Abingdon Virginian.

BY COALE & BARR.

Friday, Dec. 9, 1864.

☞ Subscribers at Bristol Goodson will find their accounts in the hands of Mr. John Keys, P. M., who has kindly promised to receive what may be due us at his office.

At Saltville, our accounts will be found with Mr. W. Musselwhite at the upper works, and Mr. Butler at the Post office. They will receipt for moneys dus us at that office.

☞ Post Masters will please notify us of all papers not taken out of their offices.

☞ Subscribers who do not wish to continue their subscriptions, will do us the favor to write us.

East Tennessee.

From this quarter we have had rumors as plenty as Blackberries this week, but they have all, so far as an advance of Burbridge with his 4000 men is concerned, vanished "into thin air," and we should not be at all surprised to learn, before half-a-moon passes, that the entire Yankee force had evacuated East Tennessee. In this we may be mistaken, but "the signs of the times" point that way.

The Knoxville (Bristol) Register, of the 7th states that;

"The most reliable information from the front indicates a state of alarm and uncertainty among the Federals.

Our scouting parties report no Yankees this side of Bean's Station, in Grainger county. They were told by citizens that those Federals who came to that place from Cumberland Gap, were ordered in a double quick towards Knoxville.

In consequence of the appearance of Federal troops at Bean's Station, presenting the attitude of a flank movement, our forces were induced to fall back some distance, having important wagon trains to protect. But on yesterday morning Gen. Vaughan commenced an advance movement, being determined to find out the force in front of him. We shall not be surprised to hear of his turning up close to Knoxville.

The Fight near Franklin.

The Lynchburg Virginian is of opinion that the accounts published in the Northern papers of the fight at Franklin, are untrue. That paper says:—"We have no doubt that Cheatham and Lee achieved a victory over the enemy. The Yankees admit that our men fought with desperation and that their troops fell back to within three miles of Nashville; or, in other words, to their intrenchments.—This was a strange course for a victorious army to pursue. They admit too, that Hood seems to be making for Murfreesboro', on the Nashville and Chattanooga railroad, which will cut off all communication with Knoxville, and so far as we can see, will compel the enemy to evacuate the whole of East Tennessee. While Breckinridge is pressing them closely east of that point, Hood is menacing their communications west of Knoxville, which may and most probably will, tend to the result just indicated. Should Hood be successful, of which there seems to be every reasonable prospect, East Tennessee will be wholly untenable for the enemy; and then ho! for Kentucky. The status, in that quarter, of the first year of the war, is likely to be restored; so that our communications with Tennessee will again be uninterrupted and Kentucky at our feet. The experience which that State has had of the Lincoln despotism has served to ripen it for revolt, and we have little doubt that an army sent into Kentucky under the gallant Breckinridge would meet a welcome never before extended to a Confederate army. Let the Georgians take care of Sherman and we shall soon see a state of things in Kentucky and Tennessee that will encourage and gladden the heart of every true Southron.

The "Old Issue."

Many persons are of opinion, that the time for the redemption of the "Old Issue" has been extended to the 1st July, 1865. Such a *bill* passed the House, but has not been acted upon by the Senate, and we understand meets but little favor in that body, and the probability is, will not pass the Senate. Persons, therefore, holding "old issue" will look to their interests and send it to the nearest depositary and get a certificate of deposite.—See Mr. Hurts notice in our advertising columns.

Brig. Gen. A. E. Jackson,

The real hero of the battle of October 2nd at Saltville, was in Abingdon last week, remaining one day. The General has been in bad health for the last nine months, but we were pleased to learn, his health has greatly improved.

No truer or better man has buckled on sword during this war, and in every engagement in which he has participated he has distinguished himself for his daring and gallantry.

There is a probability of his being again assigned to duty in his Own East Tennessee.

Gen. Jos. E. Johnston.

This veteran Officer paid his relatives, in this place, a flying visit since our last issue. He reached here Saturday night and left Monday morning. We did not have the pleasure of seeing the General, but understand he was looking remarkably well.

The News from Georgia.

In lieu of any remarks of our own we copy from our exchanges. The Augusta Chronicle, of the 26th ult., gives us the latest news from that. We give the following extracts:

THE SITUATION.

Sherman has been trying hard to mystify our military authorities. To this end his forces have been divided, and have been menacing Macon and Augusta simultaneously, while bodies of his cavalry have been dashing about, cutting railroads and doing what mischief they could. His object has been, and will continue to be, to conceal the point of destination at which he is aiming, so as to prevent the concentration of our forces against him.

This game may succeed for a time, but his real purpose must soon become evident. His advance will make it clear before many days; and we think in time to enable us to form the necessary combinations. Our authorities are wide awake, and Sherman will likely find his deeply laid, and carefuly concealed scheme penetrated and anticipated.

Amidst all his tortuous movements the purpose to reach the coast as speedily as possible, is clearly discernable, though the point aimed at is still in doubt. It is not unlikely that his course will be determined by the information he may get of the disposition of our forces; and it may be that he has been making all these feints to distract our attention, and enable him to select some route by which he may with least opposition reach a port on our Atlantic coast.

It must be confessed that for the past week he has been very successfully acting the part of an artful dodger, confounding all calculations, and exciting general apprehension by his eccentric movements. He has not, however, found his march through Georgia quite as free from opposition as he expected. Besides the force at Macon which made him deem it prudent to avoid that city, and those assembled here, which doubtless caused the sudden deflection, at the Oconee river, of the column which was apparently marching on this city, Wheeler's cavalry have rather unexpectedly turned up in his way. The latter have been doing good service, hanging on Sherman's flanks, harassing his army, thwarting its movements, and retarding its advance.

The latest reports indicate that Sherman is moving towards the Savannah river. But there is little reliance to be placed in any indication of intentions as yet. Until he shall get out of the triangle in which he has been manœuvering since he left Atlanta, we can infer nothing with certainty from any of his movements, as to his ultimate course. He may turn upon Augusta, and seek to force his way through South Carolina; or he may push on for Savannah or Brunswick.

FROM BELOW.

A party of Yankees made their appearance at Waynesboro, on Saturday night. It is said that they captured a freight train which they burned, and that they also burnt the place. The passenger train which left the night previous was turned back.

We are informed that a Yankee telegraphic operator undertook to gain information of the number of forces in this vicinity, and the whereabouts of the same from the operator in this city. But the operator interrogated knew at once that there was a new "hand at the machine" at the first touch, and of course shaped his replies accordingly.

It is reported that the commander of the party is Kilpatrick, and that a fight occurred between him and our forces under General Wheeler on Sunday. After a severe fight the Yankees were badly beaten and driven back.

AN EXCITING SABBATH DAY.

Sunday last will long be remembered by the citizens of Augusta and those sojourning here at the time.—From early dawn till late in the evening the streets were enlivened by the sound of martial music. The soul stirring drum and fife as their notes were heard in every direction, gave indications of active military movements, and told us that "grim visaged war, with his wrinkled front," was somewhere near the city.

The local troops assembled with promptness and proceeded to the appointed rendezvous, where they were inspected by the General in command.

Every citizen capable of bearing arms or doing military duty was under arms, and the determination depicted upon the countenances of all, showed their intention of doing good service, provided occasion presented itself.

FROM NEWTON COUNTY, GA.

A gentleman from Newton County states that several large plantations in that section were completely destroyed by the Federals, swept clean of every thing, and all the houses thereon burned—except those occupied by negroes.

Emory College, Oxford, was also destroyed, and all the buildings connected with the same, together with their contents. This college was the property of the Methodist church of this State. Several fine libraries belonging to the various college societies, besides the one belonging to the college itself, were among the property burned. Also a large and extensive Mineralogical cabinet, fine chemical apparatus, &c.

As the Federals approached the town they were fired upon and one of their party killed. The college was burned in retaliation.

It is estimated that the property cost nearly half a million of dollars before the war.

RECRUITING AS HE GOES.

It has been stated by some that Sherman did not interfere with the negroes along his route. Gentlemen, however, who reside in the section he has passed through, say that he has swept all the plantations he has been able to visit of every negro man who was able to do military service.

It is also said that he has no negro troops with him. These were sent to garrison forts in his rear before he left Atlanta; if the negro troops had been marched through Georgia, it would undoubtedly have taken double their number of white troops to have prevented them from deserting from the ranks.

FACTORY BURNED.

We learn that the Federals destroyed the Factory at Seven Islands, in Butts county, belonging to the Messrs. Whites.

FROM THE GEORGIA RAILROAD.

Trains are running up as far as Greensboro, on the Georgia Road. As far as can be heard from, there are no rumors of the Yankees.

The factory near Covington was not burned. Mr. Hacris, one of the proprietors, lost about $140,000 of property, by the enemy camping on his plantation.

THE ENEMY'S ATTACK AND REPULSE AT MACON.

The Savannah News gives the following particulars of the enemy's repulse at Macon:

On Sunday, the 20th instant, at three o'clock, P. M., the enemy made an attack on East Macon, at the same place where Stoneman and his raiders made their attack. It was principally an artillery battle, but small arms were also used. The enemy's shells fell in the yard of the work shops of the Central railroad, but did no injury, and no one was hurt by it. The cannonading was quite active and lasted some two hours. During the time the enemy captured one of our batteries, but it was soon re-captured by our troops, and a number of prisoners taken.

About dark our forces succeeded in driving the enemy back, pursuing them about a mile and a half. They left their dead and wounded on the field. Their force we have not ascertained. They were dispersed and driven in the direction of Griswoldville. They appeared to be tired and frightened, and many of them left their ranks and wandered off beyond the range of our guns—They tore up about three miles of the road beyond Walnut creek bridge, but it was soon repaired—While the engagement was going on the employees of the Central railroad removed all the engines and cars from East Macon and run them into the city.

We regret to state some of our troops behaved badly in East Macon, by plundering and committing other depredations after the enemy were driven off.

The Last Cherokee.

"Jim Indian," who left the Cherokee Nation some years before its removal to the "Hunting Grounds" West of the Mississippi, and had been living in this vicinity for about forty years, died on Monday night, the 28th ult., at the residence of Mr. Mullin, five miles northeast of this place. Jim retained to the last the peculiar characteristics of his race, never learned to speak our language so as to be conveniently understood, lived an isolated and inoffensive life, and died with the disease, as he would have termed it, "whisky too-much."

It was said that Jim had left his Nation for a crime for which he had forfeited his life, but how true, no one here never certainly knew.—Many years ago, when this was the great thoroughfare between the Cherokee Nation and Washington City, many of the Indians were in the habit of calling upon Jim and spending a day or two with him. On such occasions he would dress in his very best, attend to no business, would keep duly sober, but never could be induced to accompany them in either direction beyond this immediate neighborhood.

Sad Affair.

Mr. A. K. Moore, a well known and highly esteemed citizen of this place, was shot and instantly killed yesterday afternoon, by Captain Dennett, A. Q. M. An altercation had occurred between the parties, which led to a blow on the part of Mr. Moore, when Capt. Dennett drew a pistol and shot him through the heart. The occurrence has cast a gloom over this community. Mr. Moore leaves a wife and child overwhelmed with grief by this harrowing calamity.—*Knoxville (Bristol) Register, of the 5th.*

Funeral Obsequies.

The last and ceremonies were held at two o'clock yesterday evening over the remains of Mr. A. K. Moore. Rev. E. H. Ingle and Rev. James King officiated. The rites were according to the usages of the Episcopal Church, of which the deceased was a member. He was followed to the graveyard by a large and weeping crowd, where he was interred with Masonic honors.

We have rarely seen an occasion of more interest and solemnity. Mr. Moore was an esteemed and worthy citizen, and leaves a noble and good wife and son to mourn his sudden and premature loss.

We would express our heartfelt sympathy and condolence with the little family thus left to combat with the troubles and storms of life. But so it is:

"One by one love's links are broken,
One by one our friends depart;
Voices that have kindly spoken.
Heart which throbbed to hindred heart.
Thanks to God! this parting, paining,
Weans the heart from earthly ties;
Life's night of sorrow, darkly waning,
Will break in morn upon the skies."

Magistrate's Court.

On yesterday Capt. Dennett, who had the difficulty with Mr. A. K. Moore, which resulted in the death of the latter, came forward and surrendered himself to the civil authorities.

He was tried by John King, Esq., assisted by Col. L. F. Johnson, the Mayor of the town, who, after hearing the evidence, the defendant was admitted to bail in the sum of $5,000 to appear at the next term of the Circuit Court for Sullivan county, Tennessee.

As this case is to undergo further investigation, we refrain from expressing an opinion as to the merits of this unfortunate affair.—*Knoxville (Bristol) Register, of the 6th.*

East Tennessee Front.

No very positive information from this front, except the general fact that a party of federal troops came to Bean's Station and Russellville; but it is not believed to be Burbridge's force.

It is known that the 10th Michigan has gone to Kentucky to be mounted; and it is no doubt that force returning which gave rise to the belief that Burbridge had come over the mountain. Others suppose that the force at Cumberland Gap had left that place, and was making its way to Knoxville.

A federal scout came to Rogersville on Wednesday, and returned. Several reports, not fully authenticated, were afloat last night; one of which was, that the federals had gone towards Knoxville, and blockaded the road behind them.

A private dispatch was received, stating that a copy of Brownlow's Whig had been seen, in which he said that Hood had whipped Thomas, that Sherman was meeting with trouble, and that an order was issued to evacuate East Tennessee.

Gen. Vaughan, with his command is at Greenville, Tenn.—*Knoxville Register, of the 6th.*

From Johnson County, Tenn.

For the Virginian.

TAYLORSVILLE, TENN., Nov. 21st, 1863.

Messrs. Editors:—Allow me a place in your columns to give to the public, a brief sketch of a recent raid made by Sergt. Blevins' squad on Stony Creek.

Ascertaining, from reliable sources, that a considerable number of tories, headed by one Heatherly, a notorious scoundrel, were concentrated on Stony Creek, Sergt. Blevins, on the night of the 16th inst., with about twenty men, started for the above named place. Marching down Rone's Creek, we arrived at Elizabethton, on the evening of the 17th. Before reaching Elizabethton, however, we accidentally came upon two men, the deaths of whom have caused considerable rejoicing among Southern Sympathizers in this portion of the country. They were brothers and Bowers by name. Each was armed with an eight shooter and a navy pistol. They fought manfully for a while, and would not surrender till one of them was shot down. The other then threw down his gun, asking protection at our hands. They were dressed in Yankee attire from head to foot. During the *fracas* the best horse in the squad was killed. But for this circumstance we might have caught several in that vicinity. There was a corn-husking a mile below, at which, doubtless, there were a good many bushwhackers. On reaching the house, we found the corn-heap, which was placed nearly half a mile from the house, near the woods, entirely deserted. Hearing the firing above, doubtless they smelt a mice and skedaddled.

It was now near the middle of the day, and a sumptuous repast had been prepared by the good women of the house for the especial benefit of the hands. A long table was fairly groaning under its luxuries. Unwilling, however, that such a repast, on such an occasion, should be prepared for naught, we *reluctantly* partook of the bounties which crowned the good lady's board, bade her adieu, and proceeded on our way.

Early next morning, securing a skillful pilot, we were soon wending our way up Watauga river, in the direction of Stony Creek. As soon as we struck Stony Creek, the uncerimonious departure of men from homes, and the hollowing of women and children, convinced us that our visit was as unexpected as it was unwelcome.

The result of our trip up the Creek, was the killing of two notorious bushwhackers—Blevins and Rankin—and the capture of three recusant conscripts. We also captured seven valuable horses, and other captures of minor importance. Sergt. Blevins is doing a good business in this section of the country: and but, for his timely interference, I know not what would have become of the good citizens of Johnson county.

SWM.

☞ An unknown friend sends us a sack of Turnips, which was accompanied with the following note:

Messrs. Coale & Barr:

You have obliged me so often, (gratis,) please accept a small present of a "*sack of dumb watches.*"

The first watch I owned I thought it an animated creature like a chicken. It was a mahogany watch. It ran 25 hours exactly in a day. I had to carry a slate and pencil to tell the hours and minutes by a statement in the rule of three. As 25—24, &c. It struck so hard it was giving me a liver complaint, but I broke with it as it ticked me so sweetly to sleep.

One morning I found it dead, and its two little hands stretched out stiff and cold. I went to the doctor and he gave it life by an operation on its bowels. He told me it was clocking, and would set on turnips better than eggs. I drove an old hen off her nest and set it on two turnips, and now I send you a specimen of the young ones.

You may tell the tale for the benefit of the Major, on the North Fork, who raised 75 two year old shoats in 6 months from one old sow.

Respectfully,

THE BOY IN THE GAP.

☞ No Richmond papers since Sunday morning. Cause unknown to us.

☞ Hon. Fayette McMullin will receive our thanks for a pamphlet copy of the Report of the Secretary of War.

Georgia Legislature.

There was a general stampede of the members from Milledgeville on Friday, as most of them are now at home or wandering about, studying out the problem how they shall get there. It is a great pity, says the Savannah Republican, that so large and able bodied a set of men, when so near the front in time of public danger, did not conclude to stay there and help protect their State, instead of running off to their homes. They would have made a fine battalion, and having just passed a resolution authorizing the Governor to call out every able bodied man in the State, from 15 to 55, into service forty days, it would have been far more graceful for them to have remained and formed a nucleus for the new force.

In addition to the above fact, we learn that all the appropriation bills were passed before the adjournment.

The News.

All eyes, says the Fayetteville (N. C.) Observer, are turned to Georgia. Nothing decisive is known to have occurred there as yet; but a great triumph or a great disaster—no half way affair—must occur within a very few days, perhaps hours. It would be improper to say why we look with more hope to the result than we entertained when Sherman's hold plan was developed a week ago.—Suffice it, that we do hope for the annihilation of Sherman's great army. If the people of Georgia will only do their full duty by the side of the veterans who are there to help them—if they will but fight for their homes as gallantly as their sons and brothers have fought for their country in Virginia—Georgia will have the glory of furnishing the Yorktown of this war. We have a strong hope that so it will be.

A Successfull Flank.

The recent movement of Burbridge via Bean's Station has proven itself to be quite a a strategetic and brilliant movement.

Instead of flanking Vaughan, it seems that they were sent over to keep the three Tennessee (Federal) regiments from deserting in consequence of the recent order to evacuate.

It is believed that this movement will be eminently successful.—*Knoxville Register.*