

QUESTION OF EXCHANGES.

To the Relatives and Friends of Confederate Soldiers confined in Northern Prisons:

On the 22nd of July, 1862, the Cartel of Exchange was agreed upon. The chief, if not only, purpose of that instrument was to secure the release of all prisoners of war. To that end, the fourth article provides that all prisoners of war should be discharged on parole, in ten days after their capture, and that the prisoners then held, and those thereafter taken, should be transported to the points mutually agreed upon, at the expense of the capturing party. The sixth article also stipulates that "all prisoners, or whatever arm of service, are to be exchanged or paroled in ten days from the time of their capture, if it be practicable to transfer them to their own lines in that time; if not, as soon thereafter as practicable."

From the date of the Cartel until July, 1863, the Confederate authorities held the excess of prisoners. During that interval, deliveries were made as fast as the Federal Government furnished transportation. In deed, upon more than one occasion, I urged the Federal authorities to send increased means of transportation. As ready as the enemy always has been to bring false accusations against us, it has never been alleged that we failed or neglected to make prompt deliveries of prisoners who were not under charges, when we held the excess. On the other hand, during the same time, the Cartel was openly and notoriously violated by the Federal authorities. Officers and men were kept in cruel confinement, sometimes in irons or dunned cells, without charges or trial.

In July, 1863, the enemy for the first time since the adoption of the Cartel, held the excess of prisoners. As soon as that fact was ascertained, whenever a delivery was made by the Federal authorities, they demanded an equal number in return. I endeavored frequently to obtain from the Federal Agent of Exchange a distinct avowal of the intentions of his Government as to the delivery of prisoners, but in vain. At length on the 20th of October, 1863, I addressed to Brig. Gen. Meredith the following letter, to wit:

RICHMOND, Va., Oct. 20, '63. Brigadier General S. A. Meredith, Agent of Exchange: Sir—More than a month ago I asked your acquiescence in a proposition, that all officers and soldiers on both sides should be released in conformity with the Cartel. In order to obviate the difficulties between us I suggested that all officers and men on both sides should be released, unless they were subject to charges; in which event, the opposite Government should have the right of holding one or more hostages if the retention was not justified. You stated to me, in conversation, that this proposition was very fair, and that you would ask the consent of your Government to it.

As usual, you have made no response. I tell you frankly, I do not expect any. Perhaps you may disappoint me, and tell me that you reject or accept the proposition. I write this letter for the purpose of bringing to your recollection my proposition, and of dissipating the idea, that seems to have been purposely encouraged by your public papers, that the Confederate Government has refused or objected to a system of exchanges.

In order to avoid any mistake in that direction, I now propose that all officers and men on both sides be released in conformity with the provisions of the Cartel, the excess on one side or the other to be on parole. Will you accept this? I have no expectation of an answer, but, perhaps you may give one. If it does come, I hope it will be soon.

On the 29th of October, 1863, I received from Gen. Meredith a communication informing me that my proposal of the 20th was "not accepted." I was insultingly told that if the excess of prisoners was delivered they would be wrongfully declared exchanged by me and put in the field. To show how groundless this imputation was, it is only necessary for me to state that since then I have repeatedly offered to give ten Federal captives for every Confederate soldier whom the enemy will show to have been wrongfully declared exchanged.

From the last named date until the present time there have been but few deliveries of prisoners, the enemy in each case demanding a like number in return.

It will be observed that the Confederate authorities only claimed that the provisions of the cartel should be fulfilled. They only asked the enemy to do what, without any hesitation, they had done during the first year of the operation of the cartel. Seeing a persistent purpose on the part of the Federal Government to violate its own agreement, the Confederate authorities, moved by the sufferings of the brave men who are so unjustly held in Northern prisons, determined to abate their fair demands, and accordingly, on the 10th of August, 1864, I addressed the following communication to Major John E. Mulford, Assistant Agent of Exchange, in charge of the flag of truce boat, which on the same day I delivered to him at Varina, on James river:

WAR DEPARTMENT, Richmond, Va., Aug. 10, 1864. Major John E. Mulford, Assistant Agent of Exchange:

Sir: You have several times proposed to me to exchange the prisoners respectively held by the two belligerents, officer for officer and man for man. The same offer has also been made by other officials having charge of matters connected with the exchange of prisoners. This proposal has heretofore been declined by the Confederate authorities, they insisting upon the terms of the Cartel, which required the delivery of the excess on either side upon parole. In view, however, of the very large number of prisoners now held by each party, and the suffering consequent upon their continued confinement, I now consent to the above proposal and agree to deliver to you the prisoners held in captivity by the Confederate authorities, provided you agree to deliver an equal number of Confederate officers and men. As equal numbers are delivered from time to time, they will be declared exchanged.

This proposal is made with the understanding that the officers and men who have been longest in captivity will be first delivered, where it is practicable. I shall be happy to hear from you as speedily as possible whether this arrangement can be carried out.

Respectfully, your obedient servant, ROBERT OULD, Agent of Exchange.

I accompanied the delivery of the letter with a statement of the mortality which was hurrying so many Federal prisoners at Andersonville to the grave.

On the 20th of the same month, Major Mulford returned with the flag of truce steamer, but brought no answer to my letter of the 10th of August. In conversation with him I asked him if he had any reply to make to my communication, and his answer was that he was not authorized to make any. So deep was the solicitude which I felt in the fate of the captives in Northern prisons, that I determined to make another effort. In order to obviate any objection which technicality might raise to the person to whom my communication was addressed, I wrote to Major General E. A. Hitchcock, who is the Federal Commissioner of Exchange, residing in Washington city, the following letter, and delivered the same to Major Mulford on the day of its date. Accompanying that letter was a copy of the communication which I had addressed to Major Mulford on the 10th of August.

RICHMOND, Va., Aug. 22, '64. Major Gen. E. A. Hitchcock, U. S. Commissioner of Exchange:

Sir—Enclosed is a copy of a communication which, on the 10th inst., I addressed and delivered to Major John E. Mulford, Assistant Agent of Exchange. Under the circumstances of the case, I deem it proper to forward this paper to you, in order that you may fully understand the position which is taken by the Confederate authorities. I shall be glad if the proposition therein made is accepted by your Government.

Respectfully, your obedient servant, ROBERT OULD, Agent of Exchange.

On the afternoon of the 30th of August, I was notified that the flag of truce steamer had again appeared at Varina. On the following day I sent to Maj. Mulford the following note—to wit:

RICHMOND, Aug. 3d, 1864. Major Jno. E. Mulford, Ass't Agent of Exchange:

Sir—On the 10th of this month I addressed you a communication, to which I have received no answer. On the 22d inst. I also addressed a communication to Major General E. A. Hitchcock, U. S. Commissioner of Exchange, enclosing a copy of my letter to you of the 10th inst. I now respectfully ask you to state in writing whether you have any reply to either of said communications; and, if not,

whether you have any reason to give why no reply has been made!

Respectfully, Your obedient servant, RO. OULD, Agent of Exchange.

In a short time I received the following response, to wit: FLAG OF TRUCE STEAMER "NEW YORK," Varina, Va., Aug. 31, 1864. Hon. R. Ould, Agent for Exchange:

Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your favor of to-day, requesting answer, &c., to your communication of the 10th inst., on the question of the exchange of prisoners.

To which, in reply, I would say, I have no communication on the subject from our authorities, nor am I yet authorized to make answer.

I am, sir, very respectfully, Your obedient servant, Jno. E. Mulford, Maj. and Ass't Agt for Exchange.

I have thus fully set before you the action of the Confederate authorities in relation to a matter which lays so near your hearts, and how it has been received by the enemy. The fortunes of your fathers, husbands, sons, brothers and friends are as dear to those authorities as their persons are precious to you, and I have made this publication, not only as an illustration of Federal bad faith, but also that you might see that your Government has spared no effort to secure the release of the gallant men who have so often fronted death in the defence of our sacred cause.

RO. OULD, Agent of Exchange. Aug. 31, 1864.

From the State Journal. FROM NEWBERN.

The Newbern (Yankee) Times of the 2d inst., contains a letter from its Beaufort Correspondent "Alonzo" dated the 1st, from which we clip the following in reference to THE TALLAHASSEE.

"The news from the blockade is very exciting. The pirate Tallahassee is reported to have entered Wilmington, one day last week. She was closely chased by the following gunboats: Keystone State, Tristram Shandy and Monticello; but shaking the rebel flag at the Union vessels she was soon under the guns of Fort Caswell, and out of danger.

"The Tristram Shandy came into this port on Sunday, having carried away her rudder at sea. "The naval store ship Newbern left here yesterday for the North, taking with her quite a number of discharged sailors."

EXODUS OF RECRUITING AGENTS. The exodus of the recruiting agents has commenced. The steamer Haze, which left this port for New York, via Fortress Monroe, took away a large number of agents.

[We presume the thing did not pay—cuffey not being martially inclined.]

The Times denounces as a humbug the "authentic information from Danoke" relative to the severe fight in which the rebels were driven from Greensboro' in the State—therefore, we presume Capt. Keyose was not killed, nor Maj. Whitford mortally wounded.

Times seem hard in Newbern. Mills Joy advertises for a market in which he may find semi-occasionally something that is wholesome and good for digestion. Tub butter is selling there at 60 to 70 cents, bacon 35 cents, flour 10 cents, meal 5, sugar 30 to 40, &c. The shipping news shows an awful falling off in arrivals and departures, probably on account of the Tallahassee. For the week ending 22d, but one steamer and four schooners had arrived, and two steamers and one schooner cleared, against twice their numbers respectively the previous week.

THE LATE STATE ELECTION. The Times says the State election "has terminated most disastrously for Holden the beaten candidate. While he is badly beaten, without being considered impertinent, adds Joy, we would suggest that he procure some friends and make an affidavit to be used as an evidence that he never ran as a candidate at all. But true still to his friend, Joy insists as per instructions from Raleigh that Holden's defeat is not the voice of the people, it being accomplished by Confederate bayonets on the one hand, and the employees of a corrupt State Government—the very language, it will be noticed, of Hol-

den and Ross, the Secretary of State. Yankee Joy announces the result as follows: Vance's majority, 28,835, with 28 counties.

THE HOSPITAL FARM. It seems the Yankees have a hospital farm near Newbern. From this farm has been issued to the troops since July 1st, 15,000 water-melons, 9,000 cantelopes, 200 bbls. of corn, 100 bbls. of tomatoes, and 80 bbls. of squashes, besides a large quantity of potatoes, onions, peas, beans, cucumbers, cabbages, &c.

MILLS JOY VS COL. WHITFORD. The Times has a good natured, foolish article on Col. Jno. N. Whitford, commanding the post at Kinston, but some what severe withal. Joy says, the Col. has received orders from President Davis to "clean out" Newbern on pain of being ordered to the front at Petersburg; but that "John" is better adapted to a life of leisure than to a task which involves so much activity. Joy pictures "the serene Colonel in a relaxing attitude, pointing with him a Stan Jeff Davisward, and exclaiming, 'This gentleman, is the American Lama: whence arises the saying, 'Now I lay me down to sleep,' and the Colonel falls into a sweet and peaceful slumber.' Joy is quite Penningtonian in his showman style.

QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE, Green-bow, N. C., Sept. 1, '64. PROPOSALS will be received at this office for furnishing the Confederate States with 10,000 Horse and Mule Collars, 5,000 Wagon Saddles, 5,000 Buckets, Wagon Harness and Leather, also for making Trace Chains, Horse and Mule Shoes, and Shoe Nails. Samples of saddles and collars will be furnished from this office and Iron supplied to contractors.

S. R. CHISMAN, Major & Q. M. 4th-13. Sept 5.

BANK OF CHARLOTTE.—This Bank, as Agent for the Confederate States Treasury Department, offers the non-taxable 6 per cent Bonds at the rate fixed by the Department, without commission or expense of transportation. JNO. J. BLACKWOOD, Pres. Aug. 25, 1864—5w14.

AUCTION SALE—SATURDAY, SEP. 10. 100 Acres of Land within 3 miles of the town of Salisbury, N. C., on a large number of Fruit Trees, a tolerable Dwelling House, some Meadow and good Woodland. Some unbranded SHIRTINGS, and a good many other articles by WM. E. EDWARDS & CO. aug 27-2td85w414.

WHAT YOU ALL NEED—A quantity of Boiler Iron for making Syrup. Powder and Lead. Half Bushels, small Tubs and Buckets. Bleached and unbleached Shirtings. Mountain Cheese, very nice. Lead Pencils, Cigars and Tobacco, For sale by WM. E. EDWARDS & CO. Aug 27-2td85w414.

NOTICE. All persons having claims against the estate of James W. Neely, late of Davie county, deceased, are hereby requested to present them for payment, or this notice will be filed in bar of their recovery. And all those indebted to the estate will come forward and make settlement. D. M. CRENSHAW, Adm'r of J. W. Neely, dec'd. July 25, 1864. 4w9.

RAGS! RAGS!! BRING US your old cotton and linen rags, put up in cotton or tow bags. We will pay you in money, or exchange writing paper for them. Save and send us all you can. Also—Persons living near Albemarle, Stanly county, can find sale for their rags by calling on Capt. J. D. HIGGINS.

WATCHMAN. LOST OR STOLEN—One 4 per cent Certificate issued to Daniel Overpeach, for two hundred dollars, dated March 17, 1864, No. 1297. Application will be made for a duplicate certificate. All persons are hereby warned not to trade for the missing certificate. DANIEL ISENHOUR, Adm'r. Sept 5-3w9d15.

NOTICE.—I will sell at the late residence of Dr. A. Torrance, deceased, on the 22d of Sept. inst., about 60 bushels of Wheat, and about 1100 bundles of Oats, and a lot of Wheat Straw. JOHN RICE, Adm'r. Sept 5-w12d15.

WANTED 1,000 bushels of good ripe FOX GRAPES, for which a good price will be paid in new issue. Bring them to N. H. BLACKWOOD Aug. 17, 1864. 6th-w41.

HERRINGS. I HAVE a lot of Salted Herrings which I will exchange by the barrel for Bacon. A. MYERS, Major & C. S. July 4, 1864. 4b.

DR. C. A. HENDERSON, having regained his health, again respectfully offers his Professional services to the citizens of Salisbury and vicinity. June 7th, 1864. (45w14)

PIANO FOR SALE.—A very superior 7 octave Piano, of elegant style, for sale privately. Apply at this office for further information. Aug. 25. dt184w14e.

Head Quarters District of Western N. C., Morganton, Aug. 14, 1864.

BY DIRECTION OF THE WAR DEPARTMENT the undersigned has taken command of "The District of Western North Carolina," composed of that part of the State west of the counties of Rockingham, Guilford, Randolph, Montgomery and Richmond. It is assumed command of this District for the purpose of protecting the citizens from oppression and lawless depredations on their property and from the raids of enemies and traitors, the cordial support of the civil authorities and citizens is desired. Prompt information is particularly important and is respectfully requested. Those liable to military duty are expected to perform it with zeal and alacrity; nothing to do this the necessary means of compelling them will be resorted to.

It is believed that a large number of soldiers are now absent from their commands without leave; from a mistaken idea of the position North Carolina holds towards the Government of the Confederate States. They have been taught to believe that North Carolina intended to withdraw from the Confederate Government and to make peace with the United States for herself. Under this false impression it is thought many have been induced to abandon their associates in arms and the flag of their country.

In the recent elections an overwhelming majority of the people of this State have proclaimed to the world that such opinions are false; that her people are true and intend the fate and destiny of the other States of this Confederacy shall be the fate and destiny of North Carolina. In response to this patriotic and noble sentiment of her people and with the hope that those who have been thus deluded may yet be reclaimed and saved from the extreme penalties of the law, full pardon is hereby offered to all deserters and absentees who will surrender themselves on or before the 16th day of September, 1864.

Those who come in will be expected to take a pledge on honor not to leave their commands during the war without proper authority.

Our brilliant success during the present campaign have much increased the chances of an early peace, and this is probably the last opportunity deserters will have to redeem their characters and by future good conduct leave to their children respectable names. J. G. MARTIN, Brigadier General, Commanding. Aug. 19, 3rd-4w.

NORTH CAROLINA—YADKIN COUNTY. Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, October Term, 1864. W. S. Williams and John Rash vs. Spencer W. Potts and J. W. Cresson.

Petition to remove Guardian. In this case it appearing to the Clerk by affidavit of plaintiffs, that S. W. Potts and J. W. Cresson, the defendants, are not residents of this State. The said defendants are hereby notified to appear before the Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions of said county, at the Court House in Yadkinville, in the first Monday in October A. D. 1864, then and there to show why they have anything to say, why the prayer of the petitioners shall not be granted; otherwise the petition will be heard ex parte as to them, and judgment taken pro confesso. Witness, T. S. Martin, Clerk of said Court, at office, Aug. 24, 1864. T. S. MARTIN, Clerk, by W. A. JOYCE, D. C. Aug. 29-6w14.

TRACT OF LAND FOR SALE. The undersigned, living in Iredell county, near County Line Post Office, offers for sale a tract of land within half mile of Hunting Creek, on the Wilkesboro' road, containing 157 acres. About 30 acres in cultivation the remainder in woods. There is a good dwelling house, barn, stables, and other out houses, all nearly new. The land is adapted to tobacco, corn, wheat, oats, &c. Oak, Hickory, pine, &c., the principal growths. Further information can be had of Mr. D. Horn at County Line, or myself at Olin. Terms to suit the purchaser. A. REDWINE, August 25th, 1864. 4w9d.

W. F. BASON, M. D., DENTIST.

WOULD respectfully suggest to those at a distance wishing his professional services, the propriety of first writing to him at Salisbury, in order that he may appoint a time when he can wait on them as soon after arrival as desirable, and thus frequently save time and disappointment. N. B.—All letters of inquiry promptly answered the first opportunity. June 22, 1864. 17w5d1.

GOODS, GOODS. Just received and for Sale.

Spun Cotton No. 8, 9, 10, 11 & 12. Nails assorted 4, 6, 8, 10 & 12. Rifle Powder. Boxes. Soda. Sugar. Salt. MICHAEL BROWN, Salisbury, July 3, 1864. w16.

Special Notice. OFFICE CHIEF COMMISSARY.

5th DISTRICT OF N. CAROLINA. Salisbury, June 24th, 1864. I HEREBY give notice that as there is authorized to purchase for the Government any Bacon, Flour, or other provision, in the Counties of Surry, Stokes, Yadkin, Forsythe, Fredrick, Davidson, Davie, Rowan, Cabarrus, Stanly, Montgomery, Anson and Richmond, comprising the District under my charge, except regularly appointed agents of the Commissary Department who can show their authority from me. A. MYERS, Major and Chief Commissary. [16w6]

MOLASSES! MOLASSES.—We have prepared ourselves to make Molasses by any quantity. We have sheet-iron boilers, and three cast rollers weighing 1,300 pounds. The mill is at Jehu Foster's farm. Molasses will be made on accommodating terms. Persons wishing any made can call on either of us. JEHU FOSTER, T. J. FOSTER. A 22-11d-4w.