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J. T. HERSHMAN . . . D. D. HOCOTT,
EDITORS.

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CAMDEN, FRIDAY, MARCH, 17.

HORSES AND MULES.—Owing to the scarcity of horses and mules in our district, caused by the enemy's having appropriated them to their own use, the valuation of such stock has enhanced materially. In fact the most exorbitant prices are asked by holders, and readily paid by those in need.

RAILROAD TRAVEL RESUMED.—We are pleased to learn that travel has been resumed on the Camden Branch of the South Carolina Railroad as far as the Manchester Junction, where another train will connect, running from that place through to Florence. The schedule for this road is—Leaves Camden regularly at 6 o'clock, a. m., and return at 6:40 p. m.

A WORD TO THE WISE, &c.—We are recommended by parties interested, to say, that unless a quantity of wine, carpets, and military goods, (known to be concealed in a certain locality by white persons, and stolen and appropriated by their servants,) are not returned to their rightful owners without delay, a search warrant will be issued and the accessories to such concealment exposed. The whereabouts of those goods are known.

Providence has decreed that this war shall continue until the gains amassed by the Yankee shaver and the home-born speculators shall be disgorged, and that which was wrung from a people in agony shall be made to defray the price of their freedom and their joy. It is well that this be understood first as last. The traitor at heart, the incurable Yankee whose mouth has been hushed while all went well, may go home this night with the distinct consciousness of the fact, that there is not a true born Southern man, whether in the army or out of it, who has the remotest idea of permitting his mother and his wife, his daughters and his sisters, to be reduced to slavery for the sake of saving the treasures accumulated by those who have kept out of the army. The basest, the most sordid of motives cannot rule the roost in this land. Still less can they be allowed to impair the efficiency of our brave soldiers in the field or in the trenches. These soldiers must be fed, clothed, paid, reinforced, and until this is done it will be wise in all Yankees to keep their mouths shut. He who whispers peace though it be with bated breath in his back counting room, is in danger. We will not say what the danger is or how near at hand, but it is a great danger, and it is no further off than the trenches, which contain the men, whose mothers are threatened with degradation not to be atoned for by the snapped necks of all Yankees in this Confederacy.

THE SOLDIERS' BOARD OF RELIEF.—A meeting of this body is called, to be held on Wednesday the 21st proximo, at their Chamber, in the rear of Mr. J. M. GAYLE'S store-rooms. The attendance of every member is respectfully requested, as business of importance will be presented for their consideration.

MUNICIPAL REGULATIONS.—We are pleased to see that our city fathers at a recent meeting, have voted a valuable accession to their corps, in the person of Capt COLCLOUGH, for the further maintenance of good order in our midst and for the protection of public and private property. This is as it should be. System and force of discipline, in a military sense, is indispensable to the attainment of a great end, and we deem it not only the duty of our civilians to heartily concur in the full observance of all municipal ordinances, but it is obligatory on them to tender both heart and hand, in this our time of trouble, to the better preservation of peace and quiet in our town.

REMOVAL OF THE ENROLLING OFFICE.—The Enrolling office of Capt. COLCLOUGH has been removed to the rooms over Bell & Matfeson's store-house, on Main street.

Gen. Sherman's Order.

We publish below a few extracts from a letter of instruction written by Gen. SHERMAN to Gen. HOWARD, in which, besides the barbarity of demanding life for life—when one of his hirelings is killed in the act of ruthlessly robbing and destroying the homesteads of our citizens—he coolly asserts that "they (the Southern people) have lost all title to property, and can lose nothing not already forfeited." Napoleon, it seems by this authority, was in the constant habit of doing this, and consequently SHERMAN, with the apish disposition so characteristic of the Yankee race, claims the same privilege. They have had a whole catalogue of NAPOLEONS, during the present war, and have loudly boasted during the brief hour of each, that at length they had found a rival of the great Corsican. We suppose that Sherman is now the young Napoleon, as McClellan was in 1862. He is certainly a clever imitator of all the worst features of that personage, but as for military genius and capacity, we believe that LEE and JOHNSTON will yet show that this great bugbear is at last but a poor silly ass, dressed in a lion's skin.

It was a maxim of NAPOLEON, often acted upon, "that war should support war." But so abhorrent was this to every principle of justice, its legitimate and inevitable effects were so productive of devastation and wide-spread misery, inflicted on non-combatants (and that, too, without any corresponding advantages to the invading enemy) that the maxim has been reprobated in the strongest terms of denunciation by all historians and publicists who have reviewed his campaigns. Even SHERMAN seems to have felt the unsatisfactory nature of NAPOLEON'S example in this regard, and so shifts his ground and places his right upon the basis of our having forfeited all right to all property.

NAPOLEON was bold and unscrupulous in the pursuit of any favorite object of his ambition; he would make war, support war and do almost any act which could aid his purpose. In this respect he has been closely imitated by all the Yankee young NAPOLEONS. But these were some things he would not do—there were considerations of humanity and justice which his iron nature was forced to respect. He refused to emancipate the serfs of Russia and arm them against their masters; he would not put arms into the hands of a swarm of savages and turn them loose to destroy and ravage. This act of barbarity and atrocity was reserved to the mild and Christian Yankee, who can quote and follow examples which every just mind has condemned, and at the same time ignore those which the sentiment of mankind has applauded.

In the furtherance of their philanthropic scheme it is necessary that the property of four millions of men should be forfeited, and we

doubt not but that the insignificant matter of their lives stands in an equally unsatisfactory condition. We are among those four millions, whose property is confiscated, whose lives are forfeited. We are outlawed and overrun by an insolent foe; our hearthstoves are polluted by his tread; our women insulted; their dresses and jewels often torn from their persons; and who are our enemies who perpetrated these enormities?

In truth there is no example in modern history of such wide-spread and systematic atrocity as the enemy have been guilty of during this war, and SHERMAN'S last letter is but one more added to the ten thousand previous proofs that it is a nation deeper dyed in villainy than any which has heretofore polluted the earth.

HQRS, DEPT AND ARMY OF TENNESSEE, }
PATTERSON'S CROSS ROADS, Feb. 23, 1865. }

GENERAL: The following extracts from a letter received from Maj. Gen. Sherman, and communicated for your information and guidance:

"He (Gen. Kilpatrick) reports that two men of his foraging parties were murdered after capture by the enemy, and labeled 'death to all foragers.'"

"Now it is dearly our war-right to subsist our army on the enemy. Napoleon always did it, but could avail himself of the civil powers he found in existence to collect forage and provisions by regular impressment. We cannot do that here, and I contend if the enemy fails to defend his country, we may rightfully appropriate what we want.

"If our foragers act under mine, yours or other proper authority they must be protected.

"I have ordered Kilpatrick to select of his prisoners, man for man, shoot them and leave them by the road side labeled, so that our enemy will see that for every man he executes he takes the life of one of his own.

"I want the foragers to be kept within reasonable bounds, however, for the sake of discipline. I will not protect them where they enter dwellings and commit wanton waste, such as women's apparel, jewelry and such things as are not needed by our army.

"They may destroy cotton and tobacco, because these things are assumed by the rebel Government to belong to it, and are used as a valuable revenue.

"Nor will I consent to the enemy taking the lives of our men on their judgment. They have lost all title to property and can lose nothing not already forfeited, but we should punish for a departure from orders. If any of your foragers are murdered take life for life leaving a record of each case."

Respectfully,

(Signed) O. O. HOWARD,
Major General.

Official: A. M. VANDYKE, A. A. Gen.

The Occupation of Columbia by the Enemy.

We are indebted to a friend for the following graphic description of the desolated condition of Columbia. It was written by a refugee resident of Charleston to a gentleman residing in this place, and can vouch for its correctness:

"Of the destruction here I can give you no adequate idea, even if I should write a quire of paper over. Our Church has lost the organ; the silver communion service; the library; the minute book, and other record books—besides all the carpets, cushions, &c. The font and so other furniture were in my possession, and were saved. Our friend L— was first robbed and then burned out. Some of his

daughters saved a few extra articles of clothing, and others only what they had on. He saved only the clothes he wore. He and the ladies at first took refuge at the Lunatic Asylum, and were most kindly received by Dr. Parker and his family. Some two thousand others took refuge there, and were cared for in like manner. Of the Charleston residents how it is useless to inquire who was burned out. The only question asked is, who was not burned out. The very few who escaped the flames were robbed most ruthlessly, not only of bedding, clothing, watches, jewelry, plate, &c., but of provisions, even to the last pound of meal, flour or bacon. No article was too sacred for the grasp of the robbers; too beautiful to be destroyed, nor yet too insignificant to escape their thievish hands. Even the negro wench was robbed of the miserable brass and gilt trinkets, in which they so delight. Such provisions as could not be carried off were usually destroyed; and such articles of women's clothing as were not carried off were torn into strings.

The principal fire began near Janney's hotel, and swept southward on both sides of Main Street, beyond the capital, and northward on both sides also to the outer verge of the town. From the capital, northward, over a mile on Main Street, every building was burned, except two poor wooden buildings far to the north. In this mighty conflagration every store in Columbia, and nearly every store-room was included. Westward from Main street along its entire length the fire extended one block, taking almost every house; and eastward from Main street along its whole length the fire extended from one to four blocks, very rarely leaving a house. Of public buildings destroyed there was the old capital, the court house, the jail, the market and the guard-house. Among other buildings lost were the two large hotels, the nursery, Kimball's Hall, (occupied by Evans & Cogswell and the note bureau) Evans & Cogswell's printing house, the gas works, all the buildings of the Greenville railroad, those of the Charlotte and South Carolina railroads; the Arsenal Academy, the powder works, all the foundries, all the grist mills—two excepted—with factories and workshops of every description; all the Columbia banks and all the banks here from Charleston, and so on almost endlessly.

The night of the 17th of February was certainly one of horror to the people of Columbia. Croly's description of the burning of Rome was almost realized. This was indeed a city of flames. Height and depth were covered with red surges that rolled before the blast like an endless tide. The air was filled with the steady roar of the advancing flame, the crash of falling houses and the hideous outcry of the myriads flying through the streets, or surrounded and perishing in the conflagration. If Nero fiddled while Rome was burning, he was almost equalled by Gen. Sherman, who caused the various brigade bands to discourse their sweetest music—within the hearing of the wretched whom he had caused to be plundered and sent into the streets and woods. Those who remained in the streets were plundered again and again; and those who took refuge in the woods were visited by officers, who, in terms of mock politeness, "wondered at the taste of the ladies sitting there in the cold, when they could come into the city and warm themselves."

For myself the vandals burned a large fine house I owned in the country, which with its out-houses destroyed, would cost over \$12000 to rebuild in times of peace, this loss, with partnership losses, puts me back in property where I was twenty years ago, except that the youth and vigor of that time is gone forever.

Some surgeons in London have succeeded by scientific operations, in giving sight to persons born blind. There are touching descriptions of the surprise and confusion of these to whom the world is first opened.