

TERMS:

DAILY EDITION, for 6 months... \$15
TRI-WEEKLY, for 6 months... 10
WEEKLY EDITION, for 6 months... 5

Treason.

Ever since we assumed the editorial department of this paper, we have endeavored to show from the various sources of evidence which we could collect, that Mr. Holden was disloyal to the Southern Confederacy...

It is now proved by the solemn certificates of two gentlemen, both members of the legislature, that Mr. Holden in November last, stated to them, that "the Legislature should call a Convention of the State immediately, and take the State out of the Confederacy..."

Both of these gentlemen were struck, as any loyal man might be, with this disreputable and base proposition; and both of them repeated it to Mr. Gentry, of Ashe, on the same day. And we have a letter from Dr. Hackett, of Wilkes, stating that Mr. Hampton communicated it to him immediately after his return home.

Mr. Holden feels the force of the accusation by Gov. Vance. It proved, it not only condemns him of a base and unworthy departure from his representative pledge, made on the 20th of May, 1861; it not only condemns him of falsifying his repeated editorial assurances of devotion and loyalty; it not only puts on record his character for truth, by all the rules of law and common sense; but it places him before the people of this State, before our soldiers from North Carolina, before the world, as the counsellor of treason; as the mediator of the overthrow of our Government; as one who would sacrifice North Carolina, her honor, her integrity, and her safety; who would shamefully withdraw her from her southern sisters, and set her up for herself; either to treat with the enemy, and to accept humiliating and destructive terms from him, or to draw upon her two wars, instead of one.

Thus impressed with the force of the accusation, Mr. Holden twice denies it—the second time "we repeat our denial of this charge in its most emphatic terms."

And the matter thus stands before the people. The charge is made. Two respectable witnesses attest the truth of it. There are other witnesses in the State, who can prove the same thing. There is at least one in Chatham; there are more. We know some of them. It is the duty of all loyal men now to come out and favor the cause of truth and the country, by telling what they know.

We shall hereafter take up this proof as it stands now. We shall proceed to show what Mr. Holden's purpose was, and the evidence; and we shall then expose to the people of the State, what the horrid effects would have been, if this pernicious scheme had been successful.

In the mean time, Mr. Holden ought not to be permitted to make this a question of a political campaign. In our opinion, it is a question for a judge and jury, first; and for the people afterwards. The cloud is rolling up; and this is the first clap of thunder.

MOBY AT WORK.—The gallant Moby is said to be again at work, this time in destroying the Orange railroad from the Rappahannock northwards. He is reported to have burned the bridges between that stream and Manassas, big and little. He is also tearing up the track as he goes and is doing his work effectually. Many stragglers from the Yankee army are being picked up, the whole country being filled with them.

WEEKLY CONFEDERATE.

VOL. 1.

RALEIGH, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 1864.

NO. 19.

From the Enemy's Lines—Grant's Unprecedented Losses.

The Petersburg Express has late and reliable information from the enemy's lines. It is of the most encouraging character. Outside of Grant's official circle, and safely removed from the tyranny of Lincoln and Seward, the Northern people do not hesitate to admit terrible losses in Grant's army. None estimate it at less than 75,000, and many say that it will reach 90,000. This is from all causes—killed, wounded, prisoners, stragglers and deserters.

The desertion and straggling is without precedent. A letter was received in this city Saturday from a member of Mosby's command, well and favorably known in Petersburg. This writer states that he and his comrades, with their daring chief, have been in the rear of Grant since he moved from Calpeper Courthouse. He states that from the Rapidan and the Rappahannock to the Potomac, the country literally swarms with stragglers. These men do not hesitate to say, that they are from the Army of the Potomac, and under no circumstances will they be carried back alive. Each man is armed, and says he will sell his life as dearly as possible, before he will be taken.

Gold went up in New York on the 24th, to 186, being an advance of 4 per cent. over previous day's rates. This does not look as though the observant New Yorkers were of the opinion that Grant had accomplished anything whatever in a military way, but to sacrifice one of the best armies on the planet.

The northern people say that Grant has lost four times as many men, as any general who ever commanded the Army of the Potomac. It has been ascertained by actual count, that he lost more men on the 12th, in the terrible contest of Spotsylvania Courthouse, than Napoleon Bonaparte lost on the memorable field of Waterloo. The people say, that the worst feature of the present melancholy condition of affairs is, that the places of the recently slain and maimed, cannot be supplied. Every garrison and outpost has been swept clean to replenish Grant's decimated ranks; and it is asserted as an absolute fact, that there were not men enough at Fortress Monroe last Friday to garrison the place.

It is also represented that Grant's present army is greatly demoralized. The three years' men are very much disheartened, at the had when the Lincoln Government has acted towards them, and the new-comers, or veteran reinforcements, as Stanton telegraphs to Dix, cannot be made to face Gen. Lee's gallant grey backs. Four times during the past eight days did Grant attempt to bring on another such fight as he engaged in at Spotsylvania Courthouse, but each time, the men refused to be led to the slaughter. They are like Burnside's, whipped at Fredericksburg. Once is all sufficient.

Although the entire information from the enemy's country is of the most cheering kind. We verily believe that light is breaking, and that peace is not far distant. God be praised.

The Nullification Bill.

The following Act was passed by the Legislature just closed. It was introduced by Mr. Nat. Boyden, Senator from R. wan, and passed the Senate by a vote of 26 to 19, and 54 to 11 in the House—many of the members opposed to it refusing to be present or to vote on a measure calculated to bring about a conflict between the Confederate and State Governments:

AN ACT more effectually to secure the benefits of the writ of habeas corpus and to prevent the transportation of citizens in civil life beyond the limits of the State.
Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of North Carolina, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That any person as to whom a writ of habeas corpus has been issued and served, who willfully fails or refuses to obey any precept whatever, to obey the mandate thereof, or the orders of the judge or court thereon, before whom the same is heard, or who knowingly or intentionally prevents the service of the same by force, or by keeping out of the way, or who shall willfully fail or refuse to permit any person upon application by counsel, in his custody, to consult with and have the assistance of counsel, for the purpose of suing out, or prosecuting said writ, or who shall send away or conceal any person who is in his custody or under his control, with intent to prevent said writ from being sued out or executed, or the petitioner from being discharged, when the judge or court so orders, shall be guilty of a high misdemeanor, and, on conviction in the Superior Court, shall be fined not less than one thousand dollars and imprisoned not less than one year.

THE WAR.

The Richmond Sentinel says, notwithstanding the presence of two vast armies in our immediate vicinity, the scene of most immediate interest this morning is in Northern Georgia. Johnston has had another of those successful collisions with Sherman which promise to destroy the latter before he reaches a grand battle. On Friday night, Cleburne appears to have perpetrated a massacre upon Howard's division; inflicting a loss of five to seven thousand, with a loss on our part of only a few hundreds. A general engagement was expected to take place the next day; but so long as the preliminary operations result as in the delightful affair of Friday night, and of Resaca, we care not how protracted the prelude to the grand tragedy. The victory is tenfold joyous which spurs our own men. Johnston may retire, as much as he pleases, if he will deliver every where along his line of march such blows as these. He will soon have no pursuers.

Gen. Lee and Lieut. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant are at present manœuvring. Ulysses has recently declared, in one of the sententious utterances which are accepted by his people as oracular, that he would fight out the campaign on the line from Spotsylvania Courthouse to Richmond, if it took him all summer. He accordingly adhered to that line of march as long as Lee gave him liberty, until he had crossed the North Anna, and came to a confrontation with Lee near Hanover Junction. Every one who had any faith in Grant's pluck expected, of course, that he would renew his attack; for, to be sure, that was his road to Richmond, and Lee was in it. But he lay in Lee's front from Tuesday morning to Friday night, with nothing more than skirmishing. Unable to bring his men up to an attack, or himself afraid to risk it, he then recrossed the North Anna, abandoning the field to Lee. This can be held only as a complete bailout on the part of Grant. It is a confession that he was afraid to fight his adversary. It is idle for him to expect to avoid his difficulty by choosing another line of advance. This trouble is independent of all roads. It is found in Lee's army. Of that army he has shown himself afraid. It will be the same army on the Peninsula, or the South Side, that it was on the North Anna. He cannot escape the stern encounter by shifting his battle ground. He may play tag, as he now does; he may steal away to the Peninsula, or hide in the swamps of the lower Chickahominy, or the South Side; but he cannot take Richmond without fighting Lee, and of that he shows himself afraid.

There are three lines of advance against Richmond, all of which have their supporters. There is the Peninsula route which has been immortalized by McClellan, the Southside approach which has been the scene of Butler's generalship, and the Fredericksburg or Northern route, which was the favorite of Lincoln, Burnside, Hooker and Meade, and was adopted by Grant.

Grant made a larger advance than his predecessors by the same route, and recently bound himself to it by a special pledge. His abandonment of it now is a confession of terrible defeat. After spending sixty or seventy thousand men in the experiment of advancing by the North side, he has humiliated himself so far as to run away in the night to look for the despised McClellan's tracks on the Peninsula. The news will fall like a cold bath on the hopes of his people. And well it may. For how can he hope with a whipped and blasted army, to accomplish in the Peninsula what McClellan failed to do with his vast, well appointed, and well disciplined army, urged on by confident expectations? God has not given us over to be cursed by Grant, and if he runs about like Balaam to find some point from which his desire may be gratified, like Balaam, he will be ever disappointed.

There are those who consider Grant's advance from Spotsylvania to the North Anna as evidence of progress, and of improvement in his condition. It is sufficient to say that Grant judges differently. From Spotsylvania he had hopes of taking Richmond; from the North Anna none.

At the latest accounts, Grant had crossed the Pamunkey at Hanoverton, distant, we believe, about eighteen or twenty miles from Richmond.

The Weekly Confederate is printed every Tuesday and put in the Post Office here that evening. It goes off, or ought to go off by the first mails thereafter. We understand it does not get to Richmond county until a week after its date. It goes to Fayetteville on Wednesday, and if the mail for Richmond county does not leave on Wednesday before the Raleigh mail arrives, our subscribers in that county ought to receive the paper the day after its date, instead of a week thereafter. This is in explanation of complaints to us on the subject.

It is said some six thousand prisoners, taken in the recent fights in Virginia, have passed through Danville for the prisons South.

The Emperor Maximilian was at Havana on the 14th inst., on route for Mexico, and has probably reached Vera Cruz before this. Mr. Preston, Minister of the Confederate States to Mexico, was also there at that date, awaiting the departure of the Emperor.

General Bragg and the Evacuation of Petersburg.

The Petersburg Express of Monday says—Not a few of our people were startled Friday morning, upon receiving the Richmond Enquirer of that date, to read in its columns, that Gen. Bragg had ordered the evacuation of Petersburg. Those who knew Gen. Bragg as a patriot and soldier, who he certainly is, of course did not for a moment believe that any such order ever emanated from him; but there were others, who without reflection, fell into the current of public clamor, which had been so unceasingly agitated, and declared that it was nothing more than they had expected from Gen. Bragg, and only confirmed what they had heard several days previous. We did not believe it, because we knew Gen. Bragg to possess more than ordinary military ability, and such an order, the merest tyro in military affairs must have perceived at a glance, would not only have greatly imperiled our cause, but also have resulted in the fall of Richmond. Such a fate would have been inevitable, and we take it for granted that no unprejudiced mind can believe Gen. Bragg capable of committing such a military blunder. But if proof be needed to refute this silly and unjust charge against Gen. Bragg, it is at hand. We have seen a letter from Gen. B., in which he ridicules the thought, and says such a report is not only without the slightest foundation in fact, but must have been started solely for the purpose of slander and detraction. We have also before us a letter from Maj. Gen. Robert Ransom, Jr., a gentleman and an officer well known in Petersburg. Gen. B. assumes voluntarily the task of refuting so unjust and uncalled for a charge against Gen. Bragg, and it will be seen that his letter is dated anterior to the Richmond Enquirer's publication. He bears cheerful and willing testimony to the unceasing efforts of General Bragg to protect Petersburg and keep open the line of communication between Richmond and this city, and forever puts at rest, we hope, this last attempt of Gen. Bragg's enemies to disparage his merits as a soldier and a patriot. The following is a copy of Gen. Ransom's letter:

[COPY]
HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF RICHMOND, May 26 1864.

Gen'l Beazton Bragg, Richmond:
GENERAL—Friday I had a report coming from Petersburg, to the effect that you had ordered the evacuation of that place when it was threatened a few weeks since by the enemy. I at once flatly contradicted the report, and stated what were the facts—that to my knowledge every effort was made by you to hold it, and to keep open communication with the city. I regretted that you had been ordered to Dewey's Bluff, was sent to Port Walthall Junction, and Johnson's Brigade, of my command, was hurried to the same point, to hold the Railroad, and cover Petersburg from attack. The most positive orders were given, and being constantly with you, and conferring about the defenses of both this city and Petersburg, you can appreciate my surprise at hearing the report above alluded to, when I had heard of orders sent which had an eye single to the defenses of Petersburg and keeping open communication between there and the Army of Northern Virginia. Whence have emanated those groundless rumors? I am at a loss to know. Certainly, either from the imagination of those wholly ignorant of the facts, or else from those, who from malice, wish to injure men who have faithfully served our country and watched its best interests. If it should become necessary to refute falsehood, you can use this as you may see fit.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed) R. RANSOM, JR., Major General.

And in further vindication of Gen. Bragg from the malicious assaults of enemies, whose reasons and motives we might particularize to their shame, the Richmond Sentinel has the following thorough refutation of the Enquirer's article. After speaking of a recent attack made upon Gen. Bragg in Congress, the Sentinel says:

The accusations against Gen. Bragg are of two classes—those which affect his military conduct prior to his appointment to his present position, and those which apply to his conduct since. Under both heads he has been most violently assailed. A city cotemporary, whose arraignment covers the whole of his military career, charges him with "all that is gloomy in the past history of the war," and declares that "his promotion to Richmond aggravated the evils that had grown out of his retention in command in the West." It is not part of our purpose to go into the military transactions referred to in the above, and concerning which those who have had the best opportunities for information widely differ. But it is fair to contrast with that condemnation of his appointment here which we have just quoted, the remarks of the same cotemporary at the time that appointment was made. Did partiality then hold the rein, or does passion now? We quote from the Enquirer of February 25th:

"Gen. Bragg has been assigned to duty in Richmond as consulting and advisory General. We regard the appointment as one very proper, and believe that it will conduce to the advancement and promotion of the cause. Gen. Bragg has unquestionable abilities, which eminently fit him for such a responsible position. The country will be pleased to see his experience and information made use of by the President. His patriotism and zeal for the public service are fully recognized and appreciated by his countrymen. The duties of the Commander-in-Chief, who, under the Constitution, can be no other than the Presi-

dent, are most arduous, and require much aid and assistance, as well as ability and experience. Gen. Bragg has acquired, by long service, that practical experience necessary to the position to which he is assigned by the General Order published in today's Enquirer.
"An erroneous impression obtains as to the nature of this appointment of Gen. Bragg. He is not and cannot be Commander-in-Chief. The Constitution of the Confederate States makes the President the Commander-in-Chief. Lee nor Johnston, H. cannot command or direct them, except by command of the President. His appointment has been made with the knowledge and approval of Gen. Cooper, Lee, Johnston, and Beauregard, all his superiors in rank, who, knowing and appreciating the usefulness and ability of Gen. Bragg, concur in his appointment by the President."

If the appointment, notwithstanding General Bragg's "gloomy" antecedents, was "very proper," and conducive to the advancement and promotion of the cause; if he had "unquestionable abilities, which eminently fit him for such a responsible position;" if the pleasure of the country at the appointment was then guaranteed; if the office itself was necessary, indeed essential; if his appointment was made with the "knowledge and approval of Gen. Cooper, Lee, Johnston and Beauregard," all of whose names are mentioned in the "order" which appointed General Bragg's antecedents, as unfitting him for the position, are now obsolete. Our inquiries are, therefore, confined to his conduct since he has filled his present position. And, indeed, if half be true that is alleged by our cotemporary respecting this, we should join to the full in the severity of its censures. It alleges that General Bragg gave an "order for the evacuation of Petersburg," and that it was "offered to the enemy." We are informed, on inquiry, and are authorized to affirm, that this allegation is, in form and substance, a total error. Our sister city was consigned to no such fate. It is also alleged that General Barton was relieved or suspended from duty by General Bragg. General Ransom has volunteered a denial of this. He says it was his act, and that General Bragg had no thing whatever to do with it. We are likewise assured that the various other imputations and insinuations which have been uttered in various quarters to the disparagement of General Bragg's conduct of late operations, are equally unfounded, and the records will demonstrate, and as might readily be proved if the interests of the public service would admit of the necessary disclosures. Persons who are desirous to do justice, will be the more disposed to accept this assurance from the fact that the allegations now referred to are not made with a whit more of confidence and directness than those which have above received full, unequivocal and emphatic contradiction.

Cavalry Engagement.

There was a heavy cavalry engagement on Saturday. For near Hawes' shop, on the road from Mechanicsville to Hanoverton, about seven miles beyond the former place, and five miles this side of the latter. The enemy's cavalry were in great strength, nor were we ourselves deficient. On both sides the troops displayed their swiftness and their courage, and by a charge from our front the troops were dislodged from the cover of timber which they sheltered, which was taken possession of by our men. Three attempts were made by the enemy to recover the position lost, but every assault was repulsed. The fight commenced about nine o'clock in the morning, and lasted until about half past four, when Warren's (5th) corps of infantry was sent by Grant to the support of his cavalry army. Our cavalrymen thereupon fell back about a mile, and took position on a creek where they were not followed. Our retreat was under good cover, and is believed to have been made with loss.

The troops on our side were commanded by Gen. Wade Hampton, who put in the troops magnificently. Our soldiers fought with exemplary coolness and spirit, and must have inflicted very heavy loss on the enemy. As an illustration of the severity of the combat and the character of the fighting, a soldier who had fired forty cartridges, did not fire one without seeing his man, and taking cool aim at him.

The object of the enemy's cavalry was probably to mask the movements of Grant's infantry behind them; but the manner in which they were defeated and driven by our cavalrymen, compelled Grant to show his other force.

We are indebted for the foregoing particulars to several participants in the fight. The battle was a heavy one, and the loss considerable on both sides.

LATER POSITION OF GRANT'S ARMY.

An official dispatch, received last evening, is to the effect that the enemy are in front of Ales'. The position of the confronting armies renders it probable that a general engagement will take place very soon.

Near Hawes' shop, about five miles from Richmond, on the Central railroad—Fitz Lee's cavalry drove the enemy's cavalry back upon their infantry, reported by prisoners to be the 6th and 6th corps—when our cavalry retired, without being followed. It was understood that this movement was simply a reconnaissance to discover the position of the enemy's infantry. Between one and two hundred prisoners, most of whom were captured in the above battle, arrived in Richmond yesterday.—Sentinel.

For the Confederates.

Sometimes individual acts of gallantry occur on the battle-field, which ought not to be allowed to sink into oblivion. The following is an instance: During the fight of the Wilderness, Sergeant John D. Shearin, Co. B, 30th N. C. T., eager to drive the ruthless invader from our soil, rushed in front of his company and called to the men to follow him; and he was last seen in front of the company, gun in one hand and hat in the other shouting to the men to follow him. Unfortunately he went too far and was captured by the enemy. We want such men to lead our men, and with such will be invincible. J.

FROM THE ALLEY.

A gentleman just from the Valley reports that the enemy had advanced as far as Edinburg, in Shenandoah county, about twelve miles below New Market. Their force was not known.

ADVERTISEMENTS will be inserted at THREE DOLLARS per square of ten lines (for less) for each insertion. Marriage notices and obituaries will be charged as advertisements.

JOB WORK.

JOB WORK of every description will be executed at this Office with dispatch, and as cheaply as can be done anywhere in the Southern Confederacy.

Army Items.

Naval Engagement.—A correspondent of the Houston (Texas) Telegraph, writes from Matagorda, that on the 12th ult., the Federal gunboats Alabama and E-telle, attacked the U. S. gunboat J. F. Carr, and after a fight of two hours and a half, were signally repulsed. The Alabama was struck below the water line on the port side, and retired in a sinking condition.

THE WHEATBARKERS OF FOREST.—The Mobile A-t-e-tiser and Register, of the 25th, has a letter from Tupelo, dated the 20th, which opens as follows:

Gen. Forrest is again at the head of his legions. We shall not long remain inactive. The plan of the campaign, so far as we are connected with it, has not been divulged. Men and horses are refreshed and ready for any expedition which the sound judgment of Forrest commands.

From Tupelo, Forrest would have about 150 to 200 miles to march to co-operate efficiently with Johnston against Sherman, and it is the general impression that he is to-day in the rear of the latter. If so, we may be sure that the race for the Ohio river will be commenced in a very short time.

RECENT CAPTURE OF STEAMERS.—It is reported, says the Wilmington Journal of the 25th, that the blockade running steamers Minnie and Young Republic, have been captured off Cape Fear, under bound.

ALL GONE.—The Charlottesville Chronicle, of Thursday, says that citizens from Orange Courthouse, report that there are no Yankees in Culpeper county.

An Appeal not to be Disregarded.

The following letter is from a lady of this State now in Richmond, and whose whole soul is enlisted in attending to the wants of the suffering sons of North Carolina in the hospitals of that city. We feel confident that she will not appeal in vain to the wives, mothers, sisters and all other relatives and friends, to send on such articles of comfort and necessity as are indispensably requisite for the welfare of their kinsmen and neighbors languishing from wounds and sickness. Let the appeal be promptly and generously responded to, and by this means a manifestation of an appreciation of the services and interest of this lady be made, that will be most consonant with her patriotic, benevolent heart:

CHERRY HAZEL HOSPITAL, Richmond, May 24.
Messrs. Editors: I am sure you will excuse my troubling you when you know why I write. Feeling anxious about my fellow Statesmen who are at the hospital at Camp Winter, I accepted the proposal of a gentleman to drive me there this morning. Our soldiers are quite comfortable, and I hope they have good medical attention—and I cannot say that I am not of the number. You know the hospitals are now filled with wounded, many of them suffering very much, necessarily. My object in writing to you is to ask you to write an article for The Confederate, asking the contributions of eggs, butter, &c., to be sent from our State for the benefit of North Carolina soldiers at Camp Winter.

This hospital is appropriated to them, although there are many in other hospitals. I should like to say that there are a number of North Carolina soldiers who have the advantage of Cambridge. Provisions are very high in Richmond, and the Virginians have been long taxed to supply deficiencies to the wounded soldiers from every State. Dried fruits, blackberry wine, chickens, a almost any thing would be acceptable. Eggs are very necessary, and treacle, eggs, pepper, even pieces of cloth to cover crutches.

I know that many people would gladly aid if they knew the way. I was told at the North Carolina Home, that Gov. Vance had an agent who came in with supplies. Such a person would bring such things as I suggest, and they would come safely and quickly only in the especial care of an appointed person. If you agree to write the article, I hope it may be copied throughout the State, for this is the people's war, and no article is so small, but it might contribute to soothe those who are enduring so much for us.

All think here that we are on the eve of a great battle. I should be rejoiced if my application could bring something in time for its necessities.

Extract of a letter from a member of Capt. Mully's Battery to his Father, in this city: "I am well and safe thus far, but much fatigued from the last two week's exertions. We are now waiting for the yankee grand order to attack us again; but old Grant is so badly whipped, that I do not believe he will attempt it again unless reinforced. We have had very rainy weather for the last ten days; and having to lay in breastworks about half full of water, in wet weather, I never saw the kind of dead ground in my life, as there was before our organization. The same was sticking to the field. But every battle-field has its horrors—dead men, and wounded, and dying. I saw the poor system that all to blame, but I cannot say I am sorry for them. Let them go being and let us alone."

Mully's Battery recently has gained credit, distinction and honor for itself and its gallant commander. Every body has complimented us—every body that approached us, say—'give us Mully's Battery forever.' Our loss has been comparatively small—one man killed, a recruit by the name of Lemster, who was as good a soldier as we had in the battery. His death was lamented by all—our loss was very heavy. Greenback, our second lieutenant, was in the front very much wounded, but in improving very much. Lt. Dunn was slightly wounded, but not enough to keep him from duty. The balance of our boys are well and in good spirits. A portion of our Battery is in position, and the other portion awaiting orders. All the Raleigh boys are safe."

The writer of the above is a mere lad, but has the heart and heartiness of an old veteran. With an army composed of such boys, we must conquer.