

The Camden Confederate.

VOLUME II

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The Camden Confederate

AT TWO DOLLARS A YEAR.

PAYABLE INVARIABLY HALF-YEARLY IN ADVANCE.

Terms for Advertising:

For one square—fourteen lines or less—ONE DOLLAR AND TWENTY-FIVE CENTS for the first, and SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS for each subsequent insertion.

OBITUARY NOTICES, exceeding one square, charged for at advertising rates.

Transient Advertisements and Job Work MUST BE PAID FOR IN ADVANCE.

No deduction made, except to our regular advertising patrons.

J. T. HERSHMAN, Editor.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1862.

Rio coffee was 30 1-2 to 32 cents per pound, wholesale, in Baltimore, on the 29th ult.

Graniteville Factory Goods have been reduced in price about 100 per cent, during the past week.

The gentleman who left a pair of gloves in the CONFEDERATE office some week or ten days since, can have them by calling and describing the same.

Advices from Minnesota represent that the people, en masse, are in favor of the execution of the three hundred Indians, as per "Pope's" order.

The Legislature of Alabama has decided that the militia officers of that State are subject to conscription.

The next session of the Confederate Congress will commence, at the Capitol in Richmond, on the second Monday in January.

We are requested, by Mr. J. F. SUTHERLAND, to say, that the gentleman who borrowed his umbrella, some few weeks since, would confer a special favor on the owner by returning the same without delay.

Gen. Bragg has just issued an order from Murfreesboro, to the effect that the pay of all officers "absent without leave" be suspended, until the absence is satisfactorily explained.

Next week being Christmas, THE CONFEDERATE will be issued on Wednesday morning, instead of Friday, that ourself and those associated with us in the establishment may be enabled to enjoy the service of the holiday.

NELSON'S Rifle Battalion—commanded by Capt. Wm. CLYBURN—passed through en route for Wilmington, N. C., on Wednesday morning last. Should they engage the enemy, "somebody will get hurt."

Mr. S. P. ANCKER requests us to say that he is in Camden on a visit for a few days and is desirous of purchasing some fifteen or twenty young and like y negroes—single, or with families—for which he proposes paying the highest market price in cash.

Affairs in the Mississippi Valley are becoming interesting. The enemy have commenced their projected forward movement, and we need not be surprised at any day to hear that the struggle for supremacy in that section has begun.

Our army in Eastern Mississippi is at Okalona, a prairie village fifty miles North of Columbus, on the Mobile and Ohio Railroad. Gen. Pemberton is at Grenada with the force recently near Holly Springs.

Over three hundred Indians have been convicted by the Military Commissioner, at the Lower Sioux Agency, as participants in the late horrible massacres and condemned to be hung. Whether they live or die, rests with the authorities at Washington.

The editor of THE CONFEDERATE will pay the highest extortive price for the purchase of the thrushes—their condition good—borrowed, without permission, from the poultry yard of Mr. I. B. ALEXANDER, on Tuesday evening or Wednesday morning last. Payment made in specie. If the inducement be not sufficient, we will endeavor to show up the party in our next issue.

It will be gratifying to the many friends and admirers of Rev. MANNING BROWNS, to learn that he has been re-appointed—for twelve months—to his former pastoral charge, in Camden.

Also, Rev. J. L. SHUFORD, has been assigned to his "Old Mission,"—Wateree—in consequence of which their will be great rejoicing.

McNEIL, THE MISSOURI MURDERER.—It is stated, on the authority of a Washington journal, that General McNeil, who ordered the execution of ten Confederate prisoners at Palmyra, Mo., is responsible for his action to the Missouri State authorities, under whom he holds his commission. The Leavenworth Enquirer, of November 21, states that he has been surrendered to the Confederate authorities, first having been put in irons; but the statement is probably premature.

Masonic.

At the regular Annual Communication of Kershaw Lodge No. 29, A. F. M., the following officers were chosen to serve for the ensuing Masonic year:

Brother J. STECKLEY, W. M.
Brother T. W. SMITH, S. W.
Brother D. D. HOCOTT, J. W.
Brother C. A. McDONALD, Treasurer.
Brother J. JONES, Secretary.
Brother D. L. DESAUSURE, S. D.
Brother R. HOCOTT, J. D.
Brother W. E. HUGHSON, Chaplain.
Brother W. D. ANDERSON, } Stewards.
Brother S. H. BLODGET. }
Brother F. J. CAKES, Tyler.

[FOR THE CAMDEN CONFEDERATE.] Inequality and Injustice.

MR. EDITOR: Under the requisition for one-half the negro road hands, many have been sent to Charleston; but then the owners of others have withheld them. Some of these owners allege that they were not called upon! Whose fault is it that they were not called upon? Has the Town Council or its officers been remiss or faithless? FAIR PLAY.

[FOR THE CAMDEN CONFEDERATE.]

MR. EDITOR: A stranger and a mere looker-on here in Camden, I have been surprised at a practice which I think does not prevail in any other town or city; I allude to the habit of merchants exhibiting their goods to ladies at their carriages in the streets; and the still more surprising practice of bank officers quitting their offices and desks and going out into the streets, with pen and ink, and paper, getting checks and paying money to ladies. I have seen several persons waiting at the counter of a bank, while the Teller, or Cashier, was occupied with ladies in the street. The ladies of Camden, as well as those of the whole South have entitled themselves, in this terrible war, to the highest consideration, and all possible courtesy from the men; but the mere mention of the surprise with which the practice alluded to strikes a stranger, will suggest to the ladies that it is not perhaps right to put those employed in banks and stores to such trials of their gallantry. A SOJOURNER.

Governor M. L. Bonham.

The Carolina of Thursday says: The General Assembly, yesterday, elected the Hon. M. L. Bonham to the high and responsible position of Chief Magistrate of South Carolina. A tried soldier in the memorable battle of Manassas, he gained the highest reputation for ability, skill and soldierly character, and has now received the high distinction of being called to the helm of State in honor of his country's peril. His services in civil as well as in military life have given him a claim to the honors now conferred upon him, and he no doubt will wear them gracefully. The Governor will be inaugurated to-day, at 11 o'clock.

Wm. H. Seward on the Relaxation of the Blockade.

Mr. Seward, in his letter of a late date to Mr. Adams, U. S. Minister to the Court of St. James, in reference to the numerous questions that have arisen between the two Governments, says:

"The president has given respectful consideration to the desire informally expressed to me by the Governments of Great Britain and France for some further relaxation of the blockade in favor of that trade. They are not rejected, but are yet held under consideration, with a view to ascertain more satisfactorily whether they are really necessary, and whether they can be adopted without such serious detriment to our military operations as would render them injudicious rather than beneficial to the interest of all concerned.

An answer will be seasonably given, which will leave foreign powers in no uncertainty about our course. Such are the expectations of this Government. They involve a continued reliance upon the practice of justice and respect of sovereignty by foreign powers. It is not necessary for me to say that, if this reliance fails, this civil war will, without our fault, become a war of continent—a war of the world; and whatever else may survive, the Cotton trade, built upon slave labor in this country, will be irredeemably wrecked in the abrupt cessation of human bondage within the territories of the United States."

The London Saturday Review thus sums up the effect of the French proposition:

"In short, the mediation would be equivalent to recognition of the South, and to a declaration of war with the North. The benevolent profession of putting a stop to useless bloodshed could scarcely be disconnected from the avowed intention of obtaining cotton for European looms.

"The suffering occasioned by the blockade may, perhaps, hereafter justify forcible intervention; but English opinion is almost unanimous in holding that the time has not arrived for overruling international law on the ground of expediency.

"The reception of Mr. Slidell at the Campagna seems to indicate that the Emperor Napoleon has already settled the terms of an impending alliance with the Southern Confederacy."

[FOR THE CAMDEN CONFEDERATE.]

Extortion Among Shoe Dealers.

In no department of industry does the extortion now practiced tell with more disastrous effect upon the public and private interests than that of the shoe dealers. While our soldiers, many of them, are marching over the frozen ground with their bare feet marking it with their blood, a few unprincipled men at home are speculating and making fortunes upon their and our necessities. Eight or ten prices are charged for shoes which cost no more to manufacture now than it did two years ago, save in the cost of materials which have by no means advanced in price sufficiently to justify the enormous increase in the prices charged for the manufactured articles, moreover the advanced prices of some at least of the materials used, are caused by the same spirit of extortion among the dealers. Take for instance the article of shoe pegs. A few months ago they were sold for a few cents per quart, now dealers who had on hand, when the war broke out, enough to last for years are retailing the old stock, at \$1.00 per quart.

Planters and others will find it greatly to their advantage to buy their own leather and have it made up at home. The writer of this has tried it; leather was bought at two dollars per pound for soe and three dollars for upper leather. A shoe-maker is now making it up and it is found that the leather which cost twenty-five dollars will make one hundred dollars worth of shoes at the prices charged by the dealers. One dollar per pair is paid for making. Now consider what profits must be made by him who upon the breaking out of this disastrous war, bought up at the moderate prices then prevailing, all the leather he could, and to the amount of many thousands of dollars, and who in addition to this, own their own shoemakers who are making it up. We have heard of such instances and have no doubt they are common.

So long as the community submits to this public robbery and encourage it, so long will the dealers continue to advance their prices, and lay up enormous fortunes, wrung from the necessities of the people.

Every man who has obtained an exemption from military service is equally bound morally to labor at home for the public good. The man who does otherwise deserves only public execration and scorn. We have heard of one who justified himself by saying that, "as materials had advanced in price, it was no more than right that labor should command a proportionate advance." This reply was like the argument of the miller, "corn is so high that I ought to have more toll." CIVIS.

A YANKEE WAR PRAYER.—The prayer delivered at the opening of Congress by Rev. Mr. Stockton, the Chaplain of that body, is extremely good. We give the following extract from it:

We pray that in our conflicts that just so far as Thou see't right Thou wilt give us victory and advancement. Be mindful, O Lord, of the havoc and desolation that is falling upon the land through this war. Remember the sick and wounded and the dying. We pray for our brethren now in arms against us. We think that it is so easy for us to obey this precept of our Redeemer—love your enemies. We cannot cease to love them. May they soon be induced to relinquish the evil that is amongst them, and place higher value on the great principles of the charter of our independence, and show that they regard "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" as the right of all mankind, and as beyond all mere local advantages, so that there shall be a restored Union, with increased goodness and love and glory and joy upon the earth for ever and ever.

NAPOLEON'S MEDIATION.—A dispatch from Washington to the New York Tribune says: private advices from one of the most eminent friends of America in France, represent that the recent offer of mediation by Louis Napoleon is there regarded as the expression of a deliberate and matured purpose, from which the Emperor will not recede, and that is considered a serious blow to the Union cause in Europe, and to the cause of freedom in Europe not less than in America. Republicanism is discouraged, and wears a sober look, and despotism triumphs in our divisions.

Important news from Arkansas—The Enemy Beaten by Hindman.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., December 15.—General Hindman has had a battle in Arkansas, in which he succeeded in whipping the enemy, and capturing some four hundred prisoners. The loss on both sides is reported to be heavy. No particulars received.

The Effective Blockade.

CHARLESTON, December 17.—Another steamer with a cargo of tapes and blankets, has arrived safely at a Confederate port.

Capture of Gen. Morgan.

CHATTANOOGA, December 15.—Col. John H. Morgan, the distinguished guerilla chieftain, was married last night, at Murfreesboro, to Miss Mattie C. Ready, eldest daughter of Hon. Chas. Ready, of Tennessee. All quiet along the Cumberland.

BATTLE AT FREDERICKSBURG.

OFFICIAL DISPATCH FROM GEN. LEE.

RICHMOND, December 14.—The following is the official dispatch of Gen. Lee to the War Department at Richmond:

"To Gen. S. Cooper.—At nine o'clock Saturday morning the enemy attacked our right wing, and as the fog lifted the battle ran along the line from right to left until six P. M., the enemy being repulsed at all points—thanks be to God. As usual we have to mourn the loss of many brave men. I expect the battle to be renewed to-morrow morning.

(Signed)

R. E. LEE.

The latest from Fredericksburg—Further Details of the Battle.

RICHMOND, December 16.—The loss of the enemy in the battle of Fredericksburg is variously estimated at from four to six thousand killed and wounded.

Our losses in killed and wounded will not exceed fifteen hundred. On the left wing, where the fighting was more severe, the South Carolina brigade suffered heavily.

Gen. Gregg was killed by a Minie ball, which struck him in the side and penetrated the spine. Before his death, he said to two of his Aids: "Tell Governor Pickens that, if I am to die this time, I yield my life cheerfully fighting for the independence of South Carolina."

The Washington Artillery of New Orleans, repulsed several desperate charges of the enemy. Our troops generally displayed great zeal and courage. There were very few stragglers.

The only general officer on the Yankee side known to be killed is General Jackson. The prisoners we have taken are said to number fifteen hundred. A member of Burnside's staff, who was made prisoner, says that the failure of Burnside to renew the fight on Sunday was owing to serious discontent among the Yankee officers.

It is stated that not more than one tenth of the town of Fredericksburg is seriously injured.

Governor Letcher and a number of our citizens left this city yesterday to render assistance and relief to the wounded.

News has been received this morning that Burnside has made a "change of base." It is construed in official circles, as an evidence of demoralization in the Yankee army. The movement is regretted, as the route of the enemy was confidently anticipated in the event of an engagement.

The Latest.—Nothing additional, of an authentic character, has been received from Fredericksburg to-day, except the definite statement that the Confederate loss in killed and wounded is less than eighteen hundred. Correspondents represent that the loss of the enemy was fully 8000. Burnside's army is reported to be mutinous, having positively refused, it is said, to renew the charge against the Confederate batteries.

The War in North Carolina—Latest from Kinston.

GOLDSBORO, December 15.—Three thousand of our troops fought the Abolitionists yesterday, at Kinston, from eight until one o'clock, driving them at one time entirely from their position. Not more than 3000 of our men were engaged. About one o'clock General Evans retired across the Neuse River, and the vandals occupied the town. Pending the engagement, the Yankees shelled the town furiously, killing several citizens and destroying many houses. We can, as yet, form no estimate of the loss on either side. General Foster sent a flag of truce to General Evans, demanding an unconditional surrender. "Tell him to go to hell," was the reply of Gen. Evans.

Major General Gustavus W. Smith has taken command of the forces in this department.

MORGAN'S LAST VICTORY.—The Knoxville Register says:

Lieut. James Coffin, of Gen. Morgan's command, reached this city on yesterday. He states that Morgan's late fight at Hartsville was certainly the most brilliant achievement of this gallant officer. He crossed the Cumberland in the presence of the enemy, attacked and captured 2,104 prisoners, (this is the number paroled,) and besides two rifled steel cannon, between 50 and 60 wagons, and 2,330 stand of arms. All this was done while there was an Abolition force 12,000 strong within six miles. Morgan recrossed the river, and only lost three of all the wagons he captured.

The Self Examining Society has proposed the following sensible queries about this financial period, to every body:

Does it cost anything to print a newspaper?
How long can a printer afford to furnish a paper without pay?
Do printers eat, drink or wear anything?
If so, how do they get it?
Do I owe for my paper?
Is not this particular time a first rate time to call and pay up?