

WINNSBORO.

TUESDAY MORNING, APRIL 18, 1865.

To Correspondents.

We have on file one or two communications, which, as soon as our space will permit, will be laid before our readers.

E. W. W.

We present, this morning, No. 1 of a series of letters from E. W. W., of Camden, S. C., who proposes to give us a letter when anything of sufficient importance occurs to justify it. Our readers will find his letter presented to them this morning very interesting, and by our next issue we hope to give a more full account of all the country visited in the late raid of the enemy, through which our correspondent will pass.

Reference.

In another column will be found a more thorough description than has yet been given, of the march of Sherman's army through Fairfield District. It is written by one of our most influential citizens, and we call especial attention to it.

Episcopal Election.

At an election held on Easter Monday, for Wardens and Vestrymen for the joint Churches of St. John's, Winnsboro, and for St. Stephen's, Ridgeway, the following is the result:

Wardens for St. John's—Josiah O'Bear, Eff. Wagner.

Vestrymen—W. R. Robertson, R. B. Boylston, Jos. D. Aiken, C. McClenaghan, W. S. Rabb.

Vestry for St. Stephen's—E. G. Palmer, Sr., H. C. Davis.

Delegates to the Convention—E. G. Palmer, Sr., J. D. Aiken, C. McClenaghan.

Secretary and Treasurer—Eff. Wagner.

Telegraphic Summary.

We condense the telegraphic news received in the past two or three days, giving the most important to our readers.

A dispatch from Macon on the 15th, says that the Governor has ordered out all the militia for home defence.

From Augusta, under date of the 15th, it is said that Montgomery was evacuated on the 11th, and all the cotton burned. All public stores and property were previously removed. The telegraph line was working through to Chehaw, twenty-two miles from Montgomery. East Montgomery was not threatened at last dates.

Under date of the 14th dispatching from Augusta, it is said that Havana dates of March 22, say that Maximilian will recognize, immediately, the Southern Confederacy, and open them a port at Tampico, or some other point, in which to carry their prizes for adjudication and sale. The non-recognition, by Washington, of the administration of the Mexican Empire, has been the production of very unpleasant feelings on the part of Maximilian towards the United States.

European dates of March 19 announce the failure of several large blockade-running firms.

Foreign emigration to the United States has opened briskly, and early arrivals from Ireland indicate a large movement through the present season.

Vallandigham has refused to become a candidate for Governor of Ohio.

Later dispatches from Augusta, of the 16th, say that Montgomery was evacuated on Tuesday evening. All the cotton warehouses were burned and piles of cotton destroyed, estimated at 80,000 bales. The telegraph operator reported the enemy on the outskirts of the city on Tuesday evening. Gen. Forrest, when last heard from, was twelve miles west of Selma, and when it was learned at Montgomery that he was not pursuing the enemy the city was evacuated. Gov. Watts and other officers of the State Government arrived at Columbus deeply chagrined at the capture of the capitol of Alabama by 6,000 Yankee cavalry, mounted infantry and artillery, which advanced on two roads, Benton and Lowndesboro, of 3,000 in each column. Gov. Watts retired to Eufaula.

Much censure is visited on officers in command for their disgraceful mis-understanding and incompetency and of their reckless operations.

Yankee reports of the battles around Petersburg is here given, but we deem them a pack of lies and not fit for the eye of a Southern man.

Gov. Brown, of Ga., has issued a pro-

clamation ordering all the militia to Columbus immediately.

Gen. G. W. Smith, issues orders No. 1, April 15, 1865, rendezvousing at Columbus without delay all men under fifty years of age, and those of sixty to remain and be ready to move at a moment's notice. All is ordered to obey Gov. Brown's call for active service.

[CORRESPONDENCE TRI-WEEKLY NEWS.]

Letter from Camden.

No. 1.

An account of the recent Raid of the Enemy in Sumter and Clarendon Districts.

CAMDEN, S. C., April 14, 1865.

MR. EDITOR: I take pleasure in giving to the public, through your columns, an account of the march of the enemy through the Districts above mentioned. The enemy came up in gunboats to Nelson's Ferry, in Clarendon, and landing about two thousand men, consisting of one regiment of white and four regiments of black troops, infantry, and about one hundred cavalry, they made a rapid march for the village of Sumter, arriving there on Tuesday evening, the 11th. On entering the town they immediately set fire to the depot, which they destroyed, together with one store. Scouts report that this was all the property they burned. A force of militia had been collected to dispute the occupation of the town, numbering about one hundred men. Lieut. McQueen, an artillery officer, volunteering his services, was put in command of two pieces of artillery, which he served, with about twelve picked men. The enemy attacked us with spirit, but were held in check by this handful but gallant band, for the space of three hours. Every man did his duty bravely, and did not yield his position until the enemy's cavalry had flanked them and charged our troops from the rear, when we were necessitated to give way with the loss of the gallant McQueen, who was killed at his post, refusing to abandon his guns, which, however, were captured by the enemy, and were used afterwards by them in firing a salute, in the town of Sumter, in honor of the fall of Richmond, Petersburg, Selma and Mobile.

There was also another officer killed, whose name I have been unable to learn. These were all the losses sustained; some few others being slightly wounded. The enemy acknowledges in the Sumter Watchman, which they edited for two days, their losses at thirty-five wounded and twenty-five killed. Their names even were given, not a usual custom with that race of liars. The inhabitants were not molested as far as I was able to learn from our scouts, and very few articles taken from them.

On Wednesday they advanced on the Manchester road, occupied Statesburg, burning the Clarendon depot, with their pickets at Beech's creek. On Thursday they fell back to Manchester, twelve miles, and occupied it for the night, burning the depot, on their way to their gunboats.

Gen. Lewis' brigade of cavalry went in pursuit, and, ere this, we hope have come up with the enemy.

The object of the enemy seems to have been the taking off of negroes, which our scouts report to have been thoroughly carried out, as large numbers were seen on their way to the boats. Eight steamers went up the river as far as Fort Motte and landed a part of the troops of the expedition; these, however, have not advanced into the country, but confined themselves to the plantations in the vicinity, collecting provisions and stealing generally.

I have given most of the facts as reported at headquarters in Camden by couriers and scouts.

I have made a hurried statement of these facts, as I suppose it would be a gratification to those who have friends in those districts to hear something of their treatment by the enemy.

E. W. W.

The Yankee papers are making a great parade over what they call a "Union meeting" held by the citizens of Wilmington, N. C. They publish a list of those present claiming to be citizens, but we do not believe there is a dozen names in the list who are really citizens of Wilmington. Some of the persons advertised as being present we know were not there, whilst others are citizens of another county. M. Q. Wadswell, whose name we find in the list, is a citizen of Chatham county, and who, we are confident, never attended a Union meeting in Wilmington. There are others named in the list whom we know to be citizens of Wayne and other counties, and who, it is likely, were not within one hundred miles of Wilmington when the meeting was held. We presume the list was made up by some Yankee reporter for the purpose of making a show and deceiving the public.—Charlotte Democrat.

[FOR THE TRI-WEEKLY NEWS.] The late invasion of Fairfield District by Sherman's Army.

About the 18th of February, immediately after the fall of Columbia, Sherman's army entered the South-western boundary of Fairfield. Sweeping over it like a hurricane or tornado, carrying destruction in its progress, leaving behind it, smoking ruins, an insulted, robbed people, many impoverished families, and desolated homes. Long will the inhabitants remember the last ten days of February 1865. A people are not likely to forget the memorable period when they were pillaged and plundered and perhaps burnt out. They can never forget the day when their homes—upon which had been spent the labor of a lifetime, and where they had collected many comforts and cherished reminiscences—were reduced to ashes. With the exception of a narrow strip in the upper part and a few houses over Cedar Creek near the line of Richland—all of Fairfield has suffered. This plundering, pillaging, house-burning horde spread out all over the country for a space of forty or fifty miles, exploring field and forest, highlands and lowlands, old fields, new grounds, briar thickets and pine thickets, broom grass fields, meadows, gardens, orchards and grave yards. Instead of marching in heavy columns along the high way or in squads along by-paths or country roads, as many erroneously conceived they would do, they extended out to the right and left respectively of roads, taking one broad sweep of the country. No house however small, obscure or retired in its situation escaped their attention. The cavalry galloped up at full speed, dismounted, rushed into the house without speaking to any one, or observing any of the civilities of civilized life, went up stairs and down stairs, into garrets, cellars, parlors, closets, family apartments, sleeping rooms, breaking open boxes, chests, drawers, bureaus, trunks, secretaries, desks, side boards, clothes presses, wardrobes, abstracting all desirable articles, such as blankets and fine quilts, which in many instances they put on their sore-backed horses, ladies clothing and gentleman's clothing, and elegantly wrought pillow cases which they converted into four bags, sometimes strewing the contents of bureaus and of wardrobes all over the floor, and occasionally tearing fine silk dresses into shreds. All decency and civility were ignored. The private apartments of ladies were unceremoniously entered, and rummaged and the ladies themselves called by such vile epithets as the Yankee vocabulary contains. Ear-rings and finger-rings, bracelets, breastpins, watches, medallions and other jewelry were rudely torn from their persons, and in some cases by the hands of their own negro men who were forced to do it by pistols and bayonets presented to their breasts. In one instance at least, the clothes intended for an unborn infant were taken. Gold and silver and ardent spirits were the most coveted. To the scandal of humanity be it recorded that monuments and tombs were searched, graves interrupted, and coffins disinterred and broken open in quest of concealed treasures. Horses and mules were driven off. Colts and young horses that could not be caught and bridled were shot down. Fairfield is stripped of horses and mules, with the exception of a few here and there which were run by the planters and some broken down sore-backed emaciated animals left by the invaders, there were no horses in the District immediately subsequent to the departure of the Yankees. There are some now collecting from the adjacent Districts. Planters generally have next to no means of making a crop so far as horse power is concerned. Men who formerly made over 2,000 bushels of corn and 100 bales of cotton are now in a condition to do little or nothing on their farms. A few acres of corn perhaps are now planting in partially prepared grounds by oxen, feeble army horses and by hoes. The country for the time being paralyzed. In the absence of soldiers who are scouring the country in different directions, grass would grow upon some of our highways this summer. Many of the usual operations of the country are for the present suspended. There is little or nothing doing in the shops or tan yards. Some of the customary errands are dispensed with or are performed on foot. Some of the doctors are visiting their patients on foot. Men—who before the invasion were mounted on all occasions visiting their nearest farms and neighbors as well as the more distant on horses, and ladies who could scarcely visit friends or go to church, though ever so near without a driver, a carriage and all the appurtenances of a fashionable travelling establishment—have to stay at home or become pedestrians. Corn in many instances is carried to mill in small parcels on the shoulders of men, not on the backs of mules or in wagons. We have

mentioned the subject of mills, and there are but few of them. With but few exceptions, they have fallen victims to the spoiler. All gin houses were burnt and all the cotton amounting to thousands of bales. In many instances barns, corn-cobs, and stables with their contents were burnt. Unoccupied dwelling houses were consumed, and in quite a frequent number of cases, houses occupied by their owners shared the same fate. The premises of Capt. Stitt, William Brice, John Adger, Dr. McMaster, Richard Cathcart and James Turner and many others whose names we are not prepared at present to give—were swept as with the bosom of destruction. An aggravating circumstance connected with the case of Mr. Turner was that the mother, a venerable lady of 90 years of age, then on her death bed, had to be carried out of the house to escape the flames, notwithstanding the fact that her situation was made known to the incendiary and plead with earnestness and importunity.

Winnsboro experienced some of the tender mercies of the enemy—marks of the vandals presence are to be seen. Some twenty-four houses were burnt with a considerable amount of cotton and other valuable articles—the sufferers being Dr. Boylston, John Cathcart, Charles Cathcart, Dr. Aiken, Dr. Lauderdale, Messrs. Wolfe, McCully, Hilliard, Elder, Jackson, Cremer, Mrs. Ladd and others it may be. The Episcopal church became a prey to the vindictive spirit. A coffin was exhumed from an adjacent grave, and put in an upright position to witness the burnings, as these sacrilegious wretches alleged while secular tunes were being played upon the organ which was brought out of the house before the fire was put to it. While in this connection it might be stated that the brick church on Little river was despoiled of its pulpit, pew floors and sleepers for the purpose of furnishing materials to erect a bridge for the use of the enemy over the neighboring stream.

No class of persons escaped the insult and deprivations of the Yankees. Neither sex nor age nor condition in life nor respectability of character, nor eminent public services, nor great moral worth nor amiableness of temper, nor persuasiveness of address or conversation, nor complexion of political opinions afforded any exemption from rudeness and maltreatment. If you were a high toned Secessionist, you must be punished for that political crime, your house burnt over your head, your person insulted and your means of subsistence destroyed. If you were neutral in reference to the present war, caring little for either party, you were cursed for your lukewarmness, and ridiculed as a drone. If you were a Union man and expressed your satisfaction in receiving them, you were denounced as a hypocrite and treated as a malefactor. Widows and orphans in destitute circumstances were pillaged for their little all. The negroes for whose benefit the Federals profess to wage this war were robbed. "Tell it not in Gath, publish it not in Askelon." Nor was this robbery limited to a few isolated cases—it was perpetrated all over the country. Their shoes were taken from their feet, their coats and shirts from their backs, their hats from their heads, their knives and money from their pockets. An invalid negro woman of 85 or 90 years of age had her blanket taken off her person while lying in bed.

Gentlemen of the first respectability were collared with rudeness, pushed about over the house and yard, cursed, threatened to be shot with pistols pointed and snapt at their heads, while others, one of them being 74 years of age, were actually hanged up by the neck by a rope and kept suspended until they were past consciousness.

A clergyman had his premises destroyed with his dwelling house together with more than two-thirds of his library consisting of hundreds of volumes of theological, literary, historical, scientific and classical works, reviews, pamphlets, old select newspapers, over a thousand letters received from correspondents in various parts of the country and some four hundred and fifty manuscript sermons of his own production pretty fully written out.

The ear of decency and refinement, much more that of piety was shocked with the profanity of the Federal army. The testimony in the case is, the invaders were horribly, shockingly profane.

They cursed in a good humor, they cursed in a bad humor, they cursed old men and old women, they cursed young ladies, they cursed them who tried to please them and them who did not try to please them—they cursed white and black, the good and the bad, pouring out their bitter execrations upon all in their presence. In view of these facts it is in wonder that a certain professional gentleman characterized for modesty of expression, when asked since the inva-

sion by some friends if he had not been visited by rough men (alluding to the Federal soldiers) felt it to be proper to reply in the negative, alleging if he must answer the question, that he was visited "by a legion of devils, not by men."

Fairfield presents a melancholy spectacle. Ride up the road from Winnsboro to Chesterville and you will see that for the first eight miles the demon of destruction has done his worst. Dwelling houses, gin houses, barns, stables, corn cribs, and fences burnt, the railroad demolished, dead cattle lying in heaps, dead horses in the road and in the way side. Go out in the direction of Pee's ferry and Rocky Mount where the main columns of the Federal army crossed the river and just such a scene of miles of burnt fences, of desolated farms, of impoverished plantations, of devastated premises, of shot down horses, cattle and hogs presents itself as a barbarous, uncivilized enemy only can produce.

April 7, 1865.

J. B.

[COMMUNICATED.]

Do You Need Salt?

EDITOR NEWS:—Some of your readers have seen or used Creosote—some of them may not know Greek enough to know that it is a "flesh-preserver" and as such so called on its discovery about 35 years ago. For this and other interesting facts connected with Creosote county money, no soldier will be allowed to retain his cork leg after the expiration of his term of service.

6—Men born without arms, when it can be shown that they have not been engaged as teachers of penmanship or in cutting out paper likenesses with their toes. Such will be taken into service, and detailed to act as assistant editor of newspapers to be established in captured rebel cities.

7—Men over three hundred and sixty-five years of age, accompanied by their parents. Men under ten years of age will be received until the promulgation of an official bulletin, signed by the Provost Marshall General, to the effect that the various drum corps are full.

8—All persons whatsoever, will be held liable to service, and will take their chances, however slim.

THE MEXICAN EMPIRE AND THE CONSTITUTION. The Houston Telegraph, of 18th March, contains an article on the subject of the Mexican Empire, and without salt, vinegar or pepper unless these are desired for flavor. Pyroleguous acid may cheaply be made and the process of making it for use in stead of salt, should be promptly undertaken by any citizen of competent enterprise and determination.

I respectfully propose that by appointment and request from the citizens generally or from the Town Council or the Board of Relief or other organization, a competent distiller be instructed and authorized to make and furnish Pyroleguous acid in time and in quantities at least sufficient for a thorough trial with the fishes that may be taken this season.

I spare your space, but hope that this proposition will engage immediate attention and inquiry and lead to efficient measures for relieving a want under which our people have too long suffered. It will be disgraceful if we longer suffer for salt or submit to any rates demanded in barter when we can find a meat-preserver, not only equal to salt, but in some respects better than salt furnished at hand in our forests and groves. W. B. C.

TWO KINDS OF TRAITORS.—Judge Cochrane, says the Eufaula Spirit of the South, in his happy address to our citizens on Saturday last, described two kinds of traitors. The one, the bold, open, manly traitor, who has the moral courage to declare his sentiments in the broad light of day, and to risk the consequences of his treason. He lets every one know where he stands; professes no friendship for our cause, and has the courage to say so. The other is the whitewasher, the pusillanimous croaker, the whipped spaniel, who is ready to crouch at the feet of our foes, and surrender his liberty at every reverse to our cause. The first class is entitled to some consideration for consistency and honesty; the latter is too base for the dignity of contempt.

Parson Brownlow, "Governor" elect of Tennessee, has been awarded \$25,000 in suit for damages inflicted by imprisonment and persecution at the hands of certain prominent rebels of Knoxville, which is to be assessed upon the property of Ramsey, Swoell and others, who were influential, in the early days of the rebellion, in getting the Parson into jail. Northern Paper.

A young man advertises for a situation as son-in-law to a respectable family. Would have no objection, he says, to go a short distance in the country.