotic spirit as to feel no resentment at the preparations being all around her for the moral enslavement of her citizens? She speaks of standing neutral. Lincoln very plainly tells her it is impossible: she must take sides with the Government whose protection she enjoys, and take sides she will. A recent election for Congress indicates that she will submit to the usurper at Washington. Her ancient renown is about to be dimmed. Oh! Kentucky, Kentucky! Missouri, like a young, unsuspecting, honest-hearted giant, stood still, too, for a while, watching the progress of events, and querying what all this fuss meant; but when she discovered plainly and positively the schemes of the black republicans, she immediately aroused herself; and now with giant efforts she is repelling her enemies. Maryland awoke in time to make a show of resistance, but not in time to prevent herself from being manacled and held like a prisoner. But Kentucky cannot be aroused! Her patriots sleep profoundly, whilst the clang of the large hammers of her enemies preparing fetters for her enslavement, ring in her ears. Is this the merit of her compromising disposition! And this the fruit of parleying with determined and wicked enemies! Old North Carolina will perish to the last man before she will bow her neck to her enemies in this unjust war upon her, and we praise God for it.

RESIGNED.

We find a card in the Wilmington Journal from Hon. W. S. Ashe, resigning his seat in the State Convention. Mr. Ashe thinks that the Convention was guilty of a usurpation of power in assuming legislative authority and proroguing the Legislature—that the Convention was called for one object only, that of dissolving the connection of North Carolina with the Federal Government and placing the State under the Confederate Government; after this was accomplished, he thinks the Convention should have adjourned. He protests against the action of the Convention, and not being willing to exercise power not delegated by the people when he was elected, he resigns his membership.

Char. Democrat.

We record the above with pleasure, as an evidence of the incorruptible public virtue of the old North State. May her citizens always stand by the right, or their honest convictions of right, to the extent of such personal sacrifices. All must respect Mr. Ashe's motives of action. His example is a high one.

Col. Tew's and Col. McRae's regiments are now full, and were to have left for Virginia last Monday. Some of the men have not yet received their uniforms, as we learn by private letter.

The Ellis Light Infantry, of Wake county, after long and difficult endeavors, is at last nearly ready for the field. They number about 112, and expect to march in a few days.

William Boylan, Esq., an aged and highly respected gentleman of Wake, died in Raleigh the 15th inst.

Mrs. Amelia McKimmon, wife of James McKimmon, Esq., died in Raleigh last Friday, after about 10 minutes illness.

Lieutenant Crossan has taken another prize.

O. S. Baldwin, of Wilmington, is prepared to furnish almost any article of dress or equipment required by soldiers or officers.

Our company of all Captains is nearly made up. Think we'll get up a whole regiment.—Milton Chronicle.

A regiment indeed! When that is full your work will only just be begun. You can raise "an army with banners" of officers. A friend down this way says he means to enlist a hundred officers, he himself being the only full private.—Fay. Ob.

There are a few up here. Where are they to rendezvous!

Mr. Editor.—In looking over an old book of Receipts I found the following, which may be useful to some one, and I send it to you.
A. D. W.
To prevent Wounds from Morbifying.—Sprinkle sugar on them. The Turks wash fresh wounds with wine, and sprinkle sugar on them.

From the Richmond Examiner, July 14.

The Battle of Rich Mountain.

On Sunday and yesterday, rumors of a startling and awful character were rife in our streets. Early Sunday morning, it somehow got noised about that some dread calamity had befallen our arms, but whether the disaster had occurred at Winchester or in the Northwest, newsmongers were unable to decide. At two o'clock on that day, passengers by the Central road brought information that sixteen hundred of our troops, under Lieut. Col. John Pegram, had been surprised and cut to pieces, or overpowered, by an overwhelming force under Gen. McClellan. During Sunday evening, this news, together with some corroborating telegrams, which originated in Cincinnati, formed a staple of street talk. Some citizens were disposed to believe all, and more than they heard, whilst others, who had started out in the morning, believing all that was rumored, and fearing that the worst had yet to be told, concluded the day by believing nothing, having canvassed so many widely different reports as to have talked and listed themselves into a state of utter and universal incredulity.

During yesterday forenoon, the same subject occupied the minds and tongues of most of our citizens, though the number of the sceptical as to the truth of the bloodiest rumor had largely increased. Thus the day wore on, every man among us feeling more or less anxiety to hear the news to be brought by the 2 1/2 o'clock Central car. The train was more than an hour behind its usual time, and long before it arrived a great crowd had assembled about the depot.

As the passengers alighted, they were immediately seized upon by friends and acquaintances and the news demanded; and although there were at least a dozen men on the train, who had come directly from the vicinity of the battle, many citizens, after hearing the exposition of some passengers who had only come from Gordonsville, or some intermediate point, went home with wilder and more exaggerated accounts of the fight and of our loss than had yet been exacted.

A gentleman directly from Beverly, who, from his high official position, must have had every advantage of accurate information, gave us substantially the following statement:

Lieutenant-Colonel Pegram, with three hundred men, being in the neighborhood of Rich Mountain, had been set upon by McClellan with his whole force, amounting to at least twenty-five thousand men.

For two hours the gallant little band under Pegram succeeded in holding in check this overwhelming force of the enemy. Finally, McClellan succeeded in sending round a force of several thousand men, and turning the flank, surrounded and cut off from retreat Pegram's battalion. Pegram was taken prisoner, twenty of his men killed, and thirty or forty wounded. Some few escaped through the enemy and got back to our camp; but some two hundred were either made prisoners or scattered through the woods in the mountains.

The enemy's loss is variously estimated at from forty to a hundred and fifty killed, besides a great number, several hundred, who are known to have been severely wounded.

We have the same high authority for stating that, during the fight, Col. Wm. C. Scott was posted by order within four hundred yards of Pegram's battalion, but took no part in the affair. Scott sent two messengers forward to ascertain what was going on; the first was shot by our own men, and the second, who was not sent forward until after the enemy had surrounded Pegram, was shot by the Confederates.

We learned from another source that the first messenger was very drunk, and that, on riding up in the rear of Pegram's men, he announced himself as a "Yankee Colonel," whereupon he was immediately shot. This rumor we give for what it is worth.

The rumors that Capt. Sam. Bailey, and several other of our citizens, had been killed, is entirely without foundation—no Richmond company having been in the engagement.

The Randolph Guards, from Fairville, is said to have suffered severely; out of ninety men engaged, only fifteen having returned in safety to camp.

Col. Scott is retreating to join Garnett, who, with twelve thousand men, is also falling back towards the Southwest Pass.

From the Charlotte Bulletin.

JERRISON CRTT, Mo., July 17.

Four thousand Missourians are gathered at Georgetown, and they have three pieces of artillery. The people are flocking to their standard.

New York, July 17.

The schooner Ella, from Tampico, bound to New York, is reported to have been captured off New Orleans.

Sales of cotton in New York to-day were made at from 15 1/2 to 15.

Washington, July 17.

The House Bill has been passed calling on the militia to suppress the rebellion. The militia to be discharged sixty days after the assembling of the next Congress, unless Congress otherwise direct.

The militia Bill calling out 500,000 men with the Senate amendment has been passed, with an additional amendment that the President select Brigadier and Major Generals from the Regular Command of Volunteers, who assume present rank at the close of the war.

In the Senate Mr. Breckinridge spoke in justification of the Bill.

Mr. Russell, in his letter (published in the London Times), says that the American camps are worse than those of the Crimea.

MARTINSBURG, July 15.

News from Little Rock reached here yesterday, via Pocomah, which states that McCulloch, with 12,000 men, attacked 14,000 Federalists at Springfield, killing nine hundred Federalists. An unconditional Surrender was made.

Two hundred of the Confederate forces killed.

WASHINGTON, July 16.

McClellan's Official Dispatches confirm the death of Gen. Garnett with two hundred of his men killed and one thousand prisoners taken, with 7 Guns.

A Resolutions calling for Convention to adjourn till the 1st of August, 1863.

Forney had been elected Secretary of the Senate.

General has given notice that he will make resolutions on the Spanish Government if the price asked by the Sumter, in her ports, are not surrendered.

Lord Lyons has called attention to the fact that private parties were permitted to run the Chesapeake blockade.

Boston, July 14.—The frigate Vindex is out in search of the privateer Jeff Davis.

News, Gossip, Rumors and Lies from Black Republican Sources.

[Correspondence of the N. Y. Times.]

WASHINGTON, July 9.—A Cabinet meeting was held to-day and consultations had with Gen. Scott. The result is unknown.

It is reported that there has been a meeting among the Garibaldi Guards in consequence of dissatisfaction with their arms.

Gen. Hicks was in Washington to-day. He represents much rebel feeling on the Eastern Maryland shores, and is anxious that a force be sent down to afford Union men protection.

I am informed that with the flag of truce brought by Colonel Taylor from the rebel camp, comes a proposition for a cessation of hostilities and a settlement of difficulties. The rebels are badly frightened, and stand in wholesome fear of getting their deserts.

I am confident that in the consultation which followed the announcement of these propositions to the Cabinet, Gen. Scott and Cameron decidedly protected against any terms that did not involve the unconditional surrender of the rebels. In this view the President concurs, and to it he will rigidly adhere.

[Correspondence of the N. York Tribune.]

Gen. Wheat, of Wheeling, Virginia, is here to get arms for the Union men in the western part of the State. He says ten full regiments can easily be raised there, and ready for service in a few weeks if the Government will furnish arms, clothing, &c.

In the Tribune's account of Col. Taylor's arrival with rebel communications, it says Col. Taylor's packages contains letters from Beauregard and Davis to the President and Gen. Scott, but they related to some trifling matter—nothing more important than an exchange of prisoners. He was told that he might look about as much as he pleased. "The more you see, the less you will like us," was said to him.

A GREAT BATTLE ON PAPER.

It was very mortifying to us as well as many readers of the Petersburg Express who perused its issue of Saturday morning last, when they read the letter dated "Camp Carolina, July 12."

The day previous an account of a brilliant victory achieved by the Coffee squad was recorded, which thrilled every Southerner who read it, but on Saturday the coffee was so weak it could not be stomach.

Friend Critchfield will have to get "Johannes" and "LA CLAUDE" together so that they may compare notes before their dispatches are forwarded. They ought to be more expressive in their expressions when they express for the Express.—Charlotte Bulletin.

FROM YORKTOWN.

The Richmond Examiner of Saturday Inst, 12th inst., says:

"There was no news yesterday from Yorktown. Passengers who arrived at 2 o'clock, by the York river train, represent the status of the encampments about Yorktown and at Gloucester Point as unchanged.

"At Manassas, no more of importance had been made on either side. Numbers of our scouts hung around the enemy, and kept them in a state of anxiety and excitement."

FROM NORTHWESTERN VIRGINIA.

Passengers from Richmond by last evening's train, positively contradict the unfavorable news reported yesterday about Col. Jours-Prouan's command in the affair at Laurel Hill. They say that later accounts had been received which represented that Col. P. had had an engagement with the enemy with the odds very heavy against him, as is always the case, but that he succeeded in retreating with a comparatively moderate loss and was wounded, but not dangerously. The difference in the numbers of the two forces was about seven to one in favor of the Remp commander.

Petersburg Express, July 16.

The subscriptions in Greene county, Ala. have reached 6,100 and are expected to reach 10,000 bales.

Mr. Alfred Hatch, of Marengo, Ala., has subscribed \$10,000 and 350 bales. Mr. Mollette \$30,000, so far.

Another Swindle.—One Sylvester Lied treasurer of the board of sewerage commissioners of Chicago, Illinois, has just been exposed in a monstrous defalcation—of less than \$100,000—having used the funds in his own operations.