now pending in the Senate:

ILLIAM W. HOLDEN. EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

RALEIGH: FRIDAY, FEB. 5, 1864.

From Eastern North-Carolina. he public mind has been excited for several days by the knowledge that important military rements were on foot in the direction of Newbern up to the time of writing this we are without nite information as to the result. It is known a large force of veteran troops, commanded by able and experienced officer, were moving to ds Newbern, and that on Monday morning last tirmish took place at Batchelor's creek, seven s this side of Newbern, in which Col. H. M. w, of the 8th N. C. troops, was killed. It is reed that a portion of our forces are on the south of the Trent below Newbern; that the Railroad been torn up, thus cutting off communication een Morehead and Newbern; that our forces within two miles of Newbern on Tuesday ing, and had surprised and captured a Yankee nent. It is also reported that heavy firing was d on Weinesday morning in the direction of bern, by inhabitants below Goldsborough.

e have no doubt from what we have learned the expedition was well planned, and we feel that if the enemy's works at Newbern should tacked they will be carried. The possession ewbern, and the permanent occupation of that n of the State by our forces would result most ficially to our people and to the Confederate We trust the expedition has been in every ect successful. If we should hear more before to press we will lay it before our readers.

STSCRIPT. - We learn that a dispatch was received lov. Vance on Thursday morning, from Golds ugh, stating that Newbern would not be attacky our forces on account of the strength of the fications of that place.

official dispatch from Gen. Pickett, who comded the expedition, to Gen. Cooper, at Rich d, states that he had made a reconnoisance withmile and a half of Newbern, with Hoke's brigade part of Corse's and Clingman's, and some artil. He met the enemy in force at Batchelor's Creek. tilled and wounded about one hundred, and canthirteen officers, two hundred and eighty prifourteen negroes, two rifled pieces and caissons, Hundred stand of small arms, four ambulances. wagons, fifty-five animals, a quantity of cloththe camp and garrison equipage, and two flags. mander Wood captured and destroyed the Uni-States gunboat Underwriter.

ur loss is thirty-five killed and wounded.

he resolutions adopted by the Conservative ing held in Greensborough, which we publish y, have the ring of the true metal. They the the loftiest and most determined devotion e great principles of Constitutional liberty, and every way worthy of the noble assemblage of

BE CONFEDERATE. - Col. Duncan K. McRae has med the chief Editorial management of the ical department of the Confederate, a new Dective journal in this City which succeeds the Journal, now defunct. Col. McRae is a briland ready writer, and has had much experias a public man. He says in his Salutatory. "the public mind is weary of individual strife, better taste appeals for a higher order of al nourishment. Frankly acknowledging all eficiencies, and truthfully assuring the fraterof his motives and intentions, he asks their t hand of fellowship; and claims a generous forance of his short comings, and a sympathy in fforts, so far as they may be proper and well-

e reciprocate this feeling on the part of Col. ae, and trust that nothing may occur to dis-

course we are all duly grateful to Col. McRae ssuming the Editorship of "an organ faithfully cting the loyal sentiment of the State, deemed isite here, in the capital town of North-Car-

e published in our last the substance of the milbill recently passed by the Senate, placing in ce all white male residents of the Confederate s between the ages of eighteen and fifty five .-House, it seems, is considering a different bill cret session. Nothing has been perfected on subject, so far as we know

PORTANT DECISION .- The Favetteville Observer ains a decision by Judge French, in a case of as corpus from Moore County, in which he s that the law of Congress conscribing the prins of substitutes is constitutional. The appliwas remanded to the custody of the enrolling

ne Confederate, noticing the ridiculous stories ished in Boston and elsewhere, to the effect this State is about to secede from the Confed-, and the public meetings held in this State, that Gov. Vance, who is falsely reported as g in favor of a return to the Union, "is missented because these meetings tie him to them heir laudatory resolutions." We feel sure there purpose on the part of the meetings referred o injure Gov. Vance.

se Confederate, with the Observer and other ructive journals, is assiduously engaged in an efto show that the Standard is untrue to the ederacy, and a friend to the federal government. e journals are displaying their ingenuity at the use of truth and justice. They studiously to copy from our columns our own opinions, ing our position and views, but rely on Yanestimony, such as telegrams from Boston and cts from Mr. Everett's Gettysburg oration .bject to the witnesses. They are not of the , and they are not truthful. These journals. eased to attribute influence to the Standard. much more grateful and pleasant the task to as they could do from our Editorials, that we evoted to the South, and that our people are a unit'in their determination to resist the ern abolitionists; but such a course would sult in party advantage, and hence it is not ed. We do not ask for charity, but simple at the hands of our opponents; but whether t the latter or not, we are consoled by the ledge that our course is understood and ap-

e.—We regret to state that the residence of olt, the Sexton to the Graveyard in this City, accidentally, burned upon the morning of day the 4th burned upon the morning of the 4th instant. The fire occurred about the broad daylight. Owing to the exer-those present, the adjoining house of Mr. was saved from almost certain destruction. of action and rendered valuable assistance.

Some Plain Talk.

The Editor of this paper is still, and has been for two years, an object of the bitterest and most unjust political persecution; and not only this, but he is socially assailed, and is constantly threatened with personal violence. Why is this? What have

We were a Union man up to Lincoln's proclama-

tion. We have since been a war man, and we are

now in favor of fighting and negotiating at the

same time for peace. At the beginning of the war,

when volunteer companies were being equipped by

private subscriptions, we contributed to this object

as freely and as much in proportion to our means as

any citizen of the State. Our only regret is that

we were not able to give more. We have uniform

ily submitted to the laws, advised others to submit

them, paid our taxes, and labored to ensure the

independence of the Confederate States. We have

never refused to aid a soldier when he appeared to

need it, or to aid the soldiers' families when

called upon to do so. We have cheerfully part-

ed with our property for government use, at a low

price, when others in this community who pretend

o be war men gave up their property reluctantly.

or retained it by making special appeals to the de-

partment at Richmond. We have uniformly re-

ceived Confederate money in payment of old as well

as new debts, while many Destructives have refitsed

it on old debts, and even for grain and meat for

soldiers' families. We have never entertained a

thought, nor breathed a word, nor printed a line

with the view or intention of injuring the Southern

canse. Wherefore, then, this persecution -these

threats? We will tell you, reader. We have ur-

ged the people to maintain their liberties while

they were contending against the common foe -

We have insisted on a strict construction of the

Constitution, and on the perpetual, unremitting

force of the civil law. We have exposed corrup-

tion in high places, and demanded reform, not for

factious purposes, but for the good of the cause .-

We have contended for the rights of the States, and

esisted the tendency to establish a military despo-

tism. We have taken the part of the private sol-

dier when he has been unjustly treated and impo-

sed upon; and we have called time and again on

those who promised the volunteers that they would

provide for their families in their absence, to redeem

their pledge. We have insisted on the right of the

private soldiers to have the companies and regi-

nents re organized when they shall be again con-

scripted in the spring, with the privilege of electing

their own officers. We have published complaints

from citizens whose rights have been disregarded

by the military, and have insisted that property

shall not be taken, or destroyed by order of com-

manding officers, without just compensation. We

have protested against the arrest of our citizens

without civil warrant, and have insisted that every

one thus arrested and thrown into a military prison.

is entitled to a speedy trial-to be released if no

sufficient grounds exist for holding him, or to be

turned over, if sufficient grounds exist, to be tried

by a jury of his country. We have advocated every

measure which was calculated to render our armies

efficient; we have rejoiced when victory has crown-

ed our arms, and we have mourned when disaster

tive-we believe in the right of the-people to gov-

ern themselves-we have favored such steps as

promised to lead to an honorable peace-we have

insisted that the Confederate States should not fight

on blindly to the verge of ruin for States that are

against us, as for example, Marvland, Missouri, and

Kentucky, but that the olive branch should be car-

ried in one hand and the sword in the other; and

we have favored a Convention of our people, not

for factious or selfish purposes-not to destroy or

even embarrass the common government, but to

aid it in its efforts to obtain a just and honorable

peace. "Our offence bath this extent-no more."

Still we are called a traitor, and every effort is made

by our enemies to prejudice the people against us,

and to destroy us socially, politically, and person-

ally. Our fault is that the people are with us, and

that we are true to both soldiers and people. If

this be our fault, then are we proud of it : and we

tell our assailants, whether they be Destructives or

professed Conservatives, that if they are against the

people of this State-if they are disposed to thwart

the will of the people, or stifle it, or if they consent

to any measures that may be resorted to to stifle

that will, or to interfere with its free and full ex-

pression, then we are against them. If we are false

to the Confederate government, then it has but few

friends in this State, for a vast majority of our peo-

ple agree with us. But we are not false. The real

traitors are those who aided in bringing on the war,

but who refuse to fight in it, and who are at home

growing rich out of it, while their neighbors and

neighbors' children, who were opposed to the action

which produced the war, are baring their breasts to

the storm of battle. These are the traitors, fellow-

citizens-traitors to their own pledged word, trait-

ors to their neighbors, their country, and their

God; and these are the men who are the uselves

engaged, or engaged as the instruments of others,

We now say to our friends, once for all, that we

are calm and firm, and intend to do our duty at all

hazards. We shall not swerve, under any circut a-

stances, from Conservative principles, nor turn ou l

back on the people. But we advise moderation in

all things. . We must not forget our duty to our co-

States, to the common government, or to the brave

army of the Confederate States now in the field,

wielding the mailed hand of war while those at home

in the civil councils are presenting the ungloved

hand of peace. We must fight and talk for peace

at the same time : and the effectiveness of the latter.

whether by public meetings, or public journals, or

members of Congress or of State Legislatures, or

Conventions of the States, depends on the vigor of

the former. We must treat with arms in our hands

These are our views, held and expressed for

months past. It is absurd-utterly absurd to as-

sume that we have possessed the people with these

wiews, or any particular views, or that they are do-

ing wrong, as is alleged, under our leadership. We

are amazed that such an assumption should be made

by any intelligent person. The very reverse is the

fact. We repeat, we are behind the people. They

are directing and controlling us. We are simply

one of their organs. We would not lead them, i

we could. But they want no leaders. They are

able to lead and govern themselves. We believe

they will do so prudently, justly, and wisely, and

that the result will be the greatest good to the great-

THE CURRENCY BILL.-The Examiner says "it

was expected that the currency bill would be com-

pleted and passed by the Senate in the secret ses-

sion of gesterday. We learn that the bill which

was sent up from the House, has been modified by

the Senate in such important particulars that there

is no prospect of the House agreeing to it, and that

a committee of conference will be demanded, which

will probably bring this important matter to the

heal of the session."

in assailing, villifying, and threatening us.

has fallen on our banners. But we are a Cons

entitled " An Act to gut an end to the exemption from military service of those who have heretofore furnished substitutes," approved January 5, 1864. SECTION 1. The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That the above recited act shall not apply to farmers and planters engaged on the 5th day of January, 1864, in the production of grain and provisions, either by their own manua labor or in superintending the labor of others: Pro vided. The exemption berein contemplated is grant ed subject to the following conditions:

Principals of Substitutes.

House of Representatives on this subject. It is

A bill to be entitled an Act amendatory of an Act

We publish below the bill which has passed the

I. That the person availing himself thereof shall devote himself, and the labor of which he has the control or superintendence, exclusively to the pro-

duction of provisions and family supplies.

II. That there shall be paid and contributed, from the farm, or, if more than one farm, from each of the farms which the person thus exempted owns or superintends, in addition to the tithe required by any tax law, an additional tenth of the pork or bacon produced on said farm or farms, (beginning with the product of last year,) for the use of the

III. That the person thus exempted will, if so required, sell all his surplus provisions, now on hand or hereafter raised, for the use of soldiers' families, or for the use of the army, at prices not greater than those fixed, for the time being, by the commissioners appointed under the impressment

IV. That the person seeking to avail himself of the benefit of this act shall have furnished a substitute not liable to military duty, who is now in the service, or who has been legally discharged therefrom, or who has died therein.

V. That the benefit of this act shall not apply to persons on farms or plantations on which there is any other male adult not liable to military duty. SEC. 2. Nothing contained in this act shall be construed as limiting the power of the President, under existing laws, to exempt such persons as he may deem proper, on grounds of equity, justice, or

This bill passed the House by 44 to 31. Messrs. Arrington, Ashe, Bridgers, Davidson, Gaither, Mc-Lean, and Smith of this State voted for, and Mesers. Kenan and Lander against it.

In the Senate, on the 3d, Mr. Sparrow, from the military committee, reported back to the Senate the above bill, with a recommendation that it do not pass. No action was taken.

We shall not follow the example of the Fayetteville Observer in its self-praise and coarse person alities. We reminded it of its large profits from sources outside the Observer establishment, from which it was obvious the paper was sustained, as it could not be sustained at the prices charged for subscriptions; but we did this solely in self-defence, as the Observer had charged us with asking "extertionate prices" for the Standard. We obtained no information in regard to the Kerosene factory in which the Editors are interested. from an "ill-informed or unworthy source." It is generally known that they are interested both in the Kerosene and cotton business. Their statement, that they are not realizing large profits from these sources, but invested their money from patriotic motives, may pass for what it is worth. For our part we do not believe it. We repeat the fact, as a printer, that the Observer is losing money at its present rates of subscription, that is, if it pays the narket price for the paper it uses, and pays its ployees the wages they have a right to expect; and we believe the Editors fear to advance their terms. lest they should lose subscribers, and hence they rely upon other sources of income to sustain their paper. We did not wish to make this statement, but the Observer forced it from us by its discourteous and unfounded statement, made without the slightest provocation from us, that we were charging "extortionate prices" for the Standard.

The Coserver boasts that its circulation is in creasing with great rapidity. We do not believe it. The Conservatives, we know, are dropping it by hundreds, for we are so informed by letters from all parts of the State; and nearly all its new subscribers are Confederate office holders, or obtained in clubs in Destructive neighborhoods by earnest appeals made by Destructive leaders. And unless the Observer changes its course, renounces its errors, returns to the path of Conservatism, and co-operates in good faith with the Standard, it will soon find itself in the condition of the Register and State Journal when they were on their last legs; and if it should live on thus in "the lean and slipper'd pantaloon," it will have to depend entirely for its nourishment on its Kerosene and cotton

But these are small matters, and we dismiss them. We have referred to them only in self-defence, but we shall not again be diverted from the discussion of grave matters by the presentation by the Observer of those small issues and unprofitable personalities in which that paper appears to take so much

The Observer says we have "confessed that we used to abuse Gov. Graham, Mr. Badger, Gov. Vance, Mr. Gilmer, and others, as untrue to the South "-This is not true. The Observer has no authority to use the names of these gentlemen in this way. Its allusion to Mr. Badger, when we consider the rondition of that venerable and illustrious man, and the relation which the Editors bear towards him is in the last degree improper and indelicate. Mr. Badger is now se stricken with disease as to be upable to answer for himself. That glorious intellect which once charmed and convinced, and shed light on every subject which it touched, is now obscured: but his principles are the same, and his heart is as menerous and unselfish as it ever was. It was our tertane to be associated with him on the ticket in his County for a seat in the State Convention, in ebruary and May, 1861; and during the February ca mpaign, one of our opponents indulged in the say we strain of remark in reply to a speech of Mr. Bac ger, which the Observer has adopted. Reference made to the former course of the Standard to wards Mr. Badger, with the view of exciting him agains t us, and of making capital for the disunion. ists; b. at he met this reference before the people with sil, soce and cold contempt, while he observed to us pri vately that we had doubtless in time past done each other injustice-that we were now friends and that he would not gratify our enemies, as he hoped we vould not, by taking any notice of such attacks, wh 'ch contained no argument, but were intended to) evive unworthy prejudices that ought to be forgotte v. It is unnecessary to say that we agreed with hi 'm heartily in this view, and regarded course on 11 te occasion se additional evidence of heart and magnanimity of disposition. And when in May, 1861, we were again elected to the Con vention, after a most bitter camefforts of the disunionists were paign in which the directed mainly agai 'nst us, he declared to the peoturning thanks for the support ple, in his speech re such was the interest he felt ne had received, that in our success as a ca adidate, that if either of us was to be defeated he would have preferred our was to be defeated be election to his own. So much for the Observer' We shall always cherish allusion to Mr. Badger. the deepest respect for the kindest feelings and Nothing can ever inthat great and good man. unkindly of him, or of duce us to think or speak woer we say, "cease, his real-friends. To the Obs viper, you bite a file.

We publish to day for inform ation, at the request of the Treasurer, an act on the Subject of revenue, passed at the last session of the L. gislature, to which we respectfully direct the attenti on of Sheriffs and others concerned.

Mr. Reade's Remarks.

We take great pleasure in laying before our readers to-day the remarks of the Hon. Edwin G. Reade, delivered in the Confederate Senate on the 80th of January, on the occasion of presenting resolutions of thanks to a portion of the North-Carolina troops for their patriotism, as evinced by volunteering for the remainder of the war.

The occasion was very appropriate for these remarks. We are glad Mr. Reade submitted them, and we are more than pleased with their temper and truthfulness. He tells the Senate and the country that the charge that North-Carolina is untrue to the ·Confederate government, is unfounded; and he goes further and says that the proposition to hold a Convention in this State is best understood by its advocates, who declare that it does not mean mischief; and that whether North Carolina "shall call a Convention or not, or whatever else she may do, will be so marked with propriety that others in time to come, as in time past, will evince their high appreciation of it by claiming that she was not the first to do it, but that they were." In other words, Mr. Reade claims for his State the right to take such action as her own people may consider best for themselves and the country; and he has so much confidence in the intelligence and integrity of the people whom he in part represents, that he feels sure that any action that may be resolved upon by them will be both proper and patriotic, and marked by a due regard for the rights and feelings of others. Mr. Reade does not see the danger in a Convention which other public men, who might be named. think they see; Mr. Reade is not afraid to trust the people in Convention; Mr. Reade has no sympathy with those who denounce the friends of a Convention as plotters of treason and enemies to the common government; Mr. Reade can perceive no "new Hartford Convention" in a movement which proposes that the people shall consult together in their sovereign capacity as to the best means of shielding their vital interests and obtaining an honorable

We call attention to the following significant statement by Mr. Reade: "Senators have doubtless heard, as I have, that it has been gravely considered whether force ought not to be employed to overawe and silence her people." It is true, then, that it has been "gravely considered" whether North-Carolina ought not to be coerced! Mr. Reade very properly omitted to characterize the fact, or to make any threat. But he reminded the Senate that North-Carolina had held two Conventionsone at Charlotte Town, in 1775, and one at Raleigh. in 1861, and both those Conventions were unanimous in their views and purposes; and the inference to be drawn was, that though no State was more devoted to the Confederate government than North-Carolina, and none would go farther or submit to greater sacrifices to keep faith, yet there was no power that could overawe or silence her people, when they chose to express their opinions, whether in Convention or otherwise. We trust, however, that the idea, even if "gravely" entertained, of re-sorting to force against our people in any event. will be at once and forever discarded; and that the States and the common government will continue to move forward harmoniously in their respective_ spheres. And the speech of Mr. Reade, as we trust and believe, will contribute in no small degree to this most desirable result.

The Philadelphia Inquirer of the 1st instant states that Lincoln has ordered a draft for 500,000 men to serve during the war, the draft to be made on the 10th of March.

Revenue. AN ACT TO AMEND AN ACT ENTITLED "REVENUE."

RATIFIED THE 11TH DAY OF JANUARY, 1863. SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That the 15th paragraph, under schedule A, section 70, of said act, be amended so that said paragraph shall read as follows: On every dollar of nett profit or dividend declared, received or due, during the year preceding the 1st day of April in each year, upon money or capital invested in manufacturing cotton or woolen goods, leather, or other articles made of leather, iron and tobacco; also on every dollar of profit made by the purchase and sale of corn, flour, acon and other provisions, salt, cotton, tobacco leather, and naval stores; also on every dollar of nett dividend or profit on money invested in steamboat companies, (wheteer incorporated or not) and in railroads a tax of two cents.

Sec. 2. Be it further enacted. That there shall be levied on every dollar of nett profit or dividend on the purchase and sale of articles imported into the State from neutral ports through the blockade of our coast, or which shall be brought from the States with which we are at war, and sold in this State, a tax of five cents, and it shall be the duty of the Sheriff of the counties in which said sales are made, to proceed forthwith to collect the tax authorized by this section as soon as sales are made. under the same penalties for neglect as are prescribed for neglect in similar cases, in an act entitled "Revenue," to which this is an amendment. Sec. 3. Be it further enacted. That 19th paragraph, under section 86 of said act, schedule B, be

and the same is hereby repealed. SEC. 4. Be it further enacted. That this met shall be in force from its ratification. Read three times in General Assembly, this 12th day of December, A. D. 1863.

R. S. DONNELL, S. H. C. (Signed) GILES MEBANE S. S. ANOTHER BLAST FROM THE NORTH CAROLINA

proceedings: CAMP 30TH N. C. TTOOPS. Jan. 27th, 1864. }
Editor Sentinel—Dear Sir: Please publish the subjoined resolutions, and oblige your obedient ser J. 1. HARRIS.

TROOPS!-THE THIRTIETH REGIMENT SPEAKS .- We

publish with great pleasure the following patriotic

Capt. Co. I 30th N. C. T. At a meeting of the troops of the 30th N. C. regment, held at headquarters on the 27th of January. 1864, the following preamble and resolutions were

unanimously adopted: Whereas, an unjust attempt of a radical party in the United States, to subvert and overthrow all constitutional guaranties, and to rob us of our property, honestly obtained, did first force us to withdraw from an alliance no longer binding; and, whereas, they did deny us that right, and have attempted to drive us back into a re-union that we detest, by waging a war against us unparalleled in history for its atrocity and vindictiveness of spirit; and, whereas, we have learned through Northern papers that the despot who reigns at Washington has induced large numbers of his present army, by the inducement of large bounties and broad promises, to re-enlist, and is offering extraordinary inducements to citizens of foreign nations as well as of the United States to enlist, to fill the ranks of his army, thus clearly defining a settled determination to subjugate us at all hazards; now, therefore, we do unani-

Resolve. That, viewing our cause as a just and holy one, we declare ourselves re-enlisted for the war in the struggle for that liberty and independence so dear to every patriotic and honest heart; our Congress and the President of the Confederate States to listen to no kind of terms that fall short of our complete and untrammeled Independence.

Resolved. That we have the most unbounded confidence in our gallant chieftain, General Robert E. Lee, and will cheerfully and willingly stand by him, through storm and sunshine, until the prize for which we are contending shail be acknowledged by

all nations. We received last evening, too late for publication, the proceedings of the 4th and 47th N. C. regiments, also. We shall take great pleasure, in our next, in laying before our readers what these glorious men have to say .- Richmond Sentinel.

War News.

Col. Griffin, commanding Confederate forces, telegraphed to the War department from Jackson on the 31st January, as follows:

"Yesterday morning engaged the enemy with force of two hundred men and a mounted rifle piece. After a fight of two hours, in which we engaged twelve fundred of the enemy and three pieces of artillery, the Yankees were driven from Windsor, North Carolina, to their boats. We lost six men The loss of the enemy is not known."

FROM THE BLACKWATER REGION. -The following dispatch was received Tuesday night from Colonel Jordan, at Ivor station:

"Glorious news !- The whole Yankee forceabout one hundred and fifty—ass our prisoners; and their gunboats, 'Smith Briggs,' destroyed.

No one hurt on our side. Four Yankees killed

and two or three wounded. The prisoners are now at Broad Water. Send

down a train for them to-morrowa". We learn that this Yankee force was commis sioned to destroy a large factory at Smithfield, in Isle of Wight county. We do not know the size or composition of our command which achieved the results noticed above, but understand that it contained two companies of the Thirty-first North-Carolina regiment. - Examiner of 3d Feb.

> For the Standard. THE SUBSTITUTE LAW.

MR. EDITOR:-Much has been written and said recently, in regard to the late act of Congress nlacing the principals of substitutes in the army, in defiance of its plighted faith and solemn con tract. One of the most extraordinary articles which I have yet seen on this subject, appeared in the last Fayetteville Observer, over the signature of "Richmond County," and to which, with your permission, I will submit some remarks in reply. through the columns of your widely circulated

The Observer's correspondent frankly admits that the Constitution confers no power upon Congress to impair the obligation of contracts, but argues to prove that the government has never entered into any contract with these men, but that their claim to exemption rests not upon a contract proper within the constitutional meaning of she term, but upon a privilege, or an indulgence; and that such should be recalled in a case of gov ernmental life or death-and says the Courts must so decide, or run counter to their own decisions in volving the same principles.

On both of these points 1 take issue with him and shall endeavor to prove, first-that the gov ernment, through its authorized agents, did make a contract with these men, discharging them from the army for three years, or during the war, for a consideration; and, secondly-that the decisions quoted by him do not sustain him in his views on

this question. I admit, that in one sense of the word, the law allowing substitutes does confer a "privilege,"the privilege of exempting yourself from the mili tary service through a contract with the government.' The moment a substitute is accepted, and the principal is discharged, it becomes a privilege accepted and a contract executed. Every discharge sets forth, that the principal, having furnished an able-bodied man as a substitute, is in consideration thereof discharged from the army for three years, or the war. A stronger evidence of a contract it would be difficult to conceive. What is a contract? It is an agreement between two or more parties; a mutual promise upon lawful considera tion which binds the parties to a performance; bargain : a stipulation. Is here not an agreement between the two parties? The principal agrees to furnish an able-bodied man as a substitute, and of this the government itself is to be the judge. In consideration of this, the government agrees to exempt him from military service for three years, o the war. The substitute is examined by the government Surgeons, pronounced able and sound, is accepted, and the principal discharged. If this is not a contract executed I know not what is. It is an agreement between two parties; it is a mutual promise upon a lawful consideration which binds the parties to a performance; it is a bargain; it is

a stipulation, from which accrues vested rights. You sell a man your horse, and in consideration f the value received he gives you his note for the purchase money, payable the next week. Here he contracts with you to pay you at a given time, just as the government contracts to exempt the principals of substitutes for a fixed length of time; but the Legislature passes a stay-law voiding the contract by extending the time of payment, just as the act of the Confederate Congress voids this by shortening the period of exemption. What does "Richmond County" suppose the Courts would say about the constitutionality of such a law? Such law has twice been passed by the Legislature of North Carolina-in 1813, and in 1861-and in both. cases the Supreme Court decided that the law was unconstitutional, upon the express ground that it impaired the obligation of contracts." The Observer's correspondent will search a long time, before he finds a case more in point than this,

But I do not believe there is much analogy be tween the case of the Fayetreville Bank and the present. Suppose the bonus paid by the Bank for its charter to constitute a contract. What did the Legislature do? Did it at one fell swoop sweep sway all the vested rights of the corporation? Certainly not. It simply imposed some restrictions upon for the public good; enforced some regulations for the benefit of the community. This the Supreme Court held that it had the right to do; but no one knows better than the Observer's correspondent that if the Legislature had deprived the corporation of all its vested rights; had annulled its charter, the Supreme Court would have decided that the act was unconstitutional and void. Did Congress simply attempt a regulation or an annihilation of the rights vested? Upon this question hinges the point of analogy to his Bank cases. But let us view the question in its moral aspect. A

needs the services of an. able-bodied man for three years. B. in consideration of a sum of money to him in hand paid, agrees to become A's servant for that length of time. A accepts of the proposition, and the contract is reduced to writing and made binding by the payment of the consideration. But no sooner does B bind the bargain than he sees where he could have done much better. In order to enable him to do this, C agrees to take his place as a servant of A for a specified sum of money. A agrees to the arrangement and enters into a second contract with B, in which he discharges him from his service in consideration of his having furnished another able bodied hand in the person of C. After a short time he says to B. "I have work enough for two hands and must have them," and attempts to force him back into his service without discharging C, or refunding him any part of the money paid for C's services, but being a private individual he cannot override law and justice with as much ease as the government can, and therefore fails. But the very attempt is an act of such moral turpitude as to shock all the better feelings of humanity. Yet this is precisely what the government is doing.

The same number of the Observer that contained this article, also contained an able article from a highly respectable religious paper, the N. C. Christian Advocate, expressing the opinion that all of our calamities are merited by us in consequence of the sins of our people, and orging them to put away their sins. It also tells us that it will not do merely to rely upon the right and justice of our cause, that the history of the world shows that every just cause is not successful—that they are sometimes trampled down by the iron heel of oppression-that. while God is on the side of the righteous cause, He is not on the side of the wrong doer-and that to merit success, we must not only have right on our side, but that we must do right ourselves. This reasoning struck me with some force, but it occurred to me that our people were not likely to improve in that respect in the face of such glaring and shapeless violations of contracts of good faith on the part of the government. Instead of affording an example to our people to induce them to do right, many of the acts of the government tend greatly to demoralize them, and this is the more strikingly so that the government professes to rely upon the good of the people. Before it announces another day of fasting and prayer let it retrace its steps, observe all its obligations, and punctiliously keep faith with as subjects, and it can with much more propriety invoke the blessings of God upon our country and A PLAIN FARMER. our cause.

For the Standard.

TRIBUTE OF RESPECT. At a regular meeting of Kuap of Reeds Lodge, No. 158, of Free and Accepted Masons, held in their ball, Dec. 27th, A. L. 5868, the following preamble and resolutions were

A. D. Sees, the following product the sad information adopted.

Wheneas, This Lodge has received the sad information of the death of cur worthy brother, Willia P. Rosmars, of Co. E. 46th regiment N. C. troeps, who died on the 18th day of November last, while discharging his duty as a soldier in defence of his native land; therefore be it Resolved, That we bow with due submission to the will of Him who holdeth the destines of nations and men in

Resolved. That we sadly lament the death of our worthy brother; that we will ever cherish his memory as a good soldier and worthy Mason.

Resolved, That in the death of our worthy brother, his bereaved relations and friends have lost a kind and unwa-

Resolved, That we recommend to his former comrades in arms the worthy conduct which he displayed while con-Resolved, That we tender our heartfelt sympathies to his bereaved brothers, sisters and friends in their sore afflic-

Resolved, That we wear the usual badge of mourning for hirty days.

Resolved, That the Secretary forward a copy of these resolutions to the brothers and sisters of the deceased brother, also a copy to the N. C. Standard and Biblical Recorder for publication.

A. M. VEAZEY, R. L. HEFLIN, JOHN FLEMING,

F. J. TILLET, Sec'y.

Biblical Recorder please copy.

OBITUARY NOTICES. Died, at his residence, in Iredell County, the 8th of January, Ivy Galvers, aged about 48 years. His disease was pneumonia, which terminated in his death in about two weeks. He had lived a member of the M. E. Church for many years.

Died, December 28th 1863, in Hospital at Washington City, D. C., Corporal John W. Cox, in the 20th year of his age. He was a native of Jones county, N. C., and son of the late John H. Cox, Esq. His death was caused by wounds received at the battle at Kelly's Ford, Va., on the 7th of November, 1868. The deceased volunteered at the 7th of November, 1865. The deceased volunteered at the commencement of the war in company G, 2d regiment N. C. troops. The remembrance of his many private virtues, his deeds of daring, and his self-sacrificing and heroic death will live long in the memory of a grateful country.

J, W. K.

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE .-- I OFFER for sale a spleudid brick dwelling house and a 2 scre lot and outbuildings. Also three-fourths of a store, all in the town of Murfreesboro', N.C., and 100 acres of land about one mile from town. Two plantations in Bertie county, situated on Cashie river, one containing 800 acres, the other 1,000 acres, with a fishery one mile from the anding on the plantation, and may really turn out one of the best in the State. There is upon both farms good dwellings and all necessary outhouses, apple and peach orchards. All these lands are well adapted to the cultivation of cotton, corn and peas. Also one tract of land in Stanly county, N. C., adjoining Cabarras county, 12 miles from Concord Depot, 3 miles from Rocky river and 2 miles from Barrier's Mills, containing 1,200 acres. The land is nearly all level. It is said there is plenty limestone. This is a splendid farm for wheat, tobacco, corn, &c., &c. This tion of cotton, corn and peas. Also one tract of land in is a rare opportunity for investment and seldom offered.

P. HENNEBERRY, Windsor, N C. - 11-80t.

MPORTANT SALE OF TIN PLATE AT AUCTION.—On the 10th of February next, in front of our Sales' Room, we will sell to the highest bidder 70 boxes brand IX Tin Plate, 10 by 14.
CREECH & LITCHFORD,

FOR SALE, A GOOD FOUR HORSE Wagon, but little worn. Apply to S. M. WILLIAMS.

\$30,000 INTERNAL IMPROVE-MENT N. C. STATE BONDS FOR SALE.—On wednesday, the 10th inst, in front of our sales room, we will sell to the highest bidder, Thirty Thou sand Dollars North Carolina six per cent. State Bonds, the interest of which is payable semi-annually, on the first days of January and July in each year, and the principa on the first day of January, 1883. These Bonda were issued to the Raleigh & Gaston Rail-

road Company, and the City of Raleigh, for the benefit of the Chatham Railroad Company, and in addition to the I gradit of the State general credit of the State, have the security of a special Sinking Fund. Copies of the laws authorizing the issue may be had on application to the undersioned.

CREECH & LITCHFORD,

Febuary 4, 1864.

A UCTION SALES, SATURDAY, FEB. 6, 1864,-Will be sold at Towles' Auction and Com-A 1864. Will be sold at Towles' Auction and Com-mission Store, at 10% o'clock, a great variety of new hard-ware and carpenter's tools of the best quality; a small lot of bright new tin by the sheet; one starm clock, in good order; best granulated brown sugar by the barrel or less quantity, to suit families; a small quantity of genuine Rio coffee, ginger and spice, cowfoot oil, tobacco, suuff and segars; soft soap by the barrel; one barrel lard, &c., &c. Also expected to arrive, a large lot of cornfield peas and On Friday evening previous, sales of Gentlemen's

ready made clothing, hats, caps and fancy articles.

JAS. M. TOWLES, Auc. Raleigh, Feb 4, 1864.

WARESH SUPPLIES .-- JUST RECEIVED AT at Towles' Auction and Commission store on sale, a large lot of best Quinine, Blue Mass, Calomel, Riddle and McItwain's celebrated eagle snuff, Lampblack, &c., &c.

JAS. M. TOWLES, Ag't. Raleigh, Feb. 4, 1864.

NEW PUBLICATIONS BY BRANSON
& FARRAR.—YORK'S ENGLISH GRAMMAR—
the 3d edition, just published, is illustrated and revised.—
This book is entirely Southern, and is one of the best gram

mars ever published. Price \$150.
THE JACK MORGAN SONGSTER, is now in press. Price 75 cts.
THE GEOGRAPHICAL BEADER, with maps, is just

published. This is the only Geography published in the Contederacy, and is to be followed by a Common School Geography. Send in your orders soon. Price \$2.

THE DIXIE PRIMER—one of the cheapest and best books for children—has gone through the second edition with great popularity. Price per hundred, \$20.

THE FIRST DIXIE READER is now ready, by Mrs.

M. B. Moore, author of the series. Price 50 cents.

THE DIXIE SPELLING BOOK, is now in press and will be ready as soon as possible. Price \$1 50.
HESPER AND OTHER POEMS, by Theo. H. Hill—second edition nearly exhausted. Send in your orders.—

MYRTLE LEAVES, now in press, shall be issued as soon as possible under the circumstances. It will be a popular book. Price \$1 50. MORVEN AND LINDA, by Rev. A. W. Mangum.-Beautiful and good. Price 10 cents.
FIRST BOOK IN COMPOSITION, contains a number

pleasant writing exercises. The only book of the kind ablished in the Confederacy. Price \$1 50. HISTORICAL SCRIPTURE QUESTIONS—suited to Sabbath Schools and to soldiers in camp-the best book of the sort yet published. Price 50 centa The usual deductions made to the trade.

N. B.—Those ordering books to be sent per mail, must send 10 cents extra on such dullar to pay postage BRANSON & FARRAR. Raleigh, Feb. 4, 1864. SOUTHERN PUBLICATIONS ON HAND.

Warren's Surgery, Rival Administrations, Army Regulations, Evolutions of the Line, Wheeler's Cavalry, The Aid-de Camp, Volunteer's Field and Camp book, Napoleons Maxims of War, Cavalry Drill, by Patten, Bayonet exercise and Skirmish Drill, The Volunteer's Hand book, School of the Guides, Second Year of the War, York's English Grammar, Smith's English Grammar, revised, The Confederate Speller, Our Own Speller, The Dixie Primer, pictorial, The Confederate Primer, Our Own Primer, Southern Methodist Primer, First Book in Cumposition, Our Own First Reader, The First Dixie Reader, Bingham's Latin Gramma Geographical Reader, with Maps, Hill's Poems, The Guerrillas, Dialogues, Wesleyan Catechism, No. 1, Wesleyan Catechism, No. 2. Capers' Catechism, Sermon Catechism, by Wood, Historical Scripture Questions, Sunday School Bell, Biblical Catechism, by Lansdell, Life of Stonewall Jackson, The Battle of the Bards, 2 350.

Romance of a Poor Young Man. Step Sister, Wild Western Scenes, Dorrell Markham, Campaign from Texas to Maryland, No Name, by Wilkin Collinator

1 80

Aurora Floyd, by Les Miserables Fantine, Maurius, Ronnie Rine Mar Cotton Field Meiodies

The usual deduction made to the trade N. B .- Those ordering books by mail should send an extra ten cents on the dollar, for postage.

February 4, 1864.