

# The Tri-Weekly Journal

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By D. D. HOUGHTON.

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## LATEST BY TELEGRAPH

### REPORTS OF THE PRESS ASSOCIATION.

Entered according to the Act of Congress in the year 1865, by J. S. THRASHER, in the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the Confederate States for the Northern District of Georgia.

### FROM VIRGINIA.

Richmond, Jan. 16.—Gen. Early reports that last night 300 men surprised and captured the garrison at Beverly, Randolph County, killing and wounding a considerable number, and taking 500 prisoners. Our loss slight.

(Signed) R. E. Lee.

### FROM WILMINGTON.

Wilmington, Jan. 16.—The following official despatch was received this morning, dated headquarters January 15: To Hon. J. A. Stanton: Gen. Dimes reports that the enemy had bombarded Fort Fisher furiously all day yesterday. At 4 p. m., their infantry came up to assault, and a heavy demonstration at the same hour being made against their rear by our troops. At half past six p. m., Gen. Whiting reported their attack had failed, and the garrison as being strengthened with fresh troops. About 10 p. m., the fort was captured, with the garrison. Since which time no further particulars has been received.

**WOMAN.**—Perhaps a more just and beautiful compliment was never paid to woman than the following, by Judge Story: "To the honor, of the eternal honor of the sex be it said, that to the path of duty no sacrifice is with them too high or too dear. Nothing is with them impossible, but to shrink from what love, honor, innocence and religion require. The voice of pleasure or of power may pass by unheeded—but the voice of affliction never. The chamber of the sick, the pillow of the dying, the vigils of the dead, the altars of religion never missed the presence or the sympathies of woman. Timid though she be, and so delicate that the winds of heaven may not roughly visit her, on such occasions, she loses all sense of danger and assumes a preternatural courage, which knows not and fears not the consequences. Then she displays that undaunted spirit that neither courts nor evades them; that resignation which utters neither inuendives nor regrets; and that patience in suffering which seems victorious even over death itself."

**How Columbus Looked.**—The personal appearance of Columbus was not a bad index of his character. His general air expressed the authority which he knew so well how to exercise. His light gray eyes kindled easily at subjects of interest. He was tall and well formed. His complexion was fair and freckled, and inclined to ruddy. Trouble soon turned his light hair gray, and at thirty it was quite white. Moderate in food, simple in dress, temperate in language, bearing himself with courteous and gentle gravity, religious without being formal; repressing his irritable temper with a lofty piety, he was the model of a Christian gentleman. The devout reference of his successes to the Divine favor, with which he considered the report of his first voyage to the sovereignty of Castile, is highly characteristic of the man.

## THE CAMDEN JOURNAL.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, JAN. 18.

No mails have been received for any quarter since Wednesday last. Hence the scarcity of news matter.

**Tax Fall or Fort Fisher.**—With the fall of this fort the people of Kernshaw District will have cause to mourn the loss of many friends and relatives. It is true that Haggood's Brigade was engaged in the fort, Nelson's Battalion is part of the same, and according to our press despatch, most all have been captured—and many no doubt killed and wounded. No less than four companies from this district attached to that battalion. The engagement must have been a fierce one, as our brave fellows would never have surrendered without having been overpowered by immense odds numerically.

**Forty-Eight Hours in a Tree Top.**—My plantation is about three miles from Camden, on the Wateree. Intelligence reached me on Wednesday last that the river was rapidly rising. I took a bateau, in company with a strong man servant and started off to rescue my stock. While engaged in securing three fine hogs the head dam on the plantation above, broke and set loose a flood that swept everything before it, and spread out about two miles across the bank. In attempting to get out the bateau was washed by the current against a large log pile, and the pigs drowned. The boat was about 12 feet in midship, and we managed to get to the bottom where we stood three feet in water. Our plan was to give way, but there was another one ten feet distant beyond our reach from the boat, crawling as far as we could and then by placing the end of the boat pole in a fork of the tree and holding the other end, my companion in distress made a jump, and in turn held the pole on the tree. The tree was seven inches at the root, and about forty feet high. We had scarcely perched ourselves in its boughs before the first tree, and the boat were swept away. Here we were up a slender tree, with an angry torrent twenty feet deep sweeping five feet beneath us, and an expanse of the river more than a mile on either side. From this time, Wednesday twelve o'clock, until Friday two o'clock we clung for life to these frail but faithful limbs. The river reached its highest on Wednesday evening at five o'clock, and its roar and width prevented our cries from being heard until next day. All the first day and night, and all the second day and night we shouted for help; and we began to give up all hope. In my exertion to save the boat I had thrown off my coat, which we lost, and the only way we kept ourselves from freezing to death was by violently and constantly striking each other and kicking the tree. This day night the boy slept soundly, and it was with difficulty I supported him and cheered him up from giving out entirely. We tasted no food or water, and felt no inclination to do so, but I occasionally moistened my lips, that I might halloo the louder. The waves surged about us and we were fearful the tree would be washed off, as the current seemed to be heaped up in the track in which it grew. Though almost my entire stock of mules, beef cattle, sheep, hogs, fodder, &c., was swept away, yet so imminent was the peril, I scarcely thought of them for a moment. Every exertion was made to rescue us by several gentlemen, but the torrent was too swift and heavy for a boat to live. A bateau with two negroes came within a hundred yards of the tree, when it was swamped and they barely escaped by clinging to another. About two o'clock on Friday, Mr. RUSH, the overseer on Col. CHESTER'S plantation, with two colored men, reached the tree in a boat. He, with one of them, took our places on the tree, and we safely reached the shore, stiff and bruised from the fearful exposure. The boat returned and brought the other parties. My colored boy is confined to bed, but is doing well; he would have given out in a few hours longer no doubt. I am sore in my limbs, and hoarse, but suffer in no other way, and with gratitude to a kind Providence for rescuing us from a watery grave. I will ever remember the freshness of January 11, 1865.

The plantation is badly washed, and in some places heavily deposited with sand. Every dam was carried away. The river rose two or three feet higher than any mark within the memory of the oldest citizens. I would here express my thanks to those who so nobly perilled their lives to save ours, and especially to Mr. RUSH.

My loss, in part, consists of eleven head of horses and mules; two jennets; about twenty head of cattle; seventy-five head of hogs; forty-five to fifty sheep; a large amount of fodder, peas, &c., &c.

D. D. HOUGHTON.

## Maps.

25 LARGE MAPS OF THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, Edition of 1825.—Price \$5.00.  
J. A. YOUNG,  
January 9.

## Found.

A PISTOL, WHICH THE OWNER CAN HAVE by proving property, and paying the expense of advertising. Apply at the "Journal" office.  
January 18.

## To Hire.

A GOOD COOK, WASHER AND IRONER. APPLY at this office.  
January 18.

## CIRCULAR.

OFFICE AGENT OF STATE OF S. C.  
CAMDEN, January 10, 1865.

**I. IN OBEEDIENCE TO ORDERS FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, THE SHERIFFS OF THE SEVERAL DISTRICTS OF THIS STATE WILL PROCEED, FORTHWITH TO IMPRESS ONE-TENTH (1-10th) OF THE SLAVES (LIABLE TO ROAD DUTY) WITHIN THEIR RESPECTIVE DISTRICTS, ACCORDING TO THE PROVISIONS OF AN ACT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF SOUTH CAROLINA, A COPY OF WHICH IS HERETO APPENDED.**

**II. Commissioners of Roads, and the Authorities of incorporated Cities, Towns and Villages, within thirty days after the passage of the Above referred to, furnish the Sheriffs of their respective Districts, with full and correct returns of all slaves liable to Road duty, between the ages of 18 and 50 years, within their respective jurisdictions. These returns will be "passed on statements of owners sworn to in writing."**

**III. The Enrolling Officers of the several Districts of the State are hereby appointed, and will please act within their respective Districts, as Sub-Agents, under the provisions of the Act in relation to the act. They will give to the Sheriffs and those acting under them any assistance which may be required, in procuring returns of owners, in making assessments of labor, and in cases of default in arresting slaves. They will also forward the slaves when impressed to the places of labor, providing a discreet person to take charge of them, and will keep an accurate record of the names of owners, number of slaves furnished by each, and their terms of service. Transportation will be furnished from this office.**

**IV. The assessment of slaves will be made in the following manner, to wit:**

- The owner of 2 Road Hands will furnish 1 for 2 months.
  - The owner of 3 Road Hands will furnish 1 for two months.
  - The owner of 4 Road Hands will furnish 1 for 4 months.
  - The owner of 5 Road Hands will furnish 1 for four months.
  - The owner of 6 Road Hands will furnish 1 for six months.
  - The owner of 7 Road Hands will furnish 1 for six months.
  - The owner of 8 Road Hands will furnish 1 for eight months.
  - The owner of 9 Road Hands will furnish 1 for eight months.
  - The owner of 10 Road Hands will furnish 1 for 12 months.
- And in like manner with fractions above Ten. If it is desired, several owners having fractions above or below Ten, may unite and furnish 1 slave for 12 months.

**V. The attention of Sheriffs and others charged with receiving and appraising slaves, is especially directed to the provisions of the Act in relation to this matter. Too much care cannot be taken, for upon the proper discharge of his duty depends the claim of the owner for indemnity if his slave is lost. The blanks furnished by this office will be used in all cases.**

**VI. The Act contemplates the impressment of slaves whose physical condition will enable them to perform labor on the fortifications. Where there is obviously unfitness for such labor, they will be returned to the owners, who will be required to furnish others in their place. Where no objection exists, such slaves will be received as are offered by owners.**

**VII. Owners will find it to their interest to provide their slaves, taken on this service, with a comfortable outfit of clothing, &c.; and at the time of delivery for transportation to places of labor, should furnish them with at least five days' rations of cooked food.**

**VIII. The time of delivery of slaves taken under this order for impressment, will be on Wednesday, the 8th of February next, at such points as will be designated in a future notice. As the demand for labor is most urgent, it is desirable that the impressment should proceed as rapidly as possible, and the slaves be turned over to the Sub-Agents to be forwarded to the places of labor before the date above mentioned.**

**XI. Under this Law all slaveholders owing two or more Road Hands are liable, and no exemptions or details will be regarded by officers charged with the impressment.**

I. B. JOHNSON,  
Agent of the State of S. C.

**AN ACT TO REPEAL ALL ACTS AND PARTS OF ACTS HERETOFORE PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THIS STATE, ON THE SUBJECT OF FURNISHING SLAVE LABOR ON THE COAST AND FORTIFICATIONS WITHIN THE STATE, AND OTHERWISE TO PROVIDE FOR FURNISHING SUCH LABOR.**

**SEC. 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, now met and sitting in General Assembly, and by the authority of**

*the same.* That in order to furnish the necessary slave labor to work on the coast, and the fortifications within the State, and the same, there shall be organized a force, consisting of male slaves between the ages of fifteen and fifty years, liable under existing laws to road duty, not exceeding in numbers at any one time, of one-tenth part of said slaves, to serve for the term of twelve months from the date of their impressment, subject however, to the right of their respective owners at the expiration of every three months of said term of service, to substitute other slaves so liable to road duty in their place, and who by such substitution shall constitute a portion of the whole of said force, as the case may be, from the respective dates of such substitution. This force shall be raised by a general impressment throughout the whole State, whenever his Excellency the Governor may order or direct such agent of the State as he may appoint, to make such impressment, under the provisions of this act. But if the impressment of a less number than one-tenth would produce should be found to be sufficient, then the impressment shall be made on the State at large, according to one uniform rule of equality, to be prescribed in the order of the Governor, directing such impressment to be made by the State Agent, and whatever number greater than one-tenth be prescribed as a divisor to make the apportionment by, no fraction of slaves either below or above such number selected as a divisor shall be considered or taken into the apportionment, unless it is at least one-fifth or more of such divisor, and in such cases the fraction of one-fifth shall be taken by requiring the party claiming it to furnish one hand for two months with the same right of substitution as in cases of whole numbers, and the same rule as to fractions shall be observed where the number that is used as the divisor in making the apportionment.

The Governor to appoint a State Agent, who shall be selected from the class of persons not liable to conscription in Confederate military service, if the services of a suitable agent can be secured from said class, who shall receive for his services the pay of a Lieutenant Colonel of infantry, as allowed by the Confederate government, during his employment, to be paid to him monthly by the State.

**SEC. 2.** That it shall be the duty of the State agent aforesaid, immediately on the receipt of any order from his Excellency the Governor, to make impressments of slaves, under the provisions of this act, to extend such order to the Sheriffs of the several judicial districts of the State whose duty it shall be to execute the same in their respective districts; and it shall be the duty of the Commissioners of Roads and the authorities of incorporated cities, towns and villages, and such other person or persons as the State agent may appoint, to furnish to the Sheriffs of their respective districts within thirty days after the passage of this act, a full and correct return of all male slaves liable to road duty within their respective jurisdictions, which returns shall be based on statements furnished by the owners of such slaves, sworn to in writing; and such statements to be returned to the Secretary of the Boards of Commissioners of Roads, and by them kept on file. And it shall be the duty of the said Sheriffs, upon being duly notified by the said State agent of any order for the impressment of slaves aforesaid, thirty days before, to summon all owners liable under said order to furnish slaves, to have the slaves so liable at the respective depots thereof to the owner, for transportation to the place of labor, as may be directed by said order. And the said Sheriffs shall, in their respective districts, with the assistance of a respectable loyal citizen, to be chosen by the owner of each slave, if he will, and if not, by the Sheriff, appraise said slaves on their delivery at said depots; and in their appraisal, if in disagreement, they shall select a third citizen of like qualification, whose decision shall be final, and give receipts to the owners for them, specifying in said receipts the names of the slaves, the valuation put upon them, and the term of service for which they are impressed, a duplicate of which receipts shall also be furnished by the several Sheriffs to the State agent. And if, upon the day and at the place so notified, any owner of slaves so liable shall fail to have them in readiness, then the Sheriff of the district where such owner resides shall immediately arrest such slaves and send them for-