KEOWEE COURIER.

"TO THINE OWN SELF BE TRUE, AND IT MUST FOLLOW, AS THE NIGHT THE DAY, THOU CAN'ST NOT THEN BE FALSE TO ANY MAN."

BY ROB'T. A. THOMPSON & CO. PICKENS COURT HOUSE, S. C. SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 1862. VOL. XIII.——NO. 30.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

FOR THE COURIER.

Mountain Boy's Song.

Three cheers for the sturdy Mountaineers,
And three times three again,
Till the *shout* sings out from the mountain top,
And is echoed o'er the plain.
Then *up* and *arouse!* brave Mountaineers
For the foe is in Southern seas,
And the flag of the Northern marauder,
Waves over the Palmetto trees.

Our Mountain boys need[illegible]
[illegible]
To stimulate the noble deeds
That were done on Manassas' Plain.
Then huzza, huzza, huzza, boys,
And we'll march to the battle-field, boys,
Our music, the *cannon's* roar.

Huzza, huzza, for victory,
O'er that murderous Northern band,
We'll *fight*, we'll *bleed*, we'll *die*, boys,
Ere *they conquer* "Dixie Land."
And we'll be a band of sister States,
With *Freedom* for our cry,
And *Carolina*, the *brightest star*,
That shines in the Southern sky. JOSIE.

Pendleton, S. C.

A SERMON FOR THE TIMES.

Preached by Rev. T. L. McBryde, D. D., before his Congregation in Pendleton, S. C., February 28th, 1862, and published by request.

Text—2d Chronicles, 15th Chapter, 2d and 7th verses: "The Lord is with you while ye be with him; and if ye seek him, he will be found of you; but if ye forsake him, he will forsake you. Be ye strong, therefore, and let not your hands be weak; for your work shall be rewarded."

The word of God is the only standard of right and wrong; to it must all men make their ultimate appeal for the rectitude of their conduct; and, from its instructions, must they derive that wisdom which they need to guide them in all the relations of life, and in every condition of life. God has therein recorded examples of his dealings with individuals, families, communities and nations, illustrating what conduct he approves and what conduct he disapproves; and wherein, and for what reasons, he will bless; and wherein, and for what reasons, he will withhold his blessing. And here it is that we find those principles—which are eternal as the Throne of God—that lie at the foundation of man's civil, social and religious prosperity and happiness. My text furnishes a case to these principles.

To a careless and especially to a superficial reader of the Scriptures, the first part of this passage may appear to teach, that God, in his dealings with man, acts upon the principle of *retaliation*—"love for love, hate for hate." But we know, from the whole tenor of the Scriptures, that He is influenced by no such spirit, as is common amongst men. He speaks and acts as a Law-giver and a Judge; as one bound to give wholesome laws and to see to their observance. Holding, therefore, the Law which He has given, and which embodies the eternal principles of His Government, in His hand, He says "obey and live; do that which is pleasing in my sight, as your Sovereign, and you shall be blessed;" or, as in the text, "if ye be with me"—i. e., on my side, loving and serving me—"I will be with you"—to sustain and bless you, &c. And, in so doing, God not only acts for the maintenance of His laws and Government, which are Holy, wise and good, but for the best interests of His creatures.

With these explanations of the general sentiment of the text, I propose to apply it to the present condition of our beloved country; inasmuch as we have assembled together, in obedience to the call of our much esteemed President, (of whom the people of these Confederate States may well be proud, for his *Godly deportment*, as well as for all his other virtues,) to humble ourselves before Almighty God, on account of our national sins, and to invoke His favor and protection, in these "times that try men's souls."

In respect to the controversy that occasioned the war now raging between the Northern and Southern portions of this once united but now dismembered Confederacy, so far as relates to the chief questi[illegible] the South may confi[illegible] us and we are with [illegible] the side of truth and right[illegible] His holy Word. One of those questions which is indeed the principle one—relates to *an institution* venerable for its antiquity and for its many valuable uses, which God hath expressly authorized in His Word, and which He has approved and blessed in many other ways, even as now existing among men. In this respect we "are built upon the foundation of patriots, prophets and Apostles." And the other question relates to *civil liberty*—the right of a people to justice and equality under the Government that is set over them, and to cast off that Government if these things are denied them; which is also in accordance with the eternal principles of truth and righteousness that are set forth in the Word of God. The truth of these propositions is too palpable to require argumentation on this occasion.

We were with God, my hearers, and He with us, while this controversy was pending; and we are still with Him in this respect, for we have never asked or wished for anything, in these matters, but what is "just and equal," which Christian and Sovereign States had a right to expect from their Representatives and Rulers.

And in the *act of separation* from the old Union, we were also with God and He with us. It was not a *hasty* act, but one of mature deliberation—the result of years of discussion and counsel. Nor was it gotten up from motives of revenge or self-aggrandizement and ambition; but proceeded from the purest patriotism and piety. In its accomplishment, ministers of the Gospel, churches and church-officers, as well as the wisest and best of statesmen, were concerned. Yea, it would have been avoided, had there been any possible way of doing so without sacrificing conscience and the dearest rights of mankind. The whole land, North and South, will bear testimony to the fidelity and earnestness with which the people of the South warned, entreated, and expostulated with, our once "brethren of the North" as to their proceedings in respect to our cherished institutions and principles; and that they only "gave up the ship" when all was lost; when no hope of living together, as brethren, remained. We were "with God" then, when we said to our Northern brethren (?) as Abraham said to Lot, do you go to the right and we will go to the left; you retain the Government you like, and we will set up a Government that we like. Abraham's "God was with us" in this transaction. If ever a Government was founded on prayer and the pious sentiments of a people, ours was; and every Providence relating to its establishment, indicated the Divine favor. Among those Providences were the surprising unanimity and cordiality that prevailed in all sections and among all classes, with only here and there an exception.

Again, when our enemy (for such have the North now become,) began to make preparations for war, as a means of wresting from us our rights, and we were forced to initiate measures for the defence and maintenance of those rights—I say *forced*, for we used every means that an honorable and patriotic people could use to prevent so dire a calamity—then also God was with us and we with Him. We proposed not to interfere with any of our enemy's rights, and asked nothing of him but *to be let alone*. But, finding that he would listen to no proposals looking to peace, on the basis of an amicable separation, we planted ourselves on the Word of God, as the foundation upon which rested the justice of our cause; and, making our appeal to the Lord God of Hosts, we resolved to sustain that cause "with our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor." Then was there all over this land a "looking up to the hills whence cometh our help." Days of fasting and prayer were appointed,—which have since been repeated,—and faithfully observed by all classes amongst us. We knew and felt that we had embarked on a perilous enterprise, and we sought earnestly and confidingly the blessing of God upon our counsels and our arms—which we could do *sincerely*, because our cause was the cause of truth and righteousness. Our people then felt and acted as a *Christian* people (I speak now of the *general* sentiment that prevailed,) and resorted to arms purely as a means of self-defence. And, as our soldiers began to put on their military attire and to pitch their tents, reports came up from all quarters that they too were generally disposed to encourage religion, sobriety and morality. Then it was that *God was with us* while we were with Him—we sought Him and He was found of us. Need I remind you of the many signal Providences that favored us in our first engagements with the enemy? How the winds, the clouds and the mists ministered to our aid and to the discomfiture of our enemy? You have not forgotten the "Star of the West," that sought stealthily to reinforce and provision that Fort (Sumter) that had been stolen from us and armed against us, and how she was crippled by the well-directed (shall I not say Heaven directed) guns of our then feeble batteries, and thus compelled to return whence she came, without accomplishing her purpose? And thus was our enemy not only humbled, but discouraged from making similar attempts, the success of which would have materially damaged our cause. And need I remind you of the bombardment of that Fort, and the *bloodless* victory there achieved by our arms? Was not God with us then, not only in giving us the Fort, but in doing so without the loss of a single life or limb? And there it now stands a terror to the enemy; and there I believe it will stand if our people will do their duty and trust in God, unless it be that God designs to chasten us for past transgressions. And need I remind you again (passing by "Great Bethel" and other victories) of the bloody Plains of Manassas, where our army achieved a world-renowned victory against all odds, both as to numbers and munitions of war? There we met the enemy, inflated with the expectation of certain success; not only of victory in the field, but of completely overthrowing our Government and shackling our Rulers, Officers and citizens. But God was with us, and turned the enemy's counsels into foolishness," and drove him back whence he came, in confusion, terror and disgrace. Who but an Infidel could doubt that the hand of God sustained our troops on that terrible day? Soldiers, spectators and visitors, all united in ascribing the praise and honor thereof to "Him who doeth His pleasure in the armies of Heaven and among the inhabitants of earth."

But, my hearers, I must now turn your attention to another and a mournful view of our case. The above-named victories, and others that preceded and followed in rapid succession, inflated the minds of our people with pride and vain-glory. We began to feel our mountain strong; and self-confidence and self-reliance took the place of humble dependence upon God. The Yankees were denounced as cowards; and it was thought that our troops had nothing to do but march to the field, or remain in their fortifications, and victory would be certain, even should the enemy outnumber us three to one. Then our people forsook God, ceased to seek Him as formerly, and even slackened their preparations for the war. Some were hoping for Foreign interference; others, that the financial embarrassments of the North would soon stop their movements; and all relied confidently upon the bravery of our troops and the skill of our Generals. Thus, we imitated the Jews, of whom the Prophet said (Isaiah 31:1), "Woe to (them that go down to Egypt." (over to England and France) "for help; and stay on horses and trust in chariots and in horsemen; but they look not unto the Holy One of Israel, neither seek the Lord."

Not only were our people guilty of this sin of forsaking God, as the source of our strength, but were guilty of other sins, that were even more provoking in His sight. The floodgates of irreligion and wickedness were opened afresh, and citizens and soldiers began to give free vent to their depraved passions and appetites. Profanity, Sabbath-breaking, extortion and *intemperance* were practised with unblushing boldness. Travellers and newspapers brought up reports from our camps, thoroughfares and cities through which our soldiers were passing and repassing, that our army was fast departing from that high standard of morals which they had at first set up; yea, that wickedness in every shape and form—*especially intemperance, which is the parent of almost every other crime*—was practised to an alarming extent by our soldiers, and even by our *Generals and other officers*, who ought to set good examples before their men; and who, above all others, need to be sober men, in order rightly to discharge the high and responsible duties that God and their country have imposed upon them.

And, to add to these crimes, and furnish fuel to these flames,—shall I speak of it?—fain would I, with the "sweet Psalmist of Israel," say, "Tell it not in Gath, publish it not in the streets of Ashelon;" for I blush for my country and my countrymen—but fidelity to the occasion that has assembled us together, and to the cause of God and humanity, requires that I should speak of it, that we may perceive at least one reason for "fasting, humiliation and prayer" before God. I say, to add fuel to these flames, *establishments sprung up*, as it were, by magic, and in incredible numbers, throughout the grain sections of our Confederacy, for distilling liquid fire wherewith to consume the bodies and souls of our soldiers! as though they were not perishing fast enough by ordinary disease—to say nothing of bullets and balls! and as though they had not sufficient temptations to sin against God in the ordinary trials of camp-life! And, in perpetrating this horrible crime those establishments are also *burning up the staff of life!* and thus impoverishing the country, by raising the price of provisions for our army, and putting it beyond the reach of the poor—even the poor families of our soldiers—to procure the necessaries of life! Who would have believed last summer while all classes were rejoicing over the abounding harvests that God had in His beneficence lavished upon every section of these Confederate States, and which we regarded as one of the many tokens of His approbation of our cause—that a people thus favored and blessed would only destroying the fruits of those harvests, but converting them into streams of poison! Alas for fallen human nature! War has slain its thousands, but selfishness and greediness for gain has slain its tens of thousands! 'Tis this that sets aside patriotism and virtue; that fills the coffers with gold that cankers, and that causes the earth to ring with the cries of widows and orphans. It is not my purpose to enter upon a discussion or representation of the evils of intemperance, either among soldiers or citizens, or of the dangers of even moderate drinking; but I must quote a few passages of Holy Writ to show how such things are regarded by the Almighty: "Look not then upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his color in the cup, when it moveth itself aright; at the last it biteth like a serpent and stingeth like an adder." If such things be said of *wine* (and the inspired writer here speaks of the *excessive* use of it), what shall be said of *whiskey*, which the more easily and cheaply intoxicates! But again—"Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? who hath contentions? who hath babbling? who hath wounds without cause? who hath redness of eyes? They that *tarry long* at the wine; they that go to seek *mixed wine*."—"Woe unto them that rise up early in the morning that they may follow strong drink. Woe unto him that *giveth his neighbor drink*"—who furnishes it for him and tempts him to drink!

Let these passages suffice to show how God regards this evil. He never pronounces "a woe" without a meaning. It is indeed a sin of the first magnitude, for it is the parent of many other sins. When then it becomes general, or is winked at by Legislatures and Magistrates, *or is countenanced by public opinion*, it becomes a *National sin* for which the nation deserves the chastenings of a holy and sin-hating God.

It may be said that soldiers need the stimulus of ardent spirits to enable them to endure the exposures and hardships of camp-life.—Admitting all that may be said on this score, and that no other stimulants will answer the purpose (which is disputed by the wisest and best of men, including experienced Generals and Surgeons), surely the use of it should be restricted to the bare necessities of the case. Let me ask then, do the actual wants of our army, and of the whole country, require the consumption of the one-hundredth—yea, one thousandth part—of the corn that is now being consumed for this purpose? Is it not the purpose of distillers to go beyond the necessary wants of our Army, and to put it within the reach of all, who are so inclined, to use the article to excess? They say, if soldiers are fools enough to get drunk, they can't help it—they do not make them drunkards; but it is written, "Woe unto him that *giveth* his neighbor drink!" "abstain from all *appearance* of evil." I thank God that our Executive Council, and the Executives and Legislatures of other States, and the Head of our War Department, have adopted measures for restricting the manufacture and use of this poison; and I trust that public sentiment and the vigilance of Magistrates and others, will lend their powerful assistance in this good work.

Such my hearers, being the state of things in our beloved country, are we surprised that God has not been with us of late? We have not been "with Him and He has not been with us." Reverses—and reverses—have befallen us, by land and by sea. I do not believe that God intends to desert us; but I do believe that He is chastening us for our sins, and we deserve it. I also believe that these reverses will have a good effect upon the minds and hearts of our people. Our pride and self-reliance have received a rebuke, and we have learned more than ever before, of the strength of our enemy, as well as of his ferocity and hate. The spirit of patriotism and of preparation for the fierce struggle of liberty and independence, will now rise higher and higher. And I trust too that our people, citizens and soldiers, will be brought nearer to God and to the path of virtue and morality. The observance of this day of humiliation and prayer is ominous of good. I thank God that we have a President whose mind and heart are habitually turned in this direction; who is capable of writing such a Proclamation as the one that has convened us together to-day; and can say, in his Inaugural Address, in the presence of Senators and Representatives, and let it go forth to the world, "To Thee, oh God! I trustingly commit myself, and prayerfully invoke Thy blessing on my country and its cause."

My text declares "if ye seek Him He will be found of you. O, my brethren, let us seek Him to-day and every day! And let us seek Him "aright"—with a sense of dependence upon Him; with humility and penitence on account of our own sins and the sins of the nation; and let us seek Him *in faith*, trusting alone in the righteousness and intercession of our glorious High Priest, and relying upon the promises that God hath given us. A nation is this day bowed before the mercy-seat of the Sovereign of all worlds and the Disposer of all events. May this nation be enabled, now and henceforth, to seek God's favor and blessing aright! and may our people have grace to put away "the accursed things" that have provoked the Divine displeasure. Let us be with God and then He will be with us. And, can He not help us? True, we have a powerful enemy to contend with, having superior advantages in numbers and munitions of war; but He is an unprincipled and an unchristian enemy; and "He that is with us" (if we abide with Him) "is greater than he that is with them. Read the 14th and 15th chapters of 2d Chronicles, and learn how God can save those who are with Him, although they be numerically weaker than their enemies. The truth is, my hearers, *we cannot do without God in this matter*. We must have His Providences to favor us and His wisdom to guide us. I firmly believe that we will in the end be victorious—for our cause is just; but, if we are not with God and do provoke Him to anger by reason of our sins, our victory will be dearly bought; God will chasten us in His displeasure, that we may be brought to feel and acknowledge our sinfulness and our dependence upon Him. "He is a jealous God and will not give His glory to another," nor will He bestow His special favors upon those who persist in their evil ways.

Hoping and believing that our people will return, from at least their open and flagrant wanderings from God, and will "be with Him" in honoring Him and in seeking Him, I would say to you, my brethren, in conclusion, as the Prophet was bidden to say to Judah, in the words of the latter portion of my text, "Be ye strong, therefore, and let not your hands be weak; for your work shall be rewarded." Be strong—not in your own strength, but in the cultivation and practice of godliness, and then you will "be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might." If the Lord be with us "we shall chase a thousand, and two put ten thousand to flight." "Let not your hands be weak"—use all the means that God and nature have furnished to your hand; for we are required to use means for the accomplishment of all the ends that we desire, and means proportionate to the magnitude of the work to be accomplished. We cannot expect God to work miracles for us; we can only ask Him to guide us in the use of proper means, and to accompany those means with His blessing.

And let us not be desponding; our cause is by no means desperate; nor are our sufferings greater than are commonly experienced in such struggles. Liberty—especially at the hands of unprincipled and ferocious tyrants—is the price of blood and treasure. We have not yet reached the point of endurance and privations that were cheerfully, and for seven years, borne by our forefathers in their struggle for independence; when they were [illegible] times without bread or meat, except parched corn, and, in some instances, the flesh of horses and dogs; and when almost naked and barefooted they marched through snows, leaving their bloody tracks behind them! Read the history of those times—of the privations of all classes, of the heroism of women and children—and take courage. And we may trustingly say, as it was in their case, so it will be in ours, in the language of the concluding sentence of my text, "Ye shall be rewarded." We may not all live to see the day; many of our precious sons may fill a soldier's grave; and many of the comforts of life may be wrested from us; our cities may be burned; our fields laid waste; but we will never submit to the tyrant's foot upon our necks. *Yea, we will conquer.* "Our work will be rewarded." We shall hand down to posterity a Government of which they will be proud. Our children and our children's children—will reap the fruits of our trials, our privations and of our arms. Thus shall it be with us, my brethren, if we be with God. Amen and Amen.

THE PORT ROYAL COTTON.—The Norfolk correspondent of the Petersburg *Express* says:

"We have it from reliable private sources that when the ship arrived at the New York city wharf bearing the cotton stolen at Port Royal, some *mysterious* hand applied the match to the hold, and that vessel and cargo were consumed. For reasons obvious to all, the Northern press has "made no note on't."

FIGHTING MEN.—We see it stated that when the day seemed to be lost at the battle of Fort Donelson, the white flag was run up in the fort, and that twice the fifteenth Mississippi Regiment tore it down, renewing the combat, and swearing they would die there sooner than surrender.

Message of President Davis

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the Confederate States:

In obedience to the constitutional provision requiring the President, from time to time, to give to the Congress information of the state of the Confederacy, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient, I have to communicate, that since my message at the last session of the Provisional Congress, events have demonstrated that the Government had attempted more than it had power successfully to achieve. Hence, in the effort to protect, by our arms, the whole of the territory of the Confederate States, seaboard and inland, we have been so exposed as recently to encounter serious disasters. When the Confederacy was formed the States composing it were, by the peculiar character of their pursuits, and a misplaced confidence in their former associates, to a great extent, destitute of the war on so gigantic a scale as that which it has attained. The work-shops and artizans were mainly to be found in the Northern States; and one of the first duties which devolved upon this Government was to establish the necessary manufactories, and in the meantime to obtain, by purchases from abroad, as far as practicable, whatever was required for the public defence. No effort has been spared to effect both these ends; and, though the results have not equaled our hopes, it is believed that an impartial judgment will, upon full investigation, award to the various departments of the Government credit for having done all which human power and foresight enabled them to accomplish.

The valor and devotion of the people have not only sustained the efforts of the Government, but have gone far to supply its deficiencies.

I have hoped for several days to receive official reports in relation to our discomfiture at Roanoke Island, and the fall of Fort Donelson. They have not yet reached me, and I am, therefore, unable to communicate to you such information of those events and the consequences resulting from them, as would enable me to make recommendations founded upon the changed condition which they have produced. Enough is known of the surrender at Roanoke Island to make us feel that it was deeply humiliating, however imperfect may have been the preparations for defence. The hope is still entertained that our reported losses at Fort Donelson have been greatly exaggerated, inasmuch as [illegible] ing, but unable to believe that a large army of our people have surrendered without a desperate effort to cut their way through investing forces, whatever may have been their numbers, and to endeavor to make a junction with other divisions of the army. But in the absence of that exact information which can only be afforded by official reports, it would be premature to pass judgment, and my own is reserved, as I trust yours will be, until that information is received. In the meantime, strenuous efforts have been made to throw forward reinforcements to the armies at the positions threatened, and I cannot doubt that the bitter disappointments we have borne, by nerving the people to still greater exertions, will speedily secure results more accordant with our just expectation, and as favorable to our cause as those which marked the earlier periods of the war.

The reports of the Secretaries of War and the Navy will exhibit the mass of resources for the conduct of the war which we have been enabled to accumulate, notwithstanding the very serious difficulties against which we have contended.

They afford the cheering hope that our resources, limited as they were at the beginning of the contest, will during its progress, become developed to such an extent as fully to meet our future wants.

The policy of enlistment for short terms, against which I have steadily contended from the commencement of the war, has, in my judgement, contributed in no immaterial degree to the recent reverses which we have suffered, and even now render it difficult to furnish you an accurate statement of the army. When the war first broke out many of our people could with difficulty be persuaded that it would be long or serious. It was not deemed possible that anything so insane as a persistent attempt to subjugate these States could be made, still less that the delusion would so far prevail as to give to the war the vast proportions which it has assumed. The people incredulous of a long war, were naturally averse to long enlistments, and the early legislation of Congress rendered it impracticable to obtain volunteers for a greater period than twelve months. Now that it has become probable that the war will be continued through a series of years, our high spirited and gallant soldiers, while generally re-enlisting, are, from the fact of having entered the service for a short term, compelled in many instances to go home to make the necessary arrangements for their families during their prolonged absence.

The quotas of new regiments for the war called for from the different States, are in rapid progress of organization. The whole body of new levies and re-enlisted men will probably be ready in the ranks within the next thirty days. But, in the meantime, it is exceedingly difficult to give an accurate statement of the number of our forces in the field. They may, in general terms, be stated at four hundred regiments of infantry, with a proportionate force of cavalry and artillery the details of which will be shown by the report of the Secretary of War. I deem it proper to advert to the fact that the process of furloughs and re-enlistment in progress for the last month had so far disorganized and weakened our forces as to impair our ability for successful defence; but I heartily congratulate you that this evil, which I had foreseen and was powerless to prevent, may now be said to be substantially at an end, and that we shall not again during the war be exposed to seeing our strength diminished by this fruitful cause of disaster—short enlistments.

The people of the Confederate States being principally engaged in agricultural pursuits, were unprovided at the commencement of hostilities with ships, ship-yards, materials for ship building, or skilled mechanics and seamen in sufficient numbers to make the prompt creation of a navy a practical task, even if the required appropriations had been made for the purpose. Notwithstanding our very limited resources, however, the report of the Secretary will exhibited to you a satisfactory progress in preparation, and a certainty of early completion of vessels of a number and class on which we may confidently rely for contesting the vaunted control of the enemy over our waters.

The financial system devised by the wisdom of your predecessors, has proved adequate to supplying all the wants of the Government, notwithstanding the unexpected and very large increase of expenditures resulting from the great augmentation in the necessary means of defence. The report of the Secretary of the Treasury will exhibit the gratifying fact that we have no floating debt; that the credit of the Government is unimpaired, and that the total expenditure of the Government for the year has been, in round numbers, one hundred and seventy millions of dollars; less than one-third of the sum wasted by the enemy in his vain effort to conquer us—less than the value of a single article of export—the cotton crop of the year.

The report of the Postmaster-General will show the condition of that Department to be steadily improving—its revenues increasing, and already affording the assurance that it will be self-sustaining at the date required by the Constitution, while affording ample mail facilities for the people.

In the Department of Justice—which includes the Patent Office and Public Printing—some legislative provisions will be required, which will be specifically stated in the report of the head of that Department. I invite the attention of Congress to the duty of organizing a Supreme Court of the Confederate States, in accordance with the mandate of the Constitution.

I refer you to my message communicated to the Provisional Congress in November last, for such farther information touching the condition of public affairs as it might be useful to lay before you; the short interval which has since elapsed not having produced any material changes in that condition other than those which reference has already been made.

In conclusion, I cordially welcome representatives who, recently chosen by the people, are fully imbued with their views and feelings, and can so ably advise me as to the needful provisions for the public service. I assure you of my hearty co-operation in all your efforts for the common welfare of the country. JEFFERSON DAVIS.

EXEMPTION OF POSTMASTERS FROM MILITIA DUTY.—As there are numerous applications to the Post Office Department upon the subject, the Richmond *Examiner* is requested to state that Postmasters are exempt from militia duty, but only such assistants or clerks as are ordered or authorized by the Postmaster General. These are only allowed when, in addition to the services of the Postmaster, they are absolutely required by the business of the office.

AMUSING INCIDENT AT MANASSAS.—A friend, who has a relish for fun relates an amusing incident which came under his notice directly after the fight at Manassas:

A gentleman meeting with an old servant, taken to the army by an officer, said: "Well, Sam, how did you make out in the fight?"

"Why, wassa, I didn't mind dem little balls dat go sz e e, zip, no more dan nats about my ear, and dem cannon balls I could dodge, but dese bungs, when dey comin, say whar is you?? —whar is you? I don't like 'em at all."

Roll of the "Hopewell Guards."

JAMES O'CONNELL, Captain;
G. A. TAYLOR, 1st Lieutenant;
J. G. BRYCE, 2d "
J. M. ABBOTT, 3d "
J. B. COBB, 1st Sergeant;
T. D. ERWIN, 2d "
JOHN MCGRAW, 3d "
WM. SYMMES, 4th "
R. A. KEYS, 5th "
F. P. MCALISTER, 1st Corporal;
J. J. DICKSON, 2d "
J. O. L. ABBETT, 3d "
T. N. ABLE, 4th "

PRIVATES.

Adair, A O	McAlister, John
Alexander, M	McAlister, Miles
Algair, Wm	Manly, Tyre
Bremer, John	Simmons, David
Barker, W R	Naughton, Wm
Brewer, W A	Presher, Henry
Bradley, W D	Palmer, J P
Bearden, C	Potter, T B
Baldwin, John	Pitts, Elijah
Blackwell, Z	Qualls, Benjamin
Cox, J B	Qualls, W H
Cox, Elias	Roach, Henry
Cobb, M H D	Roach, Miles
Cannon, J M	Roach, Wm
Dyer, John	Reeder, J H
Dowis, John	Reed, W A
Dugan, P	Reed, H T
Dunn, N	Smith, James
Eaton, J M	Smith, Thomas
Evans, Ira	Smith, Berry
Goodwin, Henry	Smith, Robert
Gipson, Elijah	Sanders, J M
Going, James	Sanders, J. C
Henington, T	Sanders, L A
Harvey, George	Sharp, C M
Justice, J F	Symmes, John
Jordan, W	Symmes, James
Long, J R	Thacker, James
Long, W J	Thacker, J P
McGuffin, J H	Thomas Samuel
Moss, John	Williams, N M

Since reporting the above, it is due to say that Lieut. Taylor has been promoted to the office of Quartermaster. Hence, J. G. Bryce ranks as 1st Lieutenant; J. M. Abbott, 2d; and R. A. Keys elected 3d Lieutenant. F. P. McAlister having been appointed Sergeant; John McGraw ranks as 2d Sergeant; Wm. Symmes, 3d; C. M. Sharp, 4th; and T. P. McAlister, 5th.

JAMES O'CONNELL, Captain.