

THE ELECTION IS ILLEGAL.

We have no doubt that the recent election of Senators by the Legislature, to the Confederate Congress, is illegal and not worth a straw.

A COUPLE OF QUESTIONS.

Mr. HOBBS.—I wish to ask a couple of questions, and I hope you will answer them, if you can. I am a plain man, and I need information.

Has the Legislature any right, under our State Constitution, to appeal to the people against the Convention? And has the Legislature, in extra session, a right to elect Senators to Congress? and if it has not the right, can any set of the Confederate Congress give it that right?

A CITIZEN.

In reply to the first question of our correspondent, we say, that the Legislature has no Constitutional right to appeal to the people against the Convention. That body may assume the right to propose amendments to the Convention, just as legislative bodies and military chiefs in Mexico and South America assume the right to issue pronouncements one against the other, but so far as our State Constitution is concerned, the Legislature has the same right to submit the question to the people whether or not they will have a King, as it has to appeal to them to abolish the Convention.

Let our correspondent study the Constitution carefully, and see if he can find any such right vested in the Legislature. In reply to the second question we say, that the Constitution of the Confederate States, under which the Senators proposed to be elected would take their seats, expressly declares that Senators shall be chosen at "regular" sessions of State Legislatures. This State argued to that when the Convention in May last, adopted the Constitution. The present Legislature is now in its second extra session. Can it, then, elect Senators? Let our correspondent study for himself. But our correspondent asks us, in substance, if the Confederate Congress can construe or change the Constitution? Most certainly not. No enabling act, like the one recently passed, or indeed, any enabling act, can confer on the Legislatures of the States the right to do that which the Constitution expressly forbids.

We have, indeed, fallen on evil times, when questions so plain as the foregoing are raised and discussed. The old Republic was destroyed by violations of its Constitution. Our liberties as a people are garnered up and furnished in our State and Confederate Constitution. Of all the things which pertain to government, these are the most sacred. We advise our readers to study these instruments; to insist on a strict but fair construction of them, and to trust no public man who would misconstrue, or pervert, or bend them to purposes of passion or ambition. Let no doubtful powers be exercised. If you do, fellow-citizens, the exercise of other powers, still more doubtful, will follow, until at last, the infraction of the instruments will be as numerous as their unbroken parts. Sound it again, as with the blast of a trumpet, on all the wings of all the winds, that "eternal vigilance is the price of Liberty!"—Standard.

DOGWOOD BARK FOR THE SICK.

We have been requested by Lieut. Col. J. A. Young, of the 4th Reg. State Troops, who had just arrived from Manassas, to urge upon the people of North Carolina the importance of furnishing a large supply of Dogwood bark (from the tree and root.) Wild Cherry bark (Bone-set and Snake-root, if to be had,) immediately, for the sick soldiers in our army. Quinine is not now to be obtained, and these barks will serve quite as good a purpose, in curing chills and giving tone to a relaxed and debilitated system. The Dogwood abounds everywhere in North Carolina; but is not found in the region of Manassas, and our farmers can obtain barrels of the bark with little trouble. Col. Young thinks that a barrel of this bark would be worth more to the sick at Manassas than a carload of some kinds of vegetables. We are assured that nothing would be so acceptable, and so important to the sick, which the people of the State have at their power to furnish, as ample supplies of Dogwood Bark. Surely, an article so easily and cheaply obtained, will be forwarded without delay. It can be sent, green or dry, in barrels, boxes, and bags.

Ironclad Express.

Our fleet throws out yesterday, pointing to a union with South Carolina, elicited a pretty general expression of opinion, and this showed a coincidence with our views, so far, at least, as they indicated a feeling of restiveness under the queer treatment accorded to this part of the State; for in truth we can only demonstrate, we cannot change the status or political relations of this section of the State to the balance, or to South Carolina. We can, however, record emphatically our appreciation of some things which deserve that such course should be pursued by our people. A vote such as we proposed, would be the most emphatic expression that we could give, and it might do some good.

W. J. Journal.

MANASSAS BUNKERS.—It is stated upon good authority, that when Hampton, Va., was then possession of by the federal, while they were laying their vandal hands upon every thing, pillaging or destroying whatever came in their way, Col. Townsend, of the 3d N. Y. regiment, with a portion of his regiment, manassas, we presume, went to the room of Hampton Lodge and secured all the records, regalia, &c., carefully secured them to a chest and sent them to Baltimore. It is believed that they are still preserved and will be forthcoming upon the demand of the Lodge or any proper authority.—Raleigh Standard.

It is said that the Yankee property in the South, subject to the provisions of the sequestration act, will not fall far short of three hundred millions.

Brunswick, Georgia, is situated about 60 miles South of Savannah, and during all its long history from the possession of a magnificent harbor, with a sufficient depth of water for almost any class of vessels. The place itself is small and has little or no trade, the country around is sandy and swampy, and the whole population of Glynn county, of which Brunswick is the capital, is not more than five thousand.

Some years since quite a speculation was got up in connection with this harbor, upon which it was in contemplation to establish a Navy Yard. A Brunswick City Company was organized in New York and some shrewd ones, Thimble, Wood, or Arany, among them, contrived to furnish the government in getting possession of the contemplated site of the proposed Navy Yard. Of course a fabulous price was asked for it.

We presume that the main object of the Federal government in seeking to obtain possession of Brunswick would be to have a station on the Atlantic coast South of Hampton Roads, at which their fleets could rendezvous, take in coal, or refit generally. They might get some timber and naval stores but not much cotton, even if the people were willing to forward it, which we do not think they would be. Brunswick was to be the Eastern terminus of the Brunswick and Florida Railroad, but so far as we know that road has never been finished.

We hardly know what the defences of Brunswick may be. We rather think that if they amount to anything, they must be of recent construction, as we do not know of any stone forts there. The neighboring country is very thinly settled, and could not turn out any large force for local defence, but we cannot bring ourselves to believe that Brunswick is a place of sufficient strategic importance to justify such an expedition as would be getting ready at the North, or as may even now be at sea. When the blow falls it will be found to have been aimed at some more important point.

It is hardly probable that the Northern papers tell the truth when they talk about twenty-five thousand troops being about a fleet destined for the South. Twenty-five thousand troops, with ammunition, camp equipment, artillery, horses, and other necessaries for service would require an enormous amount of transportation, far more indeed than Lincoln's government can possibly command without wholly abandoning everything like an attempt even to blockade. Half of twenty-five thousand would make a formidable force if precipitated on an undefended point.—W. J. Journal.

THE ENWARGO.

Gov. Clark some time ago issued his prohibition forbidding the transportation of Bacon, Leather and Shoes from the State, except when done at the instance of the Confederate government. A short time after, a considerable quantity of bacon, &c., was seized at this depot en route for Virginia. More recently shoes and bacon were seized at Goldsboro.

The object of the Governor was to put a stop to the manumission of speculators, who, notwithstanding the exorbitant prices and scarcity of these articles in the State, were draining it of them to get still higher prices out of it. The price of every such speculator ought to be published till the last of society should be put upon them. Many of our speculators are without shoes, and yet these rascals do not care who shiks, so they can swim.

A Lie Out.

McDowell, in his official report of the battle of Manassas Plains, avows he killed 481. The New York papers have been publishing lists of the killed at that battle, and enumerating not more than half the regiments engaged, have already published the names of 318 killed. Compare the Yankee Secretary of War, in a speech made to some of the Pennsylvania Regiments near Arlington, last week, said that 700 of his Yankee brethren were ready to bite the dust at Manassas. A lie has evidently been told by some of these Yankee authorities, or probably it would be but the truth to say, that all have lied, for it is well known that he killed no 2,000 Yankee soldiers at Manassas, as he says 2,000 than any other figure.—Felixburg Express.

Confiscating Property in Western Virginia.

The Wheeling Intelligence says: Our generals have begun the work of confiscating rebel property in earnest. A few days ago, the troops at New Creek possessed upon some wheat in the shock, thrashed it out, and appropriated it. A day or two since, Capt. Greenfield, of the Pennsylvania Cavalry, went out from New Creek, on the R. W. turnpike, and captured thirty-seven head of beef cattle, which have passed into the quartermaster's department, and become Government stores.

The Treacher Works in Richmond.

The Examiner says at present manufacturing the largest caliber of guns, shells, balls, &c. The capacity of the establishment is immense, there being no less than fifteen hundred men now engaged in manufacturing railroad iron and ordnance of the heaviest descriptions. A visit to this great workshop offers many objects of interest to strangers in Richmond.

The Mobile papers represent the work of defense South of that city is going bravely on. Labour is abundant has been furnished, and they are executing as rapidly as engineers lay out work for them.

The Watchman.

SALISBURY, N. C.

MONDAY EVENING, OCT. 7, 1861.

We are authorized to announce WILLIAM LINDER, Esq., of Lincoln county, as a candidate to represent this District in the Congress of the Confederate States. Oct. 5, 1861.

We have been requested to give notice that a public meeting will be held at the Court-house in this place, at 3 o'clock tomorrow, for the purpose of appointing delegates to the Convention in Charlotte on the 10th inst., to bring out an Elector for this District.

The Commissioners of the town of Charlotte, have appointed twelve delegates to represent that place in the mass Commercial and Financial Convention, to be held at Macon, Ga., on the 14th inst. They have elected an able and influential delegation of business men.

We are now struggling in the field of battle for political independence of the North, and as peace will come some day, the commercial men of the South conceive that now is the proper time to make preparations for a commercial independence also. This is wise. Our people will hereafter want little or nothing to do with our Yankee neighbors, and we ought to begin at once to make the acquaintance of commercial and manufacturing communities in Europe, so that when peace shall be restored, we can proceed to business without delay.

For years we have allowed Northern merchants and bankers to stand between us and European traders. They have grown rich and insolent by the operation. And although our people and sections have furnished almost the entire basis of commercial operations between Europe and the old United States, yet such has been the course of trade as to ignore our existence, and deprive us of the advantages of commercial acquaintance and credit. The main object of the Macon Convention, therefore, is to establish direct commercial intercourse with Europe, and on such a footing as to preclude the necessity of hereafter employing Northern agents, who skinned and cursed us in one and the same breath until forbearance ceased to be a virtue.

We think Salisbury should be represented in the Convention.

Complaints.—Within the last week we have heard rather more than the usual amount of complaining in regard to the management of business at the Railroad depots in this place. We have also heard the not very comfortable assurance that on the completion of the Statesville and Charlotte road, there will be no more freight from exceeding ten miles west of Salisbury come to this place—and much more of that sort—for which various reasons are assigned. We know little of the facts upon which this kind of street talk is had; but we presume the transportation of army stores, which we believe are ordered to have preference, has something to do with whatever delays in shipping may form any part of the complaints referred to.

Another Candidate for Congress.—We learn that Col. AUGUSTUS BURTON, of Shelby, is a candidate to represent this district in the next Confederate Congress.

Still Another.—The friends of Wm. LINDER, Esq., of Lincoln county, present his name as a candidate for Congress. Mr. Linder is pretty well known as an advocate of the war.

We hope there are others still who have confidence enough in the Confederacy to offer for a seat. We think we shall hardly go to the polls unless we see some clever candidates.

The regiment lately encamped at High Point has been organized: J. H. Lane, Colonel; Thos. Low, of Otway, Lt. Colonel; and Capt. R. A. Reeves, of Surry, Major. Under this organization the regiment left their encampment, going Eastward, last Monday.

There are yet five companies at High Point to be formed into a regiment.

John W. Hilton, arrested at Thomasville sometime ago, on the charge of treason, and by Judge Saunders sent to prison to await his trial, was brought up at Davidson Court, last week. The Solicitor abandoned the charge of treason, and put the prisoner on his trial for forcibly resisting the officer sent to arrest him. He submitted, and upon paying a fine of \$25 and cost, and giving bond for good behavior as a loyal citizen of the State and Confederate governments was discharged.

Lewis Williams has been compelled by ill-health, to resign his office of Captain of the Hornets Nest Riflemen. Last Owens, it is thought, will succeed him in command of the company.

PUBLIC BREAKING IN LEWISTON.

The five candidates for Congress, in the 7th District, met at Lewiston, last Monday, for the purpose of discussing their fellow citizens and preferring their respective claims to a seat in that very respectable body. They are S. H. Christian, of Montgomery county, Hugh Waddell and J. H. Headen, of Chatham; Gen. Dargan, and Thos. S. Ashe, of Anson. This is a jolly, old-fashioned team, and very well adapted to the duty. We sincerely hope they are having a pleasant time of it.

The 7th district includes the counties of Randolph, Davidson, Chatham, Moore, Montgomery, Stanly and Anson.

We are informed by a gentleman who saw the candidates together, that Mr. Christian is the ablest man of them all, and that Mr. Dargan is the only other one who would presume to contest that point with him.

Gen. JACKSON, commanding with his command, a part of the Western Virginia division of the Confederate Army, writes to the editor of the Richmond Examiner that great injustice has been done him in the reports published in that paper touching the recent Cheat Mountain affair. He says that so far from failing to carry out that part of the plan of operations assigned to him, he performed it to the letter, in every particular. That he held the position assigned for three days, in the presence of the enemy, and did not retire until ordered to do so by Gen. Lee.

There seems to have been some strong animosity, or misunderstanding between the officers in command in Western Virginia, but what we are not able to say. Gen. Wain has been ordered to report himself at Richmond.

Mrs. President DAVIS, and Mrs. Gen. Johnston, made a narrow escape with their lives in the old instant near Richmond. They were riding in a carriage, when the horses took fright and tumbled them into an excavation fifteen feet deep. Mrs. Johnston had her wrist broken, and Mrs. Davis received a contusion of the right shoulder and a cut on the head.

Latest accounts from Louisville Kentucky state there are but few Lincoln troops there, and no enthusiasm.—Jas. B. Clay, arrested a few days ago, has been released on bond.—John C. Henshaw, it is believed, will soon identify himself with the Confederates. He is in Owen county, surrounded by Confederates.

Gov. Rows of Georgia, has been elected.—The Br. Steamer, Great Eastern, was ho voyaged to the United States, was seriously damaged, and put back to England for repairs.—Cotton is selling in New York at 20 to 25 cents. In New Orleans at 24 to 25 cts.

The Postmaster (A. H.) HENDEL, reports a regiment in that State which has 112 positions in it now, and says it will have over fifty, by the time the regiment is completed. The Arkansas Shield reports another white Colonel is a Methodist preacher, and says there are eight other preachers in his regiment.

Gen. Magruder having made a draft on the Virginia farmers in four or five counties bordering that in which his army is quartered, for one-third of the available negro males to work on his fortifications, they were sent to him promptly.

There are between 500 and 1000 fugitive Marylanders in Richmond, Va., who have called a meeting for the purpose of organizing themselves into a regiment. They want the front rank in any Confederate attempt to retake their down-trodden State from the oppression of the Lincoln government.

Lake Blackmer, Esq., has shown us a specimen of his fine French pen—the Swan's Quill—22 ounces in weight, which is certainly very fine. It is said to have cost a certain very large sum. It is said to have cost a certain very large sum. It is said to have cost a certain very large sum.

An experiment was tried at Charleston, a few days ago, to test the value of an india rubber ball for cannon, invented by Col. Bird. It was found to give the ball an increased range of 15 miles.

It is said there are a number of men in the departments at Richmond, clerks, assistants, &c., who ran from official positions in Washington, like rats deserting a burning barn, when they could hold them no longer. It is a source of annoyance that these sleek pigs, so long practiced at Washington, have secured positions in our new government. We should have had new men.

The 26th September was by appointment of usurper Lincoln, observed as a day of fasting, humiliation and prayer.

We learn from the State Journal that Col. H. L. Roberts has organized a Company at the White Sulphur Springs, under the name of the "Sulphur Wild Cat," and is how ready for the field.

CAVALRY HORSES.

The Standard has an article on Cavalry horses, showing, in a forcible manner, how important it is to select spirited, strong and active stock for this service. Some have gone so far as to say that as much depends on the character of the horse for the success of a charge as on the men who ride them. And in this connection the Standard shows that the purchase of Cavalry horses by Government agents in this State, has been badly attended to. Many of the horses purchased by John W. Woodman, at a cost of about \$170 each, have been condemned as unfit for cavalry use. Col. Spruill's purchases averaging about \$140 each, are said to be good, and fit for effective service. But of the stock brought in by another agent, that paper says:

"On Monday last, in this place, some ten or twelve cavalry horses—ordinary concerns even for the plow or wagon—were sold to the highest bidder, having been properly condemned as unfit for service.—They cost the State from \$140 to \$150, and brought from \$40 to \$50. These, we learn, were purchased by a Mr. Myers.

It will never do to continue to appoint favorites, and pets, and mere partisans to office. Merit—qualifications, and nothing else, should be looked to in making appointments. A man who will give \$125 or \$140 for a horse, which is first condemned and then sold for \$40 or \$50, is incompetent, to say the least. Let all such agents be discharged.—We speak for the people who will have heavy taxes to pay, and who expect us to look after and expose abuses which are committed or allowed to exist, to their injury. Millions for dollars! but not one cent for favorites or incompetent agents, is what the people demand.

The Mr. Myers, referred to above, is Capt. A. Myers of this place, we presume; one of the Commissioners, whose duty it was to provide a great variety of the articles required by the army. He is known to be an active business man. He may be a little out of place in purchasing horses, and may miss it sometimes on the very best judges of that kind of stock, a horse to do. But his friends know him to be a competent business man in general—prompt, energetic and devoted.

Ship Plasters.—The Richmond Examiner says the issue of ship plasters, by adventurous persons in that city, is daily growing into the most defiant abuse.

We had a pocket full of these Richmond ship plasters a few days ago,—took them with some few grains of apprehension, fearing we could not spend them before they died a natural death. They had abundant vitality to get off however, and we hope they are now on their way back to Richmond. We hope the Basin Bank will joyfully greet its returning children, which are doubtless as numerous as the frogs of Egypt. They are welcome to a merry time of it, as far as we are concerned—in the Basin or out of it.

A South Carolina Troop, from Camden under command of Capt. Shannon, 65 or 66 in number, passed through this place at 3 o'clock p. m., Tuesday last. They seem to be an amateur corps. We understand that each man has furnished his own horse, and other necessary outfit; and that they propose to go into service at their own charge and expense. They passed through here with their own wagons, servants, camp equipment, &c., and expect to travel to Richmond, in the same way.

Wagon Prohibited.—Washington, Sept. 20.—A recent order of Gen. McClellan declares firing on an enemy's pickets as contrary to the usage of civilized warfare, and he, therefore, orders that there shall be no firing on the enemy's pickets unless it becomes necessary to prevent their advance or retreat of the same.

It is certainly gratifying that Gen. McClellan has discovered that rules of civilized war are worth observing. Better late than never. Wonder how long it will be until he discovers that it is in accordance with the same rules to send and receive flags of truce, exchange prisoners, and supercede letters to our General officers with due regard to titles. The enemy is behaving good manner, and we are glad of it.

The official report of Gen. Price of the Confederate Army in Missouri, contains the battle of Lexington. We took every thing the enemy had, 7 cannon, 3,500 muskets and rifles, and 100,000 lbs. of provisions. We was 3,000 strong. All prisoners discharged on their parole, except officers. We captured \$500,000 in money stolen from the Banks in Lexington. Gen. Price restored it to the Banks.

Daniel S. Russell, of Brunswick county, N. C., has been, last Wednesday, a ship and fine adjacent horse. Fifty-five head of horses and mules and some dogs, perished in the flames. Loss estimated at about \$15,000. Supposed to have been set on fire.

Robert P. Dick, Jan. R. McLean, and John Kern, Esqs., are candidates to represent the 6th District in the Confederate Congress.

Hon. W. N. H. Barry, of Marlborough, N. C., announces himself a candidate for the next Confederate Congress.