

CAROLINA WATCHMAN.

SALISBURY, N. C.

MONDAY EVENING, SEPT. 19, 1864.

SOUTHERN EXPRESS.—We publish to-day a statement from the Superintendent of the Southern Express Co., bearing upon the particular case alluded to in these columns a fortnight ago, in regard to the high charges on 20 bbls of flour sent from this place to Petersburg. We invite particular attention to this communication as revealing a state of facts not generally known. It will be seen that the profits of the Express are not, after all, so enormous as their charges would indicate, having to pass the ordeal of the Railroads, who, however good a customer, seem to be in antagonism in so far as rail rates concern them. The statement of Mr. Bullock throws the blame of high rates on the Railroad companies, and in that particular, at least, is entitled to general exemption.

But still remains a mystery to us in the relations these public carriers sustain to each other. Take, for instance, the N. C. Railroad Company and ask, why do the Express submit to pay their rates exceeding those laid down in their published schedule? And upon what authority, or rule of right action do the Railroad Companies demand and receive such extraordinary rates? The Express often furnish their own cars (we are told that they have no less than ten on the N. C. Road) and yet, strange to see, they are required to pay double rates, and they do it willingly, but take care to make the public pay it back to them; and in this way, as between two thieves, the innocent, long-suffering public is fleeced.

Altogether, this is a matter in which the public is unfairly dealt with, and the people have the right and should exercise it, of demanding of their representatives a correction of abuses, whether practised by the Railroads or the Express.

Mr. Bullock will excuse us if we shall in future, as in the past, make such public allusion to the express as we shall conceive the circumstances of the case require. A matter strictly private may claim to be dealt with as he suggests in the last paragraph of his letter; but those affecting the public may require different treatment.

EXPRESS CHARGES.

We are glad to see that the Salisbury Watchman has at last been convinced that the high prices charged by the Express Company are more owing to the cupidity of Railroad authorities than any disposition on the part of the Company to extort. The public have a right to choose between the railroad companies and the Express, and the fact that the latter does so much business is an argument in its favor.—*Progress*.

Why are you glad of that? And did you know before that it was the cupidity of the Railroad authorities and kept silent? And have you nothing to say against it now?

The Railroads publish their freight lists, which are four or five times less than the Express rates; but through a corrupt bargain with the latter, and a negligent attention to forwarding freight entrusted to them, they have managed to throw almost everything into the hands of the Express, and upon some unaccountable principle charge the Express Co. a rate enormously above schedule prices, and compel it to put up rates to correspond, and yet the *Progress*, is only glad that the Express is not to blame! This must be comforting to the public who have the burden to bear. Why not condemn the wrong, whether of the Express or the Railroads.

As the case now stands, it really appears that the Railroads are most to blame. Dr. Foard made this charge against them in the meeting of Stockholders of the Western N. C. Road last month; and though the Directors and all the officials were present, they answered nothing. They sat silently by and heard the Express be-rated most soundly from all sides of the house, and opened not their mouths.

There seems to be a sort of co-partnership between the Railroads and the Express—the latter being employed as a blind between them and the people. No one would object to an advance of Railroad charges openly and publicly made and published, if necessary; but the people have a right to object to this swindling process carried on with the Express Company, and will, we think, make themselves heard at the next meeting of the Legislature.

We have not yet received a true copy of Gen. McClellan's letter of acceptance, nor indeed, do we consider it at all important. The telegraph report of it shows that he is fully committed to the impossible and crazy work of attempting to heal the breach between the North and the South by the use of the sword. With this potent instrument he expects to eradicate from the minds and hearts of the southern people the remembrance of the past in delinquency of the North to plighted faith to a compact of union; their long continued and repeated aggressions and wrongs running through more than the quarter of a century; their insolent and haughty refusal to redress wrongs and remove grievances when at last the fortitude of the South ceased to be a virtue; their deliberate and wicked overthrow of the Constitution and subversion of the very foundation principles of our civil liberty by attempting to coerce, or else subjugate, free and independent States, to the rule of the oppressor and the dominion of the wrong doer. The remembrance of all these black crimes Gen. McClellan expects the South upon the instant he is elected President to forget and forgive, and submitively return to an association which was insufferable before aggravated by the enormities of a most vindictive and cruel war; other wise, the sword cannot return to its scabbard until it shall, at all hazard, accomplish the resuscitation of the dismembered States. He is therefore pledged to carry out the work undertaken by Abraham Lincoln, and in this view of the case, there is nothing left on which the South may lodge a reason for preferring the election of General McClellan. It will be seen by reference to our telegraph dispatches that his letter has given offence to prominent members of the Chicago convention who were cordial in his support. In any view taken of northern politics we can perceive nothing of an aspect cheering to those who hope for an early peace, or that out of this terrible strife civil liberty shall at last be preserved. The first great duty of the Confederacy is to nerve herself for further trials, and it may be more severe ones than ever. But she has no alternative; she must make good her defence or perish—perish miserably, leaving her sons and daughters in disgrace and ruin, the servants of servants.

MORE MEN WANTED.

There is no disguising the fact that the Confederate armies need to be strengthened. Gen. Lee has, we believe, made the best possible use of the men and means entrusted to him, and if he has not accomplished all that the country desires, it is simply because the power at command was inadequate for more. No one should expect him to perform impossibilities or to work miracles; and those at a distance who anxiously look on the terribly unequal struggle in which our brothers and sons are engaged, should now seriously ask themselves can I do nothing more to help them out? The time has come for every man to do his whole duty, and look to God for final deliverance from the adversaries who seek our destruction.

The Richmond *Sentinel* in commenting on this subject says—

"It is necessary for the recruiting officers to use increased diligence and firmness; and it is necessary that the people everywhere sustain them. The man who is at home, though embraced by the call to the field and to his country's defence, is a disgraced man. Every day that he waits for the conscript officer to take him by the collar and drag him to his post, is a day of shame and disgrace to himself and to his family and friends. Let all such men join the army without a moment's delay. Let parents send them; let friends persuade them; and let the ladies drive them, if need be. There are many portions of the country in which hundreds of recruits could be readily obtained if the officers and the people would do their duty.

"If the young men do not come out to the defence of their country—if they hide behind little offices, or hide behind the military lines, or hide under a horse-mail contract, or skulk in any way.—then it will devolve upon the old men to defend the youngsters, and take the places in the army which these ought to fill. If the young men will not fight,

the old men will, thank Heaven, they will; and what a shame it will be, what an everlasting infamy that those to whom the country naturally looks for its defence, should leave the duty to be performed by their fathers! If the need be, these men come out, too. Our country must be defended at whatever cost. This is every man's first duty; and none, we are persuaded, will respond to it with greater resolution than our reserve forces, if the exigencies of the campaign should summon them to the field. Young or old, we must all be ready to come the instant we are called for; and come forward with cheerfulness, and zeal, and courage, and God will favor us with his blessing, and our country shall be preserved."

The *Confederate* expresses the confident opinion that the enemy will soon make a very decided effort to capture the city of Wilmington, and suggests that some one else than Gen. Whiting should be put in command of our forces there. The *Confederate* mentions Gen. Clingman as a suitable person to fill the place, which, in case of attack, will undoubtedly be one of grave responsibility. The forts should be garrisoned by veteran troops, otherwise we may confidently expect they will hold out no better than the forts at M-.

The *Confederate's* allusion to the attack on Wilmington is based on the following letter from the *New York Times*:

IMPORTANCE OF THE CAPTURE OF WILMINGTON.

To the Editors of the N. Y. Times:

I am glad to see that attention is being called to the importance of Wilmington, as one of the points that should be possessed and held by the United States.

I am familiar with that section of country, and to hold Wilmington, Lee might well count on more cashiers than he has ever yet seen as commander of the rebel forces. To the South is far from being self-sustaining, though in much better condition in that respect than when the war broke out. Her energies have been completely bent toward improving her manufactures of every description; still, without the assistance of the blockade runners, powder, arms, shoes, &c., could not be supplied to the army another six months.

At Wilmington, W. H. C. Whiting, a drunken military tyrant, is in command. Recently he was disgraced on the field near Petersburg and immediately placed in command of his old post. There must be a scarcity of laborers to do the dirty work of secession, or such vulgar material would not be used, even by the *liepudicals*.

Many years' experience in the South, and up to within a few months, enables me to state facts, and renders it necessary for me to guess at nothing. And here, let me say, the importance your correspondent attaches to the part of Wilmington is beyond a question. Its capture will do more toward ending the Democratic-Jeff Davis Southern-arrange-a-peace-war than any other thing to be accomplished. Get even Weldon, sixty miles below Petersburg, destroy the long bridge crossing the Roanoke there, and that done, no bridge could be erected there by rebel soldiers or rebel civilians, during the next year.

It will be a long and old tale if I refer to the most intolerable despotism that ever disgraced the face of the earth; but so is the rule of Davis and his dynasty.—There is no freedom of speech, conscience, or thought in all the South, under his authority. And, Mr. Editor, there never had been any such thing as liberty known to the people, since the adoption of secession up to this time when it was my good fortune to quit the country.

You cannot dwell too much upon the importance of our capturing and holding the town of Wilmington, or the fortifications that guard the entrance at the mouth of Cape Fear River, thirty-eight miles from the city.

New York, Sept. 1864.

ANOTHER BARN BURN.

The *Salem Press* says Joel Fultz's barn in that county was fired and burned on Sunday night last. It contained a considerable quantity of wheat and rough feed.—On the same night an attempt was made to burn Wm. Fulp's barn. A few weeks ago threats were made in an anonymous advertisement against the property of Mr. Fultz.

CAUGHT.—John Overcash, a deserter, who has been out of the army for near two years, was caught last evening at his house, and delivered over to the Enrolling Officer.

We are glad to learn that the North Carolina Central Railroad Company have put in operation a system of *Expressing* over their road on company responsibility, and that their charges are only about double the ordinary railroad rates. This is a great improvement, and we hope the Company may perfect their system so as to meet the public requirements.—*Salisbury Watchman*.

Why should the rates be at all higher than the ordinary rate?—*Fay, Ob.*

True enough! We understand that the Company's arrangement involves little or no more expense than for regular freights, except that *Expressed* matter is conveyed on trains other than freight. Nevertheless, it is better than the Southern Express which charges *five* times regular rates.

GONE NORTH.—Mr. John A. Weirman, for many years a citizen of this place, but a native of one of the Northern States, went off last week, in company with a man named Pearce, from the car shops, and it is currently reported and believed that they have permanently deserted the South and gone to the North. These men are in possession of all information concerning matters here that would be desirable to the enemy.

We learn from a Communication in the *Salem Press*, that a valuable cow in that vicinity has died from eating the seed of the Sorghum, or molasses cane. A post mortem examination established the fact that she died from the effects of the seed. Let farmers and others take warning.

MR. BOYDEN'S PERSONAL LIBERTY BILL.

We understand that the act of the Legislature introduced at the last session by Mr. Boyden has had a good effect, in securing to our citizens a fair trial before being sent to the army. A notice that an application has been sent to one of our Judges for the writ of *Habeas Corpus* renders it incumbent upon the enrolling officer to retain the alleged conscript until his rights have been passed upon by a Judge—thus securing to the citizen his rights under the Constitution, and in the end doing ample justice to the Government. All honor to Mr. Boyden for this wise, patriotic and Conservative measure.—*Conservative*.

MARYLANDERS NOT LIABLE.

Judge Halyburton, of the Confederate States District Court of Virginia, has decided in the case of Robt. F. Hobbs, (who claimed exemption from military service, on the ground that he was a Marylander, and had been exiled from his home in consequence of sentiments entertained by him adverse to the prosecution of the war by the United States Government,) that in all cases in history where persons were exiled from home on account of their political sentiments, they could not be legally required to take up arms in defense of a country, which was at war with the nation from which they had fled. Mr. Hobbs' application being based on this ground, he was discharged from custody.

This is a very important decision, from the fact that it will effect the status of all Marylanders, or other refugees from the enemy's territory, who may claim exemption from the Confederate service on the same ground.

The fall of Atlanta does not seem to have had any great effect upon the price of gold in New York, which is only 15¢ below the highest point it has ever reached, and that fall was irrespective of Atlanta, being confessedly due to the discussion of measures looking to peace, and to the anticipated result of the Chicago Convention.

GOOD DOCTRINE.—The *Southern Churchman* says, "the more we look away from England and France, and from Chicago and Cotton, up to the living God alone, the better for us."

The printers of New Jersey boast that there is not a single printer in the State prison of the State, and but one in the Legislature.

Brownlow's paper says that the late Federal jury sitting at Knoxville found six hundred and sixty bills of indictment for treason against rebels.

Increase of the Army.—It is evident that some means will have to be resorted to to increase the army so as to meet the overwhelming numbers Lincoln is now endeavoring to send against us. The true road to peace is that on which the Confederacy travels with a force sufficient to enforce its demand for independence. Grant says he can take Petersburg and Richmond with one hundred thousand reinforcements, Lincoln says he shall have them and the northern people are furnishing the men; and they are being rapidly sent to Grant. Lee is now able to hold Petersburg and Richmond despite the forces Grant can at present send against him. It by no means follows that Lee can hold these places with one hundred thousand additional men. What then? Are Petersburg and Richmond to fall for the lack of even one hundred thousand men? Half that number can beat back Grant's hirelings. Can they not, and ought they not to be forthcoming? Surely they ought and must. How are they to be raised? In all probability Congress will be called in extra session to revise the conscription laws. At a time like this the means must be found to meet the requirements.—We believe this fall and winter will end the war. It is with us to say whether or not we will be free. Let us then "put our shoulders to the wheel," and stand by the government. Lincoln's failure during the next three months settles the question of peace. We can do nothing better in furtherance of the peace government at the North than to show the northern people the futility of their attempts at subjugation.

State Journal.

Belle Boyd.—The Canada papers are honoring the famous Virginia lady Belle Boyd. She is described by the *Kingston News* as going about with a pistol in her skirt belt and dogged by two Federal spies—whose business it seems to be to watch her.

Belle Boyd, it will be remembered, was captured whilst running the blockade from Wilmington, on her way to Europe. Long captivity had very much impaired her health, and she was about recruiting it in the old world when she was re-taken by the Yankees. She is described as sitting very complacently on deck leaning herself, as she watched the effects of the shots before the boat surrendered.

Belle Boyd is a young lady of striking appearance, tall, and with dark auburn hair, and brilliant complexion. On some occasions she wears a somewhat singular costume. A grey flannel dress, with tightly fitting body buttoned up to the throat with large gilt buttons; the sleeves are like a man's coat sleeve, decorated with the insignia of her rank, that of a captain in the Confederate service. We believe that she is the only regularly commissioned female officer in the Southern army.

Advees from New Orleans, on the 14th, give an account of the collapse of another cotton speculation. Certain rebels having a large quantity of cotton near the junction of the Sunflower and the Yazoo, who wished to exchange it for greenbacks, the rebel Gen. Wirt Adams, who commands the district, the owners of the Atlantic No. 2, and H. R. Cheek, and certain Custom House officials at Vicksburg, worked together and "went in," the profits to be shared between them. Clearances were obtained, the cotton procured, and the boat was ready to start back; but there being a few more bales near the junction of the Sunflower, they concluded to go there and get them. On arriving there a party of Col. Liddell's command, who commanded that district, politely informed them that the boats could proceed no further; that they would take possession of them and receive the crews and speculators as prisoners of war. This was accordingly done, notwithstanding that the correspondence was shown them from Adams, the reply being "Col. Liddell commands here, and not Gen. Wirt Adams." The steamers, cargoes and prisoners were taken and sent up the Yazoo river to Star-tartia. They were all safe there at last accounts. So much for another cotton speculation.

Cincinnati Gazette.