THE DAILY CHATTANOOGA REBEL.

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THE DAILY REBEL.

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BY FRANC. M. PAUL.

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THE DAILY REBEL.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, JULY 20, 1864.

EVENING EDITION.

RELIGIOUS NOTICE.

The Union Prayer-Meeting for the country, will be held daily, during this week, at the Baptist Church, at 5 P. M. Is it not a reproach to us, as a christian community, that, out of a population of three or four thousand, only from fifty to one hundred assemble daily for this important object? Does it speak well for either our patriotism or our piety?

Griffin, July 18, 1864.

DEATH OF GRANT.—A dispatch was received at headquarters of the army last night, confirming the report of the death of Gen. U. S. Grant. We suppose the dispatch was of the same tenor as that received by the press last night. The fact that it is thus officially communicated, indicates that the Government does not regard it as a mere idle rumor.

☞ A report was brought on the train this morning that Forrest occupies Memphis, having got around Washburne and beat him into the city. The report needs confirmation.

☞ Gen. Johnston's family and personal staff passed down the road last night at 11½ o'clock *en route* for Richmond. Gov. Brown of Georgia was also on the same train.

FROM THE FRONT.

Special Correspondence Memphis Appeal.]

IN FRONT OF ATLANTA. }
Tuesday Evening, July 19, 1864. }

The fight on Nance's creek yesterday between Williams' brigade and Hooker's entire corps, turns out to have been of more importance than was at first supposed. Finding that they were advancing in heavy force, Old "Cerro Gordo" determined to impede their advance as much as possible, until the commander-in-chief could be notified, and make preparations to meet them.

Dismounting his men, and concealing them in the dense undergrowth, he brought up two pieces of artillery, and hastily constructed a masked battery upon the opposite direction in which they were advancing, the woods opposite their position having been burned recently, afforded them a fine view in their front. They had been in position but a short time, when the enemy's skirmishers were discovered, who pressed forward, closely followed by the main body, marching in column.

Their skirmishers were allowed to approach within twenty paces, when the signal was given, and a murderous fire was poured into them at point blank range; the artillery opening at the same time with shell and canister upon the head of the column.—The enemy broke and fled in wild confusion, but were again reformed, and advanced in line of battle. General Williams then withdrew about one mile and formed another ambuscade, into which the enemy fell again; but, after wavering some time, finally advanced again, and tried to flank him upon the right. The 1st Kentucky, then in reserve, was ordered to charge them, in order to bring off the artillery and horses, which was done in gallant style, led by the gallant and intrepid McCawley, they closed upon the foe, and a hand to hand rencounter took place, which has not been equalled during the war; our men using the butts of their guns and pistols, and the enemy their bayonets. Owing to the density of the thicket, many of the officers were in advance of the line, and Lieut. Col. Griffin, commanding the regiment, came suddenly upon the enemy, and boldly advancing, demanded their surrender, telling them he had a regiment with him, to which they replied, they had an army corps, and called upon him to surrender, which he, together with his adjutant and five of his captains were very reluctantly compelled to do; but their captors had scarcely begun to rejoice over them, before the gallant 1st was upon them, and driving them back in wild disorder, and yelling like so many incarnate devils, they recaptured all of them: also, the body of the gallant McCawley, and thereby saving the horses and artillery.

Five times during the day were they ambuscaded and Gen. Williams estimates their loss at 500 killed and wounded, and 22 prisoners. Our loss was 21 including Capt. McCawley, who Gen. Williams says was the best staff officer he ever saw in any army.

The following corps of the enemy are known to have crossed the river, and on day before yesterday were located between Peachtree creek and the river in the following order and strongly fortified, the right resting on Roswell and the left at the mouth of Peachtree creek—Palmer's, Dodge's, Logan's, Howard's, Schofield's and Hooker's. Blair's corps being stationed at Vining's station and Marietta, guarding those points.

McPherson's headquarters were at Roswell, and Sherman's and Thomas' opposite Soap's ferry and Shaker ford.

But of course their positions, some of them at least, have been changed since then, as Hooker had advanced from his position when he encountered Williams.

Girard's division of cavalry encamped about four miles from Decatur last night and returned to the railroad this morning, where they awaited the arrival of Logan's corps and then advanced upon that place, which was defended by our cavalry, who were compelled to fall back in the direction of Atlanta.

The enemy shelled the place furiously, and it is reported that a large portion of the town was destroyed by fire; but this lacks confirmation.

Dodge's corps is also moving in that direction, from which it would seem that Sherman is determined to push us to the wall, and I seriously hope it may be so.

The enemy's right now rests on Peachtree creek, near Durant's mill and running southwardly rests upon the Rockbridge road at a point about two miles below Decatur.

All are in high glee at the prospect of an immediate battle, and I think from appearances that their wishes will be gratified within the next thirty six hours.

The gallant Cheatham was put in command of Bood's corps last night and will lead them in the approaching battle; and if they follow where he leads, which I do not question, you may look for glorious results. SPECIAL.

The Radical Republican Protest against Mr. Lincoln's Renomination.

From the New York New Nation, (Fremont Radical Republican organ,) May 21st.

FOR CLEVELAND.

The time has come—in the language of the call for the Cleveland Convention—for all independent men, all who are jealous of the national liberty and greatness, to unite in a common effort to oppose an insurmountable barrier against the flood of shame and ruin that is pouring over the country from Washington, and threatens to bury even the American name. Inaugurated in error and cowardice, the present Administration tended inevitably to the painful end which we have before our eyes. Error as to the true bearing and character of the contest; error as to its probable duration; looking only upon compromise as a possible solution of the struggle, and protecting in slavery the very source of the conflict, the Administration of Mr. Lincoln could only and inevitably terminate in the half measures which prolong crisis and never conclude them: cowardice in dealing with foreign powers, which did not blush to assimilate themselves to revolted criminals under the name of belligerents; cowardice in dealing with England imperiously demanding the Trent prisoners, notwithstanding the open manifestation of the popular will; cowardice in dealing with Louis Napoleon, who insolently treads the Monroe doctrine under foot and slaps us in the face with its fragments, stained with Mexican blood: cowardice toward the whole world, in suffering, without reprisals, our commerce and our flag to be insulted in every sea by pirates issuing from the ports of powers which make war upon us under the shelter of neutrality; everywhere cowardice.

Americans! is this the device which our fathers left us? Is it this which we shall leave to our children? Without energy for good, without force against evil, and without intelligence to foresee and to direct what has become of our liberties, and what has become of the immense resources of every kind, put by patriotism at the discretion of our executives? Our liberties! we have seen them succumb, one by one, without a murmur, without a single popular protest to vindicate rights and justice outraged; military pro-consuls have every where replaced the law by caprice, and the Judge by the Provost Marshal, the habeas corpus no longer exists, and the capricious bell of Mr. Seward sends, without power of resistance, the best citizens of the Republic to dream in a dungeon over our lost liberties. There is not a citizen to-day who can be secure in going to sleep at night, that he will not awake a criminal—not by the laws but by the will of a pro-consul or his agent.

That which England would have defended to the last drop of her blood, that which is the most glorious appanage of the Anglo Saxon race, its pride in and its attachment and respect for the liberty of the citizen, we have abandoned without a protest.

Are we descendents of those sturdy Saxons who never knew how to bend their heads, or are we the effeminate sons of the Latin race, of whom servility is the distinguishing characteristic?

In fighting for universal liberty, are we going to surrender our own? Our national wealth is following in the wake of our liberties. The robber, that prosperity which was the envy of the world and our just pride, is flowing off at the rate of four millions of dollars a day, into the pockets of contractors scattered and wasted by incapacity on the battle-field, and by corruption in public transactions. Prostrate, ruined, and dishonored, have we at least the consolation to see all these sacrifices crowned by victory over our enemies? Judge for yourselves. After three years of voluntary impotence, after having steadily drained our wealth and our blood in such a way as just to carry our existence along far enough to bring us exhausted to the moment of a Presidential election, the Administration drawing together for a supreme last effort all the force of the nation, stakes its existence on a last card in order to perpetuate itself in power, or, if it falls, to leave with its successor only a ruin and the remembrance of a greatness destroyed for ever.

All our resources are engaged, not in those combats of civilized people where modern science wins victory while it spares life, but in a human beast-tomb, like the recorded struggles of barbarian antiquity, where masses take the place of intelligence, and where exhaustion and death take the place of victory—a triumph of darkness over light; history will mark with her bloody finger this ferocious butchery, a shame to humanity and a stain upon this age of civilization and progress.

We have lost at least 40,000 men in less than ten days; we push forward even our militia; what afterward? It is enough to pay dearly for the ignorance of those who instead of leading our men to victory lead them to death! The imagination refuses to look at the consequences of a disaster in such circumstances. Under this Administration, sold to foreigners by fear or by interest, we have seen that saddest and most incredible spectacle of the work of our ancestors baffled and overthrown before it had yet reached a century of existence, but which was also a century of unexampled prosperity.

Shades of Washington, of Jefferson, of Monroe and Jackson, of Adams, of Clay, of Webster, and of Benton, tell our countrymen if you recognize that Republic which you knew how to make so great! Bloody shades of the heroes of independence, you who founded the Republic by heroism and suffering against the numbers and the treasures of England, rise up and tell us if you recognize your battles of giants where energy and valor supplied the place of numbers, in these human beast-tombs where patriotism succumbs under incompetence! Come forward! Touch with your finger the bodies of these contractors swollen with the people's gold, mocking at the devastation and smiling over the national ruin; touch and tell us if your antique virtue realizes the existence of these human vultures! People! There is yet time for you to rise up. There is yet time for you to pass in review the acts of a guilty Administration, which has betrayed your confidence, and to arrest its course. The moment has come to launch out from the new world the great truth that administrations are made by the people, and not the people for the administration; and that howsoever great may be their forbearance for their servants, howsoever long may be their forgetfulness of their interests, when the measure is full, the people declare that they alone are sovereign and change their Administration. The time has come to change that which for three years past has occupied the White House; the time has come to clean out the Augean stables and to select the Hercules charged with that task. On to Cleveland!

Captain Semmes's Official Report to Mr. Mason.

SOUTHAMPTON, June 21, 1864.

Sir: I have the honor to inform you that in accordance with my intention, as previously announced to you, I steamed out of the harbor of Cherbourg between nine and ten o'clock on the morning of the 19th of June for the purpose of engaging the enemy's steamer Kearsage, which had been lying off and on the port for several days previously. After clearing the harbor we descried the enemy, with his head off shore, at a distance of about seven miles. We were three-quarters of an hour in coming up with him. I had previously pivoted my guns to starboard, and made all my preparations for engaging the enemy on that side. When within about a mile and a quarter of the enemy he suddenly wheeled, and bringing his head in shore, presented his starboard battery to me. By this time we were distant about one mile from each other, when I opened on him with solid shot, to which he replied in a few minutes, and the engagement became active on both sides.

The enemy now pressed his ship under a full head of steam, and to prevent our passing each other too speedily, and to keep our respective broadsides bearing, it became necessary to fight in a circle, the two ships steaming around a common centre, and preserving a distance from each other of from a quarter to half a mile. When we got within good shell range we opened upon him with shell; some ten or fifteen minutes after the commencement of the action our spanker gaff was shot away, and our ensign came down by the run. This was immediately replaced by another at the mizzenmast head. The firing now became very hot, and the enemy's shot and shell soon began to tell upon our hull, knocking down, killing, and disabling a number of men in different parts of the ship.

Perceiving that our shell, though apparently exploding against the enemy's sides, were doing him but little damage, I returned to solid shot firing, and from this onward alternated with shot and shell.

After the lapse of about one hour and ten minutes our ship was ascertained to be in a sinking condition, the enemy's shell having exploded in our sides and between the decks, opening large apertures, through which the water rushed with great rapidity.

For some few minutes I had hopes of being able to reach the French coast, for which purpose I gave the ship all steam, and set such of the fore and aft sails as were available. The ship filled so rapidly, however, that before we had made much progress the fires were extinguished in the furnaces, and we were evidently on the point of sinking. I now hauled down my colors, to prevent the further destruction of life, and dispatched a boat to inform the enemy of our condition.

Although we were now but four hundred yards from each other, the enemy fired upon me five times after my colors had been struck. It is charitable to suppose that a ship of war of a Christian nation could not have done this intentionally.

We now turned all our exertions towards saving the wounded and such of the boys of the ship who were unable to swim. These were dispatched in my quarter boats, the only boats remaining to me—the waist boats having been torn to pieces.

Some twenty minutes after my furnace fires had been extinguished, and the ship being on the point of settling, every man, in obedience to a previous order which had been given the crew, jumped overboard and endeavored to save himself.

There was no appearance of any boat coming to me from the enemy after my ship went down. Fortunately, however, the steam yacht Deerhound, owned by a gentleman of Lancashire, England, Mr John Lancaster, who was himself on board, steamed up in the midst of my drowning men and rescued a number of both officers and men from the water. I was fortunate enough myself thus to escape to the shelter of the neutral flag, together with about forty others, all told.

About this time the Kearsage sent one, and then tardily, another boat.

Accompanying you will find lists of the killed and wounded, and of those who were picked up by the Deerhound; the remainder, there is reason to hope, were picked up by the enemy and by a couple of French pilot boats, which were also fortunately near the scene of action.

At the end of the engagement it was discovered by those of our officers who went alongside the enemy's ship with the wounded that her midship section on both sides was thoroughly iron coated, this having been done with chain constructed for the purpose, placed perpendicularly from the raif to the water's edge, the whole covered over by a thin outer planking, which gave no indication of the armor beneath.

This planking had been ripped off in every direction by our shot and shell, the chain broken and indented in many places, and forced partly into the ship's side. She was most effectually guarded, however, in this section from penetration. The enemy was much damaged in other parts, but to what extent it is now impossible to tell; it is believed he was badly crippled.

My officers and men behaved steadily and gallantly, and though they have lost their ship they have not lost honor.

Where all behaved so well it would be invidious to particularize, but I cannot deny myself the pleasure of saying that Mr. Kell, my first lieutenant, deserves great credit for the fine condition in which the ship went into action with regard to her battery, magazine and shell rooms, and that he rendered me great assistance by his coolness and judgment as the fight proceeded.

The enemy was heavier than myself, both in ship, men and battery, but the odds in metal in his favor was not their fault. All accounts concur in the fact that she was also iron-clad.

Our total loss in killed and wounded is thirty, to-wit: Nine killed, twenty-one wounded.

I have the honor to be,
Very respectfully,
Your obd't. servant.
R. SEMMES, Captain.

MR. SLIDELL'S POSITION TOWARDS SEMMES.

From the Paris Constitutionnel, June 25.]

Several journals enter into details, more or less exact, on the participation which Mr. Slidell is said to have had in the incident which has just taken place off Cherbourg. We are requested to state that Mr. Slidell was not aware, until the evening before the engagement, that Captain Semmes' intention was to go out to meet the Kearsage. Mr. Slidell had, besides, neither the right nor the desire to give any orders to the commander of the Alabama. Had he been consulted he would have probably not hesitated to incur the responsibility of giving a counsel in conformity with the nature of the particulars which he had obtained as to the respective force and conditions of the two vessels. Capt. Semmes did, however, refer to his superior, that is to say, to the naval officer of the Confederate navy on service in Europe, who gave an entire adhesion to his project. We believe, also, that we shall not be contradicted in adding that the line of conduct followed by Captain Semmes has unreservedly the approbation of Mr. Slidell.

The Raids in Virginia—Virginia Women.

From the Richmond Examiner.]

The escape of Hunter to the Yankee den in Western Virginia has already become an old story, and even the vengeful eyes of those who followed hard on his track of desolation and rapine, are turning to scenes of new interest. Foiled in his cherished plan of breakfasting at the Norvell House, and stealing the spoons of the inhabitants of Lynchburg, the hero of the meal-tub and the larder is said to be breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the happy Valley, which he did his worst to make unhappy, and which will long bear the impress of his foul tread. In his retrograde march he left word with some of the people whom he had robbed, that he was preparing a "handsome trimming for our pursuing army."

If his present preparations are not more effective, the good people of the Valley, or at least those of them who have been spared, may follow their usual avocations in perfect peace of mind. The belt of devastation is broad enough: and within that belt the work has been thorough enough, but still the country has not been sown with salt. In a year or two, the landscape which has been darkened by this cloud of war will be as smiling as ever; and but for the blackened ruins of homestead and mill, no one could tell that infamous outrages had been done in that fairest portion of our fair Virginia.

Let these blackened ruins remain untouched. We are not an artist: people as the Yankees claim to be, we have neither the taste nor the money for Gettysburg monuments and amphitheatrical cemeteries. Our dead heroes sleep sweetly in the bosom of the old mother, whom they died to defend, and in her poverty that old mother has not decked their resting places with precious stones and miracles of art. No! we want no battle monuments as yet. We have monuments enough—monuments furnished by our old purveyors of the North, monuments brought by Yankee enterprise to every hearthstones—nay, made of the hearthstones themselves. Our new country lacked the picturesque attraction of ruins. We have that attraction now, and in abundance. The Ionion Greeks would not rebuild the temples which their barbaric enemies destroyed; they allowed the ruins to remain as mute reminders of the injuries which they had suffered; as mute appeals to heaven for vengeance. Let us in like spirit refuse to efface these memorials of our savage foes. In after times it will be almost a patent of nobility to have a ruin in the family.

Indeed it is not difficult to extract a grain or two of comfort from every bitter dose which the fortune of this war has presented to our lips. The moral results of those raids, annoying and humiliating as they are, is invariably in favor of our cause. The Yankees may find lukewarm Confederates, but they leave few behind them. The light of burning houses and blazing factories is not the only light that marks their track. There is a new radiance on the brow of every Southron, a new fire in every eye, a fresh halo of martrydom around every head, a more fervid glow of patriotism on every breath. And who that has seen can ever forget the noble bearing of our women: the noble simplicity with which they rehearsed the outrages of their visitans?

Many of them had nothing left, absolutely nothing; not a grain of corn in the bin: not an ounce of meat in the larder, not a chicken in the poultry yard, not a vegateble in the garden, and yet they spoke not of themselves, but of our soldiers, and regretted their loss, not for themselves, but for the sake of the liberating army, and when they said as they did say with honest accent of truth, that they had nothing to eat, they said so with perfect calmness, as if they were already angels of God, that had no need of meat and drink. One could hardly pity natures that had risen so high, that had taken so exalted a degree in the sublime art of resignation. It seemed as if they were already translated and did not require the food which our men eagerly extended to them from their own stores.

If these were not to be pitied, the people of the pretty little town of Liberty were actually to be envied. Such a thrill of joy, such exultant happiness as they revealed, seldom entered into the course of ordinary human life, and the phylosophical looker on might well have asked whether it was not worth while to have the Yankees for a short time in order to enjoy the pleasant sensation of getting rid of them. However it must be observed that the delight of the inhabitants was notably hightened by the reflection that sundry dead Yankees lay stiff and stark on the green sloops outside the town, that some little vengeance had been taken for the wrongs which they had suffered.

TELEGRAPHIC,

REPORTS OF THE PRESS ASSOCIATION.

Entered according to Act of Congress in the year 1863 by J. S. THRASHER, in the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the Confederate States for the Northern District of Georgia.

From the Front.

ATLANTA, July 20th.—Reynolds' Brigade attacked the enemy's line of skirmishers last evening, near Peachtree creek and took possession of their breastworks. He then charged the reserve pickets, supported by Dilworth's corps, and captured one hundred and fifty prisoners.

The 85th Regiment of Illinois Volunteers lost in killed and wounded one hundred, while the loss of the 52d Ohio was also very severe.

The Militia.

From the Richmond Dispatch.]

The steady and gallant conduct of the militia of Virginia, on every occasion in which their services have been demanded, is one of the most noticeable features of this contest, and is an element of defensive strength which cannot be overrated. The militia of Petersburg, of Richmond, of Lynchburg, of the Staunton river, of the Valley, have fought like veterans, and have actually beaten superior numbers of regular troops. In but one battle, that in the Valley, have they been defeated, and that was not their fault. All accounts concur in the fact that she was also iron-clad.

Our total loss in killed and wounded is thirty, to-wit: Nine killed, twenty-one wounded.

I have the honor to be,
Very respectfully,
Your obd't. servant.
R. SEMMES, Captain.

MR. SLIDELL'S POSITION TOWARDS SEMMES.

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SEWARD'S SERVILITY.—Drouyn De L'Huys, the Emperor Napoleon's minister of Foreign Affairs, has issued a circular to the French Agents in Foreign ports (dated May 4th) upon the subject of the recent Monroe Doctrine resolution of the Yankee Congress. He assures them that the vote is very far from possessing the importance imputed to it, and that on account of it no complications with the United States, in reference to the French policy in Mexico, will result. Mr. Dayton, the American minister in Paris, read to him (De L'Huy's) a dispatch from Mr. Seward, immediately after the resolution passed, repudiating all responsibility on the part of the Cabinet at Washington in the matter, and stating that, if such a measure were to pass both houses of Congress, while it would naturally be a subject for the serious attention of the cabinet, it could not possibly oblige it to modify its policy, or deprive it of its liberty of action. Mr. Seward sees no reason for adopting in the Mexican question any line of conduct other than that which he has followed up to the present time.

☞ We regret to learn that Lieut. Cabell Breckinridge, son of Maj. Gen. Breckinridge, and one of his aids, was wounded on Monday last. He is in Lynchburg.

☞ Why are women's bosom's like Trigonometry? Because, says Jean Paul, they may be divided into Plane and Spherical.

☞ Naomi, the daughter of Enoch, was five hundred and eighty years years old when she was married. Courage, ladies!

☞ Charles V. has said that a man who knew four languages was worth four men.

WRAPPING PAPER.

A LOT OF WRAPPING PAPER for sale at the REBEL OFFICE. jy20

ENVELOPES.

A GOOD supply of excellent ENVELOPES, for sale at the REBEL OFFICE. jy20

LETTER PAPER.

A GOOD article for sale low at the REBEL OFFICE. jy20

MEMORANDUM BOOKS.

BOUND in leather, and neatly ruled, for sale at the REBEL OFFICE [jy20]

FOR SALE.

IN west Griffin, a neat Cottage House, containing six rooms—all necessary out buildings—a rich garden spot in a high state of cultivation. For particulars, apply at the Express office. jy20-6t*

NOTICE—NEW FIRM.

THE style of the firm heretofore known as Disnuke & Hall, will hereafter be A. T. Finney & Co.

The cash system will hereafter be inflexibly adhered to except upon government work.

The attention of Quartermasters is called to our stock of Horse Shoes, Horse Shoe Nails and Nail Rod, of which we have a large supply constantly on hand. A. T. FINNEY & CO.

Griffin, July 4—1m.

WHEAT! WHEAT!!

A NEW horse power and thresher for sale, at a very low price. There has been much wheat engaged to be thrashed by this machine, and any one having the force to run it, can make it profitable. Enquire of J. N. HARRIS, Drug Store. jy18—1w

UNCALLED FOR FREIGHT IN THE EXPRESS OFFICE AT GRIFFIN.

THE following list of freight at the Express Office in this city, is stored at the risk of the owners. Parties will please call for the same without delay, as no further risk will be taken.

J. H. LOGAN, Ag't.

A Brown, 1 package; Miss W E Brown, 1 package; W M Blanton, 1 bundle; R W Cook, 1 package; R Crowell, 1 knapsack; Mrs P Duke, 1 box; F H Green, 1 sack; J Hudson, bell; D B Holland, bell; J B Harper, 2 bags and 1 bbl.; W B Hunt, bag; T E Hicks, bundle; L B Irwin, parcel; Mrs F A Marshall, parcel; Mrs E Middlebrooks, 1 box; Dr J R Miller, 1 parcel; F Minchener, sword scabbard; J W Ownbery, box; Dr M Richardson, package; C P Redding, care W M Blanton, package; W A Robinson, care J J Ford, box; D M Williamson, package; M G Dobbins, 109 boxes. jy14

CONFEDERATE MONEY WANTED.

FOR sale, a desirable lot in this city, containing two small residences and other necessary houses—an excellent well and garden. Apply to F. MINCHENER, at the Brass Foundry. jy13—tf

TO COTTON OWNERS.

THE Planter's Warehouse belonging to the undersigned, in the city of Griffin, has been partially taken for hospital purposes, and on this account, I think the owners of cotton stored in the above named warehouse, had better ship it, or move it to some place where it would be more safe. The proprietor gives this notice, because the public necessities have put it out of his power to take that care of the cotton that the owners might think he could do. He therefore gives this notice to save himself from any liability in the premises. As a warehouse man, I wish to close my warehouse business by the 1st of September next; therefore those having cotton stored in my warehouse, will please come, pay charges and take or ship it away, as they may think best, on or before the 1st of September next.

jy9—tf W. A. SCANDRETT.

SOLDIERS' CLAIMS.

We have on hand a lot of blank forms of certificates and affidavits for the collection of the claims of deceased soldiers. Price fifty cents per sheet. Persons at a distance needing such blanks can procure them by addressing the REBEL OFFICE through the mails.

FOUND.

A BUNDLE which seems to belong to some one at Kingston Hospital. It was found near Bear Creek. The owner can hear of it by inquiring of Mrs. Tucker at Bear Creek. jy15

BY AUTHORITY.

PUBLIC ACTS

OF THE

First Congress of the Confederate States,

Passed at the fourth session, which was begun and held at the city of Richmond, in the State of Virginia, on Monday, the seventh day of December, A. D., 1863, and ended on Thursday, the eighteenth day of February, 1864.

CHAP. XLIII.—An Act to amend "An act to regulate impressments," approved March twenty-sixth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, and to repeal an act amendatory thereof, approved April twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-three.

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That in all cases where property is impressed for the use of the army or navy, or for other public use, under said act, the same shall be paid for at the time of said impressment, unless an appeal shall be taken from said valuation, as hereinafter provided, according to the valuation agreed upon between the parties, or ascertained by loyal and disinterested citizens of the city, county, or parish in which the impressment may be made, in the manner and according to the regulations provided in the first, second, and third sections of the above recited act, or in the eighth section thereof, where it is applicable.

SEC. 2. Whenever the officer making the impressment of property, under the act hereby amended, shall believe that the impressment is fair and just, he shall endorse his approval upon the appraisement, and make payment accordingly; but if he shall believe that it is not fair and just, then he shall refuse to approve and endorse, and shall have the right to appeal from the decision of the appraisers, by reporting the case to the commissioners appointed under said act, to which this is an amendment, for their decision, whose judgment shall be final, and in the meantime, the property shall be held and appropriated by the officer impressing the same, who shall give a receipt therefor to the owner, who shall also have the right of appeal, as herein provided.

SEC. 3. The said commissioners shall have power to summon and examine witnesses to enable them to fix the value of property impressed, which shall be a just compensation for the property so impressed, at the time and place of impressment, and when the commissioners shall have fixed the value of property in cases of appeal, they shall furnish the owner and impressing officer with a statement of such value, which valuation by the commissioners shall be within three months from the time of impressment.

SEC. 4. That said commissioners shall be sworn, faithfully to discharge all their duties under this act, and the act to which this is an amendment:

SEC. 5. That the tenth section of the act to which this is an amendment) be stricken out, and the following inserted instead thereof: "No slave, laboring on a farm or plantation exclusively devoted to the production of grain or provisions, shall be taken for public use without the consent of the owner, except in case of urgent necessity, and upon the order of the general commanding the department in which said farm or plantation is situated."

SEC. 6. That the act amendatory of the above recited act, approved April twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, and so much of the first section of said act as requires an affidavit to be made by the owner or his agent, that such property was grown, raised or produced by said owner, or held, or has been purchased by him, not for sale or speculation, but for his own use or consumption, be, and the same is hereby repealed.

SEC. 7. That no impressment shall be made under this act, or the act to which this is amendatory, for the use or benefit of contractors with the government.

SEC. 8. Nothing in this act shall be construed to authorize the impressing officer to enter an appeal from any decision of the local appraisers, under the seventh section of the act to which this is amendatory.

Approved February 16, 1864.

CHAP. XLIV.—An Act to authorize the President to establish additional military courts.

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That in addition to the military courts now authorized by law, the President be, and he is hereby authorized to appoint a military court to attend any division of cavalry in the field, and also one for each State within a military department, whenever, in his judgment, such courts would promote the public interest; which courts shall be organized, and have the same powers and duties, and the members thereof appointed as provided by law.

Approved February 16, 1864.

CHAP. XLV.—An Act to allow commissioned officers of the army rations, and the privilege of purchasing clothing from the Quartermaster's Department.

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That from and after the passage of this act, all commissioned officers of the armies, whilst on duty in the field, or in the naval service, whilst afloat, of the Confederate States, shall be entitled to one ration in kind each, in quantity and quality the same as are now allowed by law to privates, and shall draw and receive the same under such regulations as may be prescribed by the Secretary of War.

SEC. 2. That all commissioned officers of the armies of the Confederate States shall be allowed to purchase clothing and cloth for clothing, from any quartermaster, at the price which it cost the Government, all expenses included: Provided, that no Quartermaster shall be allowed to sell to any officer any clothing or cloth for clothing which it would be proper to issue to privates, until all privates entitled to receive the same shall have been first supplied: Provided, That the officer offering to purchase shall give his certificate, on honor, that the articles are necessary for his own personal comfort and use, and in no case shall more than one suit per annum be allowed to be so purchased by any officer: Provided, That no law or army regulation shall hereafter be construed to allow an officer to purchase or draw from subsistence stores, more than one ration a day, or for less price than the cost thereof, including transportation.

SEC. 3. That no officer under the rank of Brigadier General shall hereafter be entitled to forage, or commutation for forage, for more than one horse, except when on service in the field.

Approved February 17, 1864.

CHAP. XLVI.—An Act to fix the compensation for the publication in the public gazettes of the acts of Congress.

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That the Attorney General be authorized to contract for the publication of the acts of Congress in the public gazettes, on the best terms he can, in no event to exceed the ordinary rates of printing for private persons.

SEC. 2. That for publishing the acts of the third session of the present Congress the Attorney General is hereby authorized to allow such compensation as he may determine to be equitable.

SEC. 3. That the acts approved April the sixteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, be so construed as to authorize the selection of gazettes temporarily printed in the States other than those to which they belong, in which to publish the acts of Congress.

Approved February 17, 1864.

CHAP. XLVII.—An Act to repeal certain portions of the act of May the 21st, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, relative to prisoners of war.

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That so much of the act of Congress, passed May the 21st, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, as makes it the duty of the Quartermaster General, under instructions issued by the War Department, to provide for the sustenance of prisoners of war, is hereby repealed, and hereafter that that duty shall devolve on the Commissary General of Subsistence, and be discharged by him, subject to the provisions of the act referred to.

Approved February 17, 1864.

CHAP. XLVIII.—An Act to amend "An act regulating the granting of furloughs and discharges in hospitals," approved May first, eighteen hundred and sixty-three.

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That an act regulating the granting of furloughs and discharges in hospitals, approved on May first, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, be, and the same is hereby so amended, as to provide that the period of disability therein named, which entitles soldiers, sick and wounded in hospitals, to furloughs, shall be extended to sixty days or upwards, in which case, the board of examiners may grant furloughs for sixty days.

Approved February 17 1864.

CHAP. XLIX.—An Act to amend an act entitled, "An act to organize military courts to attend the army of the Confederate States in the field, and to define the powers of said courts," approved October ninth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two.

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That when two or more army corps are united in the same army, charges shall be referred to said courts and their proceedings be subject to review by the army commander, as in the case of general courts martial; and that the jurisdiction of each of said courts shall extend to any persons connected with the army of which the corps to which the court is attached may be a part, without being limited to members of the particular corps to which said court may be attached.

SEC. 2. That when the corps to which any military corps may be attached, shall, from any cause, cease to exist as such, the Secretary of War, shall assign the members and officers of such court to any other unsupplied corps, or other sub-division of any of the armies of the Confederate States, where a military court may be needed; and exchanges and transfers of individual members and officers from any one court to another, may be made by the Secretary of War, on application of the parties concerned; the consent of the commander or commanders of the army or armies to which the particular courts may belong, having been first obtained to such exchange or transfer.

SEC. 3. That the fourth section of the act of which this is amendatory be, and the same is hereby, so amended as to extend the jurisdiction of the military courts to all offenders below the grade of lieutenant-general.

Approved February 17, 1864.

CHAP. L.—An Act relating to the appointment of a General and Lieutenant Generals.

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That the President may appoint one general in the provisional army of the Confederate States, when, in his discretion, it shall be deemed necessary and proper, for the command of the trans-Mississippi military department, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

SEC. 2.—That the President may, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoint lieutenant-generals in the provisional army of the Confederate States, when, in his discretion, it may be deemed necessary for the armies and military departments.

SEC. 3. That the officers appointed under the provisions of this act, shall continue to hold the rank herein provided, so long as they shall efficiently discharge the duties in command of said several departments, and no longer, but will resume thereafter their former rank in in the service.

Approved February 17, 1864.

CHAP. LI.—An Act to amend the sixty-fifth article of war.

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That the sixty-fifth article of war be so amended as to read as follows: "Article sixty-five. Any general officer commanding an army or commanding a force of cavalry not with and under the immediate command of the commander of an army, or other officer commanding a separate department, may appoint general courts martial whenever necessary. But no sentence of a court martial shall be carried into execution until after the whole proceedings shall have been laid before the officer ordering the same, or the officer commanding the troops for the time being; neither shall any sentence of a general court martial in time of peace, extending to the loss of life, or the dismission of a commissioned officer, or which shall, either in time of peace or war, respect a general officer, be carried into execution until after the whole proceedings shall have been transmitted to the Secretary of War, to be laid before the President of the Confederate States for his confirmation or disapproval and orders in the case. All other sentences may be confirmed and executed by the officer ordering the court to assemble, or the commanding officer for the time being, as the case may be.

Approved February 17, 1864.

CHAP. LII.—An Act to authorize the impressment of meat for the use of the army, under certain circumstances.

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That whenever the President shall declare that the public exigencies render it necessary, impressments of meat, for the use of the army, may be made from any supplies that may exist in the country, under the express condition that just compensation shall be afforded to the owner of the meat taken or impressed, and subject to the following restrictions and limitations:

SEC. 2.—The power to direct such impressment shall be conferred on the Secretary of War; but he shall not reduce the supplies of any person below one-half of the quantity usually allowed for the support of himself, his family, and dependants for the year. He shall exercise the said power by orders directed to the officers or agents he may employ, who shall have explicit instructions as to the mode of its execution, and injunctions that the same shall not be abused.

SEC. 3. That these orders shall direct that a notice shall be given to the owner of the meat needed, his bailee or other agent, declaring the quantity required, the price offered, the existence of a necessity, and whether possession is to be taken of the same immediately, and with whom the risk of the safe-keeping is to be, pending the negotiation, and in what manner the compensation shall be settled, in case the offer is not accepted—service of which notice shall be a condition precedent to any impressment or seizure by the impressing officer.

SEC. 4. That upon the service of this notice upon the owner of any meat liable to impressment, the owner shall hold the same subject to the claim of the Confederate States, and shall be entitled to just compensation, according to the provisions of this act; and if the necessity is declared by the impressing officer to be urgent, he shall deliver the possession to the impressing officer upon his demand, who shall give a receipt therefor, as provided in the sixth section of this act.

SEC. 5. That for the ascertainment of the quantity of meat liable to impressment under this act, and also of just compensation for the same, where the owner and impressing officer cannot agree, the impressing officer shall appoint one loyal and disinterested citizen of the county, district or parish, in which the meat impressed shall be at the time of impressment, and the owner of the meat so impressed, his agent, or other bailee shall appoint another, who shall, upon oath, ascertain the quantity liable to impressment, and the value of the same at the date of the notice served upon the party, which oath may be administered by the impressing officer, and which ascertainment of the quantity and value shall be conclusive evidence thereof; and if the assessors cannot agree, they may associate with them a third person, of like qualifications, to make said assessment.

SEC. 6. That whenever an impressment shall be made, under this act, it shall be the duty of the impressing officer to give an official certificate, showing the quantity taken, the company, battalion, regiment or other command, for whose use it is required, the compensation to be paid, the circumstances of necessity that existed, which certificate shall be evidence of a claim against the Confederate States, and shall be promptly paid by the disbursing officer of the command for which the meat was taken, or by the chief of the bureau having charge of disbursements for similar objects.

Approved February 17,