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A Pic-nic on Enoree.

Last week the writer was notified by some of his old companions in arms that there would be a pic-nic given to Company "E" (the Quitman Riflemen) at Soudley's Mill, (formerly Brazziman's) on Enoree River, with an injunction to bring with him some lady-friend. A kind and hospitable family in the neighborhood were so good as to send to town for me the day previous, and after a y packing up of a few articles of wearing apparel, I seated myself with some slacker by the side of the young Jehu of sable hue, who rattled off the nine miles upon the smooth summer roads in good time, though it was with some difficulty that he could keep awake between the soothing motion of the buggy, and the somnolent effects of the afternoon sun. The pleasant reflections of a drive into the country, with a pleasant visit in perspective, and a reunion of old comrades on the morrow, made this little jaunt a pleasant one, and the hospitable reception at the end of the journey was a no less agreeable sequel. The morning of the pic-nic was bright and unclouded, promising to be sultry, but proving to be a breezy summer day, which might have been joy-inspiring but for the unhappy condition of our country. As I rode to the place of rendezvous in a carri-ge with a lady-friend, we passed through a section of country of long settlement and ancient cultivation, whose successive red and yellow hills were still clothed with promising crops of corn. The summer fruits gave promise of speed abundance, and the road-sides were fringed with the prolific blackberry bushes whose lingering crop of glossy red and blackberries, mingled in rich and beautiful contrast as they hung in pendant clusters along the hedge-rows. We passed the handsome residences of several thriving planters, and one extensive negro quarter where a very long row of cabins was built in an extensive grove of shade trees, both of which reached farther than we could see, as the row of houses was built upon a gently descending slope which terminated in a slight ravine. Arrived at the place of rendezvous we found most of the company disposed in groups at distant intervals, the main body or reserve being nearer the river, seated on cushions and engaged in game and cards or flirtations. They were very quiet when we and others joined them, and we were met with the rather sudden intelligence, that the expected death of a young lady near Maybinton had prevented a large number from attending. This and other considerations threw a damper upon our enjoyment, and I for one was not disposed to be hilarious. There were but few of the Quitman's present, and the meeting to me was more sad than merry. Even our circuit Captain whose hilarity rarely ever flags, and whose flow of spirits is to me a source of wonder not to say envy, seemed at first to feel the contagious influence of the quiet party, but as his motto seems to be, "beyond dull care" he gradually worked himself up to a reasonable pitch of enjoyment, and with his usual brusquerie teased and worried others into a state of playful excitement. He was looking uncommonly well, owing to his successful defiance of care and his natural good looks and merry-heartedness. A number of swains and elderly gentlemen remained apart in groups, *à la Americaine*, and did not join the ladies and the main-body or reserve till the attack on the viands was made at the hour of noon. The dinner *à la fresco* was laid under a wide spreading mulberry tree, where there was plenty of shade and soft grass, in a cool nook near the spring, which was situated on a little rise just above, under the canopy of four or five large oaks. The viands were very tempting indeed, consisting of cold ham and mutton, cold chicken prepared in various modes, chicken salad, potato salad, pickles, biscuits, a la mode, loaf bread, pound cakes, fruit cakes, soft ginger bread, fruit jugs, custards, preserve patties, blackberry marmalade, apples, peaches and water-melons. Every one partook with great zest of these good things, proving the fact that the good people and especially the ladies of this neighborhood are very successful caterers on pic-nic occasions, which are common occurrences with them. The merit of the party was perceptibly augmented at this very social repast and the flow of mirth was kept up pret y well till the time of departure. After dinner most of the Quitmans had accidentally seated themselves upon a kind of semi-circular bank or shelving terrace near where the collation had been spread, and thus formed an impromptu tableau to which the attention of the rest of the company was directed, and which was facetiously called a line of battle from the fact of our being in a line, albeit a curve. By accident our late commander, Capt. R. H. W., was seated or rather reclined with myself at the head of the row. His genuine admiration of the fair sex had been gratified on the occasion, for although he had formerly not been a professed lady's man, he had on this day been unusually attentive and seemed to have had a pleasant time in his quiet way. Near to us were seated three of the smaller members of the company, the lovely, the good-humored Sam. Murtshaw, a prisoner from Point Lockout, and Jeffrey E., "the beautiful, the blue eyed", and Wiley B., "the good looking little ex-captain. Then came Owen T., another ex-captain, and for-

merly of great personal energy, though now apparently more subdued and something more "spirituelle," then came rollicking Jim C., who also bids defiance to dull care and practices the Latin motto "carpe diem." Little Edward C., was also there with his Scotch-Irish physiognomy, and John M., who is also not very large in size but who has always had a good time and a fund of good humor. Lieut. T. S. M., who also ranks in size with the above named, came in at the eleventh hour and was looking uncommonly well. L. K. G., was there also and is also one of the diminutive. There was scarcely one of the "tall greendiers" there, J. C., was the only one of them present. The hilarity at and after dinner was of an agreeable character without being at all uproarious, and the parting was rather sad after all, though I returned to the hospitable mansion of my friends where I spent some days most agreeably in social intercourse, whilst at meals I was regaled with the abundant "creature comforts," which that mansion is famous for, especially with abundance of fresh fish, which the male members of the family supplied in bushels for several successive days, having caught them in the novel mode of grabbing as well as seining. It was a most agreeable jaunt into the country, and a sojourn which I shall long remember.

Headquarters Department of the South.

HILTON HEAD, S. C., June 27, 1864.
GENERAL ORDERS,
No. 102.

With a view to establish and preserve good order, settle disputes, encourage industry, compel obedience to laws and orders and educate the poor, the following rules and regulations are hereby established, and will be put in operation throughout this Department with as little delay as practicable:

I. District Commanders will divide their commands into sub-districts of suitable size, each comprising one or more counties, parishes or congressional districts. To each sub-district they will assign a commanding officer, (with a suitable number of troops) an Assistant Provost Marshal, and an Assistant Provost Judge. A permanent Provost Guard will be placed under the immediate orders of the Assistant Provost Marshal.

II. Within each sub-district Superior Provost Courts, and Circuit Provost Courts, composed of not more than three members each—shall be held at stated times and places. The superior and circuit provost courts to have concurrent jurisdiction over all cases as hereinafter specified that can be properly tried before them.

III. The Superior Provost Court will habitually hold its sessions at sub-district headquarters, and will be presided over by the Assistant Provost Judge, who may associate with him, as he may see fit, respectable loyal citizens, giving the preference to local magistrates, other things being equal.

IV. Circuit Provost Courts shall be held at important points and at stated times, within the sub-district, and shall be presided over by one of the members of the Superior Provost Court, designated by the sub-district commander for that purpose. The president of the Circuit Provost Court may associate with him one, or two loyal citizens or magistrates.

V. The courts above named shall have power to try all cases between citizens, and between citizens and soldiers, and all crimes and all violations of military orders and the laws of the United States which do not come within the jurisdiction of a court martial, and to issue the usual process for the attendance of witnesses, and decrees for the possession of property, and for the payment of debts, damages and costs. The decrees will go only to the right of possession and not of property. They may impose fine not exceeding one hundred dollars (\$100), and imprisonment not exceeding two months. Offences by citizens requiring a severer punishment, will be tried by a military commission. They will appoint their clerks and other officers, and shall keep a record of their proceedings subject to the revision of sub-district and higher commanders, and shall adopt rules and forms of procedure, which shall be as simple as possible. Citizens members of courts may be allowed three dollars for each day's attendance. The fees charged will be merely sufficient to pay all expenses.

VI. Appeals from the Provost Courts will be had to the sub-district and district commanders, under such rules and on such terms as the district commanders may provide.

VII. All parties to suits before the Superior or Circuit Provost Courts may employ counsel. For all persons bringing suit or appearing as counsel before said courts, as well as the citizen members of said courts, will be required to give proof that they have taken the oath of allegiance.

VIII. It is the duty of the military authorities throughout this Department, when called upon to do so, to aid the assistant commissioners and agents of the "Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands," in the execution of duties under the laws of the United States and the orders of the commissioner of said Bureau issued in accordance therewith; and, when there is no such assistant commissioner or agent upon the spot, to take cognizance themselves of all violations of such laws and orders. All cases of such violation may be tried before the courts hereinabove authorized.

IX. All cases properly coming within the jurisdiction of these courts will be brought to trial promptly, and all unnecessary arrests of citizens will be avoided.

X. The existence of the courts hereinabove authorized, will cease whenever and wherever the functions of the officers of the civil laws are restored to operation by proper authority.

XI. District and sub-district commanders are directed to provide, whenever practicable, for the education of the children of the poor within their commands, and for that purpose they are authorized to detail regimental chaplains and non-commissioned officers and privates for teachers.

The education of the children of Refugees and Freedmen will be relinquished into the hands of the assistant commissioners and agents of the Freedmen's Bureau, whenever they are in readiness to take charge of the same. By Command of
Major-General O. A. GILLMORE,
W. L. M. BENNETT,
Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:
July 19 1865

Head Quarters, Military Dist. West'n S. C. FOURTH SEPARATE BRIGAD. NEWBERRY, JULY 15, 1865.

GEN. ORDERS,
No. 3.

I. The case of John B. Glymph, by his own statement, shows that he had a conversation with a freedman, on his plantation, about the contract, who wished to consult a United States officer to ascertain if it was correct, and so told Mr. Glymph. Glymph was indignant that the colored man should not confide in him, and when he started for this place, seized a shot gun and deliberately fired, the contents entering the arm and back of the negro. As Glymph has been several days in jail, it is ordered that he be released on executing a bond, with sufficient security, to keep the peace and appear for trial whenever called.

II. Wm. Lemons is a clerk in a hotel at this place. Barrel Mayes, whom no one would suppose to be anything but Anglo-Saxon, has a taint of African blood. Some time ago he escaped from his master, went to Columbia, volunteered as a soldier, under the name of John Brown, in a South Carolina Regt., was wounded in the battle of the Wilderness, captured, sent North, and finally returned as a prisoner of war.

Lemons makes the justification for assault and battery, that Mayes came into the hotel and requested him to take charge of his carpet bag, passing it over the counter. The next day he returned, procured his carpet bag and went on his way. By some means Lemons learned that Mayes was tainted with African blood; he became enraged, that a negro should ask him to do any service, followed until he found and commenced beating him.

As there is not the shadow of an excuse for his conduct he must remain in jail until a competent court can punish him as he deserves.

III. John Whitman charged by a freed woman with beating her, was arrested, and on examination states that he was informed the woman was insolent to his wife, the particulars or provocation for which he did not ascertain; but he took the woman, striped her naked, tied her down, and then with leather strap gave 25 stripes. This is clearly a case of assault and battery, and would be punished as such except that Mr. Whitman alleges that he would never have punished the woman had he not supposed he had a right so to do, from the fact that Capt. Murray, of the 25th Ohio Vol., lately commanding at this place, approved contracts with the power inserted to the employer to punish, and also told them in numerous instances that they could buck and gag and tie up by the thumbs whenever necessary. This is the excuse given for many outrages committed upon the colored people in this section of the State.

That there may be no excuse for future offences, the Brev't Brig. Gen'l Com'dg issues this Order, directed to all the districts in his command, viz: Lancaster, Fairfield, Chester, York, Union, Newberry, Edgefield, Abbeville, Laurens, Spartanburg, Greenville, Anderson and Pickens.

Why an officer in the United States service should approve contracts with such a dangerous delegation of power, and in addition authorize the exercise of punishment so brutal and inhuman, as seldom to be used in the army, is very remarkable. The contract said the punishment should be lawful. Yet no man so stupid but knows that the lawful punishment which slavery imposes cannot now be allowed to scourge the naked back and limbs of free men and women. Slavery and the lash are synonymous, you cannot separate one from the other in the mind of the African. Yet a girl whose insolence may have been produced, as sometimes it is, by violent and threatening language, or insolence if you please, from the white person, who was of size to be held in Mr. Whitman's left hand, is tied and beat, on the supposition that it was right, because a United States officer had delegated such power. The colored people are told they are free, yet under the shield of the United States government, they are flogged some of them as they never were before. There are many persons who feel all the bitterness which the rebellion engendered, and while brooding over the mortification of defeat, loss of property, and emancipation of slaves, exhibit the cruel meanness of wreaking vengeance upon the innocent and helpless freedmen.

After the publication of this order, like offences will be severely punished. You have sworn to sustain the proclamation of the President, consequently the abolition of slavery. Such conduct you will readily see is a violation of your parole, a forfeiture of your oath. Nearly all the difficulties attending the immediate emancipation of so large a class, and the transition from slave to free labor, could be removed entirely, or greatly mitigated by a cheerful acquiescence on the part of all.

Some very foolish, if not very wicked men are contributing not only to their own injury, but that of the entire state. By disregarding the rights of the freedmen, they contempt and despise the authority of the United States, and render necessary the presence of military power, to prevent that which they ought to do, and to accomplish that which they ought to effect. To day the spirit of rebellion against the emancipation of slavery, rebellion against the rights freedmen grants to all, without regard to color or rank. No one can deny that many are believing slavery will not be destroyed by a refusal of the States to amend the constitution. Many are striving to em-

barrass the system of free labor, with a view to show the world that slavery ought not to be abolished; also to make the condition of the freedmen miserable, so they should feel that their condition was preferable in slavery to freedom. Another fact is evident, that the freedmen have no confidence in their former masters. They look upon them as those through whom for years they have been held in servitude, and who they fear would lose no opportunity to ramand them back to slavery.

With these facts, conceded, the course of the former master is plain. The dogma of State rights as you understood the fatal and bloody definition of secession, taught from your earliest infancy; Slavery, with which you have been reared from the cradle, have, in consequence of your own acts, been forever destroyed. They are dead, with no more hope of resurrection than a separate Confederacy, buried beneath the best blood of the republic, and amidst the graves of hundreds of thousands whom the nation will mourn for years. You put in peril your own institutions and your own country to destroy this republic, and failed; accept now the fruits of the rebellion, bitter though they be, and carry out the terms of your surrender and allegiance in the spirit of chivalric men. Do not, because you may be distant from a military post, visit upon the harmless and unoffending negro the hostilities and resentments you feel against the United States.

However obnoxious it may be, every man is free and must be treated as such, that done the whole is accomplished, and nearly every obstacle removed. You have been for years learning the folly of resistance to the Government and have been almost ruined. Surrender now at the outset all prejudice against universal liberty. Your own happiness and prosperity demand it. Encourage the system of free labor. Develop its resources, and the waste places will blossom once more, and grass grow green on battle plains. Your own welfare depends on the welfare of the colored race. Without his labor your fields will not be cultivated, your wealth not increase. When you make his condition miserable, it reacts and entails the same upon yourself. Treat him kindly. Learn him by your acts that you consider him free and desire not to enslave him again, and you restore his confidence.

After four years of bitter war, after you had exhausted all the resources of a mighty section, the progress of a better people, you ask that we may be lenient, forgiving, and not exasperate your people. What you ask will be granted. The Government of the United States, its people, its army, every officer and soldier will treat you kindly. In return they ask that what is meted out to you who have done so much of wrong to yourselves and the republic, shall be cheerfully by you meted out to a people without guilt, who are free because they cannot avoid it, who have not been even required to stretch forth the hand to take the proffered boon. A people faithful while you were absent in the army, neither destroying your lands, houses or family. Yet never known to withhold aid or betray the path of the Union prisoner.

You cannot expect the sudden change in your system of labor to work smoothly at first. The negro is to be learned to discharge the duties and obligations freedom enjoins, as well as a true conception of the rights it guarantees.

He is to be taught that there is no immunity from labor; that in the sweat of his brow must he earn his bread. That he is not entitled to any share of his former master's land, or mules, or stock. That he has only been given the title to himself; that he can no more be sold on the auction block. That the wife cannot be taken from his bosom, that the child from his side, and sold forever from his sight. That veracity, and silence and theft will be punished by the proper authority, because they are crimes in all regulated society. That while he can make contracts he is bound by them when made, and must fulfill them. That he cannot throw down the hoe and abandon the crop at pleasure, but will be required faithfully to labor and obey his employer in all lawful commands, and not absent himself from his duty without permission. That he must be respectful and courteous; that insolence is no more to be tolerated from a freedman than a slave.

Most of this instruction must be imparted by their former owners, but necessary that they should learn to recognize the rights and thereby be placed in a position more effectually to teach the duties of freedmen.

Many of the freedmen are declining to sign contracts unless they can be told by proper authority they are right. The power to punish reserved in some contracts, and the continuance of the lash, have moved their suspicions, and they prefer working on, leaving it to the employers to give them what they choose, for fear by making a mark on paper they will sign away some of their liberty. After consultation with citizens of this section, it is proposed to form a basis of emancipation, in a general order, which will be just to all, to apply where no contract has been made, and which will extend to all the districts in this command.

The many good citizens who are contributing, by word and deed, to have accepted the new order of affairs, will deserve well of their State, if they can so mould public sentiment, that the same spirit which led to rebellion four years ago may now be powerless to embarrass their communities by thwarting the design of the government.

Courts will soon be established in every

district within this command, as directed by orders from Dep't. Head Quarters, where testimony of witnesses will be taken without regard to color.

In order to assist this section of the State, to the extent of his power, with a view of more fully explaining to all, the planters and freedmen, the nature of their rights and duties, the Brev't Brig. Gen'l Com'dg, will designate three or four places in each district, of which public notice will be given, where he will meet the inhabitants, and save many the necessity of a long ride to the Court House town of the District. Planters are requested to inform the freedmen of the time and object of the meeting, and encourage them to be present, so their obligations may be explained, and misconception, as to liberty beyond the law, may be corrected.

The clause inserted in former contracts delegating the power to punish, is hereby declared null and void.

The laws of this State in regard to the distillation of liquors will be enforced. Only fruits in their season, and not cereals, can be distilled. The sale of liquors will be regulated as your State laws provide. Hereafter none will be sold except by permission of commanding officers of sub-districts.

By command of Brevet Brig. Genl.

C. H. VAN WYCK,
HENRI B. LOOMIS,
1st Lt. & Adj't. 56th N. Y. V., A.D.C., and
Pro. Marshal.

Important Decision.

The reader, of every class, will do well to note the following important decision, copied from the Richmond Whig, of May 26. The principle laid down will, as a matter of course, regulate all the relations of debtor and creditor, as well as those of landlord and tenant.

The Court yesterday, delivered its written opinion in relation to contracts entered into between landlord and tenant on the basis of Confederate money. Rent due prior to April 1, 1865, and not paid, is to be paid in Federal currency, such a sum as the amount of rent in Confederate money would have purchased of gold at the time the payment was due. Thus, if the rent were \$1,500 per quarter, the sum to be now paid for the rent due March 31 is ascertained by dividing the \$1,500 by (say) 60, the selling rate of gold, equal to 25 in greenbacks. From and after the 1st April, 1865, rent for the unexpired term is for dwelling houses, fixed at the rates in 1860, and for stores and other places of public business an addition of 50 per cent.

Tomlin against Giles. This case was decided, so far as concerns the rent, in accordance with the principle above announced. The rent in 1860, as a dwelling house, was \$300. If used and rented then for a place of public business, as a portion of it now is, the rent would have probably been \$400. Add to this latter fifty per cent, and the rent is ascertained which the tenant shall pay.

BE SHORT.—We remember seeing, a dozen years ago, in prominent letters over the study-door of a most useful man the words, "Be Short." How much, it occurred to us, is comprehended in those monosyllables, and how much meaning in placing them there. Long calls, inquisitive and tedious conversation, had frittered away too many valuable moments of a life that was not to be long, its possessor having died before he reached the age of fifty years. Yet there is scarcely a lesson which men are so slow to learn as this one, "be short."

In prayer and preaching and singing—in authorship and business—in meetings, in speeches—in the thousand and one details of every-day life there is a marvellous absence of dispatch. The railway and telegraph are doing somewhat to educate the people, and yet the tedious that drags its slow length along, is still the impediment (we had almost said the vice) of multitudes. The number is not relatively large who know how to accomplish well, and at the same time be brief. Who passes through an anniversary season—of ten through a Sabbath, too—without wishing, at some point, not for ear-trumpets so much as condensers? The result is tedious, and how of effect—a result that is often more far reaching than is dreamed of.

"Be short!" These two words mean much. They give greatest satisfaction in argument, in conversation in visiting, in writing, in almost every thing. They accomplish things, which too many words and too much defiance would imperil with failure. They red-empt time, that all-comprehending and all-meaning something we call our own, on the right and saving use of which depend the wonders of good we may do, and the treasures we may lay up for the long needs of eternity. All our losses and perils here spring from the misuse or abuse of time. Opportunities here, relative to duration, and importance, are more to be considered than ages of eternity.

A HORRIBLE AFFAIR.—A correspondent of the Savannah Republican states that three white planters, living above the Ashlepool Ferry, S. C., were murdered a short time since by some colored persons. The names of the unfortunate individuals were Dear, West and Richdale. They were living on a plantation owned by Wm. Lowndes.

That was a good joke on a young and gallant Hoosier officer, who, on receiving a note from a lady, "requesting the pleasure of his company" at a party to be given at her house, on the evening designated, took his volunteers and marched them to the young lady's residence. When it was explained to him that it was himself alone who had been invited, he said, "By golly, the letter said company, and I thought the lady wanted to see all the boys."

"Do'sticks" is making a paper at Atlanta, Ga.