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Change in Our Terms.

The enormous increase in price of all articles and labor necessary to carry on our business, compels us to make an advance in our prices.

What of the Hour?

In the womb of the future and near by the hour of their birth, lie events whose development shall tell for weal or woe on our people and our nation.

The hosts are marshaling—the separated masses are aggregating and pressing to the front. The commands of public sentiment at the North, the crisis of the hour with our foe, his internal discord, his previous divisions, the appalling weight of his national debt, the temper and state of mind of his people, all betoken internal danger close at hand, and impel to a desperate measure for the recovery of lost ground, from which again assurance may be given of the probable success of his invasion.

These staid and sober movements will be made with all the force that the enemy is capable of mustering. Every effort to inspire confidence will be made by an appeal to formidable numbers, to the novelty of fresh commanders, and to the prestige of Gen. Grant; and we may look for an onslaught as fierce, as heavy and determined as the concentrated energy, necessity and anxiety of the enemy can furnish.

To encounter these preparations, our Government has put forth, too, its energies. Gen. Lee awaits the day of his action, cool, active and resolved. His army is full of hope, full of confidence, full of determination. His men are in better plight, better feeling, than the army has ever been; and what is of far more value, the soldiers are more thoroughly imbued with the character of the contest, and the gravity of the task imposed on them, than ever. They will fight to win and will know no other determination.

In view of this tremendous crisis just before us, the dread necessity, the imposing demand upon our resources, we have done all we could to strengthen the arm of the government. We have foreborne fault-finding; we have said no word to discourage or discontent; we have lost sight of all other interests, prejudices or partialities; absorbed in the coming emergency. With an eye ever fixed on the claims of our country and her necessities, we have steadily endeavored to "put all into the field who are not more useful" at home. We have urged the withdrawal of those ideas of State rights, so inappropriate in times like these, and only serviceable to aid those who would escape the duties which they owe to the nation: not because we disfavor State rights, but the more effectually to secure them. We pushed the matter of conscription, not to withdraw those needed at home, but to secure those who are useless here—to fill the army, because we well knew that oftentimes mighty battles are turned in their tide by individual action. One man frequently saves the State by his valor and devotion.

We have done our duty. Whatever beside, no wilful fault will be at our door. And now the clear duty of our people is to prepare their minds and hearts to meet the

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event, whatever may befall us, with a becoming self-possession, prudence and courage meet for the solemnity and importance of the occasion. It were a christian obligation to beseech with continual invocation the Divine presence with our army, and the aid of the Almighty power in our behalf.

If we triumph, it will be a glorious, decisive victory. Independence will be virtually accomplished, and the end may be seen of this bloody invasion.

In the meantime our cause reposes in the skill of our leaders—upon the strong arms of our hardy and veteran soldiers—and depends upon the power and aid of Almighty God.

Bondsman.

Mr. Holden says that we, the Editors of this paper, are the "bond servants of a secret body of stockholders, and can express no opinion of our own." The people do not agree with him.

The public see no impropriety in a number of gentlemen joining in the establishment of a press to support their views; nor will they discover any thing wrong in their selection of one or more of their stockholders as the Editors of the Journal. The ablest and most independent journals of the Confederacy are thus established.

But Mr. Holden very complacently says, "the Standard was established and is sustained on its merits by the people." This is not the fact. The people had nothing to do with establishing the Standard. We happen to know all about Mr. Holden's first connection with that paper, as we do of his earliest political history.

Without art, except to impose on the poor and ignorant, he has managed to stir strife between classes of society, and to grow a benefit to Mr. Holden from this pernicious planting. It is not surprising to see Mr. Holden, as a candidate, reject all the established precedents and set up a new and less reputable system. This accords with a political habit of long training, so thoroughly fixed, that art, stratagem and intrigue are as inveterate necessities to him, as drink is to the inebriate.

The "olive branch in one hand and the sword in the other," (remarks the LaGrange Bulletin,) is fast playing out. The branch has withered under the cold rebuke of common sense, and the sword is rendered sharper for the conflict which alone can win us an enduring peace.

Still Unavailing.

The mortal struggle between Mr. Holden on one side, and Gov. Brown and Mr. Stephens on the other—he fighting to get on their platform, they to keep him off—is becoming ludicrously exciting, and bids fair to divert the attention of the public from Gov. Vance and concentrate it upon these amusing tusslers.

While the Governor repeats his views that efforts must be made by the civil as well as the military power to close the war, he emphatically repudiates the unconstitutional doctrine advocated by Holden and other malcontents of the South.

They repudiate his doctrine and him, and announce for Gov. Brown a position diametrically the opposite. But does this still the clamor of Mr. Holden? Not at all. He cries so much the more—"ever yours—truly yours—identically yours—oh! take me, I implore thee," and all other like and similar assurances and entreaties. But it won't do. The differences we have again and again repeated. Gov. Brown and Mr. Stephens, despite their follies seek no separate action for Georgia to cut her loose from her sisters; while Mr. Holden has explicitly advocated the separate action of North Carolina.

Mr. Stephens and Gov. Brown have no intention "to ignore the Confederacy;" Mr. Holden has explicitly "ignored" it; declaring the right of North Carolina to "treat by Convention." And he has done more: he has asserted the right and advocated the propriety of "withdrawing or modifying the power of the Confederacy, in the matter of negotiations, so as to allow a State to demand terms for herself; and but for the last Congress, Mr. Holden would have to-day been in full blast. His pernicious purpose would not have been stayed by the terrible events now about to transpire; but even now, in the very crisis of our destiny, he would have been blatant for his Convention, and the State would have been in the throes of a fierce and furious agitation.

By the action of Congress, Mr. Holden would have been by this time politically dead and buried out of sight, but for Gov. Brown and Mr. Stephens, who galvanized him. And they both will never be able to shake off association with Mr. Holden, however they may desire it. Like Eugene Sue's characters in the Mysteries of Paris—"They three are partners."

Death of Wilson W. Whitaker, Esq.

We regret to learn that this gentleman died at his residence near this city, on the night of the 24th inst. Mr. Whitaker was an enterprising, public-spirited man, and has filled many important public trusts with fidelity, and credit to himself. As a legislator, magistrate, citizen, he was faithful, exemplary and useful. In his private relations, he was an affectionate husband and father, and a kind neighbor. Mr. Whitaker leaves an interesting family, and numerous friends and relatives to deplore his loss.

The Contrast.

SPRING CAMPAIGN. Clearing to our side. The failure of Sherman. The victory of Olustee. The capture of Paducah. The storming of Fort Pillow. The capture of Plymouth. The defeat of Banks.

This is the account balanced up to this date of the Spring Campaign; and a clear profit on our side. An officer but recently returned from Georgia reports the sentiment of the people there as greatly outraged by the recent utterances of Messrs. Brown and Stephens. Other sources of information concur to the same effect. The press of Georgia, so far as our exchanges are concerned, very generally express the same assurances. The principal exception is a paper in Augusta—the Chronicle, conducted by a Yankee on Yankee principles.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the Confederate States of America, will meet in the Presbyterian Church at Charlotte, N. C., on the first Thursday of May, 1864, at 11 o'clock, A. M. The opening sermon will be preached by the Rev. James A. Lyons, D. D., the moderator of the last Assembly.

The notorious Brownlow advises that every Southern man, including ministers of the gospel, especially those of the Methodist Episcopal Church, should be driven out of East Tennessee, or put to death.

We have not received the Fayetteville Carolinian, containing the continuation of Gov. Vance's Speech. Hence its non-appearance this morning in the Confederate.

Major General Hoke.

The President, immediately on hearing of the capture of Plymouth, sent General Hoke the following dispatch:

"Brigadier General Hoke: In the name of the Confederacy, I thank you for your success. You are a Major General from the date of the capture of Plymouth. [Signed] Jefferson Davis."

It will be seen by the above gratifying announcement; which we take from the Richmond Examiner, that this distinguished officer has received at the hands of the President a prompt recognition of his valuable service in the capture of Plymouth. President Davis has for a long time been determined upon the re-occupation of Eastern North Carolina, and when his efforts in our behalf come to be known, a grateful people will appreciate his solicitude.

We have not as yet heard all the particulars of the affair at Plymouth so as to be able to notice the part borne by our other gallant officers and men. It is stated that Brig. Gen. Ransom, with his command, made a brilliant, and telling charge, and that Kemper's Brigade performed an important part in the affair. Nor have we as yet heard a word of Capt. Cook, who commended our gunboat. We know him to be a bold, dashing, determined officer, and are sure he was in the right place.

But to return to Gen. Hoke. This is the officer who a few days ago Mr. Holden, through the Progress, endeavored to bring into public odium: causing him to be denounced as a "military oppressor," who without just necessity, was holding under arrest the citizens of the country, and who showed no manifestation to give them a hearing. Just in the moment when Gen. Hoke was organizing his plans for the reclamation of our invaded territory, these two—Mr. Holden and "John, the rascal," as the other organ, Joy, the Yankee, calls him—set about an accusation, stigmatizing our gallant leader, endeavoring to bring him into disrepute, to forfeit to him the confidence of his men, and render useless his eminent abilities—and all this reckless hazarding of our best interest, is done for the most selfish purpose! Not that the two have an iota of regard for the confederate cause, but simply to help Mr. Holden to a few votes. And so it is, day by day the fair name and fame of North Carolina is lowered throughout the land, by the everlasting thrusting of this obscure but notorious partisan politician before the public eye, in all sorts of attitudes except the only one where he and "John" would make a proper appearance—that of soldiers serving their country. Of all the men in the State, Mr. Holden, and the editor, and co-owner of the Progress ought to be in the ranks.

Mr. Holden pledged himself, when he pledged the "last man"—for he is emphatically "the last." "John" ought to go back, because his ill health prevented his having an opportunity before, and he is not satisfied;—and the co-owner falls under the pledge of the last dollar, as near as possible. If it had been the last dime, he would unquestionably have been included. No such spectacle was ever presented in any country, as that which North Carolina exhibits. That a man who has not been in the sound of a cannon, has not for a moment suffered disturbance in his business by the war, has not seen the foe, has not spent a night away from his family on account of the enemy, has not lost a particle of property, but has been comfortable and protected all the time—that this man, after a long continued denunciation of the Government and all of its measures, after striving his best to defeat the very measures of legislation which all the chief military officers united in saying were absolutely essential to the success of the cause, should be permitted, at the very time when the most vital, important and decisive campaign is about to begin, should be permitted, we say, to "put himself up," above the country and above our cause, and gathering around him his crew of malcontents, agitators, Tories and deluded victims, to stir up strife, discussion and agitations, and all for self—SELF! It is wonderful, amazing, that a people should be so meek and submissive, or Government should be so forbearing! Especially when they have the evidence against him any day which would justify the prevention of his evil designs; but not the least of the wilful, premeditated purposes of evil which these agitators bore, was this assault on Gen. Hoke.

The people of North Carolina—the poor people, as they are called—do not know Mr. Holden as well as we do. By constant reiteration, he has created an idea that he is a people's man; and he and his clan claim to be special champions of the people. He has not the first pretension to this title. No ally of his can lay his hand on the first act of his of disinterested sacrifice for the good of the people. If his monument were inscribed tomorrow, truth could not utter a panegyric in his behalf on this score. Indeed he is like all other politicians of his class—most loud in boasts, but most silent in acts. If he will go and take a musket and fight one battle, he will perform a useful action, and we will make a note of it.

Between this and the adjournment of Congress,

Mr. Holden and more besides him are destined to see and hear some things which they did not know were out. The success of Rahab and her house, grew out of the siege of Jericho; but if Jericho is not besieged, if the besieging army is driven out of the land before they get close enough to Rahab and her family to fulfill the promise, then how? Why, Rahab and her family may find themselves uncomfortably situated.

A torpedo is about to explode. We would warn men who have been deceived into a dangerous act to be "proceeding steps looking" to their "escape from the peril. Let the wise man take heed!"

Why Should there be Starvation?

We append a table of receipts by the Collector in the 3rd District, and also the Assessor's estimates. He who will take the trouble to calculate from the figures given, on the basis of a population in the District of 75,000 to 80,000, will discover that there has been raised of produce, besides the tenth part paid to Government:

Table with 2 columns: Crop and Quantity. Corn: 966,690 bushels. Wheat: 17,730. Rye: 19,170. Rice: 232,23. Sweet Potatoes: 228,024.

So that there is twelve bushels of corn, about a peck of wheat, the same of rye, three pounds of rice and three bushels of potatoes to every mouth.

Besides this, there is the reservation of fifty bushels of sweet and fifty of Irish potatoes, one hundred bushels of corn or fifty of wheat, and twenty of peas by each farmer; and then there is a further addition of all those small farmers who do not come enough to be assessed at all; and the fact is demonstrated to a mathematical certainty, that there is no lack of provisions in that District, but an abundance to spare.

We would be glad if the proper officers will furnish information from the other Districts, for the benefit of the people. Look further at the table which we present: over three hundred thousand pounds of bacon and pork in the month of March paid in! This is one-tenth, exclusive of the reservations by reason of the estimate of sixty pounds of bacon to one hundred of pork. The remaining nine parts amount to three millions of pounds in the District, or about one hundred pounds to every man, woman and child—besides beef, poultry, sausages, eggs, fish and game. This result is reached, with the population of the whole District estimated; while Carteret and Craven counties, both occupied by the enemy, are not included in the resources estimated; nor are Onslow and Jones. We have never doubted that there is food enough in the land, accessible, if not hoarded, to feed our people, and keep them from want. We have doubted, but we regret to say that each day removes the doubt, that the scarcity is to be attributed to unpatriotic hoarding, and this, together with a want of proper confidence in the government, causes the high, exorbitant, ruinous prices.

It is more in the interest of the farmers to remedy this evil than of any one else. If the future brings heavy taxation, perhaps worse, it will be attributed to this imposition of high prices on necessities; and in that day of reckoning, the originators of the evil will be foretold out; and on their heads will fall the burden.

Goldboro', April 23, 1864.

Cot. D. K. McRAE—Dear Sir:—In compliance with my promise, I send you a statement, showing the amount of tithes in the 3d Congressional District, (including two counties of the 2d.) as shown by the Assessor's estimate. Bear in mind that from Carteret county and Craven, we do not realize much, and have no estimates, and that a part of Onslow and Jones are declared "impracticable," and are, therefore, turned over to the District collector, to be collected in their money value; and that the estimates for "impracticable Districts" are not included in the following amounts. I do not fix prices, as you requested, because I do not know what they were in peace times.

Table with 2 columns: Crop and Quantity. Sweet Potatoes: 25,336 Bushels. Irish Potatoes: 122. Corn: 107,410. Wheat: 1,970. Oats: 2,694. Rye: 1,138. Rice: 27,316. Hay: 2,287,582. Fodder: 35,573. Cotton: 4,207. Wool: 237. Tobacco: 946 Bushels. Peas: 319. Green Peas: 319.

Assessor's estimates for Bacon not in.—Of this article, our Agents report 293,665 pounds, and 9,606 pounds salt pork, making an aggregate of 303,271 pounds collected in the month of March alone.

The Goldboro' Journal of yesterday, says twenty-two hundred of the white Yankee prisoners captured by Gen. Hoke, at Plymouth, will pass through this place to-day en route for their Confederate lodgings at Americus, Ga. They reached Rocky Mount late yesterday evening.

HELPING THEMSELVES.—We are informed that twenty-three sacks of meal, deposited at Centre Depot, to be sent to a distillery in Iredell county to be converted into whisky, were seized by some females in that neighborhood last week, and distributed to those in want of bread. This meal was to be turned into whisky in violation of law and without regard to the present urgent demand for bread, hence the decisive action of the women in the matter.—Charlotte Democrat.

ADVERTISING.

ADVERTISEMENTS will be inserted at THREE DOLLARS per square of ten lines (or less) for each insertion. Marriage notices and obituaries will be charged as advertisements.

JOB WORK.

JOB WORK of every description will be executed at this Office with dispatch, and as neatly as can be done anywhere in the Southern Confederacy.

Col. James M. Whitson Killed by Buffaloes.

By a letter that ought to have reached us several days since, we are informed of the death of this brave and meritorious officer.—He was at home, in Carrick county, on the 14th; his house was surrounded by "Buffaloes" at night, and he attempted to make his escape, when he was shot and struck by three balls, and killed. This was about the 14th or 15th inst.

These are all the particulars we have received of this sad affair. We hope the various counties will soon be cleared of the Yankee allies and protectors of this infamous herd of Buffaloes, when the loyal citizens will have an opportunity of "taking their own affairs into their own hands" by inflicting summary justice upon them. There is a fearful day of retribution in store for them; and not only these, but many others who esteem themselves out of harm's way, far in the rear, too cowardly to take up arms, or shoot a Confederate soldier a la Buffaloe, but no less dangerous in plotting mischief and sowing the seeds of discord and strife.

Shreveport Victory Confirmed.

A Sergeant who arrived at Rome, Ga., on the 18th, from Jackson, West Tennessee, Gen. Forrest's Headquarters, says that the day before he left, full particulars had been received at Jackson, through the Memphis Bulletin, of the recent Yankee defeat near Shreveport, and that they admit a loss of from twelve to fifteen thousand men. This, he states, may be relied on, because the Memphis (Yankee) Bulletin is particularly careful not to over-estimate Yankee losses.

The same gentleman reports that Forrest had, when he left him, between seven and eight thousand men, and that "once we rapidly organizing" through that part of Tennessee in him. He made a speech to the citizens of London, in which he assured them that he would now hold that section of the State, unless a very large infantry force should be sent against him. The greatest enthusiasm prevails among Forrest's men, and gladness and joy swell the bosoms of all true men and women in that section of the State.

Pennington's Receipts.

A correspondent, of the 4th N. C. Cavalry, "gives us a glowing account (which we have not room for in full) of a grand Festival furnished the 4th N. C. Cavalry by the citizens of Oxford on the 18th inst. This regiment was about taking up its line of march for Virginia, after a recruiting service, and the citizens took occasion to show compliment and encourage the war-worn veterans of that command. The table was filled with substantial delicacies, to which ample justice was done. After which the young ladies of the Oxford Female College furnished them with a rich musical entertainment that sent the blood a-tingle with patriotic ardor through every vein. Cupid was about also, our correspondent says, and played sad havoc with "hearts and darts."

Much gratitude is expressed—that day promised never to be forgotten, and the remembrance that it is for these lovely fair ones they fight, will add renewed courage to their hearts and vigor to their arms, when they meet the vile invader who comes to enslave and degrade them.

The General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, Confederate States, will hold its second annual Convention at Orange Church, Beville, Rowan county, N. C., on Thursday, May 12, 1864, before the third Sunday in May.

List of Wounded.

Through the kindness of Doctor Hunt, (says the Goldboro' Journal,) we are enabled to lay before our readers this morning a list of forty of the wounded, who participated in the late battle at Plymouth, and were received in the General Hospital in this place, on the 22d inst. We are informed by the Doctor that they are all very slightly wounded and are doing well.

List of Wounded received at General Hospital No. 3, Goldboro', N. C., on the 22d inst.

- SIXTH N. C. REGIMENT.—Company A., Private J. E. Borden; company B., Privates J. E. Saunders, J. Tillery and A. Weevil; company C., Sergeant J. E. Lyon, Private John McGee; company E., Private K. Pittman; company F., E. Nelson; company H., Private F. Page; company I., Privates John Childress and A. B. Ephraim; company K., Privates E. P. Hyatt and John Reece. EIGHTH N. C. REGIMENT.—Company I., Private A. Boggs. TWENTY-FIFTH N. C. REGIMENT.—Company D., Private J. C. Boyles; company F., Private A. M. King; company H., Privates W. W. Ashburn and Jno. Martin; company I., C. H. Boyles; company K., Private C. Flynn. THIRTY-FIFTH N. C. REGIMENT.—Company A., Private J. A. Costin; company C., Private Neal Smith. FORTY-THIRD N. C. REGIMENT.—Company A., Privates L. R. Graham and L. J. Quinn; company B., Private A. W. Simmons; company E., Private J. H. Wood; company H., Private W. J. Ashcraft; company K., Private W. H. Meeks. FIFTY-SIXTH N. C. REGIMENT.—Company A., Private K. Setton; company B., Private W. Handy; company D., Lieut. C. B. Wilson; Privates J. B. Miller and G. W. Montgomery; company G., Private E. Carlton. TWENTY-FIFTH GEORGIA REGIMENT.—Company F., Private W. B. Phillips; company G., Private L. W. Jones. TWENTY-FOURTH VIRGINIA REGIMENT.—Company B., Private H. A. Metts. BRADFORD'S (MRS.) ARTILLERY.—T. L. Russell.