Staunton Spectator.

STAUNTON, VA.

TUESDAY, : : : : JANUARY 26, 1864.

HABEAS CORPUS—THE CRIMINAL'S WRIT.

In these times we hear some strange sentiments uttered. Some seem disposed to dispense with the chart furnished by our wise fathers, and to entrust, in the storm of revolution, the ark of our liberty to the waves without any thing to enable them to direct its course to prevent it from being engulphed in the Charybdis of despotism.—"The price of liberty is eternal vigilance,' and, in times of revolution and trial, the friends of liberty are called upon to exercise increased vigilance. We were surprised to find the following sentence in an editorial article in the "Richmond Enquirer" of the 21st inst.:

"Habeas corpus is the criminal's writ; good men have very little use for it, and can dispense with it altogether by obeying the laws, and devoting their whole time and energy to the defence of their country."

Was the Constitution of Virginia adopted for the *special protection of criminals?*" Did the framers of that instrument consider "*Habeas Corpus* as the criminal's writ? The first sentence of the fifteenth section of the 50th article of the Constitution of Virginia reads as follows:

"*The privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall not, in any case, be suspended.*"

Is the constitution of Virginia to be trampled in the dust? Shall the Juggernaut of military power crush beneath its ponderous wheels all individual and personal rights?

The 13th section of the "Virginia Bill of rights" says, "*that in all cases the military should be under strict subordination to and governed by the civil power.*"

We have been under the impresion that we have been expending our treasure and spilling the life's blood of thousands of our best citizens to preserve the inestimable boon of liberty, and have been so unsophisticated as to believe that the way to preserve the liberties of all is to preserve intact the right of each individual. There can be no liberty for the country when individual personal rights are disregarded and trampled in the dust. Our motto is "Liberty and Independence," and not simply independence; for independence without liberty is not worth the price we are paying.

Deprive our people of liberty and they will no longer have an incentive to exertion.

Their energies will be relaxed, and their patriotism will wither as flowers beneath the Simoom's breath.

AN IMPORTANT QUESTION.

By the recent legislation of Virginia all distillation of Whiskey, upon any pretext whatever, is forbidden in the Commonwealth. The law expressly provides that no whiskey shall be distilled, in fulfillment of any contract with the Confederate States.

It furthermore makes it the duty of the Judge of the circuit, when he shall be informed of any violation of the law, to call a special term of his court and to empannel a special grand jury to investigate the matter.

At the last term of the county court, measures were taken to inform the Judge of this circuit of a violation of the law in this county, and we learn he has called a special term of his court for the 2nd of Feb. to investigate the case.

If this be the case, it will present a very important question in regard to the relative powers of the State and Confederate authorities. It will bring up the question of State sovereignty.—We will then learn whether the Commonwealth of Virginia has a right to regulate her own domestic police, or whether she is, according to Mr. Seward's notion, a mere municipal corporation subject to the paramount authority of the Confederate Government.

The theory of our system is, that the States are the principals and the Confederate Government their agency.—Is the agent subordinate to, or does it over-ride, the principal?

PRESENTATION OF A FLAG.

We invite attention to the correspondence concerning the presentation of a new flag, to the 52nd Va. Regt., and the eloquent speech delivered by Col. Jas. H. Skinner at the ceremony of presentation. The enemy will never get that flag, if it be within the power of the brave soldiers who march beneath its folds to prevent it. They will stand by it with the determined resolve "never to give it up."

CAPT. BLACKFORD AGAIN.

We gave last week the circumstances under which Capt. John C. Blackford was killed by the enemy in Newtown a few weeks since. We have since been informed that he was killed by Sergeant Edwin F. Savacol, New York Cavalry. Capt Blackford shot Sergeant Savacol in the thigh before he was killed.

EXEMPTION FROM IMPRESSMENT.

Withhold not corn from the poor.—Those who may have corn to dispose of, and who do not desire to have it impressed, should sell it to the Committee consisting of Messrs. J. W. Crawford, W. B. Kayser, and Rev. J. C. Wheat, who will dispense it to the families of soldiers. Corn sold to this committee for the purpose specified is exempt from impressment.

☞ We invite attention to the advertisement of Messrs. McAdam, Wightman, & Co., wholesale grocers and commission merchants, 13th street, Richmond, Va.

☞ The sale of the property advertisid by G. W. Berlin will take place tomorow, Wednesday, the 27th.

Nine full regiments have gone into camp in Indiana, and two more regiments are nearly full. The State has nearly filled her quota.

SUBJUGATION IMPOSSIBLE.

A correspondent of the New York *Times*, an abolition journal, writing from Norfolk, maintains that the policy of Lincoln has made the subjugation of the South impossible. This correspondent says that Union upon the basis of emancipation and the proclamation being utterly impossible, the war will go on; slaughter, blood and carnage will follow in its train; hundreds of thousands will perish and be wiped out of existence forever—billions of treasure expended—and for what? To gratify the most fiendish feelings, the most senseless purpose that ever controlled the bosoms of men. The issue then is fairly made—subjugation or independence.—Mr. Lincoln has made this his ultimatum, and doubtless the South accepts it in its spirit and its purpose. If I were interrogated to know, can the South be subjugated? I should answer, if there be any truth in history, never! never! I know Southern character well—I know her ability, her means, her purposes, her aim, her resources, for defensive war. When the Spring opens, her soil will be trod by the finest soldiery the world ever saw. She will, by that time, have equipped six thousand men whose hearts beat in unison to the popular will, and who, as the issue is own made, will court death and danger on every bloody field. Her circulating medium will, by legislative fiat, be reduced to the pecuniary wants of the war programme. Stripped of its redundancy and its plethora, it will give vitality and vigor to every department of the Government, and restore the confidence of the people in the ultimate success of their cause.

SOCKS FOR SOLDIERS.

We feel called upon again to appeal in behalf of our suffering soldiers to the patriotism and kindness of the good people of this County to furnish material to make socks for our brave and bare-footed soldiers. We do not even ask for yarn, [though that, of course, is preferred,] but only for *pieces of woolen cloth* large enough to make a covering for their feet. Every family could contribute such pieces as are now needed, and we feel that it is only necessary to state that they are wanted to ensure a sufficient supply in a short time. The ladies of this place are ready to make the pieces up into socks—the people of the country will please furnish the materials needed. A large portion of the gallant 25th Regiment is now without socks and the brave soldiers of that Regiment are, in great part, from the North-western portion of the State without the possibility of receiving relief from their friends at home. Such soldiers have a peculiar claim to the kindness of our people. Search your houses and send such pieces as mentioned above to the Book-store of Mr. R. Cowan, of Staunton, and they will soon be covering the feet of our suffering soldiers.

THE WHISKEY ACCOUNTED FOR.

Now that the distillation of grain is prohibited by law, it has been a matter of wonder where all the whiskey comes from which is found in the market.—The Enquirer furnishes the following solution of the mystery:

The Confederate Government has given contracts for the production, on its account, of *proof whiskey*, to numerous parties, varying in extent to from five to fifty thousand gallons per contract. In some instances these have power to *impress grain for the purpose, and have been steadily engaged in the production of whiskey from the date of their contracts.* And the secret is this: The contract calls for "proof" whiskey, and if the whiskey is not "proof" it is condemned and thrown back upon the distiller's hands—that is to say, right on the Richmond whiskey market, precisely where he wants it to be. The government pays from two to three dollars per gallon for "proof," by the contract; the market pays from twenty-five to eighty, whether proof or not. And the honest distiller pegs away at his contract occasionally furnishing a barrel of proof whiskey to keep up appearances, but for every one such, forty below proof. This vast fraud—for it is nothing else—merits a prompt exposition, and the names of all parties who have thus practised it upon the government and the public should be held up to the scorn of the people. It is nothing less than stealing the bread from the mouths of the people and the army, and it is the duty of the government to see that it is at once stopped. To give men the authority to impress grain who abuse it in a manner so palpably mean and dishonest, is only equivalent to the folly of which the consumers of the liquor are guilty—of "putting an enemy into their mouths to steal away they brains."

CURRENCY BILL.

The currency bill which passed the House and is now under consideration in the Senate proposes to reduce the redundant currency by compulsory funding and heavy taxation. Treasury notes now outstanding are to be fundable, for the first month after the passage of the act, in six per cent bonds; the second month after in five per cent, and so on; and all those not funded before the first day of next December, shall be not only no longer fundable, but shall be repudiated and declared of no value.

It is reported that in the matter of taxation the bill cuts deep; the tax on the value of all personal property being ten per cent.

FROM EAST TENNESSEE.

Last week our cavalry got within four miles of Knoxville, and captured five hundred beef cattle, one hundred and fifty wagons and a large amount of property.

Gen Bragg, it is stated in the Selma "Mississippian," is about to take a command in that State.

Eleven thousand dollars have been subscribed and paid in Columbia, S. C., to equip Gen. Morgan's command. It is designed to raise as much more.

PRESIDENT DAVIS AND THE POPE.

The correspondence between President Davis and Pope Pius, the 9th, has been published. The President's letter dated September, the 23rd, 1863, says that he has read the letters addressed by his Holiness to the venerable Chiefs of the Catholic clergy at New Orleans and New York, and is deeply sensible of the Christian charity and sympathy with which his holiness urged them to use every exertion for the restoration of peace. He therefore, in the name of the people of the Confederate States, offers the expression of our sincere and cordial appreciation of Christian charity and love by which his Holiness is actuated, and assure him that we are now and ever have been earnestly desirous that this wicked war shall cease, that we desire no evil to our enemies, nor covet their possessions, but are only struggling, that they may cease to devastate our land, and that we be permitted to live under our own State institutions.

The Pope's reply is dated, at Rome, December, the 3rd. He says it is very gratifying to recognize that the people of the Confederate States are animated by a desire for peace and tranquility. The letter says: "Oh, that the other people also of the States and their rulers, considering seriously how cruel and how deplorable is this intestine war, would receive and embrace the counsels of peace and tranquility. We, indeed, shall not cease with most fervent prayer to beseech God, the Best and Highest, and to implore Him to pour out the spirit of Christain love and peace upon all the people of America, and to rescue them from the great calamities with which they are afflicted. And we also pray the same most merciful Lord that that he will illumine Your Excellency with the light of His divine grace and unite you with ourselves in perfect charity."

FUNERAL NOTICE.

Expired on the morning of January 21, 1864, of wounds received at the hands of a philosopher, *Habeas Corpus*, a well known and highly respected resident of the Confederacy. The deceased was a native of England, resided for some time in the United States, but being driven thence by the enemies of public liberty, came to reside in the Confederate States, where he believed every arrangement had been made to prolong his life indefinitely, if not forever. He was about several hundred years old when he died. His loss is irreparable. His funeral will take place from the office of the Richmond Enquirer, on Monday next, at 4 P. M. The learned and Reverend Geo. Fitzhugh will deliver the obituary discourse. Pall Bearers, Messrs. Phelan, Brown, Gartrell and Barksdale. Driver of the Hearse, Mr. Nathaniel Tyler. The friends of the defunct and the public generally are respectfully solicited to be present.—Green weepers, eight feet long, and black cotton gloves, dyed in the wool and imported expressly from Baltimore, will be furnished gratis at the War Department. A mounted guard of 1600 choice Plugs will be in attendance to preserve order. The editors and employees of the Whig, Examiner, Mercury, Confederacy, and Appeal, are warned not to molest the mourners, or in any way interfere with the proceedings.

Insert once and send bill to Mr. Memminger.—*Richmond Whig.*

"THE RIVAL ADMINISTRATIONS."

We have received a copy of the volume bearing the above title just published by Mr. E. A. Pollard, author of "The first 2 years of the War." The contents of this volume are as follows:

1. "Want of capacity" in the Confederate Government.
2nd. "Jefferson Davis."—Early prognostications of the War.
3d. The Confederate Finances.
4th. The military situation in the Confederacy—Demagognism.
5th. Lincoln's peace proclamation.
6th. The slavery question in the War.
7th History of the retaliation policy.
8th. The last Hope.

The price of this pamphlet is $1.00, for which amount it will be sent prepaid to any part of the Confederacy by sending remittance to the "Examiner" Office, Richmond, Virginia.

The Richmond Whig says that we have a territorial area sufficient to furnish battle fields for all time. We have a greater population than that of the thirteen colonies during the revolution of 1776; greater than the population under Frederick the Great, when he sucessfully resisted a league of one hundred millions against him. We have armies many fold greater than the combined armies of England and Spain, when the latter was invaded by three hundred thousand Frenchmen under the ablest marshals of Napoleon. Why multiply instances? "No one can doubt the historical truth. The success of a gallant struggle on the side of right and justice, against wrong and oppression, is almost inevitable. A virtuous and a gallant people in a good cause never have failed. If we are right, and do not falter, we must succeed—weak as we may appear, and as strong as the Federal government may seem. Let us then be assured that the battle is not to the strong, but to the vigilant, the active and the brave who fight for right."

PORCELAIN AND EARTHENWARE.

The Legislature has passed an act incorporating the company for the manufacture of Porcelain and Earthenware in this County. We have now in our procession a specimen of the kaolin, the material from which this ware is to be manufactured. We understand that persons acquainted with the character of this material, and who have practical knowledge of the manufacture of it into fine ware, say that the kaolin obtained in this County is of the very best quality. In a few months this Company expect to have everything in readiness to commence the manufacture of cups and saucers, bowls and pitchers, and all kinds of articles of ware used in housekeeping.

NORTHERN NEWS.

The National Democratic Convention to nominate a candidate for President meets at Chicago on the 4th of July.

A caucus of Democratic members of Congress was held at the Capitol on the 11th. Resolutions were unanimously adopted disappoving of the emancipation proclamation.

A Democratic organ is to be started in Washington to be called the Constitutional Union.

The following resolution was also adopted by the caucus of Democratic members of Congress:

"Resolved, That we are for the restoration of all the States to the Union. Patriotism and true statesmanship demand that such a policy should be pursued towards the people of the States where the insurrection exists, as shall be best calculated to bring this expensive and exhausting war in which we are now engaged to a close, and to restore said States to the Union, under the Constitution, with all their constitutional rights unimpaired."

The utmost harmony prevailed between Democrats and Conservatives.

General McClellan's nomination by the Conservatives at Philadelphia and Cincinnati was simply a suggestion of his name. His friends promised in this caucus to suport cordially any man who might be nominated at Chicago.

A bill will shortly be introduced in Congress, and will probably pass putting all male free negroes in the Yankee States, between the ages of 16 and 60, in the military srvice.

The New York Herald says Fremont is determined to run as an Independent candidate for President, and fears the canvass will be carried on to scenes of violence.

Lincoln has been mentioned for re-lection by the Republicans in the Legislature of Indiana, Illinois, New Hampshire and Pennsylvania.

A telegram from the headquarters of the Army of the Potomac says that John Minor Botts has been urged to accept the place of Senator from Virginia in Washington in place of Bowden, and that he has written a letter in response, stating that he is unwilling to accept the honor intended to be conferred upon him, hoping that the time is not far distant when he can stand as a connecting link between the North and South. The letter is said to be brief, but eloquent.

IN FOR THE WAR.—The term of service of the "three years volunteers, will expire in the Spring. Many of these gallant men—the true nobility of the country—have already resolved to remain in service until the end of the war, preferring to encounter the hardships and perils of a soldier's life for a few months longer rather than seek inglorious ease far away from the tented fields. The following telegram received Wednesday last, by Senator Haynes, of Tenn., furnishes the first instance, we believe, of the re-enlistment of a brigade. The date of this event should be inscribed upon the brigade banner:

DALTON. Jan. 19th.—My brigade has unanimously passed the following resolution:

Resolved, That we, the officers and soldiers of Bate's brigade to-day, agree to enlist for the war, determined never to lay down our arms until our homes are rescued from the enemy, and the Confederacy permanently established among the nations of the earth.

WM. B. BATE.

FROM EAST TENNESSEE.—The news from East Tennessee latterly, is altogether of an encouraging character. A very handsome affair is announced in the following official despatch, received at the War Department on Wednesday last, from Gen. Longstreet:

RUSSELLVILLE, Jan. 19, 1864.

To Gen S. Cooper:

Major G. W. Day reports a handsome affair at Big Spring, near Tazewell, this morning. With a hundred men he attacked one hundred and fifty Yankees, captured three Lieutenants, sixty-four privates, sixty or seventy horses, fifty stand of arms, six Wagons and one ambulance.

(Signed) J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant General Commanding.

GENERAL LEE'S PARDON.—The Richmond correspondent of the Columbus SUN says that Gen. Lee pardoned, the other day, just as the sentence was about to be executed, a deserter condemned to be shot. His reason for so doing was to encourage the wives of all soldiers to act as the wife of this man had done. When the officers came in search of him she promptly delivered him up, saying it was her duty, in spite of her love for him and the suffering and hardships she endured in consequence of his absence, to send him back to the army that so much needed him in this hour of its tribulation. For her sake, Gen. Lee spared him. Let other wives take note.

THE CRISIS.

"Be strong and of a good courage; fear not, nor be afraid of them; for the Lord thy God, he it is that doth go with thee, he will not fail thee nor forsake thee."

These words, says the Petersburg Express, which Moses spoke to the Israelites on the banks of the Jordan, may well be commended to the consideration of the people of the Confederacy on the eve of a trial which will be a severer one to them than any they have yet been called to withstand. The enemy are making the most strenuous exertions and preparations to hurl upon them in the spring an army surpassing in magnitude the largest he has yet been able to bring into the field. He is about to concentrate all his strength and malignity in one grand, final blow, which, if it is frustrated, will paralyze and prostate him. We should rather be encouraged than alarmed by this demonstration, indicating as it unmistakably does, his weariness of the strife and his anxiety to hasten it to an end. We should be pleased to see such a manifestation on his side, for it points to peace.

LONGSTREET ADVANCING.—The Bristol "Gazette" of the 21st, states that on Friday last the enemy designed an attack on Gen. Longstreet in his quarters near Morristown, but he ever having a watchful eye discovered their design and marched out to meet them. He skirmished with them several hours Friday and then fell back several miles. On Saturday he again skirmished with them and drove them back a short distance. It was thought by all that a general engagement would take place on Sunday—Gen Ransom's forces having been ordered up from Rogersville on Saturday—but the enemy "smelt a rat" and commenced retreating. Longstreet pursued and skirmished with them until they retreated to Strawberry Plains, where they are now in their fortifications.

It is said that our loss during the three days skirmishing was very small, but that the enemy suffered considerably.

The small pox is raging terribly at Knoxville among the Yankees and negroes—there being 600 cases in the city. The main body of the enemy are now at the Plains and the prolific country on the French Broad. There are said to be now only about 900 of the enemy garrisoning Knoxville. A negro barber from Cincinatti is recruiting negro regiments there.

FOR THE SPECTATOR.

CAMP JOHNSON, Early's Division. Jan. 15th, 1863.

MR. EDITOR:—On the evening of the 8th instant, an event transpired in our midst, of the decpest interest to every member of the 52d Va. Regiment; and because of its rare occurrence, and the many touching associations of the past which it called up, we feel that it will interest you and the readers of your widely circulated paper. I refer to the presentation to the regiment of a handsome Virginia flag at the hands of our gallant Colonel, James H. Skinner.

About sunset, the roll of the drum summoned the regiment to the parade ground, and in a few moments it was formed in "line of battle" by the brave and efficient adjutant, William Galt, who so announced it to the Colonel.

At the command of the colonel, the regiment formed into a hollow square, the faces of the men looking inward. He then took his stand in the centre, and producing the correspondence between himself and Col. Mumford, Secretary of the Commonwealth, our esteemed and well tried color-sergeant, Harvey Lackey, advanced bearing the flag. After reading the correspondence, the Colonel addressed his men in the subjoined eloquent and patriotic appeal. After which there was the ceremony of "Dress Parade," the admirable drum-corps of the 13th Va. enlivening the occasion with its "soul-stirring" music. CHAPLAIN.

PRESENTATION OF A NEW FLAG TO THE 52d VA. REGIMENT.

HEAD Q'RS 52d VA. INFANTRY, Dec. 31, 1863.

Col. GEO. W. MUNFORD,
Secretary of the Commonwealth of Va:

Colonel:—By the hands of Adjutant William Galt, I return to the custody of the Commonwealth, to be laid up among her treasures, the tattered remnant of a flag, which was, during last year, presented to the 52d Virginia Infantry, by his Excellency, the Governor. It has floated over the Regiment on the fields of Cedar Run, 2d Manassas, Sharpsburg, 1st Fredericksburg, 2nd Fredericksburg, and Gettysburg. Under its folds many a brave son of Virginia has fallen in maintenance of the Confederate cause, and, on the bloody field of Sharpsburg "the last enemy, Death," arrested it from the hands of a gallant bearer,* who, while living, was ever prompt to carry it defiantly in the face of his country's foes.

Let it then be cherished as a memorial of the honorable services of the men, who, amid fiery trials, have never faltered beneath it; and be pleased, sir, to send in its stead, as you have kindly promised to do, another, upon whose folds, yet unbaptised in blood, and untarnished by the smoke of battle, may be read, with fresh inspiration, the just doom of tyrants, and Virginia's everlasting resolve of resistance to oppression.

I am sure I but utter the heartfelt wishes of my countrymen, when I pray that, in the coming year, and ere the new flag can have lost its freshness, it may please God to vouchsafe to our bleeding country the balm of peace, and the blessings of independence.

Very Respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
JAMES H. SKINNER,
Col. Comd'g 52d Va. Infantry.

*The color-sergeant, Charles Bush, a native of Henrico county, fell mortally wounded, and in his last moments bequeathed the undrawn balance of his pay to purchase a flag for his regiment.

STATE OF VIRGINIA, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, Richmond, January 4, 1864.

COL. JAS. H. SKINNER,
52d Regiment of Virginia Infantry:

SIR.—The Governor has received the tattered remnant of a flag, which has been borne by your regiment in so many battles, honorably to themselves and gloriously for the Commonwealth, and has directed that it be preserved in the public library as a precious relic.

He has sent by the hands of Adjutan Galt a new flag, under the full conviction that it will be preserved by your regiment as an emblem of the Sovereignty of Virginia and a stimulus to excite the patriotic ardor of your men upon other fields of glory.

Very Respectfully,
GEORGE W. MUNFORD,
Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Address of Colonel James H. Skinner to the Soldiers of the 52d Va. Regiment.

It is my proud privilege, under the Providence of God, to present to you, for the second time, as your standard, the flag of our mother State. Under it you were born, and under it, I pray God, you may live to enjoy many days of happy, prosperous independence.

The flag of our Confederacy may, and does claim, and is entitled to, your cordial attachment, but your heart's best devotion is due to this, the symbol of your State's sovereignty.—Under the folds of this flag your father's lived, and you lived, while yet in cherished Union with those who have become our cruel and vindictive enemies; under the same flag, as citizens of Virginia, you have sought protection from the hostile designs of those foes, and, confederated with your brethren of the South, are battling for that inestimable right of self-government, which, as true born Virginians, you can never relinquish but with your lives.

Your OLD flag, or so much of it as has escaped the battle and the breeze, is now treasured, in the capital of our State, in memorial of your patriotic services. How many tales, were it vocal, and eloquent, could it tell of your heroic conduct on the battle-fields of Liberty? How many stories of your hardships, and your sufferings, and your noble endurance in behalf of your country's independence? Believe me, that that tattered banner, though tongueless, will speak in after days with touching pathos of all these things; and a glorious heritage will it be for your children, and your children's children, to remotest generations, to be able to go up, on pious pilgrimage, to the capital of their State, and say, when that war-worn flag is unrolled, "under that flag our father, or grandsire, fought, and suffered, and, may be, bled, following EVER where it led, through heat, and through cold, in sunshine and in storm, and amid the carnage of battle, at times ahungered and athirst, and well nigh naked, and yet, never once deserted his post beneath it, until his country's independence was achieved."

I pray you, whatever may have been your individual history under the old flag, let that be the heroic conduct of each one of you under this, which, in Virginia's hallowed name, I now present to you!

Be not discouraged whatever may betide!—Your enemies vaunted themselves that in three short months they would effect your subjugation, but twelve times three are about expiring, and yet, under the favor of heaven, your cause is still erect, and needs but stout hearts on your part to be brought to a successful and glorious issue.

Be not despondent! Yon evening star is sinking to his rest in the West, and you know that a chilling night of darkness will follow, but you look confidently for a coming day, when the darkness will be swallowed up in the effulgence of his returning beams; and so, though darkness may rest awhile on us, and our star appear at times to be setting in night, the earnest, determined efforts of freemen battling for their inalienable rights must be successful, and terminate in a day of independence, all the brighter in its seeming from the shadows and darkness through which it struggles into existence.

Never give up! The blighted face of your once beautiful country, torn and furrowed by the ravages of a cruel foe, its desolated fields and desecrated hearth-stones, admonish you to "never give up."

Never give up! The blood of your slaughtered brethen crieth unto you from the ground to "never give up!"

Never give up! Your wives, and your little ones, your country bleeding at every pore, all that you yourselves have done, and all that you yourselves have suffered, your own birthright as freemen, your very manhood, all, ALL, call out to you to "never give up!

"I am confident that you will heed these voices, and, with cheering assurance, I commit to you, as a sacred trust, this honored flag. It is the representative of all which you, as freemen, cherish upon earth. Invoke for it, as I do now the blessing of God; and be sure, be SURE, to never give it up!

Gen Rosecrans has been appointed to the command of the Military Department of Missouri, in the place of Gen. Schofield.

FOR THE SPECTATOR.

CAMP JOHNSON, Jan. 15th, 1863.

I have been requested by the men from N. Western Virginia, of the 25th Va. Regt., to tender their grateful thanks to Mrs. Robt. Cowan, Mrs. Wayt, and Mrs. Alex. Taylor of Staunton, for the lot of excellent yarn socks which those ladies recently so kindly donated to the men of this Regt., whose homes are within the enemy's lines They were large, thick, warm socks, and were appreciated by many of the men as only those can appreciate them who are destitute of this article of clothing, and who have not seen their homes since the war commenced, and do not expect to see them until it is ended. Such a present to men whose patriotism has been more severely tested than most others, has an effect beyond the mere addition to their comfort—it cheers and strengthens their hearts in the cause to which they are devoted.

R. D. LILLEY,
Lieut. Col. 25th, Va. Regt.

For the Spectator.

HEAD QUARTERS 25th, Va. Infantry, January 18th, 1864.

LADIES:

The articles of clothing and provisions, so generously contributed by your Association to the soldiers of the 25th, Va. Inft. were received yesterday evening, and in their name I have the honor to return their most grateful acknowledgements of your kindness.

Although exiled from their homes, and cut off from those to whom they would have looked for solace and comfort, the brave men of my Regiment have not met with neglect, or indifference. They have frequently been the recipients of favor, but there are none who have been more liberal towards them, or whom they will more gratefully remember than the ladies of the soldiers aid society of Zion's Church.

We are now enjoying a respite from the privations of the march and the perils of battle, but it is evident to all that before many days the campaign will be re-opened, and the conflict revived.

When that hour of trial comes my men will move to the field with hearts refreshed and encouraged by your noble efforts in their behalf: and when they mingle in the shock of arms they will strike with renewed determination to drive back our enemies, and achieve our independence.

Adding my own very sincere thanks, and the assurance of my high regard, also gratefully acknowledging the kindness of Robert Coyner, Esq., the bearer of the articles.

I have the honor to subscibe myself,
Your Ob't. servant,
JNO. C. HIGGINBOTHAM,
Col. Com'd'g. 25th Va. Infty.

To the Ladies of the "Soldiers Aid Society," Zion's Church, Augusta County, VA.

FOR THE SPECTATOR.

CAMP Near SOMERVILLE FORD VA. January 15th. 1864.

To the soldiers aid societies of Brownsburg and Newport:

Most gratefully we acknowledge the receipt of a box containing the following articles for companies "F" and "H" of the 31st Reg. Va. Infantry, from the counties of Randolph and Barbour, viz: eight pair of shoes, fifty pair of socks, four pairs of pants, one pair drawers, one pair gloves, fatigue linsey shirts, two fatigue cotton shirts, six white shirts, three cloth hats; also one pr. of socks for J. French Harding, one pr. for S. Newton Bosworth, by Miss. Annie Withrow, 1 blanket and six prs. socks, by Mrs. Wm. Withrow and Miss Jones for J. Woolbridge Bosworth, and for distribution to needy soldiers in Co "H" 31st Va. Reg:—private donations.

For so invaluable a donation to our needy and homeless soldiers, these societies will ever be remembered with the deepest gratitude, and we believe such kindness cannot but have the happy effect of stimulating the recipients to more daring deeds when they know and feel that there are yet those, though they be strangers, who are ever ready to care for them. The Ladies especially cannot go unhonored who, with their untiring and patriotic hands, were so zealous and prompt in assisting to relieve the wants of the destitute soldiery of these sister counties, battling for rights and principles common and sacred to all true Virginians, and whose homes are still in the ruthless hands of a degraded and detestable foe, while a tear is dropped to the memory of loved ones at home and to our gallant comrades and brothers, who have reddened with their blood more than twenty battle fields, yet ever in their hearts will be a place for those so kind, so thoughtful, so generous; and in after years when balmy peace shall have returned, may a whispering of the gentle monitor within console you with the soothing thought that "the naked have we clothed and to the hungry gave we meat." In behalf of the companies, we tender their grateful and sincere thanks, and our own personally.

J. WOODBRIDGE BOSWORTH, 1st Lieut. Comdg. Co. "H" 31st Va. Reg. Infantry.
J. FRENCH HARDING, Capt. Co "F" 31st, Reg. Va. Infantry.

It must by no means be supposed, says the "Sentinel," that the States now warring upon us, have not felt the weakening and wasting effect of war. The contrary is true; and with all their efforts they will never be able to gather such armies into the field as they have heretofore had, and found ineffectual.—They are buying in a large number of their present troops by extraordinary bounties, sugar-coated with furloughs to camp-weary men. But vast multitudes of these have enlisted to desert. The people generally are weary of the war; and their hopes, lately revived, are based far more on our supposed weakness and distraction than upon their own strength. We will take care to show them their mistake. We have only to do our part like men and brothers—we have only to win a succes or two, and repulse the Yankee onset with our accustomed vigor to nip all their budding calculations, to put the peace men on their legs, and to send gold still higher up the ladder. It is higher at this moment than it has been since April last. One month of prosperous fortune to us would change the blatant North so much that it could scarcely be known as the same. *Unity* among our people, reinforced by victory in the field, will draw almost to our feet in a moment, and in all its glory, the bow of peace which now seem faintly pencilled on the distant cloud.—Then let us go to our work with a will!

CAPTURED AT A PARTY.—Some thirty-four of our cavalry, including a Major and several Lieutenants, arrived in Vicksburg a short time since, having been captured near Rodney by the Yankees. It was rumored in Vicksburg that they were surprised by the Yankees while enjoying themselves at a party in the neighborhood of Rodney.

The New York *News* says, that in public and private, upon thoroughfares and in social circles, at all times and in all places, where citizens are accustomed to speak their minds freely, any man, who is not wilfully or actually deaf, may hear Abraham Lincoln denounced as a low, cunning fanatic, an unscrupulous partizan, and a prejudiced magistrate.

ANOTHER CAPTURE IN LEE.—The Abingdon Virginian of last week learns that General Jones' and Giltner's command captured a foraging party of Yankees, in Lee county, a few days ago, comprising about 100 prisoners, with their arms and equipments, horses, mules, wagons and all.

For the Spectator.

Mr. Editor:—I see in your last issue a call made upon me by "Many voters" to announce myself as candidate for the Sheriffalty of this county. Whilst I feel obliged to "Many voters" for the complimentary terms in which their call is made, yet I feel constrained to decline becoming a candidate, as my duties at home, in attending to my farm, makes it necessary for me to give the farming operations my personal attention.

Wm. H. GAMBLE.

The total number of alien emigrants which arrived in New York to December 30th is 155,223; while in 1862 the number was but 76,306.

MARRIED.

On Thursday, the 14th inst., by Rev. J. C. Hensell, CHARLES R. BUSH, Esq., and Miss PHŒBA C. SCOTT, daughter of David Scott—all of Rockingham county.

On the 14th inst., by Rev. Henry St. John Rinker, Mr. REUBEN E. HAMMON, of Co. K, 12th Virginia Cavalry, and Miss VIRGINIA ELLEN, daughter of the late Capt. Israel P. Rinker, all of Shenandoah county, Va.

At New Market, Shenandoah county, Va., on the 13th of January, 1864, by Rev. S. Henkel, Lieut. ELIJAH COINER, Co. E, 1st Va. Cavalry, of Augusta county, Va., and Miss ANNA E. REID, youngest daughter, of Thomas Reid, Esq., of New Market.

On Thursday evening, 7th inst., at the residence of the bride's father near Cedar Grove Mills, by the Rev. W. W. Trimble, Mr. JOHN N. REID, to Miss ELIZABETH A. AGNER, all of Rockbridge county.

On the 14th inst., at 12 o'clock, M., by Rev. Horatio Thompson, D. D., Col. JOHN H. GIBSON, of the 14th Va. Cavalry, to Miss GEORGIA A. LACKY, all of Timber Ridge, Rockbridge county.

On the same evening, by the same, at the house of the bride's father, at 8 o'clock, Mr. JAMES J. McBRIDE, of Rockbridge county, to Miss MAGGIE H. GIBSON, of Timber Ridge.

On the 7th instant, by the Rev. C. Beard, Mr. GEO. K. KILLIAN, son of Rev. J. Killian, and Miss SARAH M. ANDERSON, all of this county.

DIED.

On Sunday, the 3d of January, 1864, Mrs. HANNAH BRENNEMAN, wife of Mr. Abraham Brenneman, of Brock's Gap, Rockingham county, in the 61st year of her age.

She had been for many years a consistent member of the Menonite Church, and had borne her protracted illness of 7 or 8 months with the fortitude and resignation of a true Christian.

In camp, near Bridgewater, at 4 o'clock, A. M., on the 18th of January, 1864, from the effects of laudanum, taken in profuse quantities during temporary derangement of mind, Private CHARLES A. WILSON, Co. G, 18th Va. Cavalry, son of John and Barbara A. Wilson, of Highland county, Va., in the 19th year of his age.

OBITUARY.

Died, on the 6th instant, Mrs. MARTHA HANGER, consort of Peter Hanger, Sr., aged 66 years, 9 months and 8 days. For her we can say what can be said for few of our race, those who knew her best esteemed her most. Well did she fill the important position she occupied in life. As a neighbor, she was kind, liberal and obliging not only to the rich but also to the poor. As a mistress, she was indulgent and faithful to the interests of her servants. As a mother affectionate and deeply solicitous of the welfare of her children. And as a wife a helpmate indeed, whose death is deeply mourned not only by a bereaved husband and family but by all who intimately knew her. When addressed in reference to her preparation for the future she remarked, I have attended to that. May God in his mercy give us all grace to prepare for that solemn hour.

C. B.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

A GOOD CHANCE TO INVEST CONFEDERATE MONEY---VIRGINIA HOTEL FURNITURE FOR SALE AT AUCTION.

In consequence of the present high prices and scarcity of provision the subscriber will close his hotel, on Monday, the 1st day of February next, and commence to sell at public auction, the Furniture of said Hotel, *on Tuesday, February the 9th*, and continue from day to day until sold out. The articles to be sold will embrace over one hundred Bedsteads, Bedding, Hair and shuck Mattrasses, Blankets, Comforts, Coverlets, Counterpanes, Sheets, Pillow and Pillow cases, Washbowls and Pitchers, Carpets, Looking glasses, Oil Paintings, Sofas, Lounges, Rocking-chairs, Parlor, Cane-bottom, and common Chairs, Wardrobes, Bureaus, Parlor Stoves, Table ware, 2 mahogany Dining Tables, 2 large Hotel Cooking Stoves, 2 Refrigerators, one new pair Fairbank's Platform Scales, 8 good young Horses, 2 milk Cows, and many articles too numerous to mention.

F. SCHEFFER.

P. S. The subscriber will rent upon favorable terms the entire Hotel or single rooms. F. S.

Jan 25—2ts

TAX IN KIND.—Farmers who have delivered their tithes of wheat or buckwheat, in the mills of Augusta county, named in advertisement of 22d of September, 1863, will immediately send or bring in the millers' receipts to the Commissary's office, Staunton. These receipts will be held by the Commissary who will give his official receipts to the farmers in exchange.

It is important that these receipts be brought in promptly in order to enable me to make proper credits its before placing estimates in the hands of agents for collection.

O. SMITH,
Jan. 25— Capt. & Post Quarter Master,
Vin copy 2t 11th Congressional Dist. of Va.

GOOD MATCHES.—I have removed my *Friction Match Manufactory*, to the corner known as "Bickle's Corner," on Augusta street, opposite the dry good's store of Mr. Owen C. Morris, where I shall be prepared to furnish Matches by the Gross or Box. These Matches are extensively used in Staunton and Richmond and thought to be fully equal to any ever sold in this market. I shall always have a supply on hand, as the manufactory is kept constantly in operation.

Jan 25—1yr D. R. BLACKBURN.

PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY.—I shall proceed to sell at public auction, at the residence of Wm. Crawford [Link's store,) on Wednesday, the 17th day of February, 1864, all my Personal Property, consisting of 5 Beds and bedding, 1 8 day brass clock, chairs, tables, 1 secretary, large iron kettle, plates, dishes, &c., &c., and a great many other articles too numerous to mention.

Terms Cash or six months credit with bond and approved security. JOHN BOURLAND.

Jan 26—tds*

ADMINISTRATOR'S SALE.—The sale of the personal estate of Samuel Lucas, decd., will take place at the residence of Wm. Lucas, near Newport, on Saturday, the 5th day of February next, at 11 o'clock, A. M. Among the property is a good horse and saddle, a watch, &c. Terms Cash.

Jan 26—2ts* J. H. CALLISON, Admr.

$100 REWARD.—Runaway from the subscriber, on Saturday night, the 30th instant, two negro boys, named Isaac and Oliver.—The first is about seventeen years old, 5 feet 7 inches high, of mulatto color, had on a brown jeans suit and a straw hat. Oliver is about the same age and height but darker color, and had on a Yankee overcoat and jacket. A reward of $50 will be given for