

Staunton Spectator.

STAUNTON, VA.

TUESDAY, JAN. 28, 1862.

Those who desire to pay their subscription in good coin...

Defeat near Somerset, Kentucky.

It becomes our painful duty to record the defeat of our forces in the engagement which occurred on Sunday, the 19th inst., at Fishing Creek, near Somerset in Kentucky.

The demoralization of the repulse was increased by the fall of General Zollicoffer, and this was still further added to by the disorderly retreat or flight back to their own entrenched camp.

The loss of the enemy is not known, but it must have been great, as the Yankees acknowledge that the "loss upon both sides was great."

Besides many other noble and gallant men, who fell in this engagement, we have to mourn the loss of Brig. Genl. F. K. Zollicoffer.

In speaking of him, the Richmond Whig says that the intelligence of his death caused to the Tennessee officers in Richmond, the greatest grief.

Men and women of the South, be of good cheer; you have proved yourselves unconquerable. The day of deliverance cannot be very distant.

As much as we may lament this defeat, it may be a blessing in disguise, and may be overruled for our good.

The Washington Government is spending vast sums beyond the estimate presented by the Secretary but a few months ago.

The public debt is swelling with great rapidity, and has already attained giant proportions.

The number of officers wounded on our side alone was nearly a hundred.

It is estimated that our killed, wounded and prisoners will be from three hundred to five hundred.

Gen. Crittenden with nearly all his force is now at Mitchell's, in Wayne county, twenty-five miles from the scene of his defeat.

The Confederates spiked their cannon and threw them into the river, only one piece falling into the hands of the enemy.

All our stores were burnt to prevent their falling into the hands of the enemy.

As the Confederates are confused and contradictory, the exact amount of our loss and the cause of this defeat, cannot be known till the official reports are received.

The remains of the gallant Captain Anderson, of the Lee Battery of Lynchburg, who was killed in the fight at Alleghany Mountain, have been interred at Tallahoma, Tennessee, his late home.

Our loss was not very heavy, but our men became panic-stricken after the fall of Gen. Zollicoffer.

Gen. Crittenden was wounded as had been reported.

The Past and the Future.

Amidst all the hardships of the war for independence in which the Southern people are engaged, says the Augusta (Ga.) Constitutionalist,

there is an ever present, all-pervading consciousness of ultimate triumph, which lightens the burthens, and soothes the distresses of the passing hour.

In the substantial successes and brilliant achievements of the past, there is so much to be proud of—so much to be grateful for.

In the prospects of the future, there is so much to cheer the heart—so much to nerve the will to new efforts and new triumphs.

Bright prospects have been clouded, business interests have been prostrated, fields have been laid waste, homes have been desolated, tender hearts have been riven;

There is no escape from a prostrate credit and a bankrupt Treasury. The army and navy must be supported, or disbanded.

It appears, therefore, that if we are possibly liable to the charge of revolution, the North certainly is; that our revolution was an aggression upon no one, and had in view a good purpose and sacred duty.

It would be folly to relax a moment's attention for momentary repose. The Yankees are in a death struggle for national honor, national safety, national existence.

The Southern people stand before the world, a brave, truthful, proud, liberty-loving people, fully comprehending the value of constitutional rights, fully capable of self government, and ready to vindicate the privilege at all hazards.

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The Crisis of the War.

The Augusta (Ga.) Constitutionalist says that the Yankee scheme of Southern conquest is rapidly hastening to a denouement, and to the Yankees it is a disastrous one, indeed.

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North and South.

The Richmond Enquirer maintains that if it be conceded that the action of the Confederate States has been outside of the Constitution and revolutionary, the action of the Northern States is revolutionary also.

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The Freedmen and the Performance.

The Nashville Banner has been to have on hand a few "Negro extracts" from Yankee papers about the time that hostilities broke out.

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Disobedience of Orders—One Soldier Killed.

Another Mortally Wounded. The Norfolk depot, previous to the departure of the regiment of troops, under command of Lieut. Col. Frank Anderson, Tuesday last, was the scene of much excitement.

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MARRIED.

In Staunton, on the 22d inst., by Rev. George B. Taylor, Mr. David Houtz and Mrs. Margaret Houtz, all of Augusta county.

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