

Staunton Spectator

STAUNTON, VA.

TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 1863.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

When a change is desired in the direction of a paper, it is necessary that the Postoffice to which it has been sent, as well as the new Postoffice, should be named.

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 Candidate attends them, or unless a responsible party that will be published, or unless a responsible party that will be published, or unless a responsible party that will be published.

Outrageous Proceedings in Richmond.

On Thursday last, the city of Richmond was excited by strange and outrageous proceedings which occurred in the streets of that city. A band of robbers, composed of both sexes, supposed to number 100 or 150, attempted, in broad daylight, to rob the stores of that city. This proceeding was so strange and so unexpected that the citizens seem, for some time, to have been paralyzed, and whilst they were looking on in bewildered wonder and astonishment, these robbers were breaking open the stores and robbing them of their contents.

"Scarcely a breath disturbed the sleeping billow," the military and civil authorities appeared, and, in a tone of command, cried: "Peace, be still." After this, vast crowds, composed chiefly of orderly citizens, were addressed by Col. Munford, Mayor Mayo, Gov. Letcher, and President Davis. These robbers were not in need of food, as they pretended, for they stole everything they could lay their hands upon.

The following is a brief extract from a letter of a correspondent for the Richmond Enquirer, dated Tallahoma, Tenn, March 30th: "The farmers of the country are earnestly invoked by the most impressive classes of popular influence to plant and produce nothing but food."

The farmers of the country are earnestly invoked by the most impressive classes of popular influence to plant and produce nothing but food. A few days since, we witnessed a triumph over the Yankees, without going out of the town of Staunton. We went down to the Peg manufactory of Messrs. H. J. & W. L. Lushbaugh, and saw them making shoe pegs at a rate which would astonish the Yankees themselves.

A charitable institution, under the direction that they wanted something to eat, made a distribution of rice and flour to all who would ask it, whereupon, the Examiner says, "A handful of prostitutes, professional thieves, Irish and Yankee bogs, gallowbirds from all lands but our own, congregated in Richmond, with a woman huckster at their head, who buys veal at the toll gate for a hundred and sells the same for two hundred and fifty in the morning market, undertook the other day to put into private practice the principles of the Commissary Department."

On last Sunday morning week, Colonel William Tabb, of General Wise's command, with several hundred cavalry, made a dash into the town of Williamsburg. The Yankee garrison, though greatly outnumbering, the attacking force, being taken by surprise, fled precipitately in the direction of Yorktown. Several of the fugitives were cut down, and others taken prisoners. Colonel Tabb took possession of the postoffice, and having secured the mail and several thousand dollars in greenbacks retired leisurely with his prisoners.

A despatch from Ponchatoula, on the Jackson and New Orleans railroad, dated March 20th, states that a regiment of troops, commanded by Colonel Miller, of Vicksburg, had attacked and routed the enemy at that point, capturing a number of prisoners. The Yankees in their flight set fire to a large amount of stores that they had accumulated at Ponchatoula.

Disbanding—The Virginia "State Line," commanded by Maj. Gen. John B. Floyd, was disbanded on Wednesday last.

The Class Oppressed.

Whilst as a nation, struggling heroically and successfully against one of the most powerful and malicious nations on the earth, we are exciting the admiration of foreign nations, many of our people, and we fear, a majority, present a spectacle as disgraceful as it is remarkable. We had supposed, at the beginning of this gigantic struggle for freedom and independence, that all would feel like a band of brothers—that the whole people constituted but one family—that as all were equally interested in the success of the struggle, so all would be equally willing to perform their share of patriotic duty—either to aid in fighting the ruthless invaders from our soil, or to do all that was within their power to relieve the necessities, or palliate the sufferings of those at home.

We still think that this was the general, if not universal feeling at the beginning of the war; but alas! it is too evident that such is not the case now. Our people seem to have forgotten Liberty—they have ignored Humanity—they have discarded Charity, ay, to have wandered from the sacred altar of Christianity to offer their oblations upon the polluted altar of Mammon. Instead of doing all they can to assist each other, and all they can to repel the invaders of our soil, they are preying upon each other like the fishes of the sea—they have become cannibals, and prey upon their own kindred and friends. They seem to have become deaf as adders to the voice of distress—they heed not the wail of the widow, nor the cries of the orphan. Their ears seem to be stuffed with shipplasters and their hearts turned to stone. They forget patriotism, and instead of supporting, engage in discrediting the currency of the country, and then imperil their sons in their efforts to clutch a handful of the very money which they have depreciated.

The aphorism that "one half of the world does not know how the other half lives" was never more forcibly illustrated than at the present time. Those who live by sales, either of produce or merchandise, do not know the trials, at the present time, of those who have everything to buy. Those who sell can accommodate themselves to the changed circumstances. They can increase the price of what they have to sell, but those who have nothing to sell cannot do so, and every increase of price serves the more to oppress them. The farmer who has his produce to sell, can increase his prices *pari passu* with the merchant who sells to him, and *vice versa*. But whilst the farmer is increasing his prices to become even with the merchant, and the merchant increasing his to keep a little ahead of the farmer, these who have nothing to sell become oppressed with this system of piling "Pelion upon Ossa." The farmer and merchant may become wealthy; but it will be at the expense of that unfortunate class who have everything to buy and nothing to sell. They are between the upper and nether millstones, and many become ground to powder, and some even to destitution. Those who are making money and a massing fortunes should remember this class. It too frequently happens that the more rapidly people make money, the less disposed they become to consider the condition, and to relieve the wants of those who do not make it. They fix their intent gaze upon the filthy lucre, devise plans to obtain it, and lose sight of those who need the necessities of life. We would remind them that "he that giveth to the poor, lendeth to the Lord," and with Dean Swift, would ask "if they desire better security?"

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The Currency Act.

The "Spectator" gives the following analysis of the currency act which has been very carefully prepared and will give general information as to its provisions, in a plain and simple form, readily understood and easily applied. We suggest to our readers to preserve it.

The Currency Act has divided all treasury notes into three classes. I. Those issued before 1st December, 1862.

II. Those issued between 1st December, 1862 and 4th April, 1863. III. Those issued after April 4, 1863. 1. The first are fundable in 8 per cent. Bonds or stock until 23d April, 1863; after that day in 7 per cents, until August, 1863, after which they cannot be funded at all.

2. The second class are fundable in 6 per cent. Bonds or stock until 1st August, 1863; after which they are fundable in 4 per cents.

3. The third class are fundable in six per cents, at any time within one year from the 1st day of the month of their issue. After one year they are fundable in four per cents. To distinguish the notes and fix the period of one year, the month in which they are issued is stamped across the face of the notes.

It will be seen, therefore, that no 8 per cent. bonds will be issued after the 23d April, and no 7 per cents after 1st August, so that all holders, who desire to secure these rates, must present their notes for funding within the period above named.

Six per cent. Call Certificates are no longer to be issued; but instead thereof, five per cent. Call Certificates may be had for any of the notes of the third class, which will entitle the holder to recover the same at any time within six months from the date of the oldest of the notes which the Call Certificate represents, and to receive interest, if not reconverted. If not reconverted, the Call Certificate may, at any time, be funded in six per cent. bonds.

The four per cent. Bonds issued for the notes of the 2d and 3d class may be exchanged at any time for Call Certificates, which will entitle the holder to recover the same into notes of the same character, and to interest at four per cent. until reconverted.

The six per cent. Call Certificates now in the hands of holders may be redeemed in the notes which they represent at any time before 1st July, 1863; after that date they become 6 per cent. bonds, payable at any time, not exceeding thirty days.

"The Women of the South," is the subject of the Lecture recently delivered by Hugh W. Sheffield, Esq., of this place, before the Christian Association of Richmond, and also before the Library Association of Petersburg. It is a good subject, and we have no doubt was presented in a style worthy of the subject. The Press of Richmond and Petersburg laud the lecture very much. We would suggest the propriety of inviting Mr. Sheffield to deliver that lecture in this place, and to appropriate the proceeds for the benefit of the families of our soldiers. We have no doubt that the proceeds would amount to \$400 or \$500.

The 91st section of the act passed by the Legislature imposing taxes for the support of Government, passed March 25th, 1863, provides that the issue of Confederate non-interest-bearing notes, to be issued after the 1st of April, will be alone received in payment of the State taxes. This provision is intended to co-operate with the measures adopted by Congress, to accredit the new issue of Confederate notes, and form an additional inducement to fund the present current bills, and thus help to deplete the redundant circulation.

Candidate for Governor. We now have in the field for the race, in the order in which they have announced themselves, General Wm. Smith, Hon. E. W. Hubbard, Col. G. W. Munford, Hon. Thomas S. Flournoy, and Hon. Wm. L. Goggin—three members of the Democratic party, and two of the old Whig party. We presume these will be all who will become candidates.

Sassafras Tea.—If the blossom of the sassafras which will now soon be in full bloom, be gathered and dried in the shade, be used in making tea, instead of the root, it will be found an excellent substitute for tea, which now sells at from twelve to fifteen dollars a pound. The old woman was right who exclaimed: "Thank the Lord, they cannot blockade sassafras."

Returned Prisoners.—On Sunday evening last, ninety-five exchanged prisoners, belonging to the commands of Gens. J. D. Imboden and Wm. E. Jones, arrived here from Camp Chase on their way to join their respective commands.

A communication in the last *Vindicator* expresses the hope that Col. Michael G. Harman, of this place will "at once announce himself a candidate" for Congress. A communication in the *Rockingham Register*, calls upon Dr. Sam'l A. Coffman, of Rockingham, to "announce himself a Candidate" for Congress.

In future we will get more reliable despatches from the army in Tennessee as the Associated Press of the South have sent an experienced Telegraphist to the front of our army in Middle Tennessee.

Capt. Mosby on the 1st of April, with only 50 men, had a fight with the Yankees at Drainsville, and captured 79 prisoners. He made an April fool of the Yankee in command, as it was "All Folks Day."

The Senate and House have not yet agreed upon a tax bill. The probability is that those who desire a heavy tax will be gratified.

Congress has passed a law exempting from military service mail contractors and their necessary drivers and carriers.

The sale of the "Kalorama" property has been postponed to a future day, of which due notice will be given.

BY TELEGRAPH.

VIENNA, April 2.—The enemy made a reconnaissance up the Yaxzo river yesterday, and threw a few shells at Snider's Bluff.

CHATTANOOGA, April 2.—The gunboats on the Tennessee have been driven back by our sharpshooters. Two iron-clads endeavored to land at Chattanooga this morning, at daylight, and were attacked by our cavalry outposts, and heavy cannonading ensued, but without effect. Unsuccessful efforts were made to land a party, and the iron-clads backed down the river.

SEVEN HUNDRED AND FIFTY-TWO prisoners, captured by Forrest at Brentwood, reached here this evening.

CHATTANOOGA, April 2.—No signs, thus far, of the success of the enemy. There has been no landing of the enemy in force on any of the points below, as reported. The skirmish on Scabrook's Island was between a few independent scouts and a party from a Yankee gunboat.

CHATTANOOGA, April 2.—A block of 100 men, with 100 men, attacked a Federal train on the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad, nine miles from Nashville, killed 42 and wounded 67. Loss on our side, 10 killed and 20 wounded. The party also captured wagons, &c., and returned in safety.

The following official despatch was received here this morning: HEAD QRS., near Warwick Bay, N. Y., April 1st. To Gen. S. Cooper: I have the honor to report the capture of the Federal schooner "Atalanta" at this point today. She mounts five heavy guns. The boat is not seriously injured, and will be immediately put in service.

The enemy's loss in killed, wounded and prisoners is 150. R. TAYLOR, Maj. Gen.

Our Next Legislature. In the course of a few weeks the people of Virginia will be called upon to elect a new Legislature, as well as a Governor. They cannot be too careful in the exercise of this high trust.

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CONGRESS.

THURSDAY, APRIL 2.—THE EXEMPTION BILL. The House resumed the consideration of the Exemption bill on Tuesday, it was read and the undersigned, as trustees appointed by the Court in lieu of said Baylor, will, on Monday, the 27th day of the present month, April, (if Monday Court day,) read in front of the Court-house in the town of Staunton, Va., at public auction the above mentioned valuable HOTEL AND FARM. The farm is one of the most valuable in Albany county, and contains about 200 acres of land. At least 100 of which is of the richest River Bottom and is situated on the Turkeys leading from the Warm Springs, and contains about 100 acres of land. At least 100 of which is of the richest River Bottom and is situated on the Turkeys leading from the Warm Springs, and contains about 100 acres of land.

Mr. Baldwin, of Virginia, argued in favor of the motion to postpone. He believed that the House had, by its action on the bill prepared for the House, declared its preference for the enactment of another.

Mr. Singleton, of Miss., opposed the motion to postpone. The substitute of the House and the House was altogether, but it was far less objectionable than the law as it now stands. The fact that there were one hundred opinions upon this floor to be reconciled, at once showed the necessity of compromise and concession upon this vexed question.

Mr. McDowell, of N. C., called the question, which was ordered and the motion to postpone indefinitely was not agreed to.

Mr. Dupre, of La., moved a reconsideration of the vote ordering the bill to a third reading. He declared his preference for the Senate bill to that now before the House, and stated that it was a compromise of the conflicting opinions of the two branches. He hoped the House would act in a similar spirit.

The motion to reconsider was lost. Mr. Webb, of Miss., addressed the House in favor of a limited system of exemptions, if any were adopted at all. He administered a severe rebuke to certain classes existing under the present law, whose exemption enabled them to grow to glory upon the necessities of the people.

Mr. Curry, of Ala., preferred the bill now before the House to that of last session. It removes indefinitely the causes of complaint, and reduces the number of exemptions to the classes whose labor was necessary to the maintenance of the army.

Mr. Gray, of Texas, called the question, which was ordered, and the bill was read a third time and passed.

On motion of Mr. Pugh, the bill was amended to conform to that of the Senate. THE SUBSTITUTE BUSINESS. Mr. Hilton, of Florida, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported back, without amendment, a Senate bill repealing the statute laws in which the rule heretofore suspended, the bill was taken up and passed—yeas 44, nays 36.

Mr. Clark, of Ga., moved a reconsideration of the vote, and a discussion followed in which Mr. Clark, Davis, Chambliss and Hilton participated.

The motion to reconsider prevailed—yeas, 47, nays 42.

Mr. Bennett, of Va., called the question upon the passage of the bill, which was ordered. The bill was again put upon its passage, and rejected by a vote of yeas 39, nays 48.

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NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

JACKSON'S RIVER HOTEL AND FARM FOR SALE. In pursuance of two deeds of Trust, one executed by Samuel M. Woodward, and the other by Joseph N. Woodward and Wm. E. Woodward to Wm. S. H. Baylor, do hereby assign, as trustees appointed by the Court in lieu of said Baylor, will, on Monday, the 27th day of the present month, April, (if Monday Court day,) read in front of the Court-house in the town of Staunton, Va., at public auction the above mentioned valuable HOTEL AND FARM. The farm is one of the most valuable in Albany county, and contains about 200 acres of land. At least 100 of which is of the richest River Bottom and is situated on the Turkeys leading from the Warm Springs, and contains about 100 acres of land.

Public Sale. The undersigned will sell, at public sale, the highest and best of the following real and personal property, near Mossy Creek in Augusta County. The tract of land known as the "Cedar-House" in the town of Staunton, Va., and contains 100 acres of land, and contains 140 acres and a few poles. This tract is good land, and contains a good orchard, a tobacco tract, and a good house, and is situated on the Turkeys leading from the Warm Springs, and contains about 100 acres of land.

Valuable Hotel for Sale. Will be sold, at public auction, in the town of Leesburg, Va., on Monday, the 7th day of April next, the following real and personal property, to-wit: "VIRGINIA HOUSE," the late residence of D. H. Stalaker, dec'd.

Public Sale. I will sell, at public auction, on MONDAY, 27th APRIL, 1863, (Court Day,) in front of the Court-house in the town of Staunton, VA., the following real and personal property, to-wit: "VIRGINIA HOUSE," the late residence of D. H. Stalaker, dec'd.

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DECEASED.

On Thursday, the 25th ult., near Waynesboro, Mr. ALEXANDER WATSON, aged about 55 years. On the 26th ult., at his residence in this County, Mr. CHARLES ARMENTROUT, in the 52th year of his age. The deceased was a native of Rockingham, but has been living in Augusta for the last two years. He was held in high esteem by all his neighbors as a honest man, and good citizen. A patriot he leaves a noble record. He contributed four years to the army, one of whom was killed in the battle of Murfreesboro, and another crippled for life in the great battle of Manassas, and a third taken prisoner, sick and carried off by the enemy when Jackson evacuated the lower Valley last Spring, whose fate is unknown.

In Staunton, on the 21st ult., Mrs. M. A. BROWN,