

# Abingdon Virginian.

BY COALE & BARR.  
Friday, Oct. 30, 1863.

## East Tennessee.

Notwithstanding the daily rumors of the advance of the Yankees from toward Zollicoffer and Blountville, there is not, as far as we can learn, a single blue-belly this side of either place. There are none, we believe, in the Holston Valley this side of Rogersville, and the nearest point at which they may be found on the railroad, is Carter Depot, some 20 miles below Bristol. Since their late raid to this vicinity and their return to the Watauga, they have occasionally sent out scouting parties as far up as Zollicoffer, but Col. Witcher handled them so roughly at the latter point last week, they have not advanced that far since. It may be said at present, that Burnside's forces, under himself, Shackelford and Hartsuff, occupy East Tennessee from the Watauga to Loudon, a distance of about 140 miles. East of the Watauga our forces hold them in check and will very soon hurry them toward Knoxville, and west of Loudon Morrison's Georgia cavalry occasionally stampede them into their fortifications on the bank of the Tennessee. Even this limited space will be too hot to hold them much longer, if we can draw proper conclusions from evident indications.

For some time, until within a week past, Burnside held East Tennessee from the Virginia line to the Hiwassee, a distance of about 200 miles, and some of his menials issued a few numbers of a newspaper at Athens, filled with strong appeals and false assumptions as to the present as well as ultimate designs of the invader. From the proceedings of a Union meeting at Athens, we were surprised to see that a number of persons were silly enough to be gulled by the blandishments and false promises of the tyrants among them, and if their pillows for all the future are not filled with thorns, it will not be because they do not deserve such a fate, nor for the want of a disposition on the part of their task-masters to afflict and degrade them. The first number of the paper they issued was filled with "raw-head-and-bloody-bone" stories of the cruelties of Confederate soldiers to the unprotected, but not a word of the barbarities of the Yankee brutes all over the land. But their paper was short-lived, for Forrest and his command rode in among them, and Yankee legs soon showed what Yankee legs were made for. That portion of the country, therefore, from the Tennessee to Hiwassee, is now in our possession. A great many of the citizens of Tennessee, it is said, took the oath of allegiance to the Lincoln Government. Many of these are Southern men, whose sympathies are all with the South, and their weakness was prompted by the fear of the loss of property and the hope of protection. This, however, is no excuse, and we are neither sorry nor disappointed to learn that every man of them, able to perform service, between the ages of 18 and 45, have been put into the Yankee ranks.

Our forces from this direction are now on the march westward, and we expect to know, by the time of our next issue, that we will have a cavalry force alone in Tennessee to clear it of the Yankee rabble that now infest it.

## From Knoxville.

The Knoxville Register, now published at Atlanta, has, from time to time, many interesting items from Knoxville. In its issue of the 23d, it says Brownlow and Maynard, with their families, were at Knoxville. Both had made speeches. It reports the former as having said that Lincoln hadn't gone far enough, and that he (Brownlow) was not only in favor of arming every negro in the South, but that he would turn loose wild beasts, rattlesnakes and all reptiles, upon the population of the country. Poor miserable madman, if nothing worse, he has virtually been doing that very thing for 30 years, and he himself is the only unfortunate devil whose blood has been poisoned by their fangs.

Maynard was equally as venomous and obscene, tho' perhaps a little more refined in the expression of his impotent rage.

The Register further states that the Yankees had given several Concerts in Knoxville, and that the front seats were assigned to the negro wenchers of the city, and who were escorted to church and places of amusement by Federal officers and soldiers. The Yankees were engaged in plundering the country everywhere, and great numbers of the country people were constantly thronging the city begging for bread. Great God what a humiliation, but how vastly more honorable and manly than to own allegiance to the heartless and degraded tyrant who has wrought all this desolation for the purpose of equalizing the races and erecting for himself a throne.

Burnside's conduct is unexceptionable, says the Register, but to Brownlow and Maynard are to be ascribed most of the crimes against civilization and humanity.

The revels of these bad men are but for a day, but they are too drunk with passion and poison to see the hand-writing on the wall. They seem to think they are to hold permanent possession of East Tennessee, but Gen. Bragg will teach them, before they are many days older, that "the way of the transgressor is hard" and they will be found scrambling through the gorges of the Cumberland with rather more haste than when they sneaked in behind an army.

The Yankees are again at Warrenton Junction, and Northern letter-writers say an important movement is on foot, but they deem it imprudent to divulge it. All right—"somebody might get hurt."

## The State of the Case.

Looking at the state of affairs as presented to our view, we cannot only see nothing discouraging, but, on the contrary, much that is absolutely encouraging. The enemy, we think, at all points, east, west and south, has advanced just as far as he can, and is now, at all points except Charleston, falling back. A few weeks ago Rosecrans was at Cleveland, Tenn., and very near to Dalton, Ga. To-day his forces are cooped up in Chattanooga, some 30 miles in the rear of their former positions. A month ago Meade was on the Rapidan, not far from Orange C. H., still preparing to advance. To-day his most advanced post is at Warrenton Junction, and his main forces at or near Centerville, not less than 50 miles, perhaps, nearer the Potomac. At Charleston, the status of affairs remains unchanged, except that the enemy are wearing themselves out at labor, and wasting a vast amount of powder and metal.

Our armies are all said to be larger and in better condition than at any antecedent period, and the prestige of late victories has rendered them almost invincible. Col. Dick Taylor walks through Louisiana at his pleasure, Gen. Wheeler rides round the Chattanooga army with impunity, and Mosby, with his handful of men, whenever it suits him, ascends the high grounds near the Potomac, and looks upon the spires of the Federal City.

Lincoln, altho' he has already called a million and a half of men to the field, "despairs of the Republic," and tells three hundred thousand more men they must shoulder their muskets and fight for the nigger, else the jig is up. All this is encouraging to us. We are hard up, it is true—nothing plenty and everything high—but our people have become used to it, and will fight on and fight ever on quarter rations, and whip the full-bellied Yankees two to one easily, and four to one with a little extra trouble.

The most trouble we at present have is in East Tennessee. Burnside succeeded in crawling in there while we were whipping his superiors at Chickamauga and the Rappahannock; but we now have the men to spare to attend to his case, and it will not be long till they report progress.

## Rev. Wm. E. Munsey.

According to the list of appointments at the late session of Holston Conference, this able and devoted Minister, was assigned to Chattanooga Station. Not being able to get there as a Southern man, and not choosing to act in the capacity of Chaplain to Rosecrans' army, he has been thrown out of the active work of the ministry, and has, for the present, located on Cripple Creek, in Wythe county. He preached in Abingdon twice on Sabbath last, and it is but a faint compliment when we say, that he thrilled his large audiences with his power and eloquence. We are not much given to eulogies of the living—particularly of Ministers of the Gospel, who, by some means, manage to discover their talents if they have them—and sometimes whether they have them or not—but Mr. Munsey is not one of this class. Had some one of the great divines of the past been walking the earth, and had preached the sermons alluded to, they would have been printed in a book before the expiration of a month, and the author honored as a rare and brilliant genius. Mr. Munsey is a modest, unassuming man—apparently unaware of his power as a pulpit orator—but the impression he made upon those who heard him on the occasion referred to, will be long remembered. We are gratified to learn that he will be here again on the 14th and 15th of November, when people can go and hear for themselves.

## Splendid Affair.

On the 20th inst., a splendid affair occurred at Philadelphia, Roane county, Tenn., about 36 miles below Knoxville, and 7 west of Loudon. Sweetwater Valley, in which Philadelphia is situated, on account of the fertility of the land and the abundance of provisions and forage, has swarmed with Yankees ever since the occupation of Knoxville. On the 20th, Cols. Morrison and Dibrell, with a body of Georgia cavalry, dashed in among the enemy's cavalry at Philadelphia, captured 700 prisoners, 50 wagons loaded with stores, 10 ambulances, 6 pieces of artillery, a number of horses and mules, and a large amount of other property.

The Northern papers say that Dahlgren has been relieved of the command of the fleet before Charleston, and Captain Turner, of the Ironsides, appointed in his place.

It was also rumored that Meade was to be removed, and the command of the Army of the Potomac conferred upon Sedgewick or Sicksels.

Rosecrans is reported to have gone to Cincinnati, Grant appointed to the command of the department, and Thomas to take charge of the army at Chattanooga. So say the city papers.

On the 19th, Gen. Stuart pitched into Kilpatrick's cavalry not far from Manassas, routed him, captured 200 prisoners, with their horses, arms and equipments, together with eight wagons and ambulances. Our loss was none killed, and perhaps but one mortally wounded.

Gen. Imboden made a dash on Charleston, Jefferson county, on Sunday last week, captured 420 prisoners and some valuable property.

## Gen. Hood.

We are gratified to learn that this gallant and efficient officer is rapidly improving, and will soon be in the field again.

Lincoln has a lively time of it. He has issued another proclamation, calling for 300,000 more volunteers.

## Secret of the Retreat.

What will the Home Guard think, and how proud will they feel, when we tell them that it was their appearance on the field on the 10th, that deterred the Yankee army from attempting to pass through Abingdon. A Bristol correspondent of the Lynchburg Virginian says:

"It was determined at Abingdon Friday, to give the enemy battle should he attempt to advance farther eastward. Accordingly arrangements were made there to give him a warm reception. The Home Guards were called out to assist the regular troops, and he it said to their credit, aided in repulsing the enemy, for I am informed the enemy told it as they retreated back, that Gen. Williams had been reinforced by Gen. Johnston. It should have been Capt. Johnston. For be it known to all the Confederacy, that Gen. Peter C. Johnston, brother of the distinguished Joe, is Captain of a home guard company in the county of Washington."

Who after this will have the hardihood to say that the Abingdon Home Guard has not contributed something to the common cause, and for once "turned the tide of revolution?"

## Casualties in the 27th Battalion.

The following is a list of the casualties in the 37th Va. Battalion Mounted Rifles, while on duty with Gen. Wheeler's command in rear of Rosecrans' army:

Co. A.—Private Thos. H. Franklin, accidentally seriously wounded in right hand—amputation necessary.

Co. G.—Wm. Morely, wounded in mouth—improving; Wm. Thompson and J. W. Bonham missing.

Co. H.—Capt. J. A. Larmer, slight sabre wound in head; Corp. Michael Rousie, mortally wounded and captured; Corp. Miller Robertson, and privates Valentine Vanhous and Nathan Johnson missing.

The County Court on Monday last, appointed Lieut. John Roberts Agent to purchase all sorts of provisions for the destitute families of soldiers in Washington county, and to hand them over to the agents in the respective districts, for distribution.

A gentleman who left Washington City on the 18th, informs us that Lincoln never leaves the White House without a body guard of 16 soldiers. When he rides in his carriage, the guard are mounted on handsome black horses.

Maxmillian, in reply to the Mexican deputation inviting him to the throne of that Monarchy, says he cannot take it without the spontaneous approbation of the whole nation.

The extensive buildings in Washington City used as depots for Quartermaster and Commissary stores, were consumed on the night of the 18th, together with a vast amount of stores.

Rosecrans is said to have been heavily reinforced, and some of the Lincoln journals think he will be succeeded by Grant. If so, another big fight may be expected near Chattanooga.

The Yankee papers say, the enlistment of negro troops will be speedily commenced in Maryland, Kentucky, Missouri and Tennessee.

Several of our cotemporaries, who charge \$36 per annum for their papers, have boasted of presents of Sorghum Molasses from their patrons. We can get plenty at \$10 per gallon, but perhaps we are thus favored because we print at \$5 per annum—in other words, work for nothing and find ourselves.

## For the Virginian.

### Tribute of Respect.

At a meeting of Commissioned officers of the 63d Virginia Regiment, held at camp near Chattanooga, on the 1st day of October, 1863, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Whereas it has pleased God, in His infinite wisdom, to remove from our midst our late brave and gallant comrade in arms, Capt. JOHN E. SNODGRASS, who fell gallantly fighting at the head of his company, on the glorious field of Chickamauga, on the 20th of September, 1863, a martyr in defence of the liberties and independence of his dearly beloved South.

Resolved, 1st. That the fall of this brave officer is a severe calamity to our Regiment, on account of which each surviving member is sorrowful and distressed.

Resolved, 2d. That we tender our sincere and heart-felt sympathies and condolence to his afflicted relations, in their loss of one who has endeared himself to the officers and soldiers as a brave and gallant officer, and a noble, generous and chivalric gentleman.

Resolved, 3d. That a copy of these resolutions be transmitted to the family of the deceased, and that they be published in the Abingdon Virginian and Bristol Advocate.

JNO. R. FRANCIS, Chairman.

M. W. HONES, Secy.

## From Northern Virginia.

The following official despatch from Gen. Lee was received at the War Department Tuesday evening:

October 20th, 1863.—To Gen. S. Cooper: General Stuart yesterday opposed, at Buckland, the advance of General Kilpatrick's division of cavalry, while Gen. Fitz. Lee attacked his flank and rear. The enemy was routed and pursued until he reached his infantry support, at Haymarket and Gainesville. Two hundred prisoners, with horses, arms and equipments, eight wagons and ambulances, were captured.

Passengers from Staunton by the Central train, last evening, confirm a report which reached here yesterday, of the capture of four hundred and thirty-odd prisoners, at Charleston, in Jefferson county, on Sunday last, by Gen. Imboden's cavalry. He made a sudden descent upon the place, and surprised the garrison, who surrendered after a feeble resistance. On their return, Gen. Imboden's men were attacked by a force of Yankees sent out from Harper's Ferry, but after protracted skirmishing they repulsed the enemy and brought off the prisoners together with some useful stores.—Richmond Whig.

## From our Army in Tennessee.

### Review by the President.

Return of Wheeler from his Raid Around Rosecrans' Army.

### WHAT HE DID, &c. &c.

We make up, from our latest Southern exchanges, the following summary of news relative to our army in Tennessee:

### PRESIDENT DAVIS REVIEWS THE ARMY.

A letter in the Memphis Appeal says: The President, attended by Gens. Bragg and Longstreet, started on a review this morning. The ceremony was not different from all other occasions of the kind, except that the brigades were not full as usual, by reason of the strong details on picket and at work. The cortege rode down the line, the bands played, the President, with hat off, saluted the war-worn banners, so often stirred by battle breezes, and then moved on from right to left. As the cavalcade progressed it gathered strength and interest, and by the time it reached the division of Gen'l Hood, now commanded by Gen'l M. Jenkins, of S. C., presented a striking appearance. We saw grouped together, in a picturesque cluster, around the chief of all, officers, whose traces have been written on every battle-field, and whose names are household words. Gen'l Bragg, Lieut-Gen'l Longstreet and D. H. Hill; Maj-Gen's Cheatham, Buckner, Breckinridge, McLaws, Walker, Cleburne and Stuart; Brig-Gen's (commanding divisions) Preston and Jenkins; Brig-Gen's Gist, Mackall, and others, whose names I do not at present recollect. Attending the President were Cols. Chesnut and Johnson, of his personal staff, Gen. Custis Lee, Col. Preston, of Ky., and Lieut-Gen'l Pemberton. The presence of the latter officer excited some surprise in the army.

The review occupied most of the day, and I learn that the President expressed his gratification at the general appearance of the army. The President was, during a portion of the time, within one thousand yards of the Federal batteries. The Federal pickets, during the review, were in plain sight.

Subsequent to the review the President rode up the Lookout mountain and inspected the Yankee camps.

### RETURN OF GEN. WHEELER FROM HIS RAID AROUND ROSECRANS' ARMY—WHAT HE DID—INTERESTING ACCOUNT BY ONE WHO WAS WITH HIM.

At last we have authentic intelligence from General Wheeler. He crossed the Tennessee, near the mouth of the Hiwassee, passed around Rosecrans' army, destroyed the stores at McMinnville and at a number of depots on the Nashville and Chattanooga railroad, set fire to the trestle work at several points on the road, captured or destroyed between seven and eight hundred wagons, took a number of prisoners and sustained considerable loss himself, was pursued by a heavy force, and finally effected a junction with General Stephen D. Lee at Decatur, Alabama, where he re-crossed the river. His force consisted of three divisions, under Gen's Whorton, Martin and Davidson—seven brigades in all—about 6,000 men. It was the largest cavalry raid that has been made during the war. A correspondent of the Savannah Republican, who participated in it, gives the following account of the affair:

We crossed the river near Cotton ford the last of September. Cotton ford is near Charleston, Tennessee. The enemy were on the opposite side of the river, three brigades strong. Wheeler had a new road cut about a mile below the ford, crossed the river at night by this new ford with Whorton's division, attacked the enemy's pickets at the main ford, secured that point and crossed Martin's and Davidson's divisions with the artillery and ordnance wagons.

We marched all night and the next day until dark in the heaviest rain I ever had seen, and camped on the opposite side of Walden's ridge, in Squatchie valley, near Foster's Cross Roads.

Here the command was divided. General Wheeler, with two brigades—one from Martin's division, under Gen. Martin, and one from Whorton's division, under Col. Avery of the Fourth Georgia cavalry—went down the valley after a large wagon train, while Gen. Whorton, with the remainder of the force, proceeded directly across the Cumberland mountain to attack McMinnville. General Wheeler started at 3, P. M., and met the train near Dunlap, at the foot of the mountain, and after some sharp fighting captured about five hundred prisoners and over five hundred wagons heavily loaded with quartermaster, commissary, ordnance and sutler stores. The train was captured about 11, A. M. The wagons were all burned, about fifteen hundred mules killed, and the rest of the mules taken back over the mountain. The stores destroyed were most valuable. The amount of clothing and blankets was enormous, while 60 wagons of ordnance stores were destroyed.

About 4, P. M., the enemy were reported advancing up the valley. This found our command in bad condition for fighting. Over half of both brigades had been sent back by General Wheeler with led mules, and nearly a third of the rest were on picket in the rear and on the flanks. Colonel Russell, of Martin's command, was captured at the wagons. Colonel Avery, with 100 of his brigade—part from the Fourth Georgia and First Kentucky—remained in the rear, while Gen. Wheeler retired with the rest of his force to cross the mountain. The enemy pressed vigorously. They charged fifteen times in the course of a mile, killing, wounding and capturing about one-half of the rear guard. Their force was so overwhelming each repulse was but temporary.

General Whorton, with his force, crossed the mountain, and his advance guard, under Lieutenant-Colonel Clay, attacked the enemy's pickets at McMinnville about 11 o'clock, A. M., of the 3d, drove them in and secured the outer works. His artillery was put in position to command the town, and a flag of truce sent in to demand the surrender, which was immediately made. The garrison numbered about six hundred. A large quantity of commissary and sutler stores was consumed and destroyed.

The next morning, the 5th, the main body of the force proceeded to Stone river above Murfreesboro', burned the bridges, and joined the wagons at Foster'sville. A small force at Christiana, in a stockade, were also captured.

At daylight, the morning of the 6th, the Rangers, under Lieutenant Colonel Cook, charged into Shelbyville, but the cavalry guarding the place left during the night. A large quantity of sutlers' stores was captured. General Martin, with his division, proceeded to Wartrace, burned all the bridges on the railroad, and re-joined the command by a night march.

General Martin's division arrived just in time, and was thrown into position on the pike, where the road strikes the pike, and the rest of the command had to march into the pike under the fire of the enemy. This was General Wheeler's order. Here a fierce fight ensued. The Fourth Tennessee, Eleventh Texas and First Kentucky were cut off, and had to cut across the country to regain the command. Our loss at this point must have been one hundred and fifty men. The enemy was finally checked.

At this point the Second Georgia, under Lieutenant-Colonel Ison, and a battalion of Morgan's men, under Captain Kilpatrick, remained as a rear guard, while the command proceeded through Rogersville and crossed the Tennessee at Muscle Shoals. The crossing was safely accomplished, but the rear guard was charged by a heavy force, broken and scattered, and Lieutenant-Colonel Ison, Lieutenants Luuleford and Duvarga, thirty men from the Second Georgia, and several officers and about forty privates from the battalion of Morgan's men captured.

We are now on the south side of the Tennessee river resting—will leave here in a day or two.

## Address of President Davis to the Army of Tennessee.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF TENNESSEE,  
October 14, 1863.

### SOLDIERS:

A grateful country has recognized your arduous service, and rejoiced over your glorious victory of the field of Chickamauga. When your countrymen shall more fully learn the adverse circumstances under which you attacked the enemy, though they cannot be so thankful, they may admire more the gallantry and patriotic devotion which secured your success. Representatives of every State in the Confederacy, your steps have been followed with affectionate solicitude by friends of the heart of our territory, your movements have been the object of intensest anxiety. The hopes of our cause greatly depend upon you, and happy it is that all can securely rely upon your achieving whatever, under the blessings of Providence, human power can effect. Tho' you have done much, very much remains to be done. Behind you is a people providing for your support and depending on you for protection. Before you is a country devastated by your ruthless invader, where gentle woman, feeble age and helpless infancy have been subjected to outrages without parallel in the warfare of civilized nations.

With eager eyes they watch for your coming to their deliverance, and the homeless refugee pines for the hour when your victorious arms shall restore his family to the shelter from which they have been driven. Forced to take up arms to vindicate the political rights, the freedom, equality, and State sovereignty, which were the heritage purchased by the blood of your revolutionary sires, you have but the alternative of slavish submission to despotic usurpation or the independence which vigorous, united, persistent effort will secure. All which fires the manly breast, nerves the patriot, and exalts the hero, is present to stimulate and sustain you. Nobly have you redeemed the pledges given in the name of freedom to the memory of your ancestors, and the rights of your posterity.

That you may complete the mission to which you are devoted, will require of you such exertion in the future as you have made in the past; continuance in the patient endurance of toil and danger, and that self denial which rejects every consideration at variance with the public service, as unworthy of the holy cause in which you are engaged.

When the war shall have ended, the highest meed of praise will be due, and probably given, to him who has claimed least for himself in proportion to the service he has rendered, and the bitterest self-reproach, which may hereafter haunt the memory of any one, will be to him who has allowed selfish aspiration to prevail over a desire for the public good.

United as you are in a common destiny, obedience and cordial co-operation are essentially necessary, and there is no higher duty than that which requires each to render to all what is due to their station. He who sows the seeds of discontent and distrust prepares for the harvest of slaughter and defeat.

To zeal you have added gallantry; to gallantry, energy; to energy, fortitude. Crown these with harmony, due subordination, and cheerful support of lawful authority, that the measure of your duty may be full. I fervently hope that the ferocious war so unjustly waged against our country may soon be ended; that with the blessing of peace you may be restored to your homes and the useful pursuits; and I pray that our Heavenly Father may cover you with the shield of His protection in the hours of battle, and endow you with the virtues which will close your trials in victory complete.

(Signed) JEFFERSON DAVIS  
Official: GEO. W. BRENT, A. A. G.

## Pay of Members of the Legislature.

The members of the General Assembly find themselves in a perplexing dilemma. Their pay is totally inadequate to meet their unavoidable expenses, and many of them, not having a reserve to fall back on (especially refugees) their cases are desperate. By the Constitution they are restricted from making any increase which will benefit themselves. The increase can only be prospective.

This condition of things has set ingenuity a-sid to devise some plan by which the demerit can be gained without violating the Constitution. The commutation bill is the result. The theory of this bill is, that the pay contemplated by the Constitution, and provided by law, is specie. As this is not to be had, it is proposed to commute the legal par diem of four dollars (specie) into twelve dollars currency. We learn that eminent expounders of the law pronounce this proposition constitutional.

The bill was passed by the House, but found its quietus in the Senate Friday, by a vote of 18 for and 20 against it. This result will no doubt bring about a speedy adjournment of the body.—Lynchburg Virginian.