

ABINGDON VIRGINIAN.

VOLUME 24.

ABINGDON, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1863.

No. 25.

Terms.

The VIRGINIAN is published every Friday morning, at \$5.00 per annum, if paid in advance, or within three months after subscribing, otherwise \$5.50 will be charged.

No subscription will be received for a less period than six months, for which \$5.00 will be charged.

No subscription will be discontinued except at the discretion of the proprietors, until all arrearages shall have been paid up.

Terms of Advertising.

One square of 10 lines or less, \$1.50 for the first insertion, and \$1 for each continuance. The number of insertions must be marked upon the margin, or the advertisement will be continued till forbidden, and charged accordingly.

To those who advertise by the year, a liberal discount from the regular rates will be made.

All dues to the office may be remitted by mail, in good and available Bank notes, at the risk of the Editors, the person remitting taking the Postmaster's receipt that the money was deposited in the mail.

Obituaries of more than 10 lines will be charged at advertising rates, also tributes of respect, and \$5.00 for announcing candidates.

"The Weekly Harbinger."

PROSPECTUS.

THE undersigned proposes to publish in Greensborough, N. C., beginning about the first of September next, a weekly newspaper, under the title of THE WEEKLY HARBINGER, devoted to the interest of the Methodist Protestant Church. In addition to its religious character, it will contain contributions on such other subjects as will be calculated to interest and improve—making it in the highest sense a FAMILY PAPER. The services of talented and graceful writers will be secured. Especial pains will be taken, also, to render it a wholesome and welcome visitor in the camps of the army. Subscription price FOUR DOLLARS per annum, in advance.

The Methodist Protestant, published at Baltimore, which, for a number of years previous to the war, was the sole Organ of our Denomination in the South, being now cut off from us, we are driven to the necessity of establishing a paper of our own, in which enterprise we solicit the aid of all who know how to sympathize with such an effort. We earnestly hope, therefore, that the literary, religious and political papers of the Confederate States will do us the kindness to give this Prospectus as many insertions as their liberality may prompt them to afford, together with such special notices as they may deem appropriate. Select advertisements solicited.

All communications should be addressed to J. L. MICHAMX, Greensborough, N. C.
C. F. HARRIS,
J. L. MICHAMX, Com.
L. W. BACHELOR.

Sept. 11th, 1863.

Hd. Qrs. Department Western Va.

OFFICE CHIEF COMMISSARY SUBSISTENCE,
DUBLIN, Aug. 31st, 1863.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 47.

Having been brought to the notice of the General Commanding, that a number of persons are purchasing supplies in this Department who are not the authorized agents of the Government, for the benefit of all concerned, the following list of Agents is published, they having been appointed by Wm. Eggleston, Chief Purchasing Commissary, for the 4th District, and are alone authorized to purchase subsistence in this Department, and until further orders, none others will be recognized, viz:

NAMES OF AGENTS.	COUNTIES.
A. H. Burrass.	Botetourt.
John R. Douthall.	Monroe.
E. S. Fulton.	Carroll.
Addison Davis.	Smith & Tazewell.
B. Williams, Bristol.	Washington, Russell, Buchanan, Lee, Scott and Wise.
Capt. H. A. Williams, Abingdon.	
John W. Vawter.	Grayson.
Capt. John Emerson.	
(Buchanan).	
James W. Shields.	Botetourt.
M. K. Lucas.	Roanoke.
F. M. Frazier.	Craig and Giles.
J. J. Mustard.	Greenbrier.
John K. Cooke.	Bland.
C. W. Venable.	Pulaski.
Thomas Wilson.	Wythe.
Capt. James Wade.	Montgomery.
	Salem.
By command Maj. Gen. Sam Jones.	
H. W. KING, Maj. and Chief Com. Sub.	

Sept. 11, 1863—4w

ARMY SUBSISTENCE STORES.

UNDER instruction from the Commissary General, we will purchase Subsistence in the following counties of Virginia, viz:

Washington, Russell,
Scott, Lee, Wise,
and Buchanan.

and notice is hereby given that no purchases of Commissary Stores will be made in these counties, except by written authority from one of the undersigned, or by Commissaries of Regiments or Brigades that may be stationed in our district.

We respectfully suggest to Farmers and others that it will greatly facilitate our operations, if they will come forward cheerfully and promptly and let us have their supplies, for which we will pay full prices and in cash.

In addition to more substantial articles, our army is greatly in need of such things as Vinegar, Dried Fruit, Molasses, Potatoes, Onions, Beans, Cabbage, Sour Kroust, &c.

A list of authorized agents will be published as soon as completed.
R. A. WILLIAMS,
Capt. and Asst. Comm., Abingdon, Va.
W. B. WILLIAMS,
Commissary Agent, Goodson, Va.

Sept. 11th, 1863—2m

COTTON! COTTON!

JUST received, Bale Cotton, Domestic, Checkered Cotton, Merino Satinet, Pant Buttons, Stockings, Socks, Boots, Blank Books, Envelopes, Powder, &c.
L. BAUGH,
July 31, 1863.—1f

From the Richmond Enquirer. A Fight in Culpeper.

ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
Sept. 14, 1863.

As I predicted some ten days ago, the long quiet has been broken and the clash of arms again resound along the banks of the Rappahannock. The enemy hold Culpeper in force, and our forces are making ready to meet them. The following is as nearly an accurate statement of what transpired in Culpeper as can be furnished just now: About three o'clock on Sunday morning information was conveyed to the cavalry that the enemy were preparing to cross at Stark's Ford, some eight miles above our forces, and at Kelly's, some five miles below them; and that they would no doubt be co-operated with by the corps of the enemy, which for some time past has been encamped on this side of the Rappahannock river, at the railroad bridge. The wagons were at once packed and sent to the rear, and the horses were ordered to be saddled, and the men were bidden to prepare for any emergency.

At daybreak, Brigadier General Lomax, in command of Jones' old brigade, now his own, and W. H. F. Lee's, under Col. Beale, of the 9th Virginia Cavalry, moved at once to the front and found all quiet. Some hours later, couriers brought information that the enemy were crossing at Stark's Ford, with 600 cavalry and artillery, and were advancing on Culpeper C. H., by the Ridgeville road, and were driving in the pickets there stationed. The 7th and 12th regiments Virginia cavalry were immediately sent forward to strengthen the picket on this road. Major Flournoy at this time held the front with the 6th regiment and a squadron of sharpshooters from the 9th Virginia cavalry. About 11 o'clock, Major Flournoy fell back to Brandy Station, and shortly thereafter Capt. Moorman's artillery opened fire on the enemy from this point. Just then, Gen. Lomax received information that the enemy had crossed at Kelly's a large force of cavalry, artillery and infantry, and were advancing on the Stevensburg and Brandy roads. A very short time after this, a sharp carbine fire announced their arrival at Brandy. Maj. F. fell back rapidly, contesting every hill, and only giving way when in danger of being outflanked.

The 13th Virginia cavalry, supported by squadrons of the 9th, was now thrown forward to the left of the railroad in Botta's (formerly J. A. Beckham's) woods. The 15th Virginia cavalry was thrown forward to the right of the railroad in the same woods. Six regiments of the enemy were now deployed in a field near Brandy, with two batteries of artillery. The infantry of the enemy were massed behind the cavalry and the timber. Of course our men were compelled again to give back.

Another stand was made by our forces on the ground where the infantry first became engaged during Hampton's fight on the 1st of August, and here a severe fight took place, in which artillery, musketry and carbines were freely used. At this time it was discovered that a column of at least two brigades of cavalry were moving on our right flank by way of Stevensburg towards Culpeper Court House. Whilst the artillery on the left showed that the enemy, who were moving on the Rixeyville road, were nearly at the Court House, our forces, of course, were compelled again to give back, and this time the Court House fell into the hands of the enemy. In the fight made at this point Col. Beale, 9th Virginia, was wounded slightly in the leg.

At this time a train of cars was at the Court House bringing off the plunder of our people. This was fired upon some three or four times, and though the shells exploded just above the cars, scattering the fragments over them, yet no damage was done. Our shells passed into the house of Mr. Thomas Hill and exploded, but did no damage.

I am told that nearly everything was removed from the depot at Culpeper Court House, though I hear that we lost some four or five boxes of saddles, eight boxes of ammunition, and forty sacks of corn.

The excitement and confusion at Culpeper Court House is said to have been very great and very striking. Women were shrieking, soldiers were groaning with their wounds, and children were crying from fright, and the death shots hissing from afar were howling and screeching over the town. At last accounts the enemy had not advanced more than two miles out from Culpeper Court House. The roar of artillery continued, however, until four o'clock, when it ceased.

Our loss is not known. I have seen some six or seven wounded. The 15th Virginia is believed to have suffered considerably, and I am told fought well. Our sharpshooters did the enemy considerable damage during one of the charges which they (the enemy) attempted to make. The fighting was kept up until nightfall, and picket firing has been resumed again this morning.

I can get nothing definite as to our losses, save that we lost three pieces of Stuart's Horse Artillery yesterday evening.

Two corps of the enemy are at Culpeper Court House, and a heavy force of the infantry is this side. The Yankee cavalry is this side of Mitchell's Station.

This movement is believed to be a general advance of the enemy, and our men are in position to meet them.

We have lost some seventy-five or a hundred prisoners, it is said.

Our men are in the very best of spirits. We have captured 25 prisoners, now on their way to Richmond.

The Yankee prisoners say that this is a mere reconnaissance in force to ascertain if the rumors which they have heard that a large force of Lee's had gone South.

The officer captured with the prisoners represents himself to be a lieutenant, though our men say he pulled off a major's stripes when arrested.

The officer in command of this reconnaissance is Gen. Buford.

Capt. Pratt, of company K, 9th Virginia, was wounded in the hand; Lieut. Love, of

company G, 9th Virginia, was wounded in shoulder; Richard Corbus, of company B, 9th Va., was killed; H. R. Davis, company K, killed; and L. Barker, same company, wounded; P. Pillow, company G, killed; and David Conce, same company, wounded;—mortality.

LATER.

From the Richmond Enquirer.

ARMY NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
Sept. 15, 1863.

After the enemy obtained possession of Culpeper Court House, on Sunday, our forces made a stand about one and a half miles this side. Whilst engaged at this point the 9th Virginia Cavalry made a bold and dashing charge, going right up to the Court House. In this charge they captured some 21 prisoners.

The aim of the enemy was a surprise, and, by enclosing us, to capture our forces. In this they were most signally disappointed.

The artillery (three pieces) which we lost was captured as we were retiring through the Court House.

The 15th Virginia made three gallant charges in the fight which occurred after leaving the Court House, and which was decidedly the hottest of the day. In this fight, Colonel Beale having been wounded, Maj. Miller, of the 9th, commanded W. H. F. Lee's brigade, and handled it with great ability. Our men were finally compelled to give back before superior numbers, and retired upon Cedar Run fighting as they receded.

The enemy advanced during the night as far as Rapidan Bridge, on the railroad, and threw a column down as low as Raccoon Ford. Yesterday morning picket fighting began early, and was continued by the dismounted cavalry acting as sharpshooters.

In the evening there was a sharp artillery duel at Somerville Ford, between a battery of the enemy and one of Col. Carter's battalion of artillery, in which our loss was three killed and ten or fifteen wounded. Our fire is believed to have been very destructive to the enemy.

At Rapidan bridge, about four o'clock, Beckham's horse artillery opened upon the enemy, doing good execution on their squadrons, which were carefully massed behind the delivery of a hill.

Towards night Maj. Flournoy with the 6th Virginia cavalry, was ordered to make a demonstration on the enemy, but no orders were given him to fight them. Maj. F. formed his regiment and started off. In a short time he had charged them three times most gallantly, driving before him a whole brigade of the enemy and capturing five prisoners, and but the hour being late and near dark, and our own artillery playing upon our men by mistake as they advanced, a large number of prisoners would have been secured.

I am satisfied that our cavalry fought well in this last fight, but that they could do nothing because of the vastly superior force which they had to confront. We must have lost at least seventy-five prisoners, from all accounts, and not over fifty in killed and wounded.

I have nothing from the front this morning, save that the enemy's cavalry are still at the river.

From the Rebel.

To the Farmers of the Confederacy we have now a word or two to offer. Upon them will mainly depend our success in the succeeding campaigns of the revolution. They are the reserve corps of the South, to whom, in the last hours of this southern struggle for independence, we shall have to look for sustenance and support.

Bacon and Beef!

Without one, or either, or both, our armies cannot be kept in the field, and unless the farmers of the country redouble their exertions, we shall not only be confronted by a savage, rapacious and plundering foe, upon our borders, but we shall be threatened by as fell a destroyer—Starvation—in our rear.

Men cannot live without meat and bread. Grain we have in abundance, but we will require meat—meat to sustain the strength of the gallant soldiers who are daily offering up their lives upon the altar of their country's cause. How shall we obtain it but through the timely assistance of the husbandmen of the South? The great number of producers now in the army are withdrawn from the stock and grain-raising sections of the Confederacy. The States of Missouri, Kentucky and Tennessee are temporarily beyond our reach, and the produce of their fertile soils, for the time being, are lost to us. Therefore does it behoove the farmers of Georgia, and of her sister Confederate States, to exert themselves in the good work of providing for the army. One well-fed soldier is worth a dozen on half rations. Too little attention, we fear, has been given in the Commissariat Department of the army, at least here in the West. The troops have been but poorly fed, at best. We know this to be the fact. We know of more than one of our friends, of the rank and file, who have complained to us by letter, and in person, bitterly, that they were not properly supplied with wholesome food, and more than one instance has casually come to our notice, of soldiers who passed the day and night, from sun to sun, without a single meal in the twenty-four hours. Not because of neglect upon the part of the Commissary, but because the provisions were actually not to be procured. It is useless to deny these stubborn truths. It is folly to attempt to conceal from the enemy the condition of our Commissariat, by neglecting to arouse the people to a proper sense of our situation, by frequent and earnest appeals through the public prints.

We must have meat; the soldier must be fed; the armies must be supplied in the field, and the farmers must look to it that they are. These remarks have been suggested by a sensible and judicious article on this subject in the Augusta Constitutionalist.

"It matters not, however," says our con-

temporary, "how great may be the superabundance of corn, the meat supply will be scant for the simple reason of scarcity of animals to consume it. It will be a strange sight indeed to see a country producing more grain than the people and the animals within it can consume, and yet that spectacle will be presented in the Confederacy if the old system is pursued. And what is that system? It is a reliance almost entirely on the hog, the costliest animal we have, to furnish, fresh or dried, the year's supply of meat for the whole people. The flesh of swine dried—bacon—has become the staple meat diet of the people because it is more convenient to keep, and to vitiated tastes more acceptable, and to the mass of laborers, perhaps, better adapted than any other meat. We do not intend here to enter any objection to making swine's flesh the national diet, though it is certainly revolting that such an eminence, but simply suggest that bacon will not be available as the sole meat resource of the country, from the fact that there are not hogs enough in the country to furnish an adequate quantity.

We would counsel every one with earnestness to make the very last pound of hog meat possible with the animals at command this winter, and to save it in good order, well fattened and thoroughly salted, and to increase the stock as far as can be done safely, for every pound of bacon will be needed. But something more must be done. The people should abandon their old system of treatment of cattle, which never did and never could yield a dollar of profit, and prepare to make all the best possible, for that too will be in great demand—in such demand, that it cannot easily be met. Let farmers and planters treasure their cattle like gold, for if well attended they will prove immensely valuable, and their flesh and skins are highly essential to the success of our cause. Upon the carcass of every cow put on every pound of meat that you can, for you will be rewarded in money, and be likewise doing your country a service.

Latest from the North.

New York and Baltimore papers of the 7th inst., have been received. There is, however, but little news of importance from either of the great points of interest.

The latest news from Charleston is to the effect, contained in the following despatch from Fortress Monroe:

CAPTURE OF RIFLE PITS—EFFECTS OF THE BOMBARDMENT OF THE CITY.

Fortress Monroe, Sept. 4, 1863.—The United States despatch steamer Oleaner, just arrived, from off Charleston Sept. 4, reports "Sumter perfectly demolished," but the rebel flag still flying.

Gen. Gilmore dug out and captured seventy-five men from their rifle pits in front of Fort Wagner last Tuesday.

Everything is progressing favorably. A letter from Morris Island, dated August 30, states that deserters, several of whom reach our lines every day, represent that the people of Charleston are anxious to surrender the city, but Beauregard is determined to devote it to destruction.

The shelling process caused general surprise, Beauregard having pledged his reputation that it was an impossibility and mere Yankee bravado.

It has been ascertained that the first shell fired from the marsh battery entered a house occupied by a number of officers, killing several and destroying the house. Some of the shells went to the farthest extremity of the city and destroyed a large cotton warehouse and other buildings.

Deserters say that there are but twenty-five men in Sumter, and that it will be blown up as soon as an attempt is made to take possession.

SHARP BATTLE IN ARKANSAS—REBELS DEFEATED.

A special despatch from Memphis, says: The steamer Progress, from White river, brings the news that General Davidson, with cavalry and artillery, consulting the advance of Gen. Steele's army, on the 28th of August, drove the enemy, seven thousand strong, across Bayou Metairie bridge, killing and wounding about one hundred and capturing two hundred. Our loss was thirty. The rebels burned the bridge after crossing.

Gen. Steele was at Duval's Bluff on the 31st ult.

FROM GEN. MEADE'S ARMY.

Relative to movements in Gen. Meade's department, the Herald says:

The intelligence from the army of General Meade is not indicative of any immediate movement. Information comes from deserters that General Lee's army is scattered over a wide extent of country from the Blue Ridge to the Rappahannock. Between this and the Rapidan rivers only a few pickets are posted. It is pretty well ascertained that no important force of Lee's army has crossed the Rappahannock.

THE WAR IN TENNESSEE.

Special despatch to the Cincinnati Commercial.

Bridgeport, Ala., Sept. 3.—All quiet to-day in front.

Forty or fifty deserters and refugees come in daily since the army has crossed the river.

The divisions remaining on the north side of the river are contracting their lines, and can cross at short notice.

The bridge at Bridgeport was repaired by noon to-day, and trains have been crossing since.

The country south of the river is very rough and roads bad.

Reconnoissances are sent out daily to near Lookout Mountain.

The Rebel force still occupies a strong position.

The deserters still think that we shall have no fight at Chattanooga.

Important news from this army may be expected.

FROM TENNESSEE—OCCUPATION OF KNOXVILLE.
Cincinnati, Sept. 6.—A despatch has been received in this city to-day, announcing that

General Burnside entered Knoxville, East Tennessee, on the 4th inst. No particulars.

THE LAWRENCE TRAGEDY—BUT LITTLE OF THE STOLEN GOODS RECAPTURED.

St. Louis, Sept. 6, 1863.—Five gentlemen, composing the Relief Committee of Lawrence, make the statement that the despatch recently sent from Kansas City to the Associated Press, asserting that a large amount of goods and money and a number of horses taken by Quantrell had been recovered and returned, is unfounded. Of the horses stolen only three have been returned, and the value of the merchandise recovered will not exceed one hundred dollars.

TRIAL OF DR. WRIGHT, AT NORFOLK.

Fortress Monroe, Sept. 5.—Dr. Wright was recently tried before a military commission for shooting Lieut. Sanborn while the latter was drilling negro troops in Norfolk, and the result of the investigation was forwarded to the President for his decision. We learn to-day that President Lincoln has ordered a final trial, but whether it is before a military or civil tribunal has not been determined.

Absenteeism.

Desertions and improper absence from the army, are, next to speculation, the great hindrances of a succession of brilliant victories and a speedy peace. If all who wear the Confederate uniform were at the post of duty, we mean all that are able—we would this day have as large an army as Lincoln, and could carry our banners victoriously not only to any point in the Southern Confederacy, but to any point over which the flag of Lincoln waves. At least half, if not more, of our army is now absent from the post of duty and of honor, and as a consequence the enemy has become more insolent and encroaching. This, in the main, is the fault of the people at home, who, in disregard of right, reason, justice and humanity, are bent upon fortunes, without thinking of the hardships of the soldier in the field, or caring whether or not his wife and children are starving with hunger at home. The Richmond Whig, in an article upon this subject, closes as follows:

We need scarcely say what it is among the people that need to be reformed. When this war began, there was a glorious emulation as to who should give most. For once all calculation of interest and all consideration of self seemed to yield to a noble spirit of public zeal. The cause was everything. So it was in the Revolution, yet in the third year of that struggle, the great Washington was compelled, in bitterness of soul, to declare that speculation, population and the insatiable thirst for riches seems to have gone the better of every other consideration, and almost of every order of men. Has not this evil time come again? Are we not victims to, and witnesses of, the same ill-holding and disgusting vice, the prevalence of which, in his day, sickened the heart of the mighty Christian? Nor is this all; but in some quarters we are forced to recognize ugly indications of a waning faith, or cowardly proofs of a willingness to purchase peace and security by the barter of honor and independence. These ignoble, malign and fatal feelings must be rooted out from the bosoms of our people. They must return to the self-sacrificing and heroic spirit which in the beginning controlled and sustained every heart. They must feel that all that they have belongs to the country, and that it is better to submit to penury, suffering, torture, or even death, than to yield to the base and remorseless foe. Liberty and constancy on the part of the people are the fountain that gives life and the foundation that gives strength to the cause, and to all who in any capacity are engaged in maintaining it. They must never fail.

The Virginia and Tennessee Railroad.

The financial condition of the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad, under the able management of its administrative officers, is a matter for congratulation to the stockholders. The city has guaranteed a half million of its stock, and up to this year was annually obliged to raise by taxation thirty thousand dollars to meet the interest due on that sum, with a prospect of having to do the same for years ahead.

The road lately relieved the corporation of the onerous debt by declaring its first dividend of 6 per cent. per annum, and has now, with the consent of the Legislature, paid to the Commonwealth a debt of one million of dollars, which has been received by the Second Auditor, under a joint resolution passed by Assembly. This exhibits the financial management of the road in a bright aspect, and we note the fact that the stock has risen in the past eighteen months from fifteen dollars to one hundred and thirty five dollars per share.—Lynchburg Republican.

"A Dissolving View."

Under the caption of a "Dissolving View of the Rebellion," the N. Y. Herald has a long editorial, concluding as follows:

With the fall of Charleston, which we expect will be expedited by the expulsion of Bragg from Chattanooga, the question recurs, will not the time have come for a formal proclamation by President Lincoln to the people of the rebellious States, covering the amnesty indicated in his letter to Fernando Wood, and offering generous concessions and facilities for a speedy restoration of the Union? This is much to be desired, in order that while our armies are still in the field, and ready for action, we may proceed to the settlement of the Mexican question, and of our outstanding balances against the perfidious neutrality of England. We commend this view of the subject to the earnest attention of President Lincoln; for with the suppression of the rebellion, the army and the people of the U. S. will surely demand a settlement with England and France.