

North-Carolina Standard

THE SABBATH OF THE SPRING. BY THEO. H. HILL.

The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land.—The Song of Songs, II: VII.

"What I say to a soldier," he observed, "is told to his comrades at night, and the next day the army know it."

To impress on them the duty of implicit obedience, his aides-de-camp were accosted to interrupt his dinner or his doze with—"You must eat no more," or, "you must walk."

"Ah!" he would answer, in affected surprise, "by whose order?" "By that of Field Marshal Suwarrow," was the reply; and "he must be obeyed," was the laughing and submissive rejoinder.

He once had his arm raised to strike a soldier, when an officer boldly exclaimed:—"The Field Marshal has commanded that no one shall give way to passion."

He desisted, saying:—"What the Field Marshal orders, Suwarrow obeys."

His instructions tended to form the man as well as the soldier. "You perceive a cannon with lighted match," he directs, "rush upon it creeping; the ball will pass over your head—cannon and cannoners are your own; overset the gun and spike it—the men may receive quarter. It is a sin to slay without a cause. Do no wrong, to an unoffending party; he supplies you with meat and drink. A true soldier is no robber. Spoil is to be held sacred: if you capture a camp or fortress, it is all your own; but beware of laying your hands upon spoil without previous orders. Seek to die for the honor of the Virgin Mary, your mother (the empress), and all the royal family. The church offers up prayers for those who fall—honors and rewards await those who live. A soldier should be healthy-minded, brave, intrepid, decisive, loyal and honorable. Let him pray to God, from whom proceed victory and miraculous interpositions.—God be our guide! God is our leader!"

I don't know—I can't—impossible, were words he hated. "Learn—do—try," he would exclaim; "when a soldier is expected to do, and does nothing, he must do wrong; if he does something, there are chances if he does rightly. Many a man has resources within himself that he is not aware of. Under Suwarrow he is sure to do his best." If he went into a house where the army bivouacked, he frequently ordered away the doors and windows. "I am not cold nor afraid," he would say, and the soldiers, who laughed as they obeyed the order, would try to brave the cold like "their father." When privations were scarce, he not unfrequently met the difficulty by ordering a general fast, which, as he kept it religiously, was cheerfully acquiesced in by the men.

Louis XIII coming from the council with Richelieu, whose opinions had just overruled those of the king, the latter stood aside to let the monarch pass. "Are ye not the master here?" said the king, pushing him angrily. "Go before me." "I can only do so," replied the adroit courtier, taking a torch from one of the pages, "by assuming the duties of one of the humblest of your servants."

SUWARROW, THE RUSSIAN HERO.

He was in person miserably thin, and five feet one inch in height. A large mouth, pug nose, eyes commonly half shut, a few grey side locks, brought over the top of his bald crown, and a small unpowdered queue, the whole surmounted by a three-cornered felt hat, ornamented with green linge, composed the "head and front" of Field-Marshal Suwarrow; but his eyes, when open, were piercing, and in battle they were said to be terrifically expressive. When anything said or done displeased him, a wavy play of his deeply-wrinkled forehead betrayed, or rather expressed his disapproval. He had a philosophical contempt for dress, and might often be seen drilling his men in shirt-sleeves. It was only during the severest weather that he wore cloth, his outer garments being usually of white serge turned up with green. These were most indifferently made, as were his large, coarsely greased, slouching boots; one of which he very commonly dispensed with, leaving his knee-band unbuttoned, and his stocking about his heel. A huge sabre and a single order completed his ordinary costume, but on grand occasions his field-marshal's uniform was covered with badges, and he was fond of telling where and how he had won them. He often arose at midnight, and welcomed the first soldier he saw moving with a piercing imitation of the crowing of a cock, in compliment to his early rising.—It is said that in the first Polish war, knowing a spy was in the camp, he issued orders for an attack at cock-crow, and the enemy, expecting it in the morning, were cut to pieces at nine at night—Suwarrow having turned out the troops an hour before by his well known cry. The evening before the storm of Ismail, he informed his columns:

"To-morrow morning, an hour before daybreak, I mean to go up. I shall then give one good cock-crow, and capture Ismail!"

When Segur asked him if he ever took off his clothes at night, he replied:—"No! when I get lazy, and want to have comfortable sleep, I generally take off one spur."

Buckets of cold water were thrown over him before he dressed, and his table was served at seven or eight o'clock with sandwiches and various messes which Duboscage describes as detestable Cossack dishes; to which men paid "the mouth honor, which they would find deny, but dare not," lest Suwarrow should consider them effeminate. He had been very sickly in his youth but by spare diet and cold bathing had strengthened and hardened himself into first-rate condition. English ale was his favorite drink. Soldiers, indifferently from any regiment, were his servants. His food, straw (for he used no bed), and lodging were the same as theirs. He saluted as they did; dispensed with his pocket handkerchiefs, like them; would be seen half-naked, airing his shirt and dressing himself at a watch-fire, among a crowd of them; in short, he adopted all their habits. Descending to be their friend and model, he did not only what they were obliged to do, but whatever it was to their advantage should be done; and they were proud to imitate the man who was not less their comrade than their commander, and the companion of princes. The constraint of duty was unfeeling—obedience a delight to them. They called themselves his children and him their father; and while he attended to their wants like one, his familiar jests with them, or in their presence, made every condescension convey some lesson.

Orderly Sergt J F Douglas, 15th S. C. Battalion, left hand. H W Archaw, A, 15th S. C. Battalion, left arm. Wm Caldwell, A, 15th S. C. Battalion, right shoulder. Wm S Brilly, H, 17th N. C. left arm. Wm Price, E, 17th N. C. right shoulder. Sergt J A Murphy, F, 3d Miss, side and head. H S McAdgen, B, 36th N. C. contusion. J M Lanning, G, 26th Ala, left side head. W W Cook, H, 54th Ga. Volt, left wrist. W R Perry, A, 55th Ga. Volt, left arm. Corp'l W M Scoggin, I, 19th Ga. right arm. M R Robbins, I, 19th Ga. left shoulder. P T James, O, 54th Ala, right arm. Peter McDonot, B, 2d Ark, right leg. J M Bright, H, 2d Ark, left hand. A number of wounded have been transferred from the hospital whose names we have not obtained.

BAPTIST CHURCH. Note.—A number of those named below have been transferred west of this place. Privates E B Wilson, A, 18th Arkansas, left arm. P H Bradshaw, K, 14th Arkansas, left hand. I Williams, I, 13th Arkansas, left leg. J S Malone, K, 2nd S. C. right hand. J W Miller, K, 8th N. C. head. W W Walden, H, 5th Ga. right hand. S H Baker, H, 2d Miss, left arm. E Jones, K, 2nd Miss, left arm. M S Stuart, G, 22d Miss, right hand. F M Turner, B, 1st Miss, left arm. Sergt J Spivey, E, 23rd Ga. right arm. Corp'l C W Raban, D, 22d Miss, right arm. J R Hayne, C, 7th Fla, left hand. Sergt J Hence, A, 15th Tenn, left arm. D H Blyver, B, 6th Fla, right arm. D J Graham, A, 1st N. C. right arm. L D J Williams, C, 9th Ark, left arm. J E Lee, D, 9th Ark, right arm. — Walters, D, 9th Ark, left leg. — Henderson, K, 9th Ark, left arm. W. Kelly, F, 1st Fla, face. — Gillespie, A, 1st N. C. right cheek. O E Stewart, A, 1st N. C. right wrist. M Kilham, A, 1st N. C. right arm. J H Bailey, H, 6th Ga. throat. D C Parmenter, C, 6th Ga. left arm. J F McDonald, C, 6th Ga. right arm. D R Burton, A, light battery, finger. Sergt M J Rivenbank, B, 1st N. C. left hand. — Lamb, B, 1st N. C. finger. J D Herring, B, 1st N. C. head. — Judge, B, 1st N. C. right arm and eye. W H Hart, B, 1st N. C. left arm. Thos Thigpen, D, 17th N. C. left arm. J S Fuchs, K, 39d Ala, left leg. J C Gibson, D, 9th Ala, thigh. P Davis, Corp'l, G, 31st Miss, left hand. A E Strowd, B, 28th Ga. head. H Hill, B, 28th Ga. left thigh. W Conder, C, 10th N. C. face. M W Harper, A, 23d Miss, least. A Benton, D, 10th N. C. contusion. W R Karlost, A, 6th N. C. hip. H C Leach, A, 10th N. C. finger. G Walton, A, 10th N. C. forearm. C B Hatto, B, 2d S. C. A. right leg. Henry Lask, H, 2d S. C. A. left shoulder. G W Rose, A, 5th Ark, left hand. W G Richards, E, 9th Miss, left arm. O C London, B, 13th Ark, right arm. T M Clark, G, 22d Ala, right leg. B F Gurnels, B, 1st S. C. right hand. J H Evert, C, 17th N. C. right leg. B Hilliards, G, 28th Ga. arm. B Landness, G, 28th Ga. arm. H Hurtle, H, 28th Ga. left arm. E F Kames, G, 31st Miss, right hand. W H Hart, B, 2d S. C. A. left shoulder. C J Abrams, F, 29th S. C. right arm. H O Martin, F, 20th S. C. right arm. A L Caulte, K, 6th N. C. leg. A M Duke, F, 27th Ga. right shoulder. W H King, A, 32d Ga. right leg. H Chapman, H, Ga. right leg. J H Vaughan, G, 27th Ga. left arm. J B Rogers, E, 54th Va, left thigh. J M Owens, F, 54th Va, right side. A Brown, F, 54th Va, right side. J Rodgers, F, 54th Va, hip. H H Bevinis, K, 26th Tenn, face. Sergt J E W Austin, C, 10th N. C. hand. W Bevinis, C, 10th N. C. hand. H L Wolfe, F, 2d S. C. A. face. W Church, F, 2d S. C. A. leg. Lt Jno Lobing, B, 55th Ala, left side. Lt W T Henderson, K, 55th Ala, left side. Thos Kelly, G, 55th Ala, left foot. Sergt G T Barker, B, 55th Ala, left foot. Sergt J J Wolfe, F, 2d S. C. left foot. J R Riley, F, 2d S. C. right arm. J M Kennerly, F, 2d S. C. left arm. A J Hartzog, F, 2d S. C. contusion. J W Lusk, B, 2d S. C. face. T A Bruce, F, 2d S. C. left side. H C Uietz, F, 2d S. C. head and hand. D W Bird, F, 2d S. C. right side. J R Walker, C, 2d S. C. foot. J R Wolfe, C, 2d S. C. thigh. Lt — Colbert, A, 57th Ala, left arm. W R Wiggate, F, 57th Ala, left arm. J W Hart, D, 57th Ala, left arm. J M Reynolds, C, 19th S. C. left hand. E Withers, B, 7th Fla, right hand. J H Irisco, F, 7th Fla, right shoulder. J B Stephens, K, 7th Fla, left hand. C R Parker, F, 40th Ala, head. Sergt W T McDonald, E, 23d Miss, left shoulder. Sergt J S Bullock, E, 23d Miss, shoulder. E M Yates, E, 23d Miss, left arm. H C Vinco, C, 6th Ga. head. J C Rump, C, 6th Ga. left leg. J Vissage, C, 6th Ga. right arm. M L Kitching, I, 6th Ga. thigh. Sergt J P Daniels, B, 45th Tenn, leg. S R Wilder, D, 17th N. C. left arm. W G Stricklin, K, 51st N. C. right hip. — Bates, C, 5th Miss, back. L L Sargent, I, 19th Ala, neck. P London, F, 61st N. C. right hand. E M Brooks, G, 23d Ga. head. J Braxton, E, 60th N. C. right arm. S P Thomas, E, 2d S. C. back. E Hatchell, E, 2d S. C. back. — Samples, B, 6th Ga. left arm. S A Hicks, B, 66th Ga. head. W Rodgers, B, 6th Ga. right leg. S O Morgan, B, 14th Miss, left hand. J D Rushing, G, 14th Miss, left hand. J M Hughes, G, 14th Miss, left hand. T J Jeffers, E, 31st S. C. left hand. Sergt W R Harrel, A, 12th La, right arm. A L Parker, H, 12th La, right arm. T G Lucas, G, 12th La, left hand. A J Nelson, G, 12th La, right arm. S D Hiller, C, 20th S. C. left leg. Sergt W R Johnson, E, 45th Ala, left. Corp'l J W Burnett, C, 7th Fla, hand. J B Knight, B, 7th Fla, hand. Lt J E Knighting, H, 20 Ala, right arm. Sergt J M Bell, E, 23d Ala, left arm. W Lewis, K, 54th Ga. left arm. J Wallace, K, 54th Ga. hip. Sergt B Rosser, E, 30th Ala, left hand. E Adams, G, 7th Fla, left hand. E Moore, G, 6th Ark, arm. Will Charles, I, 2d S. C. A. right shoulder. James Harp, E, 30th Tenn, arm.

Report of the Senate Committee on President Davis' Late Message. The following is the report of the Senate Committee on the recent message of President Davis.—It was read and adopted in secret session, and the seal of secrecy removed on the 16th instant: The select committee to whom was referred so much of the President's message of the 13th instant as relates to the action of Congress during the present session having, in conformity with the same, respectfully submit the following report: The attention of Congress is called by the President to the fact that, for carrying on the war successfully, there is urgent need of men and supplies for the army.

The measures passed by Congress during the present session for recruiting the army are considered by the President inefficient; and it is said that the results of the law authorizing the employment of slaves as soldiers will be less than anticipated, in consequence of the dilatory action of Congress in adopting the measure. That a law so radical in its character, so repugnant to the prejudices of our people, and so intimately affecting the organism of society, should encounter opposition, and receive a tardy sanction, ought to excite surprise; but if, as is earnestly urged on Congress by an Executive message, legislative action might have been quickened. The President, in no official communication to Congress, has recommended the passage of a law putting slaves into the army as soldiers, and the message under consideration is the first official intimation that such a law would meet his approval. The Executive message transmitted to Congress on the 7th of November last suggests the propriety of enlarging the sphere of employment of the negro as a laborer, and for this purpose recommends that the absolute title to slaves be acquired by impressment, and, as an incentive to the faithful discharge of duty, that the slaves thus acquired be liberated, with the permission of the States from which they were drawn. In this connection, the following language is used: "If the policy should recommend itself to the judgment of Congress, it is suggested that, in addition to the duties heretofore performed by the slave, he might be advantageously employed as a pioneer and engineer laborer; and, in that event, that the number should be augmented to forty thousand. Beyond this limit and these employments it does not seem to me desirable, under existing circumstances, to go."

In the same message the President further remarks: "The subject is to be viewed by us, therefore, solely in the light of policy and our social economy. When so regarded, I must dissent from those who advise a general levy and arming the slaves for the duty of soldiers."

It is manifest that the President, in November last, did not consider the contingency that the arming which would justify a resort to the extraordinary policy of arming our slaves. Indeed, no other inference can be deduced from the language used by him; for he says: "These considerations, however, are rather applicable to the improbable contingency of our need of resorting to this element of resistance than to our present condition."

The Secretary of War, in his report, under date of November 3d, seemed to concur in the opinion of the President when he said: "While it is encouraging to know this resource for further and future efforts is at our command, my own judgment does not yet either perceive the necessity or approve the policy of employing slaves in the higher duties of soldiers."

At what period of the session the President or Secretary of War considered the improbable contingency had arisen, which required a resort to slaves as an element of resistance, does not appear by any official document within the knowledge of your committee. Congress might well have delayed action on this subject until the present moment, as the President, whose constitutional duty it is "to give to the Congress information of the state of the Confederacy," has never asked, in any authentic manner, for the passage of a law authorizing the employment of slaves as soldiers. The Senate, however, did not wait the tardy movements of the President. On the 29th December, 1864, the following resolution was adopted by the Senate in secret session: "Resolved, That the President be requested to inform the Senate, in secret session, as to the state of the finances of the Confederacy, and the condition of the troops; the means of supplying the munitions of war, transportation and subsistence; the condition of the army, and the possibility of recruiting the same; the condition of our foreign relations, and whether any aid or encouragement from abroad is expected, or has been sought, or is proposed, so that the Senate may have a clear and exact view of the state of the country, and the future prospects, and what measures of legislation are required."

In response to this resolution, the President might well have communicated to the Senate his views as to the necessity and policy of arming the slaves of the Confederacy as a means of public defence. No answer whatever has been made to the resolution. In addition to this, a joint committee was raised by Congress, under a concurrent resolution adopted in secret session, on the 30th of December, 1864. That committee, by the resolution creating it, was instructed, "by conference with the President, and by such other means as they shall deem proper, to ascertain what are our reliable means of public defence, present and prospective."

A written report was made by the committee on January 26th, 1865; and, although it had a conference with the President, no allusion is made in the report to any suggestion by him that the necessities of the country required the employment of slaves as soldiers. Under these circumstances, Congress, influenced no doubt by the opinion of Gen. Lee, determined for itself the propriety, policy and necessity of adopting the measure in question. The recommendation of the President to employ forty thousand slaves as cooks, teamsters, and as engineer and pioneer laborers was assented to, and a law has been enacted at the present session for the purpose, without limit, as to number. All the measures recommended by the President to promote the efficiency of the army have been adopted except the repeal of class exemptions; and some measures not suggested by him, such as the creation of the office of General-in-Chief—were originated and passed by Congress, with a view to the restoration of public confidence and the energetic administration of military affairs. On the subject of exemptions the President in his message of November 7th, uses the following language: "No pursuit or position should relieve any one who is able to do active duty from enrollment in the army unless his functions or services are more useful to the defence of this country in another sphere. But it is manifest that this cannot be the case with entire classes. All telegraph operators, workmen in mines, professors, teachers, engineers, editors and employees of newspapers, journeymen printers, shoemakers, tanners, blacksmiths, millers, physicians, and numerous other classes mentioned in the laws, cannot, in the nature of things, be either equally necessary in their several professions, nor distributed throughout the country in such proportions that only the exact numbers required are found in each locality." etc. The casual reader would infer that the laws, as they stood at the date of the message, exempted the classes enumerated by the President, as well as many other classes not mentioned by him. Such is not the fact. The only class exemptions allowed by the laws then in force, were the following: Ministers of religion; superintendents and physicians of asylums for the deaf, dumb and the blind, and of the insane; one editor for each newspaper, and such employees as the editor may certify by oath as indispensably necessary; and the proprietors of the Confederate and State newspapers, and their journeymen printers; one skilled apothecary in each apothecary store, who was doing business as such on the 10th of October, 1862; physicians over thirty years of age, and for the last seven years in practice; presidents and teachers of colleges, seminaries and schools, and the superintendents, physicians and nurses in public hospitals; certain mail contractors, drivers of post-coaches; certain officers and employees of railroad companies, and certain agriculturists or overseers. Officers of the State governments are not pro-

erly included among the exempted classes, because it is conceded that Congress has no constitutional power to conscribe them as soldiers. Nor are Dunkards, Quakers, or other non-combatants, regarded as belonging to class exemptions, because, under the act of June 7, 1864, the exemption of these persons is subject to the control of the Secretary of War. The exemption of agriculturists or overseers between the ages of eighteen and forty five, has been repealed at the present session.—Tanners, shoemakers, millers, blacksmiths, telegraph operators, and workmen in mines, enumerated by the President as among the classes exempted, are not now, and have not been since the passage of the act of 17th of February, 1864, excepted as a class. If railroad officers and employees and State officers who are not constitutionally subject to conscription, be excluded, the classes now exempted east of the Mississippi river embrace about nine thousand men—one third of whom are physicians, and nearly one-third are ministers of the Gospel; the remaining third is principally composed of teachers, professors, printers and employees of newspapers, editors, and students.

In remarkable contrast to the number of persons relieved from military service by the exemptions above mentioned, the report of the Conscrip Bureau exhibits the fact that, east of the Mississippi river, twenty-two thousand and thirty five men have been detailed by Executive authority. In consequence of this abuse of the power of detail, Congress, at its present session, passed an act revoking all details and limiting the exercise of that power in the future. The third section of this act exempting skilled artisans and mechanics from all military service, which is excepted to by the President, and which has since been repealed, was originally adopted in consequence of suggestions contained in the report of the Secretary of War. In alluding to the embarrassments encountered by the administrative bureau, the Secretary says: "In addition, though inadequate, war on earth ever conducted a protracted war by resources derived from taxation alone. The message comminates a report of the Treasury of a tax on agricultural income equal to the augmented tax on other incomes, payable in treasury notes, was rejected by Congress. This is evidently a mistake, as it assumes there has been an increase of taxes on other than agricultural incomes. The present income taxes are those laid by the act of April, 1864, as amended and re-enacted on the 17th of February 1864. To require the agriculturist to pay a tax on the income of his farm in addition to the one-tenth of his gross production, and the property tax of nine per cent. ad valorem, would be manifestly unjust and oppressive. After the delivery of his title, to tax the income of the agriculturist derived from the property producing the title, would leave little for family subsistence, for the purchase of supplies necessary for carrying on his agricultural operations, and for the payment of the ad valorem tax on his property. Congress, therefore, did not occur in the recommendation of the Secretary of the Treasury, believing it to be highly inexpedient.

The recommendations of the Secretary of the Treasury have, in the main, received the approbation of Congress, and every disposition has been manifested to co-operate with him. The tax bill adopted very nearly approximates the rates desired by him. He recommended ten per cent. on property. Congress has imposed a tax of nine per cent. A new foreign loan was authorized in secret session, at his request, without any limitation on his authority except as to the amount. A transfer of certain sterling funds abroad was, by joint resolution, directed to be made from the Navy to the Treasury. Efforts were made to raise specie. A bill was passed in the Senate, in secret session, to accomplish the same object, and the message. It is understood the bill was defeated in the House of Representatives by the acquiescence, if not at the instigation, of the Secretary of the Treasury. It appears from the correspondence submitted to Congress that the Secretary of War, as early as the 18th of February, notified the President of the embarrassed condition of his Department; and it is to be regretted that the Executive deliberated on, and postponed for so long a period as nearly as ten days, the communication of that information to Congress.

If loss of time be a vice inherent in deliberative assemblies, promptitude is a great virtue in Executive action. There is every disposition on the part of Congress to comply with the recommendations of the President, and some means of raising the coin desired will, no doubt, be devised. It is unfortunate that the necessity for coin in the Commissary Department was not made known until the message under consideration was received. The use of coin in one department of the government is calculated to superintend the necessity for its use in all other departments; and hence the policy of the proposed measure, in a financial point of view, is very questionable. The necessity for supplies, however, overrides all other considerations. If practicable, it would be wisest to employ the specie in the purchase of treasury notes, and then use the notes to obtain supplies.

Nothing is more desirable than concord and cordial co-operation between all departments of government. Hence your committee regret that the Executive deemed it necessary to transmit to Congress a message so well calculated to excite discord and discussion. It is not the duty of the Secretary of the Department to make any such communication, and great struggle in which the country is engaged depends as much on the confidence of the people in the Legislative as in the Executive Department of the government, the message would have been received without comment. Your committee would have preferred silence. It has been induced to an opposite course, because they believe Congress has a duty to permit its legitimate and constitutional influence to be exerted by Executive admonitions, such as those contained in the message under consideration, without some public exposition of its conduct.

Respectfully submitted, JAMES L. ORR, Chairman, THOMAS J. SEMMES, W. A. GRAHAM, A. T. CAPERTON, JOHN W. G. WATSON.

A CARD. JAMES M. TOWLES, Auctioneer and Commission Merchant, RALEIGH, N. C.

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THE CLOSING OF THE PORTS WILL PROBABLY SOON COMPEL ME TO RAISE the price of the "SOUTHERN HEALING PILLS," the best family medicine in the Confederacy. Now is the time for families and doctors to supply themselves. Until further notice I will send by mail prepaid, one box for \$5, a dozen for \$50; Druggists and other dealers can buy by the quantity at \$450 a gross, the purchase being freight. These prices are proportionally very low, and will be sold at a discount for the quantity. 25 cents a box, \$250 a dozen, \$250 a gross. Cash must accompany all orders. Address GEORGE W. DEEMS, Goldsboro, or Raleigh, N. C. Feb. 29, 1865. 15-414-1/2.

NOTICE. Taken up and committed to the common jail of Surry county, N. C., on the 25th day of February, 1865, a negro boy who says his name is WILLIAM, and says he belongs to John Hill, of Wake county, N. C., who has a dark mulatto, 38 or 39 years of age, about 5 feet 9 or 10 inches high, and will weigh about 160 pounds. The owner of said boy is hereby notified, that unless he come forward, prove property, pay charges, and take him away, otherwise, he will be dealt with as the law directs. WILLIAM HAYMORE, Sheriff. March 5, 1865. 11-414-1/2.

SALE OF NEGROES. ON MONDAY OF NEXT SUPERIOR COURT of Wake County, N. C., will be sold by public auction to the highest bidder, the negroes of JOHN T. BRANCH, Esq., of Stone Mountain, N. C. 20-414-1/2.

BATTLE OF BENTONVILLE.—A train containing some two hundred wounded from the battlefield at Bentonville arrived here Tuesday afternoon.—Among the wounded are the following: Lt Col J J Sharpe, 23d Ga., in right shoulder dangerously. Maj Renfro, 27th Ga., thigh broken. Capt John Reddy, Co B, 19th Ga., small bone in left leg broken. Adjutant J B Pys, 27th Ga., in right knee, severely. Lieut Hamilton, Co F, 19th Ga., shot through lungs, mortally. Lieut Montgomery, Co A, 19th Ga., shot through right thigh. Capt John G. Co B, 23d Ga., (formerly of Orange county, N. C.) left leg broken. H O Harris, Co K, 17th N. C., from Pitt county, shot through body. Private O D Wilson, Co H, 40th N. C., from Sampson county, through severely. J A Walter, Co L, 17th N. C., from Cabarrus county, in thigh. Doing well.—Conservative.

Conservative. Officers of the State governments are not pro-

erly included among the exempted classes, because it is conceded that Congress has no constitutional power to conscribe them as soldiers. Nor are Dunkards, Quakers, or other non-combatants, regarded as belonging to class exemptions, because, under the act of June 7, 1864, the exemption of these persons is subject to the control of the Secretary of War. The exemption of agriculturists or overseers between the ages of eighteen and forty five, has been repealed at the present session.—Tanners, shoemakers, millers, blacksmiths, telegraph operators, and workmen in mines, enumerated by the President as among the classes exempted, are not now, and have not been since the passage of the act of 17th of February, 1864, excepted as a class. If railroad officers and employees and State officers who are not constitutionally subject to conscription, be excluded, the classes now exempted east of the Mississippi river embrace about nine thousand men—one third of whom are physicians, and nearly one-third are ministers of the Gospel; the remaining third is principally composed of teachers, professors, printers and employees of newspapers, editors, and students.

In remarkable contrast to the number of persons relieved from military service by the exemptions above mentioned, the report of the Conscrip Bureau exhibits the fact that, east of the Mississippi river, twenty-two thousand and thirty five men have been detailed by Executive authority. In consequence of this abuse of the power of detail, Congress, at its present session, passed an act revoking all details and limiting the exercise of that power in the future. The third section of this act exempting skilled artisans and mechanics from all military service, which is excepted to by the President, and which has since been repealed, was originally adopted in consequence of suggestions contained in the report of the Secretary of War. In alluding to the embarrassments encountered by the administrative bureau, the Secretary says: "In addition, though inadequate, war on earth ever conducted a protracted war by resources derived from taxation alone. The message comminates a report of the Treasury of a tax on agricultural income equal to the augmented tax on other incomes, payable in treasury notes, was rejected by Congress. This is evidently a mistake, as it assumes there has been an increase of taxes on other than agricultural incomes. The present income taxes are those laid by the act of April, 1864, as amended and re-enacted on the 17th of February 1864. To require the agriculturist to pay a tax on the income of his farm in addition to the one-tenth of his gross production, and the property tax of nine per cent. ad valorem, would be manifestly unjust and oppressive. After the delivery of his title, to tax the income of the agriculturist derived from the property producing the title, would leave little for family subsistence, for the purchase of supplies necessary for carrying on his agricultural operations, and for the payment of the ad valorem tax on his property. Congress, therefore, did not occur in the recommendation of the Secretary of the Treasury, believing it to be highly inexpedient.

The recommendations of the Secretary of the Treasury have, in the main, received the approbation of Congress, and every disposition has been manifested to co-operate with him. The tax bill adopted very nearly approximates the rates desired by him. He recommended ten per cent. on property. Congress has imposed a tax of nine per cent. A new foreign loan was authorized in secret session, at his request, without any limitation on his authority except as to the amount. A transfer of certain sterling funds abroad was, by joint resolution, directed to be made from the Navy to the Treasury. Efforts were made to raise specie. A bill was passed in the Senate, in secret session, to accomplish the same object, and the message. It is understood the bill was defeated in the House of Representatives by the acquiescence, if not at the instigation, of the Secretary of the Treasury. It appears from the correspondence submitted to Congress that the Secretary of War, as early as the 18th of February, notified the President of the embarrassed condition of his Department; and it is to be regretted that the Executive deliberated on, and postponed for so long a period as nearly as ten days, the communication of that information to Congress.

If loss of time be a vice inherent in deliberative assemblies, promptitude is a great virtue in Executive action. There is every disposition on the part of Congress to comply with the recommendations of the President, and some means of raising the coin desired will, no doubt, be devised. It is unfortunate that the necessity for coin in the Commissary Department was not made known until the message under consideration was received. The use of coin in one department of the government is calculated to superintend the necessity for its use in all other departments; and hence the policy of the proposed measure, in a financial point of view, is very questionable. The necessity for supplies, however, overrides all other considerations. If practicable, it would be wisest to employ the specie in the purchase of treasury notes, and then use the notes to obtain supplies.

Nothing is more desirable than concord and cordial co-operation between all departments of government. Hence your committee regret that the Executive deemed it necessary to transmit to Congress a message so well calculated to excite discord and discussion. It is not the duty of the Secretary of the Department to make any such communication, and great struggle in which the country is engaged depends as much on the confidence of the people in the Legislative as in the Executive Department of the government, the message would have been received without comment. Your committee would have preferred silence. It has been induced to an opposite course, because they believe Congress has a duty to permit its legitimate and constitutional influence to be exerted by Executive admonitions, such as those contained in the message under consideration, without some public exposition of its conduct.

Respectfully submitted, JAMES L. ORR, Chairman, THOMAS J. SEMMES, W. A. GRAHAM, A. T. CAPERTON, JOHN W. G. WATSON.

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