Staunton Spectator.

STAUNTON, VA.

TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 1863.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We respectfully inform our friends and the public that all communications nominating candidates for office—Governor, Congress, or Legislature—will be charged our regular advertising rates, and that none such will be published, unless the CASH attends them, or notice from a responsible party that the bill will be paid on presentation. This rule cannot be departed from, as everything costs us money now, and a heap of it.—*Rockingham Register.*

Be it known by "all whom it may concern," that the "Spectator" has adopted the same "rule," and will enforce a strict compliance therewith.

The Impressment Bill.

We publish in this issue the Impressment Bill as it passed both Houses of Congress, and congratulate the producers on having a law passed which guarantees to them "just compensation" for whatever may be impressed. We would advise all concerned to preserve this copy of the "Spectator" containing it, as they may wish to refer to it at a future time. Now that Congress has passed a bill legalizing impressments, and guaranteeing "just compensation," it becomes the duty of producers to yield cheerful compliance with its requisitions, and to prepare to raise as much of all kinds of products as possible for the subsistence of the army and the people generally. We hope every farmer will now do his duty, by raising as much corn and oats, and as many potatoes, beans, and vegetables of all kinds, as possible. He should, also, raise as many cattle, sheep and hogs as he can. Let there be a generous and active rivalry among our farmers, each striving to excel the other in the amount of his products. There is now every reason why the farmer should raise all he can. The motives of interest, patriotism and humanity all combine in urging him to use his best efforts to produce an abundance of all the necessaries of life. It is his individual interest to do so, because he will receive "just compensation" for all his products that may be impressed, and that will guarantee to him a good price. There never was such an opportunity offered to farmers before to make money. If they do not make a great deal of money out of the next crop, it will be because they have neglected to raise one. They have nothing now to dread at the hands of impressment officers, and by raising good crops they will advance their own interests, and soon have the pleasure of handling nearly as much money as a Quartermaster. Patriotism invokes the farmers to raise a plenteous harvest; for the soldiers in the field, who are fighting for the liberty and independence of our country, must be supplied with a sufficiency of food, and for this supply they are wholly dependent upon the farmers.

Humanity appeals to the farmer to speed the plough and increase his crops; for widows and orphans, whose husbands and fathers have sacrificed their lives upon the altar of their country's defence, must have meat and bread, and unless the farmer raises the necessary supplies, gaunt famine will cross the thresholds of many houses, and inflict suffering inconceivable upon innocent women and children.

There is no reason why there should be even scarcity, much less want, in this country of genial climate and productive soil. If there shall be not only a sufficiency, but an abundance, in this country, it will be the fault of the farmers who own the land, but fail to use the means to make it fruitful. They will be unprofitable servants who buried the talent which had been confided to them.—A great responsibility now rests upon the farmers, and we hope and believe that they will acquit themselves as they should. We look to the farmers with hope and confidence.

Concert at the Presbyterian Church.

We had the pleasure of attending the concert given at the Presbyterian Church, on Thursday evening last, for the benefit of the families of our soldiers. We were not only pleased, but delighted. We had no idea that the music would be so entrancing. We have heard several distinguished cantatrices, whose fame was almost world-wide, but we did not enjoy their sweet strains any more than we did the clear, sweet and flute-like voices of some of the singers at this concert. If the Sirens on the rocks of Scylla had sung as sweetly as several participants in this concert, we think that Ulysses would have burst the bonds which bound him to the mast.

If there were any present whose "souls were not moved by the concord of sweet sounds," we believe, with Shakspeare, that they are

"Fit for treason, stratagem and spoils."

They must be as impassive as marble, and have

"Hearts as cold as the rocks on Torneo's hoary brow."

We are satisfied that we reflect the general sentiment of the community, when we express the hope that the participants in this concert may be induced to favor the public again and again.

The receipts amounted to *four hundred and fifty dollars.*

Funding Treasury Notes.

Those who wish to invest in 8 *per cent.* bonds have no time to lose, for they must do so between this time and the 22d day of April. The notes which bear date before the 1st of December last, are alone entitled to the privilege of funding in 8 *per cent.* bonds. From the 22d of April to the 1st day of August, these notes may be funded in 7 *per cents.*, but after this latter date, they will lose the privilege of being exchanged for bonds or stocks.

The notes now in circulation which bear date after the 1st December, 1862, are fundable in 7 *per cent.* bonds and stock, and can be exchanged accordingly, until the 1st of August, 1863; after which date they can be exchanged only for 4 *per cents.*

The bonds can be procured of Mr. A. F. Kinney, at the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court. See advertisement in another column.

The Legislature of Texas has passed a bill assuming its proportion of the indebtedness of the Confederate States.

☞ **Be sure to attend the Picnic Ball at Odd Fellows' Hall to-night.**

The Vindicator's Dodge.

Week before last, the *Vindicator* charged that we had not committed ourself for or against reconstruction, and that we were waiting to see which way the "breeze of public opinion" would blow. In our issue of last week, we stated that we had never concurred in opinion upon that subject with either of the only two parties which had ever maintained the policy of reconstruction, to wit: The secession party before, and the abolition party since the war. The *Vindicator* meets this stubborn fact by saying that we, "in the early part of 1861," (before the war) declared "that the secessionists did not desire to reconstruct the Union as they pretended." Whether they were sincere or not in the advocacy of their policy of reconstruction does not affect the fact stated by us, that they "*maintained* that the South should secede that the Union might be reconstructed." Whether they were the victims of a gross delusion, or were endeavoring to impose upon others, we know not; but we do know that they urged secession with the *professed* object of *reconstruction.* We never believed in the policy of reconstruction, and cautioned the public against the plausible, but fallacious, arguments of its advocates. The *Vindicator* has dodged the issue it made, to-wit: that we had never expressed our views upon the subject of reconstruction. The *Vindicator* charged that we had not; we proved that we had, and then the *Vindicator* meets the proof by saying that we did not believe the advocates of prospective reconstruction to be sincere. If sincere, they were the dupes of a gross delusion; if not sincere, they were dishonest. The *Vindicator* may choose upon which horn of the delemma it will hang them.

If the *Vindicator* would be less reckless in its assertions, and more logical in its arguments, it would do itself more credit. If the young man who now occupies the Editorial tripod in that office were not too self-sufficient to learn from those of "more experience," we might still entertain the "fond hope" of making something of him; but if he persists in his expressed determination "not to take any lessons from us," we will be compelled to allow him to grope his way in ignorance. In our proffer to instruct him, we apprehend that we have undertaken a Herculean task, for the displays which he has made in editorial archery show that, as yet, *no one* has succeeded in teaching

"His young ideas how to *shoot.*"

The Virginia Hotel.

It will be seen by an advertisement in an another column, that the style of the proprietorship of the Virginia Hotel has been changed from Wm. H. Peyton & Bro. to that of T. P. Peyton & Bros. This change results from the fact that the senior partner, Wm. H., purposes retiring from the bustle of Hotel life to enjoy the quiet of a rural home upon his farm, and the connection of his youngest brother, Eugene, with the proprietorship. The proprietors have had the good fortune recently to secure the valuable services of Mr. Atwell, a Prince of Bonifaces, and one of the very few men "who know how to keep a Hotel." Since he has been installed, the boarders have eaten more than before, and the apprehension is that the proprietors may be compelled, much against their wishes, to increase the price of board, as tea, coffee, mustard, &c., are very high.

From Arkansas.

From the following extract from a letter, written by a lady in Princeton, Arkansas, under date of February 7th, to her sister in this place, it will be seen that the enemy in that State are greatly demoralized, and that they are deserting in considerable numbers:

"I hear that they are splitting up at the North, and thousands of their men are deserting the army, and swear that they will not fight against the South any longer. They have deserted their gunboats here on the Arkansas river, and come up to Pine Bluff and give themselves up to be paroled and sent home, and you know the war cannot last much longer at that, and it is true, for I have seen the men that saw the Yankees give themselves up. A man staid here last night, who told me he saw a hundred give themselves up to his brigade at one time. He said that they had been sent ashore to chop wood for the gunboats, and they ran off. 30,000 have refused to go to Vicksburg to fight any more call it a slaughter pen. 5,000 deserted their gunboats on the Mississippi river at Milliken's Bend last week. I think we shall have peace this Spring."

SENTENCED TO DEATH.—The Court Martial which tried Capt. A. C. Webster, (holding a commission under the Pierpont Government,) on the charge of a breach of his parole of honor, has found him guilty, and sentenced him to be hanged by the neck until he is dead. The sentence having been approved, it was further ordered that the prisoner be executed at Camp Lee, on Friday, the 3d day of April, between the hours of 8 A. M., and 3 P. M. Webster has been incarcerated in the military prison in Richmond for some time past, and has made a number of desperate efforts to escape.

Physicians.

The high prices of the necessaries of life have forced the Physicians, like others, to raise their charges. We understand that they have agreed upon a scale of charges not much higher than they have been charging for the past twelve or eighteen months. They have wisely determined to adopt the *cash* system.

STATE ELECTIONS.—The Virginia Legislature has passed a law providing for the voting of soldiers in the army, and refugees, at the regular State elections on the 4th Thursday in May. A Governor, sixteen members of Congress, the members of the House of Delegates, and one half of the Senators, are to be elected on that occasion.

SCARCITY OF FORAGE.—If farmers will sow each a field or two of oats, the army will have abundance of Summer forage three or four months before the corn crop can be gathered.

☞ Last Friday was appropriately observed in this place as a day of fasting, humiliation and prayer.

The Latest News.

We invite attention to the official despatch, in the telegraphic news, of Gen. Bragg in reference to the recent gallant exploit of Gen. Forrest at Brentwood, Tennessee.

A despatch to the "Rebel," dated Columbia, the 26th inst., says that Gen. Forrest captured 800 prisoners, with their arms, ammunition, &c., and that he destroyed a large house of commissary stores, burnt the Railroad Bridge, tore up the track, and captured twenty-seven loaded wagons.

The Yankee account of the fight represents their loss at 15 killed, wounded and missing, and that ours was much more. They are improving in lying.

A despatch from McMinnville, Tenn., dated March 27th, says that Gen. Morgan had a severe fight with the Federals near Milton, on the 20th, which lasted 5 hours. The Federals were repulsed and driven 8 miles. Our loss was 15 killed and 75 wounded. Federal loss about twice that number. They advanced in order to raw our forces from Liberty, but they were compelled to fall back to Murfreesboro.

The Jackson Appeal says the intelligence that the enemy has appeared again in front of Fort Pemberton is confirmed. On Monday afternoon, the 23d inst., firing took place, but the result is unknown.

A special to the Appeal from Vicksburg, 25th, says: At 5 o clock this morning four boats were seen advancing towards the upper batteries. A vigorous fire was opened upon them, driving back two, when the other two passed under a raking fire, almost every shot taking effect. One received a shot in her steam chest, compelling her crew to desert her, and in fifteen minutes she filled and sunk. Part of her crew escaped to the opposite shore. The boat that escaped is supposed to be the Benton, badly disabled. One shot penetrated her steam drum, disabling her so badly that the Albatross came up to tow her out of danger from our gunboats.

The President has approved and signed the act to regulate impressments.

Burnside has assumed command of the Department of Ohio.

By order of General Lee, Friday, the 27th, was observed in the army under his command as a day of fasting and prayer.

BY TELEGRAPH.

MOBILE, March 23—The Appeal of the 21st instant says, that the packet steamer Natchez, with 1,300 bales of cotton, was destroyed by fire on the 13th inst, on a trip up the Yazoo

The Hartford and Monongahela were allowed to approach within 400 yards of our batteries at Grand Gulf, when they opened upon them, the vessels replying with broadsides several times. A dozen shots struck the vessels. Parties were seen carrying the wounded below. No damage on our side.

The Natchez Courier says that the Hartford, the Federal flag ship, with Commodore Farraguton board, anchored in front of that city on Tuesday afternoon, 18th inst, and sent a small boat with a flag of truce ashore with a note addressed to the Major, stating that if the United States boats were fired on by the people of Natchez, or by guerillas, he would bombard the city. The Hartford remained all night and left with the Monongahela next morning.

MOBILE, March 25.—A letter in the Advertiser and Register, dated Vicksburg, 23d, says:

On Saturday morning, Col. Ferguson, commanding the batteries at the junction of Deer Creek with Sunflower river, thirty miles above its junction with the Yazoo, repulsed the enemy, destroyed it is said, three gunboats, and driving the balance back. Col Ferguson had sufficient strength to hold the enemy in check and recommended that reinforcements be sent in the rear of the enemy to cut out their retreat. This movement on the part of the enemy was to flank our batteries at Payne's Bluff, on the Yazoo.

MOBILE, March 25. The "Appeal" of the 24th, has a letter dated Fort Pemberton, 21st, which says: The occasional booming of cannon up the river tells us our boys are after the Yankees. The Chilicothe is left almost a wreck. Her quarter gunner's body has been found, killed by a shot from our heavy guns, after passing through the boat's iron mail. Gen Loring cals the engagement the battle of Tallahatchie.

The Appeal says the repulse of the enemy in their attempt to enter Sunflower river has been definitely ascertained. The fleet was driven back, and a number of their barges captured.

The enemy are reported to have made another advance against Fort Pemberton, with increased strength. Every effort will be made to defeat them, as the importance of holding the position appears to be appreciated by our authorities

JACKSON, March 23—A special despatch to the Appeal dated Grenada, 20th, says:

Despatches to the Memphis Argus from Vicksburg, to the 18th, state that twenty-five rebels were captured while tearing out the levels above the canal.

Bayou Macon is pronounced unnavigable on account of the snags.

One division of the Yankee army left Memphis on Tuesday last, the 13th, on a light draft steamer bound to Yazoo Pass.

The river is falling at Memphis, also the upper tributaries.

CHATTANOOGA, March 23—There was no movement of the army of Tennessee on Tuesday. The enemy advanced on the roads from Franklin towards Columbia, but, on Saturday, retired to Franklin

General Van Dorn is still on the North side of Duck river. Our forces occupy Florence and Tuscaloosa.—There has been no movement of the enemy from Corinth in this direction.

Morgan had a fight at Auburn, Cannon county, Tennessee, on Friday, with an overwhelming force of the enemy. He fought gallantly, and killed and wounded a number of the enemy, but at last was forced to retire before superior numbers.

CHATTANOOGA, March 25.—All quiet. No fighting since Morgan's engagement at Liberty. The Federals still occupy Murfreesboro. Our scouts are in Lebanon, and operating along the Southern bank of Cumberland river. from Lebanon to Stone's river. Accounts from the North bank of the Cumberland report that the Yankees are destroying farming implements and foraging the whole country. The inhabitants are compelled to hide their provisions. Five thousand Yankee infantry occupy Gallatin, and the Louisville road is strongly guarded. It is reported that the Yankees have destroyed Stone's river railroad and turnpike bridges between Murfreesboro and Nashville.

CHARLESTON, March 25.—We have authentic news that the enemy's fleet at Port Royal has been increased to one hundred and fifty vessels, about thirty-five transports having been added within the last two days.

The French war steamer Rondelet left here to-day

VICKSBURG, 25.—Two of the enemy's gunboats attempted to pass down the river this morning. Our batteries opened upon them with effect. One was sunk opposite our batteries. The other was badly riddled, and now lies opposite the canal batteries. It is expected she will be sunk. She was set on fire, but appeared to be extinguished. The firing of our batteries was splendid. Almost every shot took effect.

The following official despatch was received in Richmond:

JACKSON, March 25, 1863.

To General S. Cooper, Adjutant and Inspector General:

The following telegram was received this morning from General Stevenson: Four gunboats came to the Turn at sunrise. Two attempted to pass. One was sunk with all on board, the other lies at the mouth of the canal apparently disabled.

(Signed) J. C. PEMBERTON,
Lieut Gen Com'ding.

The following official despatch was received Saturday at the War Department:

TULLAHOMA, March 27—*To Gen. S. Cooper, A. and I. G*—Gen Van Dorn reports that Gen. Forrest made a successful visit to Brentwood with his division. He burnt the bridge and took all the property and arms and captured eight hundred prisoners, including thirty-five officers. He lost three killed and five wounded. [signed] BRAXTON BRAGG.

Fort Pemberton.

A good deal of misapprehension exists in reference to the location of this post. It is so often spoken of as a barrier in the progress of the enmy to the rear of Vicksburg, that it is considered by many to be quite near the latter place.—On the contrary it is more than one hundred miles distant. Fort Pemberton is on the Yazoo river, a short distance below the confluence of the Tallahatchie and Yallobusha. The Yankees reached it through Yazoo Pass, which leaves the Mississippi a few miles below Helena, and Coldwater river—the latter emptying into the Yazoo about, or near, the point where we suppose Fort Pemberton to be situated. Should the Yankees succeed in passing this Fort we do not understand how they would be in the REAR of Vicksburg, for they would still be in the Yazoo, which empties into the Mississippi ABOVE Vicksburg.—They would, however, be able to destroy all our boats in the Yazoo, and cut us off from the large extent of rich country lying between the Yazoo and the Mississippi, from which our Vicksburg army is being mainly subsisted. Fort Pemberton is not more than thirty miles from the Mississippi Central Railroad, and can thus be readily reinforced from Vicksbung if necessary.

ANOTHER IMPORTANT LEGAL DECISION.—Judge Featherston, of Ga., in a case brought before him, on a writ of Habeas Corpus, decided that when a substitute dies before he became himself liable to conscription, the principal is exempt from conscription during the time for which he furnished the substitute.

PERSONAL.—A late Northern paper says: "Miss Carey, on investigation, proved to be the intended bride of General Fitz. Lee, was sent through the lines for the South on the 20th, and deprived of goods she had purchased for the purpose of returning South.

FROM THE VINDICATOR.

Proceedings of the Baltimore Annual Conference.

A meeting of the Preachers belonging to the Baltimore Annual Conference, was held in Churchville Augusta County, Va., commencing Thursday, March 19th, 1863.

The Session was opened by reading the Scriptures, singing, and prayer by Rev. G. G. Brooke.

On motion, Rev. E R Veitch was elected President, and Rev'ds. J. S. Martin and J. E. Armstrong, Secretaries.

On the call of the roll, the following members answered to their names:

E R Veitch, J R Wheeler, R Smith, C A Joyce, W R Stringer, P H Whisner, G V Leech, L Butt, Jas E Armstrong, W S Baird, S Register, J C Dice, L R Jones, F B Smith, A Q Flaherty, J F Beans, H A Gaver, Jno S Martin, J P Etchinson, Geo G Brooke, D W Arnold, L E Johnston, G R Jefferson, J Beatty, J P Chittem, S Rodgers, J P Hyde, J J Engle, D Ball, J S Gardner, J A H Moore, J F Liggett, S B Dolly, T Briley, J W F Graham, L Lentz.

The following Lay Stewards, were introduced to the Conference: E Geeding, of Roanoke District; Moses Walton, of Rockingham District, and Joseph Beard, of Lewisburg.

The usual Committees were appointed, and the Conference adjourned.

Major Dabney Ball, Chaplain of the 5th Regiment, Va. Cavalry, preached at 4 o'clock, P. M.

SECOND DAY.

Conference met and was opened with Religious services by Rev. J. C. Dice.

Rev'ds J. N. Gray, Moses May and J. S. Wasson, responded to their names on call of the roll, in addition to those who were present yesterday.

Rev S. Register offered the following resolutions which were made the order of the day for to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock. They are as follows:

A large number of our brethren, members of this Conference, being prevented from attendance at this Session by reason of their being within the enemy's lines, and there being others whose circumstances are so effected by the desolations of war, together with the difficulties of transportation. Therefore,

Resolved 1. By the Baltimore Annual Conference, in Conference assembled, that the President and Presiding Elders in the exercise of the appointing power, be, and they are hereby requested to conform their action, as far as practicable, to the above mentioned exigencies.

2. That wherever it is in their judgment practical and judicious to adhere to the ancient custom of Methodism in respect of the itineracy, that it be done.

3. That any departure from the long settled law and usage of our beloved Zion, by reason of the above mentioned difficulties, is not to be construed into indifference on our part to the solemn obligations as Methodist travelling preachers, nor as establishing precedents hereafter to be binding.

4. Believing as we do, that our people are unyielding in their attachments to the itineracy, as the best method of diffusing the Gospel of the Son of God, we as their pastors, will be true to their wishes and to our own sacred vows, and in the spirit and help of God we renew the consecration of ourselves to our holy work.

On motion, Resolved, that the following brethren be omitted from our roll, they having removed beyond the bounds of the Virginia work: W. F. Speake, R B. Frampton, A. Buhrman, H C. McDaniel, W. S. Edwards, and B. H. Smith.

On motion, L. C. Miller, E. H. Jones, A. P Neal, and W R. McNeer, were received on trial into the travelling connection.

On motion, M. G. Balthis, and J. R. Greenwell, were continued on trial.

On motion, A. Q. Flaherty, L W. Haslip, P. H Whisner, G W. Carpenter, C. H. Jayce, and James W. Bennett were admitted into full connection, and elected to Deacon's orders.

On motion, L. E. Johnston, L. Lentz, J. A. H Moore, and J F. Beane, were elected to Elders orders.

On motion, W. G. Coe was re-admitted into the travelling connection.

THIRD DAY.

Conference was opened with Religious services by Rev. S. Rodgers, of Fredericksburg, Va.

The following resolution was passed:

Whereas, Misconstruction may arise as to the purport of the action of this Conference, in omitting from the roll the names of some of its members, therefore,

Resolved, That by the said action we simply intended to obtain as correct a list as possible of those who are now so situated as to be able to look to us for appointments.

[Signed] S. RODGERS.
J. E. ARMSTRONG.

On the call for the recommendation of Local Preachers for Deacon's and Elder's Order, the recommendation of M. V. Smith was received, and, on motion, he was elected to Deacon's Orders.

The call of the Stewards for Conference collections was made, and the sum of $456 was received. The Stewards were requested to act with the Committee on necessitous cases, and to distribute the funds in their hands at their discretion.

The resolutions of Rev. S. Register, which were made the order of the day for this morning at ten o'clock, were taken up and passed—ayes 28, nays 4.

The report of the Committee on Seminaries was read and adopted

S. Register, J. S. Martin, S. Rodgers, J. F. Liggett and J. S. Gardner were appointed a Committee on the state of the Church, and the following ay brethren were invited to meet with them; Moses Walton, E Geeding, John B. Evans, Jos. Beard and P Herring.

On motion, the President was added to the Committee.

Rev. G. V. Leech was requested to prepare an obituary of Rev. J. M. Little, deceased.

FOURTH DAY.

MONDAY MORNING, March 23d, 1863.—The Conference was opened with religious service by Rev. Wm. S. Baird.

The classes of the 3d and 4th years were examined in presence of the Conference, in accordance with the discipline.

The report of the Sunday School Committee was read and adopted.

J. C. Dice, J. W. F. Graham, S. Register were appointed to draft a constitution for a Home Missionary Society.

The characters of all the effective Elders were examined and passed.

W. D. Ridpetoe, J. J. Engle, J. E. Wasson, J. P Hyde, J. M. Grandin, and D. Ball are chaplains in the Confederate Army.

Rev. Dabney Ball, gave a very interesting and cheering statement of the work in the army.

A letter from Rev. S. H. Griffith was read stating that Rev. E. F. Busey, A. W. Wilson, J. E. Carson, W. J. Perry, J. Williams, and others in Maryland, intend to abide with us in the action of the Conference at Staunton, 1861. The Secretary was directed to address a pastoral letter to these brethern.

T. Briley was elected to elder's orders.

Bridgewater, Rockingham Co., Va., was fixed on as the place for holding the next session of the Conference.

FIFTH DAY.

The Conference was opened with religious services.

The character of the superannuated Ministers were all passed.

The constitution of the Home Missionary Society was presented and adopted.

The report of the Committee on the State of the Church was read and adopted unanimously. This paper is an exceedingly important one but is too long to be presented here. It may be published hereafter.

The various committees reported and the reports were adopted.

Rev. G. G. Brooke was elected unanimously President of the Home Mission Society.

Whereas, a number of our brethren in Virginia and Maryland, members of this body are prevented from meeting with us at this session of our Conference by reason of the existence of war in our country, Therefore

Resolved, That we hereby re assure them of our christian sympathy for them in this time of peculiar sorrow and distress, and that we again commend them to God, and the Word of his grace which is able to build them up and give them an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.

A resolution of thanks was presented to friends of Churchville and its vicinity for their cordial reception, &c. of the Conference.

Maj. D Ball was requested to correspond with the chaplains in the army who are members of this body, and to communicate at the next session whatever of interest he may be able to obtain in regard to themselves, and their work

Rev. S. Rodgers, of Fredericksburg, addressed the Conference in relation to the events which have recently occurred at that place, and of the condition of the church there.

APPOINTMENTS FOR 1863.

Roanoke District—S. Register, P. E.

Salem—J R Wheeler, P. H. Whisner.
Christiansburg—L R Jones.
Blacksburg—F B Smith.
Jacksonville—A Q Flaherty.
Newport—J F Bean, E G Jamison.
Roanoke—S F Butt
Fincastle—J P Echinson, A A P Neel.
Rockbridge—J J Ingle.

Lewisburg District J. S. Gardner, P. E.

Lewisburg—S Rodgers.
Frankford—J W Ewan, J P Chittum.
White Sulphur—J Leaf and M May.
Blue Sulphur—P S Sixeas, L C Miller.
Levelton—J F Liggett.
Greenbank—J W F Graham.
Monroe—L D Nixon, J N Gray.
Sweet Springs and Gap Mills—J W Bennett, G W Carpenter.
Peterstown and Forrest Hill—J E Wasson, and E H Jones.

Churchville District J. S. Martin, P. E.

Churchville—Thos Hildebrand, J A H Moore
West Augusta—G R Jefferson, W D Rippetoe.
Lexington—To be supplied.
Fairfield—F C Tebbs.
Covington—G G Brooke.
Warm Springs—T Briley.
Bath Alum—C A Joyce.
Monterey—S D Dolly, W R McNeer.
Highland—Leonidas Butt.

Rockingham District E R Veitch, P. E.

Staunton—J C Dice.
Augusta—H A Gaver, J L Snyder
Mt. Meridian—R Smith.
Rockingham—D W Arnold, W R Stringer.
Eas. Rockingham—Geo. L. Leech, L E Johnson.
Woodstock—J E Armstrong, L Lentz.
Front Royal—R R S Hough.
Luray—A P Boude.
Franklin—S H Griffith.
Moorefield—J Beaty.
South Branch—O P Wirgman.
North River—S Smith.
New Creek—To be supplied.
Wesleyan Female Institute—W S Baird, Principal, and member of Staunton Quarterly Conference.

Winchester District—G W Eggleston, P. E.

Winchester—B F Brooke, and J W Wolff.
Berryville—J W Kelley.
Jefferson—J Gibson, M G Balthis,
Shepardstown—S McMullen.
Berkely—J W Tongue
Martinsburg—To be supplied.
Springfield—J W Hedges.
Wardensville—J H March.
Capon—C L Torreyson.
Hillsboro—J H Waugh, B Hough, A Robey.
Shannondale—J H Wolf.

London District—S S Roszell, P E.

Loudon—F H Richey, W V Tudor.
Leesburg—S Cornelius.
Warrenton—R M Lipscomb
Fairfax—To be supplied.
East Fairfax—To be supplied.
Rehobeth—To be supplied.
Fredericksburg—To be supplied.
D Ball, Chaplain to C S A, and member of Salem Quarterly Conference.
J P Hyde, Chaplain to C S A, and member of Mt Sidney Quarterly Conference.
C F Lumbeoum, Chaplain to C S A, and member of Front Royal Quarterly Conference.
J M Grandin, Chaplain to C S A, and member of Jefferson Quarterly Conference.
T M Carson, Chaplain to C S A, and member of Winchester Quarterly Conference.
J Landstreet, Chaplain to C S A, and member of Loudon Quarterly Conference.
L W Haslip, service of C S. Hospital, and member of Augusta Quarterly Conference.
J R Greenwell, Chaplain to C S A, and member of Loudon Quarterly Conference.
W G Coe, without appointment at his own request.

AN ACT TO REGULATE IMPRESSMENTS.

The following act has passed both Houses of Congress:

BE IT ENACTED, ETC. That whenever the exigencies of any Army in the Field are such as to make impressments of forage, articles of subsistence or other property absolutely necessary, then such impressment may be made by the officer or officers whose duty it is to furnish such forage, articles of subsistence or other property for such Army. In cases where the owner of such property and the impressing officer cannot agree upon the value thereof, it shall be the duty of such impressing officer, upon an affidavit in writing of the owner of such property or his agent, that such property was grown, raised or produced by said owner, or is held or has been purchased by him not for sale or speculation, but for his own use of consumption, to cause the same to be ascertained or determined by the judgment of two loyal and disinterested citizens of the city, county or parish in which such impressment may be made, one to be selected by the owner, one by the impressing officer, and, in the event of their disagreement, these two shall choose an umpire of like qualification, whose decision shall be final. The persons thus selected, after taking an oath to appraise the property impressed, fairly and impartially (which oath as well as the affidavit provided for in this section, the impressing officer is hereby authorized to administer and certify), shall proceed to assess just compensation for the property so impressed, whether the absolute ownership or the temporary use thereof only is required.

SEC. 2. That the officer or person, impressing property as aforesaid, shall, at the time of said taking, pay to the owner, his agent or attorney, the compensation fixed by said appraisers; and shall also give to the owner, or person controlling said property, a certificate over his official signature, specifying the battalion, regiment, brigade, division or corps, to which he belongs; that said property is essential for the use of the army, could not be otherwise procured, and was taken through absolute necessity: setting forth the time and place where and where taken, the amount of the claim made by said appraisers, and the sum, if any, paid for the same. Said certificate shall be evidence for the owner, as well of the taking of said property for the public use, as the right of the owner to the amount of compensation fixed as aforesaid.—And in case said officer or person, taking said property, shall have failed to pay the owner, or his agent, said compensation as herein before required, then said owner shall be entitled to the speedy payment of the same by the proper disbursing officer, which when so paid, shall be in full satisfaction of all claim against the government of the Confederate States.

SEC. 3. Whenever the appraisement, provided for in the first section of this act, shall, for any reason, be impracticable at the time of said impressment, then, and in that case, the value of the property impressed shall be assessed as soon as possible by two loyal and disinterested citizens of the city, county or parish, wherein the property was taken, chosen as follows: One by the owner, and one by the commissary, or quartermaster general, or his agent, who, in case of disagreement, shall choose a third citizen of like qualification, as an umpire to decide the matters in dispute, who shall be sworn as aforesaid, who shall hear the proofs, adduced by the parties, as to the value of said property, and assess a just compensation therefor, according to the testimony.

SEC. 4. That whenever the Secretary of War shall be of opinion that it is necessary to take private property for public use, by reason of the impracticability of procuring the same by purchase, so as to accumulate necessary supplies for the army, or the good of the service, in any locality, he may, by general order, through the proper subordinate officers, authorize such property to be taken for the public use, the compensation due the owner for the same to be determined and the value found as provided for in the first and second sections of this act.

SEC 5. That it shall be the duty of the President, as early as practicable after the passage of this act, to appoint a commissioner in each State where property shall be taken for the public use, and request the Governor of such State in which the President shall appoint said commissioner, to appoint another commissioner to act in conjunction with the commissioner appointed by the President, who shall receive the compensation of eight dollars per day, and ten cents per mile as mileage, to be paid by the Confederate Government. Said commissioners shall constitute a board, whose duty it shall be to fix upon the prices to be paid by the Government for all property impressed or taken for the public use, as aforesaid, so as to afford just compensation to the owners thereof. Said commissioners shall agree upon, and publish a schedule of prices every two months, or oftener, if they shall deem it proper; and in the event they shall not be able to agree in any matter confided to them in this act, they shall have power to appoint an umpire to decide the matter in dispute, whose decision shall be the decision of the board; and said umpire shall receive the same rate of compensation for the time he shall serve, allowed to said commissioners respectively: *Provided*, That said commissioners shall be resident of the State for which they shall be appointed, and in case the Governor of any State shall refuse or neglect to appoint said commissioner, within ten days after a request to do so by the President, the President shall appoint both commissioners by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

SEC. 6. That all property impressed or taken for the public use, aforesaid, in the hands of any person other than the persons who have raised, grown, or produced the same, or persons holding the same for their own use or consumption, and who shall make the affidavit herein before required, shall be paid for according to the schedule of prices fixed by the commissioners as aforesaid. But if the officer impressing or taking for the public use, said property, and the owner shall differ as to the quality of the article or property impressed or taken as aforesaid, thereby making it fall within a higher or lower price named in the schedule, then the owner or agent and the officer impressing or taking, as aforesaid, may select each, a loyal and disinterested citizen of the qualifications, as aforesaid, to determine the quality of said article or property, who shall, in case of disagreement, appoint an umpire of like qualifications and his decision, if approved by the officer impressing, shall be final. But, if not approved, the impressing officer shall send the award to the commissioners of the State where the property is impressed, with his reasons for disapproving the same, and said commissioners may hear such proofs as the parties may respectively adduce, and their decision shall be final: *Provided*, That the owner may receive the price offered by the impressing officer, without prejudice to his claim to receive the higher compensation.

SEC. 7. That the property necessary for the support of the owner and his family, and to carry on his ordinary agricultural and mechanical business, to be ascertained by the appraisers, to be appointed as provided in the first section of this act, under oath, shall not be taken or impressed for the public use; and when the impressing officer and the owner cannot agree as to the quantity of property, as aforesaid, then the decisions of the said appraisers shall be binding on the officer and all other persons.

SEC. 8. Where the property has been impressed for temporary use, and is lost or destroyed, without the default of the owner, the government of the Confederate States shall pay a just compensation therefor, to be ascertained by appraisers appointed and qualified as provided in the 3d section of the act. If such property when returned, has, in the opinion of the owner, been injured whilst in the public use, the amount of damage thereby sustained shall be determined in the manner described in the third section of this act, the officer returning the property being authorized to act on behalf of the government; and upon such inquiry, the certificate of the value of the property when originally impressed shall be received as *prima facie* evidence of the value thereof.

SEC. 9. Where slaves are impressed by the Confederate Government to labor on fortifications or other public works, the impressment shall be made by said government according to the rules and regulations prescribed in the laws of the State wherein they are impressed; and, in the absence of such law, in accordance with such rules and regulations not inconsistent with the provisions of this act, as the Secretary of War shall from time to time prescribe: *Provided*, That no impressment of slaves shall be made when they can be hired or procured by the consent of the owner or agent.

SEC. 10. That previous to the first day of December next, no slave labouring on a farm or plantation exclusively devoted to the production of grain and provisions shall be taken for the public use, without the consent of the owner, except in case of urgent necessity.

SEC 11. That any commissioned or non commissioned officer or private who shall violate the provisions of this act shall be tried before the military court of the corps to which he is attached, on complaint made by the owner or other person, and on conviction, if an officer he shall be cashiered and put into the ranks as a private, and if a non commissioned officer or private, he shall suffer such punishment not inconsistent with military law, as the court may direct.

Ball at the Odd Fellows' Hall.

There will be a BALL at the Odd Fellows' Hall on TUESDAY, THE 31st OF THIS MONTH, the proceeds to be applied to the support of soldiers' families. Good music will be provided, and the management will be unexceptionable. The purpose is so laudable that it is hoped the patronage will be as liberal as the object is good.

J. M. HARDY,
J. C. MARQUIS,
D. C. McGUFFIN,
N. K. TROUT, } Com.

Staunton, March 24, 1863.

FOR THE SPECTATOR.

FELLOW-CITIZENS OF AUGUSTA:—

I am a Candidate for your House of Delegates.—A position of so much trust and responsibility is NEVER to be coveted, but least of all in times like the present, when the country is harassed by a great war of invasion; when vast armies must be maintained in the field; and when questions of the utmost difficulty are constantly presenting themselves to the Legislator, taxing the highest energies of his mind and body and requiring at his hands the most untiring industry and sleepless caution. In asking, therefore, your suffrages for so laborious and responsible a trust I am not conscious of being influenced by any feeling of personal ambition or by any desire of private gain.—I only seek to place myself in a position for which I feel I am not altogether disqualified by education, profession and training; and in a sphere of usefulness where I may be enabled to devote whatever capacity and zeal I possess to the service of the People in this the hour of their sorest need.

The infirmity, which denies me the privilege of serving in the ranks of the army is not of a character to disqualify me for any of the civil pursuits of life and in thus offering my services to the People of Augusta, I am sustained not less by the approval of my own judgment than the advice of my friends.

There were persons who objected to me on a former occasion upon the ground of my extreme youth and consequent want of experience. An objection so trivial needs scarcely an allusion. I am twenty-five years of age and at a period of life when the character and habits of a man are formed and when he is supposed to have attained his highest degree of physical and intellectual vigor; and at an age when the citizen is deemed eligible, under the Constitution of the Confederate States, to a seat in the lower House of Congress.

Should it be the pleasure of my Fellow Citizens to elect me, I shall apply every energy of mind and body to a fearless and faithful discharge of my duty; and while it would be difficult to pledge myself to any special line of policy, I may add, that I will assist in all Legislation that may tend to restore order to our finances, that may inspire confidence in the credit of the Government, and relieve the necessities of our suffering people.

HOWZE Y. PEYTON.

March 31, 1863.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

We are authorized to announce HON JOHN B. BALDWIN as a Candidate for re-election to the Congress of the Confederate States in the 11th Congressional District composed of the counties of Augusta, Rockbridge, Rockingham, Pendleton, Bath, Alleghany, Highland and Pocahontas.

March 24th—tde

Papers in the Destrict will copy and send bill to the Spectator Office.

MARKETS.

STAUNTON MARKETS.

BY P. N. POWELL.

FLOUR	New Superfine	$22 00@00.00
	Extra	22.50@00.00
BUTTER.	Fresh Roll	1.50@0.00
LARD		1.00@0.00
BACON		1.00@0.00
POTATOES		8.00@0.00
CLOVER SEED		18.0 @0.00
TIMOTHY		4.00@0.00

March 31st, 1863.

RICHMOND MARKETS.

BY W. D. TOMPKINS.

Richmond, March 21th, 1863.

Flour—