

From the Charleston Mercury, Jan. 12.

### Rebel Death-Bed Antics.

The condition of this military department, as embraced within the limits of Georgia and South Carolina, is anything but satisfactory to any man who is aware of facts, and has capacity to understand their bearing. We presume there is no one in this department to whom the condition of our present military organization is less satisfactory than to the General commanding. Probably there is no one so thoroughly aware of the lamentable disorganization that prevails in certain corps and sections of his command. Yet it would scarcely be fair to hold him responsible for his condition of things. His department has been newly turned into his hands, and many of the troops are new to him and to this department. They came to him under the command of imbeciles; he has received them, a herd of stragglers and outlaws. What has been done to eradicate this fatal evil we shall not stop to inquire. The time has been short to do much, and the forces have been much scattered. But the very last moments are arriving, when all must be done that is to be done, when all must be done that can be done. The enemy does not intend to wait upon our leisure. And there is much to do.

Before bringing ourselves to face the enemy, it is absolutely essential that those in command, bring themselves to face the vital evils existing within their own lines. The path we are now traveling is straight to destruction. The crisis of the Confederacy has arrived. In fatal earnest. The result of the next six months will bring the Confederacy to the ground, or will restate power. Without reform, we are doomed. There is more than one department of government in which reform is important. But reform in our armies is essential—is vital. Without it the death knell of the Confederacy is already tolled. With the proper reforms made, he is a coward who carries his heart in his boots. There are men in the land—there is fight in the land! It is the imbecile that is sick at heart—it is the coward whose stomach is weak. There is nothing before us that cannot be overcome; but to do it, there must be a new state of things instituted. We say again, there must be nerve. Men in command must not be afraid to die—they must not be afraid to kill. Officers must be killed—not mere privates. Reform must begin at the top, not the bottom of the service. To reach the private, captains must be shot. We want no child's play—we want an army.

What is a man's life to the institutions and the liberty of the country? Nothing. Let old things pass away—let us have a new condition of things. We want no more of Jeff. Davis' foolery; we want one atom of brains, one spark of nerve—we want no more of Babamien—we want no mermaids with heads of monkeys and fishy attachments at the neck; we want men, real men, earnest men—North Carolina, Georgia and South Carolina are in no mood for trifling. They have had enough of this sort of thing. They don't intend to have much more. South Carolina don't intend to be conquered. She intends to fight. She don't intend to be hampered or turned over to the enemy. When she is thus dealt with, there will be reckoning—a reckoning where there will be no respect of person. We want implicit order, and calm forecast. South Carolina is a commonwealth of order; we expect order, and we demand order. We are not used to lawless ruffianism; we don't intend to suffer it.

The General in command of this department is a thorough soldier, trained and tried. We believe that he will perform this duty. We look to him to do so, unflinchingly, without fear, favor, or affection—regardless of pettifoggers and petticoats in boots. This is a community of law. Just one hundred and ninety-two years ago we began our political existence under the authority of the Lords Proprietors of England, and the Lords of the Cavaliers, with the good old English code of laws, unmaneuvered by modern philanthropy, and pseudo humanitarianism to guide us. With the blessing of God we have still preserved that code but little adulterated by demagogues. We can still hang a villain, or shoot a ruffian, without lacerating the bowels of humanity. We have not yet come to have a nursery to scoundrels called a Penitentiary—nor public preachers in the pulpit, who called Christ "a good Galilean youth." Simple folks, we have little improved upon our ancestors. We are still only as our fathers left us in their ignorance—simply civilized and simply Christians. The law of order and obedience is the law of habit here. All good citizens here look for the enforcements of it here, in the military as in civil life. The Executive of this State will support it, and will cheerfully, gladly do so.

We stand to-day as gladiators stripped to the fight; we are ready and trained to enter the struggle for life or for death. South Carolina is ready to become the arm of the republic. Her sons are ready for the contest. Make of her whole soil a military camp—strip her to the waist; she will not shrink. But give her her gauntlets and her sword, and she is ready to stand or fall where she lies.

A most enormous but imperative duty devolves upon the commander of this department, whoever he is. That duty—is this first and most essential duty—is to cashier and to shoot. Without it nothing can be done, and Sherman conquers us. With it he is a coward who succumbs at heart. Everything is at stake—everything that is in the way must be faced and trampled upon. The man who commands here must put his heart in his pocket and his sword in his hand. He must know nothing but the good of the Confederacy. That he must do regardless of official weakness. The end must be radical reform. It is folly to talk of red tape now—we want the thing—must have it—reform, shooting, cashiering, order, subordination, soldiers—not runaways, ragnuffins, ruffians. We want, and we must have, brains and pluck in commanders, and implicit obedience and order in subordinates and soldiers. Sixty pieces and a steady aim will do the business if repeated sufficiently often, especially among commissioned officers.

If never, commanding officers will not do their duty in this matter. Let all men shut their books, for the end will be well nigh come. The time is short—will it be improved? **REBEL CONTRAST BETWEEN LINCOLN AND DAVIS.** (From the Charleston Mercury, Jan. 10th.) When Abraham Lincoln took the chair of the Presidency of the United States, he promised in his flat-headed lingo to "run the machine as he found it." Whether he has strictly kept his promise, those may doubt who choose to consider the subject. It is enough for us to know, that whether "running his machine," in the pathway of his predecessors, or not, he has run it, with a stern, inflexible purpose, a bold, steady hand, a vigilant, active eye, a sleepless energy, a *non spicere* attitude, and an eye single to his end—conquest—emancipation. He has called around him, in counsel, the ablest and most earnest men of his country. Where he has lacked in individual ability, learning, experience of statesmanship, he has sought it, and found it in the able men about him, whose assistance he unhesitatingly accepts, whose powers he applies to the advancement of the cause he has undertaken. In the Cabinet and in the field he has consistently and fearlessly pressed on the search for men who could advance his cause, and has unhesitatingly cut off all those who clogged it with weakness, flintiness, imbecility, or ill-will. Every energy, brain, earnestness, he has collected around him in every department. Blackguard and buffoon as he is, he has pursued his end with an energy as untiring as an Indian, and a singleness of purpose that might almost be called patriotic. If he were not an unscrupulous knave in his end, and a fanatic in his political views, he would undoubtedly command our respect as a ruler, so far as we are concerned. Ahead and at home he has exercised alike the same ceaseless energy and circumspection.

We turn our eyes to Richmond, and the contrast is appalling, sickening to the heart. **HAVE CONFIDENCE IN YOUR WIFE.**—If You are in trouble or in a quandary, tell your good wife—if you have one—all about it at once. Ten to one her invention will solve your difficulty sooner than all your logic. The wit of woman has been praised, but her instincts are quicker and keener than her reason.—Counsel with your wife, or your mother, or your sister, and be assured that light will flash upon your darkness. Women are too commonly adjudged as vermin in all but pure womanly affairs. No philosophical student of the sex thus judges them. Their intuitions or insight are more subtle, and if they cannot see a cat in the meat, there is no cat there. In counseling one to tell his trouble to his wife, we would go farther, and advise him to keep none of his affairs secret from her. Many a home has been happily saved, and many a fortune retrieved, by man's full confidence in his "better half," as many also have been made desolate and wretched for the lack of confidence.—Woman is far more a seer than man, if she be given a fair chance. As a general rule, wives confide the minutest of their plans and thoughts to their husbands, having no involvements to screen from them. Why not reciprocate it, if but for the pleasure of meeting confidence? We are certain that no man succeeds so well in the world as he who, taking a partner for life, makes her the partner of all his impulses or judgments which she may check and set right with her almost universally right instincts. Helpmeet was no insignificant title, as applied to man's companion. His wife is a helpmeet for him in every darkness, difficulty and sorrow of life. And what she most craves and deserves is confidence—without which love is never free from a shadow, it can be said to be at all.

### Funeral of Edward Everett.

Boston, January 19. The funeral of Edward Everett took place to-day in the First Church. The services were of a more private character, having previously been held in the late residence of the deceased. The church was draped in the symbols of mourning. The remains were brought to the church, escorted by the Independent Cadets, the following gentlemen acting as pall bearers: Hon. Emory Washburne, Ex-Gov. of Mass.; T. W. Lincoln, Jr., Mayor of Boston; Thos. Hill, priest of Harvard University; G. T. Bigelow, Chief Justice; George Ticknor, Trustee of the Public Library; R. C. Winthrop, Pres't of the Historical Society; C. G. Loring, Vice President of the Union Club; Asa Gray, President of the Academy of Arts and Science; J. Graham, Colonel of the United States Army, and Silas H. Stringham, of the United States Navy. The inscription on the coffin borne on a solid silver plate was as follows: Edward Everett, born in Dorchester, Massachusetts, the 11th of April, 1794, died in Boston the 15th of January, 1865.

The services were simple and improvised opening with the burial chant of the Episcopal service. "Teach me to know my days," followed by the reading of appropriate passages from scriptures, and prayer by Rev. Dr. Walker, President of Harvard College. Rev. Rufus Ellis then made an eloquent and touching address and prayer, after which the usual church service was read over the remains, the exercises closing by singing the funeral anthem, "Their bodies are buried in dust, but their names live forevermore." This remains were carried to Mt. Auburn. The burial procession was large and imposing. Two companies of volunteer cavalry, two of infantry, and a company of marines, from the Navy Yard, acted as an escort. Both branches of the Legislature met at 10 o'clock, adopted resolutions of respect to the memory of Mr. Everett, appointed a Committee to attend the funeral, and adjourned.

Our paper started about fourteen months ago, and without any special effort on our part, its readers have gradually increased, till we believe we have the largest list of subscribers in the country. In this we may be mistaken; but at any rate, we are willing to compare books with any who may see fit to dispute it.—As to the character of our paper we think the favorable consideration it has received from the community, is a safer guide than any self-constituted censor, who declines to give us his name. The *Herald's* correspondent complains of our attacks on certain individuals. The most unpleasant case of that kind within our recollection was the one in which, in deference to truth, we were compelled to make a truthful statement of an affair which the *Herald* had held up to view in a false light. The *Herald*, therefore, and not we, is responsible for our ever referring to it.

We did once, call attention to the fact that a Union soldier had been grossly insulted, by a young lady, who had no knowledge of that young lady was, nor did we endeavor to know. Had such an offence been committed in New Orleans, the person so offending, would have been liable to be placed in the lockup, or in St. Louis she would have been a fit subject for sending across the lines. Here in Butler it seems to be a high crime for a Journal to mention the fact that such an outrage had occurred! We sympathize with any young lady who can feel in her heart a gratification in annoying one of these brave men who is perilling his life for her protection and safety. It is a strong evidence to us that all is not right at home, with her. While Loyal Union men and women, around the hearthstone, are lamenting over the hardships of our country—are mutually sympathizing with her and her gallant armies, too many young ladies are led into the error of affecting contempt for the Union cause. Believing that our prompt reproof in this case prevented its recurrence, we are willing to suffer any consequences that may follow. As for the McLaughlin matter, we think the 102d settled that on election day. We have no space to look into this subject farther at present. Looking at it in the light of an effort to withdraw from us the patronage of the business men of this community, we are free to express the belief, that it will be found to be a water haul. Business men don't often let their politics follow them so far. If they are satisfied that they can reach the business public best through the *CITIZEN*, there are not many of them who will be found holding back, simply because we believe the working millions are the equals of the titled aristocracy of the old world, or the would be aristocracy of the new, while others hold the reverse to be true.

Disqualification Bill. Ever since the government has been attempting to fill up its armies by conscription, some sections of the country have been endeavoring to evade its operations by a systematic system of skulking. This fact has suggested to the minds of legislators as well as others the necessity of some law which would tend, at once, to remedy the evil and punish those who should remain unapplicable. It is not that just (our neighbor of the *Herald* may be an exception) that those drafted in one section of the country shall go into the service in obedience to the law, while those in other sections remain at home, enjoying all the comforts of domestic life. The generally recognized principle is, that the citizen, in return for that protection of life and property which it is the duty of the Government to give, owes his services, and if need be, his life to the State. The question then recurs, shall one portion of the citizens be held to this implied contract while others disregard it all together? We trust not. The next question in this connection is how shall those who violate this contract be punished for it. It is true they can be tried, if caught, by court-martial, and imprisoned or shot, as many of them are. But can the State do nothing to protect herself from this class of citizens who thus refuse to discharge their obligations to the Federal Government, making the burthen so much the greater on others? surely she can. Our attention has been called to this subject on observing that Mr. Negley of this county, has read a bill in place, intended to meet the case. We have not given the subject sufficient attention to feel able to say just what is needed. The bill will, of course, be referred to the Judiciary Committee where, if there are any amendments needed, they will be had. On a cursory reading of it, we are inclined to the opinion that it has been carefully prepared, and Mr. Negley deserves thanks for the interest he is taking in this matter. The following is a copy of the bill: Sec. 1. Be it enacted, &c., that all persons within this Commonwealth, being liable to military service, and who have been drafted or may be drafted under any law of the United States or of this Commonwealth for the suppression of rebellion or repelling of invasions and who have deserted or may desert from said service, or have concealed or may conceal themselves from any officer or persons charged

### The American Citizen.



THOMAS ROBINSON, - - Editor.

M. W. SPEAR, Publisher.

BUTLER PA.

WEDNESDAY - JAN. 25, 1865.

"Liberty and Union, Now and Forever, One and Inseparable." - D. Webster.

### Plank Road.

We have noticed that Mr. Haslett, of this county, has read in place a bill authorizing the Directors of the Butler and Aiken Plank Road, to increase their toll fifty per cent. This is quite an advance; and we are inclined to the opinion that unless limited to the winter season, will work injustice without materially increasing the revenue of the road. Let such a law operate from the first of November to the first of May, and it would improve the finances of the company because all would have to travel the road during that season of the year; but with such heavy rates, few farmers that could avail themselves of 'summer roads' would travel the plank at all—and those only who were, from the nature of their business, compelled to travel it would pay the high rates. In this we only speak on our own convictions as we have heard no general opinion expressed on the subject. All have an interest in it and if the people acquiesce now, they must not complain afterwards. It is due the Company to say, that we understand the present earnings of the road, are quite insufficient to meet the necessary expenditures.

Since writing the above we have been called on by some of our citizens who are decidedly opposed to the Legislation, above named—where the majority of interest goes, we are not aware.

### The "Herald."

The new Editor of the *Herald* has given his readers a fine illustration of the high toned manner in which he intends to conduct that paper (by) an article in that paper of last week, dedicated to us. We are free to confess that we have no desire to become the subject of repeated assaults from the *Herald*; but if we can only escape this situation by sacrificing even a small portion of that independence which we have heretofore exercised, we must accept our situation. The writer of that article has seen fit to hide himself under an assumed name; but we think the ear marks are sufficiently distinct to enable us to form a correct opinion as to his identity.

Following the example of his "southern brethren" who, failing to be able to meet our gallant armies in honorable warfare, become guerrillas, and in disguise, pounce upon their victims, and again suddenly retire. "An observer" has imagined that he could follow their example with safety. This is, of course, a courage worthy of the gentleman who was seen, on a recent occasion, (to use the language of Webster) to "bear his manly bosom to whatever of horror there may be in,"—a surgical examination. With the numerous insinuations and declarations concerning us, personally, we have only at present to say that they are as false as the heart of their author is depraved and malicious. The following is a portion of the article to which we wish to reply: "Mr. J. C. COLLIER—Allow me to express, through the medium of your paper, my surprise and regret that such a paper as the *American Citizen*, is supported, sustained and circulated in the county of Butler. Through the columns of that filthy sheet, our best citizens are slandered, ridiculed and abused. We have even known the writer for the *Citizen* to assail a young and innocent girl, who in a playful mood, may have uttered an improper expression, falsify the facts, misrepresent her conduct, and labor vigorously to tarnish her reputation. Business men in our midst have been basely slandered, their reputation ruthlessly assailed, and efforts worthy of a better cause have been made by the hypocritical scoundrel who presides over the destinies of that filthy sheet, to injure their business and traduce their characters."

It is evident from the above that an intention to affect our paper unfavorably with the business community is intended. It is true the majority of our business men in Butler, are Democrats, and their patronage is very desirable, but if that patronage cannot be had without sacrificing our position as a Republican, we will not endeavor to obtain it.

The gentleman says that he is happy to know that those Democrats who patronized our paper, are fast withdrawing from it—these suggestive hints to Democrats may in part account for Mr. Coll's allowing the publication of the article. In reply to these assertions we would say that there have been two Democrats only who withdrew from our paper in the last three months; and one of them informed us that he had just settled off with the *Herald* before calling on us. But a few weeks since, another Democrat called and subscribed for the *CITIZEN*, saying that he had just stopped the *Herald*. Our paper started about fourteen

with their arrest, or have refused or may refuse to report to the proper authorities after being notified of their being so drafted, or have concealed or may conceal themselves in order to avoid the service of said draft; and who shall continue to desert, escape, refuse to report, or conceal themselves, for the period of one month after the passage of this act; all and every such person or persons are hereby declared to be deprived of the rights of citizenship within this Commonwealth, and shall be incapable of voting at any election of the citizens or of holding any office of honor, trust or profit within the same, or of inheriting any estate under the intestate laws of this Commonwealth, or if by contract acquiring, possessing or disposing of any real or personal estate within the same.

Sec. 2. That it shall be the duty of any and all Inspectors and Judges of the elections within this Commonwealth to refuse and reject the vote or votes of all such aforesaid persons who they, or any of them, may know to have so deserted, escaped or avoided military duty, or the service of any notice as aforesaid; for who may be proven to them to have so deserted, escaped, or in any manner avoided said military service of any said notice, and the said Inspectors and Judge of any election, on the request of and qualified voter, shall receive proof showing the person offering to vote at said election, has so deserted, escaped or avoided such service, and if any said Inspectors and Judge, or a majority of them, shall knowingly receive the vote or votes of any such person or persons, they shall be liable to indictment for misdemeanor in office, on the information of any citizen and on conviction shall be fined in a sum not less than one hundred dollars and be imprisoned for a term not less than one month.

Sec. 3. That it shall be the duty of all Constables, Sheriffs and other officers of the peace within this Commonwealth to give any information they may receive or knowledge they may have concerning the said persons so deserting or avoiding the military service to the said Inspectors and Judge of Elections who said persons may reside or offer to vote, and on failure to do so shall be liable to indictment therefor—as for misdemeanor.

Sec. 4. That it shall be the duty of all Constables, Sheriffs and other officers of the peace within this Commonwealth to render aid and assistance to any officer or officers of the government of the United States charged with making the arrest of, or service of any notice on any such person or persons deserting, escaping, refusing to report or concealing themselves, as provided by the first section of this act, and on failure or refusal to do so shall be liable to indictment and punished for misdemeanor in office and fined and imprisoned in such sum and for such term as the court trying the same may adjudge.

Sec. 5. That any person or persons advising, counseling, assisting, harboring, concealing, or in any manner aiding in the desertion, escape, or concealment of the person or persons described and provided for by the first section of this act, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction of the same in any Court of this Commonwealth, shall be fined in a sum not less than one hundred dollars, and be imprisoned not less than three months.

Mr. Haslett, of Butler, submitted a supplement to the act incorporating the Allegheny and Butler Plank-road Company, authorizing it to increase the rates of tolls not exceeding fifty per cent. over the rate, now authorized by law, and also to charge the same rates of toll upon vehicles laden with iron, iron ore, or the products thereof, as it is now authorized to charge upon vehicles laden with coal, stone, or iron.

Horrors of Andersonville. There is no one fact more undeniably true in reference to the cruelties of the rebels, than the oft-repeated announcement of the unparalleled inhumanity which they exhibit in the treatment of prisoners. The numerous skeleton forms which have been released from Andersonville, Florence and other equally notorious places, have impressed the truth upon our unwilling ears—to say nothing of the fearfully large list of deaths reported.—Mrs. Dr. Lowman has kindly consented to the publication of the following letter which she received from her brother, which will, we have no doubt, be read with interest. It fully corroborates all that we have heard on the subject. The following is the letter:

Dear Sister:—You wish me to give you an account of my trip through "Seccessia," as a prisoner. I was with my regiment on a raid, in the rear of Atlanta, when captured, July 29, 1864, under the command of Gen. Ed. McCook. After leaving the army lying on a line east and west, north of Atlanta, we made a circuit and came to the Chattahoochee river, where we crossed, advanced nine miles out to Palmetto, a little town on the West Point R. R. we burnt the depot, a train of cars and played smash with the Johnny's "Corn cracker line." from there we crossed to the Macon R. R. near Jonesboro, on our way we were captured, destroyed about 8000 wagons, captured near 400 prisoners, 2000 mules. We struck the Macon R.R. four miles from Jonesboro, where our commander lay drunk from 7 a.m. until 1 p.m., when we started back and were attacked by Wheeler's force, numbering about 6,000, our force only 1700; we fought him all afternoon, and still retreating until we struck the West Point road again. Next morning at Nowan, we were met by Roddy, with 3000 dismounted Cavalry. We fought them until after sundown, when about one third the command was captured; all from the effects of liquor. We were taken to Andersonville, where we arrived on the 2d of August, when we were stripped and searched, making the sixth time we were

searched since our capture. The old Dutch Captain's orders were, to take all money, watches, rings, jewelry, coffee, sugar and every G—d—n thing they "got." I succeeded in hiding twenty-seven dollars. When shown our quarters inside the "stockade" many of our number were shocked at the sight which met our eyes at every turn, as to completely overcome them, all such soon wasted away and died. It was not an uncommon sight to see men lying out without even a blanket to protect them from the scorching heat of a Georgia Sun, or the dew at night (which falls very heavy there) not able to rise and enveloped in all the faith which their helpless condition involved, and the vermin working upon them. I have, more than once, in passing thro' the stockade, heard men earnestly pleading for a knife to cut their throats.

The ration allowed was not enough, hardly, to sustain life, and composed of corn meal, cobs and even some husks, raked together with an addition of a few "stock peas" boiled, from two-thirds of a pint; my partner and I extracted 250 bugs. The average number of deaths during the months of June, July and August, as I was told by one of the grave-diggers, was 130 per day. An attempt to describe misery endured there is an utter impossibility. About the middle of September I was moved to Charleston, S. C., where we were camped on the old race course, inside the city limits. We were shown more sympathy there than any place I was in. Gen. Foster's shells were plainly visible from our camp as they burst over the city. I remained there but a few days when I was moved to Florence, S. C., which is fast becoming as noted a place of *Rebel brutality* as Andersonville, Ga. For a short time—while under the command of Maj. Brown, a South Carolinian—we were treated as well as he was able to do. When the stockade was finished he was relieved, and followed by one Lieut. Barret, of whom I believe the *Devil* would be ashamed. The stockade enclosed about twelve acres, and nearly one-third so swampy as to be untenable, in this 11,700 were enclosed. The punishment for frivolous offences in attempting to escape, was more brutal than in Georgia. It was nothing uncommon to see our men strung up by the thumbs for two hours at a time so that their feet would just touch the ground. On one instance, after hanging two hours, was taken into the presence of us all and swung in the same manner, clear of mother earth, twenty minutes, when released, sunk senseless to the ground. When moving us into the stockade from the camp first occupied, some of our men attempted to hide in the wells, but were found out, when they were taken out and compelled to run before a half dozen boys, about sixteen years of age, who staked their victim every jump they could. I saw more than one brought down senseless to the ground.

The punishment for furloughing was to cut the rations off of the whole camp, until some one would divulge the secret.—I have seen it done for three days at a time. During one of those times of starving, five men lay down at night, under one blanket, in the morning a comrade went to awake them for roll call, supposing they were asleep, four were dead and the fifth not able to speak, and died before ten o'clock. I met a good many of my old Pennsylvania acquaintances there. I was lucky enough to be included in the 10,000 exchanged, being paroled as a nurse to help bring the balance to our lines.

I came on west, and was hardly able to behave myself when I got across the Ohio river, as we called it getting into God's country. I think I will be able for duty in a couple of months—rheumatism and affection of the lungs are the results of my exposure.

Affectionately your Brother,  
J. H. GUTHERIE,  
N. C. S., 8th Iowa Cavalry.

### Mr. Everett's Last Speech.

On the 9th inst., the citizens of Boston, met in Faneuil Hall, in aid of the suffering people of Savannah. Mr. Everett was the principal speaker, and delivered his last speech before the public. There is an interest attaching to it now, spoken as it was in the cause of benevolence and mercy, and to awaken the noble feelings of the human heart. We quote the following characteristic passage:

There is no store of food there. Their ware houses, their dwelling houses are empty of provisions and of the other necessities of life, and there are 20,000 men, women and children, who, in the interval, which must necessarily elapse before trade can return to its accustomed channels, must be clothed and warmed and fed. It is our duty, as I know it will be our pleasure, to do our part in this benevolent work. They offer, it is true, to send the rice which Gen. Sherman has given them and sell it at the advanced price which it bears in our market, in payment of the supplies in which they stand in sore need. But New York and Boston don't want their rice. Savannah wants our pork, beef and flour, and I say in the name of Heaven let us send it to them without money and without price. By-and-by we will trade with them as we did in the good times before the curse of secession and rebellion came upon the land. By-and-by we will take the rice and the cotton, and give them our pork and our fancies in return.

Now sir, I had rather not be paid for the relief we send them. Our store houses and granaries are full, our farmers never had a better year. Some branches

of trade and manufactures are depressed, but others are more than usually active and profitable. The great West, big as she is, is hardly big enough to hold the wealth that is annually reaped from her fertile fields, and, as if the accustomed products of the soil were deemed insufficient by a bountiful Providence, the very elods of the earth throughout the middle States, "are pouring out rivers of oil," till King Petroleum bids fair to sway the markets of the world, as King Cotton did before his fibrous majesty was dethroned. In this state of things, sir, I don't want our great warm hearted Boston and Imperial New York to go to chaffering with poor war-stricken, starving Savannah for the food she needs for her famished citizens. No, Sir, I should as soon have expected the fond father in the Parable, the loveliest page in the sacred volume, to drive a bargain with his returned son for a meal's victuals out of the fatted calf. Let us offer it to them freely, not in the spirit of almsgiving, but as a pledge of fraternal feeling and an earnest of our disposition to resume all the kind offices of fellow-citizenship with our returning brothers.

### Lieut. Col. Blakely, 14th Pa. Cavalry.

On the 20th of November, there appeared in our special dispatches an announcement of the dismissal from the army of Lieutenant-Colonel Wm. Blakely, of the 14th Pennsylvania Cavalry. Since then Colonel Blakely has been restored to his command and fully vindicated, as the subjoined statement of Chaplain Osborn will attest:

### CAMP 14TH PENNA. CAVALRY, WYCKOFF, Va., Dec. 22, 1864.

Having learned that the dismissal of Lieut. Col. Blakely has been published, allow me, for the sake of truth, and the benefit of this esteemed officer, through the columns of your valuable journal, to lay before a candid and scrutinizing public, the following facts, which I think will disabuse the popular mind of any unfavorable impressions respecting him.

Some time during the month of August the Colonel was placed in command of a detachment from several regiments composing Gen. Averill's division, and was ordered to report to Col. Lowell, commanding 3d brigade, 1st Cavalry division. When near White Post, Va., the Colonel was directed to remain at that place, to protect the rear. On the evening of the 12th of August, while the Colonel was leading a charge, he was thrown from his horse and severely injured; his underjaw was broken in two places and he was carried back insensible. On the 13th, 1st Assistant Surgeon J. W. McCabe sent the Colonel to Harper's Ferry. He (Mr. McCabe) and also Surgeon W. C. Phelps, of the 22d Pa. Cavalry, have both testified that the Col. on the last mentioned date, was helpless, speechless, and insensible. The officer whose duty it was to take command when the Col. was disabled, testifies that he withdrew the command on the 14th of August from White Post, without any orders from Col. Blakely or any one else. Col. Lowell without knowing any of the foregoing facts in the case, recommended Col. Blakely's dismissal, which was approved by Maj. Gen. Torbett, Chief of Cavalry, in which an order was issued for his dismissal, bearing date 20th August, subject to the approval of the President of the United States. On the 17th of November the President approved the order, and the Colonel ceased to be from date an officer.

The Colonel knew nothing of what was going on until the 27th of November when he immediately proceeded to take the necessary testimony, to procure a revocation of the order, which resulted in establishing the facts above stated. Maj. General Torbett gave him a letter in which he stated that he had recommended his dismissal under misapprehension of the facts, at the same time recommending that he be reinstated and returned to his command. The officers of the regiment with but one exception, and he was not asked, signed and presented a memorial, petitioning the Secretary of War for a revocation of the order of dismissal, and asking that the Colonel be speedily returned to his command in the regiment. These papers were forwarded to the War Department, and the Colonel was reinstated on the 14th inst., and has returned to duty, to the great joy and gratification of his regiment.

In concluding this note allow me to say that no officer in our regiment is more universally esteemed by his fellow officers and men than Colonel Blakely, and we are heartily sorry to learn that in consequence of wounds received in August last and his declining health, he may be under the necessity of resigning his position and retiring from service.—*Pitts Commercial.*

A. G. OSBORN,  
Chaplain 14th Pa. Cavalry

### The Burbridge Expedition.

LOUISVILLE, December 29.

A reliable telegram from Guest's Station, on the 28th, represents Burbridge's command in good shape and spirits, returning to Lexington after a most successful expedition. Gen. Burbridge destroyed the railroad ten miles beyond Wytheville, and the salt works and the lead mines in that vicinity. Breckinridge was badly whipped, and left for North Carolina. The rebel department of Southwestern Virginia has no longer any efficiency.

A dispatch dated Louisa, Ky., the 26th, says: The raid of Generals Stoneman and Burbridge was a perfect success. Breckinridge, Vaughan and Duke were whipped, their artillery captured and army scattered. Saltville was burnt and the works destroyed. The railroad from Bristol, Tennessee, to twenty miles beyond Wytheville, Va., was destroyed, with all the rolling stock. Bristol and Wytheville are in ruins. The lead mines and furnaces have gone up, and twenty millions of property destroyed. Steadman is moving up the south side of the Tennessee, and it is hoped, may reach Hood, near Florence, in time to cut off his retreat.

Opportunities like eggs, must be hatched when they are fresh.