STAUNTON SPECTATOR.

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Staunton Spectator.

RICHARD MAURY, Editor & Proprietor.

THE SPECTATOR

IS PUBLISHED EVERY

TUESDAY MORNING,

AT THE FOLLOWING RATES:

FOR 1 YEAR, $4.00 IN ADVANCE.
" 6 MONTHS, $2.50 " "
" 3 " $2.00 " "
SINGLE COPY, 10 CENTS.

ADVERTISEMENTS of a business character will be charged at the rate of Two Dollars per square for each insertion. Larger advertisements inserted in the same proportion.

☞ *Annual advertisers will be limited to their immediate business, or the advertisements charged for at transient rates.*

All advertising for a less time than three months, will be charged for at the usual rates—$2.00 per square for each insertion.

Unless the number of insertions be marked upon the manuscript, they will be inserted until forbid, and charged accordingly.

COMMUNICATIONS—Announcements of Candidates for Offices, will be charged as Advertisements or Notices of a personal or private character.

Obituaries will be charged for at advertising rates. They must in all cases be accompanied by the money.

1864. CALENDAR. 1864.

JAN.							FEB.							MARCH.							APRIL.						
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SEPT.							OCT.							NOV.							DEC.						
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MISCELLANEOUS.

M'CORKLE, LUSK & CO.,
JORDAN'S POINT,
Lexington, Va.

HAVING taken the old stand of McCorkle & Lusk at the Point, for the purpose of conducting the **Commission And Forwarding Business,** solicit the custom of the old concern and public generally. Their Lumber House is large and well adapted to produce intended for shipment, being situated immediately on the Canal, where boats can come up to the very door. Will also run in connection with this house, two regular BOATS with careful and responsible Captains, making transportation of goods and produce as safe and quick as any other line.

They are also fitting up a store room, which will soon be ready, when they will keep as good a stock at the times will admit of, and will sell them too on as reasonable terms as they can be bought elsewhere. Goods, &c., must necessarily be high during the war; but we will adopt the old motto, and endeavor to carry it out, viz:—"Quick sales and small profits."

We will also trade for all kinds of produce.

Freight to be shipped by Packet Boats must be delivered here.

Persons bringing produce to our house will pass the toll bridge free of toll.

All persons indebted to the old concern of McCorkle & Lusk will please come forward and settle their accounts. CALVIN McCORKLE,
A. M. LUSK,
May 19—tf JOHN GIBBON.

☞ Staunton Spectator and Lynchburg Virginian please copy, and send their bills to this office.—*Lex. Gazette.*

J. H. HAYMOND. S. A. MORGAN.

HAYMOND & MORGAN,
Commission Merchants,
FOR THE SALE OF
County Produce and Tobacco,
Corner 6th and Broad Streets, Richmond, Va.

WE will pay cash for all country produce, and make returns promptly. We will keep on hand an assortment of Chewing and Smoking Tobacco, Cigars, &c., &c.

We respectfully refer to Major J. M. McCue, Augusta Co., Va., Capt. Wm. L. Mallam, Pendleton Co., Va., Dr. C. F. Bryan, Bath Co., Va., and others.
Oct. 20, 1863—tf.

N. F. CATLETT. J. W. ALBY.

CATLETT & ALBY,
AUCTION AND COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
CORNER TWELFTH SIREET, RICHMOND, VA.,

Solicit consignments of all kinds of Goods, for public or private sale. Special attention paid to sales in the country. Public sales every Monday.
Nov. 17—Tuesdays only.

LAST NOTICE.

Having disposed of our Entire Stock of Goods, we are very desirous of closing our late business, and request all persons having claims against us to call on Dr. Young, formerly without delay, and settle the same. We cannot wait longer indulgence cannot be extended. Those having claims against us will please present them for settlement.
Oct. 22—tf. CHANNEL & COURSLE.

NOTICE.

The undersigned will be found at Dr. Young's old stand, where he will be pleased to see his friends and customers. Having purchased of Dr. Young the entire stock of DRUGS, MEDICINES, &c., and having employed an experienced druggist, he will keep up the Drug business. Soliciting the patronage of the public of patronage. Cash required on delivery of the goods.
Nov 24—tf G. C. YEARLEY.

BEYOND QUESTION

WE are now receiving our supply of TOBACCO that for quality and cheapness cannot be surpassed in the State, consisting in part of the following brands from a very fine to the choicest chew that can be had. MEADOW VIEW, MANSION, DEW DROP, before laying in their fillings call on
J. O. LEWIS.
Staunton, Sept. 29, 1863.

GOOD [illegible]

[illegible]

CHEAPER THAN THE CHEAPEST

[illegible]

HAVING [illegible]

EXTRACT OF LOGWOOD
and other DYE STUFF
G. C. YEARLEY'S
Drug Store.

ARMENIAN OILS.—Superior lubricating Oil, for sale at P. S. TROUTS
Drug Store.

ADDRESS BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO THE SOLDIERS OF VIRGINIA.

ADOPTED MARCH 9, 1864.

Soldiers of Virginia in the service of the Confederate States:

It is now nearly three years since you left your homes and firesides in the hall of your State to repel the invasion of her soil.

Before taking up arms every effort to obtain the peaceful enjoyment of your rights under the Constitution had been exhausted, your appeals for justice spurned with contempt, and a war to subjugate our sister States of the South commenced by Abraham Lincoln.

By this lawless proceeding the Federal Administration threw off the mask it had hitherto worn. In such a contest Virginia could not remain an indifferent spectator. Bound by every tie of blood, sympathy, common interests and common wrongs to the States against whom this hostile proposition was set on foot, she withdrew at once from an association which no longer recognized a written Constitution, and received to receive on her own bosom the threatened shock of invasion. She invoked you to rally to defend your homes, your altars and your honor; and this appeal was not made in vain. Promptly and generously you responded to the call of duty. Most faithfully have you performed it. In your long and arduous service you have shrunk from no toil, no danger and no sacrifice. During your absence in the field, your wives and little ones may have suffered much; your homes been ravaged and the fruits of industry decimated by a ruthless and barbarous enemy. But in despite of every temptation you have never looked back. Your eye has always been fixed on the foe and your ear waiting for the summons to battle. Amid the toil of the march, the weary watch, the labor, the hunger, the cold, the privations of the camp, you have never complained, but have always rendered a cheerful obedience to the State which honors and cherishes you with a mother's love.

You have been present in most of the important battles of the war, and in all, your valor has been conspicuous. It has made you the theme of praise by your heroic compatriots from other States, and by the whole civilized world.

Many of your comrades have fallen in battle, or from disease contracted in service, and been transferred from the roll of life to that of immortality. There are many more whose mutilated forms attest their honorable devotion to their country.

In your prolonged absence from home, your sacrifices of personal interests and of all the enjoyments of life has indeed, been great. The war, forced upon us by the malice of a people whom we had not injured, has entailed upon us deep sorrow and great suffering. Its unavoidable calamities have been greatly augmented by the refusal of the enemy to respect the laws of civilized warfare, and by their fiendish attempt to wrest submission from us by visiting the most relentless barbarities upon women and children, the aged and the helpless. Unbridled license has been given to their cupidity, untold millions of property have been wantonly destroyed by their malice, or swelled the coffers of the pampered villains, who, unwhipt of justice, have been openly rewarded and promoted for their crimes.

Aged and unoffending men have been dragged from their beds to dreary prisons and solitary labor. Refined and virtuous women have been brutally insulted, and, menaced by rude, unfeeling soldiery, have been led captive from their homes as hostages for negroes.

Farms have been desolated, dwellings have been laid in ashes, unprotected women and helpless children have been turned out from their homes without bread or shelter. The tombs of the gallant dead have been robbed and desecrated by fiends, who have ruthlessly invaded the sanctity of the grave and outraged the sensibilities of the living.

Under the hypocritical guise of liberating from slavery a population happier and more virtuous than themselves, they have sought to subject us to a yoke more galling than they have essayed to remove.

Within a few days past an expedition has been projected and an abortive effort made to carry into execution, with minute instructions emanating (as we have reason to believe) from the Government at Washington, to sack and fire the city of Richmond, and in the darkness of night to consign its inhabitants, without a moment's warning, to flames and to death. For this purpose a special "burning party" was organized, provided with implements of destruction, and orders to carry into execution the fell design.—Among its blasting ruins the released prisoners from "Belle Isle" and "The Libby" were to unite with the bands of Dahlgren and Kilpatrick in dealing out death and slaughter upon unoffending and peaceful citizens, and inflicting outrage upon pure and unprotected women more horrible than death.

The heart sickens at the contemplation of the enormities that would have been committed had the nefarious scheme succeeded. No prayer for mercy would have been heard, no stream for help would have been heeded. Fire, pillage, slaughter and lust would have held undisputed dominion in the doomed city.

We forbear to enlarge, but make this recital that you may know more clearly the character of our foe, and that he may be held up to the odium and execration of mankind.

In shameless disregard of all the rules of civilized warfare, your Chief Magistrate and his Cabinet were, by special direction, to be denied the right of protection of war and killed in cold blood.

Every species of public and private property which, be destroyed, and the entire country within its reach laid waste.

Encouraged and encouraged by the presence and example of their leaders, this band, of robbers, regardless of sex or age, entered private homes, broke open ladies' wardrobes, destroyed or take from contents what they could not appropriate, carried off jewelry and plate, plundered the houses stored of provisions, burnt mills and barns, desolated some of the fairest homes of the Union, and left whole families without food.

Thus, in the prosecution of a war, which, they will realize and understand, in the effect of this contrast of arms, which must enlarge the sensibilities of the civilized world. Stamped them, who evaluated civilization or any decency, now contemplate your Capital visited by a band of robbers, whose chief boast is that they have left a trace of their presence behind them, and leave the impression that they hope to be known only by footprints.

An attempt of this character, if attempted, should be met from the seats of all who shrink from the contact of such a people. Let the effort of this contrast of arms, which must enlarge the sensibilities of the civilized world. Stamped them, who evaluated civilization or any decency, now contemplate your Capital visited by a band of robbers, whose chief boast is that they have left a trace of their presence behind them, and leave the impression that they hope to be known only by footprints.

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[illegible] Richmond, [illegible] Soldiers of Virginia, [illegible] Confederate States, [illegible] Independence, self interest alone would teach us the folly of relying upon the forbearance of a nation, who have shown, in every step of the war that their faith is perfidy, and their only policy to enslave, plunder and oppression. The whole history of our former association with the Northern States admonishes us that in a common government they will never fail to employ their power to take away our property. Their present malice springs chiefly from baffled cupidity. But for the insolent aspiration of their nation, an honorable and speedy peace would be easy. The war has fully developed all their purposes, and you saw know the fate that awaits you in the event of subjugation. Your liberties will utterly perish. Your State organization will be blotted out. All your property of every description will be confiscated, for all of us have participated in the revolution. Your lands will be divided out among the banditti from the North and from Europe, who have invaded our State. A free negro population will be established in your midst, who will be your social equals and military governors.—Negro guards will, at their pleasure, give you passes and safe conducts, or arrest you to be tried and punished by negro commandants and magistrates. And to these, your sisters, your wives and children will be social inferiors and slaves, except those of you whom the malice of your enemies shall reserve for the dungeon or the gallows.

Such is the doom denounced for the people of the South by the wicked race now warring upon us. But we know it can never be executed. An army of veterans have resolved that their country *shall not* be enslaved; and while their purpose stands, the enemy's designs will continue to be baffled. Among you there is one spirit—that of eager and resolute determination.—The temper of the army has rendered the people at home, and inspired them with a fresh courage and a more assured confidence. Every where we see multiplied evidences of energy and enthusiasm. In all the States we find the resolution to endure every extremity rather than submit, and with this spirit our people are invincible. The armies are filling up their ranks, and the legislation of Congress has added still further to their numbers and efficiency. Those citizens who remain at home to carry on the industrial pursuits and to supply the support of the army, will see to it that you shall not want for food while you are exposing your lives to protect their property and hearthstones from spoliation. The defence of the country has become the business, and every citizen is required to contribute to it in his proper sphere. The General Assembly of the Commonwealth has taken steps to aid those families of her soldiers who may be in want, and it will not fail to do all in its power to provide for and cherish them. They have authorized and directed the purchase or impressment of unlimited supplies for their maintenance; appropriated one million dollars for the relief of such as are within the lines of the enemy, and half a million as a hospital fund for the sick and wounded. An organized agency of the State distributes the voluntary contributions of patriotic citizens. Individually and collectively, in county, city and State organizations, the people with one accord are determined to feed, clothe, sustain and cherish the army.

On the other hand, your enemies are appalled by the magnitude of the task before them. The loud boastings which a few weeks since they so freely uttered, have been silenced by your unanimous re-enlistments for the war, and the stern and resolute bearing of the South. Dissensions exist among them. Eager to possess the spoils of their correspondent and profligate government, they hate each other nearly as much as they do us.

The war is no longer popular. The rich are allowed to buy an exemption, and thus cast all the burden and risk upon the poor. The laboring classes have already revolted against the draft. To escape its odium, enormous bounties have been offered to volunteers; but all these expedients have failed, and again a heavy draft has been ordered. The armies of the enemy are every day diminishing, and it is evident they cannot recruit them to the numbers with which they began the struggle. A large and growing party are for peace. A still larger party have discovered that the war has so far only served to email upon themselves a despotism which tramples down every public and private right.—They feel and acknowledge that they are the slaves of one whose character has made him odious to the world. Torn by party and personal strife, and conscious of the impotence of their scheme of conquest, the ranks of your enemies are already beginning to waver. One more resolute effort and the day is ours.

God will strengthen your arms in the hour of battle, and give his blessings to a just cause. Independence and peace will be conceded by your enemies, and you, the defenders of the Commonwealth, may return to your homes to receive the welcome due to the brave, and to enjoy those honors which will grow brighter as your years shall be prolonged.

And when your eyes shall be no longer startled by the "clash of resounding arms," and a happy, prosperous and permanent peace shall succeed, returning from the fields of your fame, you will be greeted with tears of joy by the loved ones at home—the heroes of every circle—to receive the smiles of the fair and become the recipient of gratitude and praise around every hearthstone protected by your valor.

Then every heart shall rejoice in that quiet which your courage has secured. Not the quiet of deserted homes and desolated farms—of sacked cities and rifled churches—of villages in ashes and towns in ruins—but the quiet of smiling fields, when the blue smoke shall curl again from the ancestral trees, to welcome back the long exiled refugee to his home. The quiet of thriving manufactories, when the old man on his crutch and the brave and war-worn veteran with his sprained sleeve shall tell of bloody battles and instances of privation to smiling children around him. The quiet of prosperous cities, whose wharves shall whiten with an opulent commerce; whose shops shall hum with busy industry and whose quiet to that hour of rest which is the sweetest. Then from a thousand happy hearts and happy homes shall arise thanksgiving and praise to the God of battles, as of grateful hearts of gratitude will hallow the memories and adore the power of the brave men whose blood has been shed as a libation to liberty.

A. D. DICKINSON, Chairman, } Senate Committee.
A. J. MARSHALL,
ANDREW HUNTER,

R. H. SNACKLEFORD, Chairman, } House Committee.
R. W. HUNTER,
P. B. DRAKE,
A. C. GUMMINGS,
R. H. BAKER,

Adopted by Senate,
March 5th, 1864.
BENJAMIN C. DAVIS, C. S.

Adopted by House of Delegates,
March 9th, 1864.
WM. F. GORDON, C. H. D.

Young Ramsey.—Brig. Gen. Judson Kilpatrick was born in Sussex county, New Jersey, on January 14, 1836, and is but 28 years of age. Brig. Gen. George A. Custer is a native of Ohio, and only graduated at West Point in 1861. He is, therefore, a much younger man than Kilpatrick. Ulric Dahlgren was younger than either of the above-named gentlemen, and just left the District of Columbia.

Gen. Mallom.—The Lynchburg *Republican* states that President Davis has promoted Brig. Gen. Wm. Mahone to a Major-Generalship, and invested him with the military superintendency of transportation and railroads throughout the South.

ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS TO COLLECTORS AND ASSESSORS OF CONFEDERATE TAXES.

OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER OF TAXES,
Richmond, March 1, '64.

The following additional instructions, adapted to the amendments of the tax laws of 1863, and to the act imposing additional taxes, approved 17th February, 1864, will be duly observed by all officers engaged in the assessment and collection of taxes for the Confederate States.

1. Interest bearing Treasury notes, usually known as the 7.30 notes, are no longer to be received in payment of taxes.

2. No certificate of deposit for taxes, made since 17th Feb., 1861, will be received in payment of taxes.

Any money received on such certificate must be returned as illegally paid.

3. Retail dealers whose quarterly sales exceed $100 and are less than $500, shall pay $25 specific tax, and where their quarterly sales exceed $500, the specific tax shall be $50 as heretofore. Where such sales are less than $100 the party is exempt from the specific tax.

4. Every person whose business it is to sell or offer to sell slaves, shall be deemed a wholesale dealer.

5. Contractors working for, and selling their own products exclusively to the Confederate States, to an amount not exceeding $5,000 a year, and dealers that sell exclusively to consumers, and not to others to sell again, are declared retail dealers.

6. Distillers are required, as heretofore, to pay 20 per centum on sales, and also 20 per centum on the value of all liquors distilled for others. This refers exclusively to general distillers, and not to distillers of fruit for family days or less. The tax on distillers is declared to be a lien on the still or stills, and upon the other articles and fixtures used, and shall have priority over all other liens.

7. Twenty days are allowed registered persons to make their quarterly returns, after the expiration of a quarter, and payment of the tax is required to be made within such time as the Collector shall designate; time not to be less than ten, nor more than thirty days from date of notice.

8. When the income on any manufacturing or mining business, is derived from the production of pig metal or bloom iron from the ore, there shall be deducted the cost of labor, food and necessary repairs.

9. When the farmer or planter shall fail to deliver his taxes in kind, as required by law, he is required to pay five times the estimated value of the portion not delivered, to be collected in the manner heretofore provided.

10. Not only farmers, planters and graziers are required to pay the tax in kind on slaughtered hogs, but every other person who slaughters hogs is required to pay the same, except such persons as do not slaughter more than 250 pounds of net pork, and they are exempt.

11. Every officer, soldier, or seamen in the military or naval service, or who may have been discharged therefrom on account of wounds or physical disability, and any widow of such officer, soldier or seamen, or any head of a family, who does not own more than two cows and calves, is exempted from the tax imposed on neat cattle.

12. In Districts heretofore, or which may hereafter be ascertained to be impracticable for the collection of taxes in kind, where Quartermasters and Commissaries serving with troops in the field, shall have collected or may hereafter collect from producers any portion of the tax in kind, the receipts of such officers shall be held good to the producers against the collection of the money value of their tax, to the extent and value of such portions as may have been or may hereafter be collected. Tax Collectors are directed to receive such receipts under the oath of the tax payer in satisfaction of the money value of tithes so collected, provided they are satisfied the same are genuine, and to turn them over to the State Collector as so much cash, and the State Collector will return them to this office.

Section 13 of the amended Act requires that assessors of the tax in kind shall hereafter be appointed by, and be under the exclusive control of, the War Department. Until such assessors are so appointed and qualified, and notice thereof given, the present assessors will continue to discharge all the duties of assessors of the tax in kind, as well as of money taxes, as heretofore.

13. The estimates of incomes and profits, and the statements or bills for the amount of tax on occupations, &c., instead of being sent to the State Collector, as heretofore required, by section 14, Tax Act, shall be arranged and copied into a general list; a true copy of which shall be sent to the State Collector, in lieu of the bills, estimates and statements themselves.

14. The salaries of State Collectors shall be one tenth of one percent on the amount collected in each State, the salary in no case to be less than $2,000, nor more than $5,000.

15. The assessors are required to make the two general lists of persons taxed, which have been heretofore required of the District Collectors.

16. All property, currency, credits, income and profits, and every article or object subjected to taxation shall be estimated, valued and assessed at the value thereof at the time of assessment, in Confederate Treasury notes.

17. The compensation of District Collectors will hereafter be five percent on the first twenty thousand dollars collected and paid over, two per cent on the next thirty thousand dollars collected and paid over, one per cent, on the next fifty thousand dollars, and one tenth of one per cent, on all moneys collected and paid over, above the sum of one hundred thousand dollars.

18. Assessors shall be allowed eight dollars for every day employed in making lists and assessments, and eight dollars for every one hundred taxable persons contained in the list as completed and delivered to the collector.

19. Referees under the Tax Act, shall be paid for their services five dollars a day, while so employed, and assessors and collectors are empowered to compel the attendance of witnesses by written summons, and to require their testimony in any matter or investigation in reference to the assessments and estimates of taxes, and such witnesses are entitled to such compensation as is allowed witnesses attending upon courts of record in the State where they attend.

Payments to referees and witnesses, will be made by the disbursing clerk of this office, upon accounts certified as required by regulations.

20. When personal goods or chattels distrained for taxes, shall be claimed by any person other than the party for whose default the distraint is made, the claimant shall be required to file with the officer making the distraint an affidavit, stating distinctly the nature and extent of the claim; and then the right of property shall be determined as follows:

The collector and claimant shall each select a disinterested freeholder of the vicinage, who may call in a third in case of disagreement. If the claimant shall neglect or refuse to select a freeholder, the collector shall select two, who shall proceed to decide the claim. Witnesses may be introduced by either party, and the decision in each case shall be final and conclusive.

The referees and witnesses in such cases shall be paid as before stated, and any witness failing to attend upon the summons of referees, in any case, is subject to a penalty of one hundred dollars, which sum, with the costs of the above-named suit, may be sued for in any court of competent jurisdiction.

21. The Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to dispense with the use of individual lists, oath or subscription, whenever he shall deem it expedient to do so, and the Commissioner of taxes is authorized under his direction to devise the manner and form of making returns and estimates. Whenever any such new form or plan is devised and adopted with reference to any class of tax returns, special instructions will be issued to the tax officers, or auxiliary of the same.

22. Section 5 of the act supplemental of the internal tax act, provides that if the Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, or depositary of money of the Confederate States, or any clerk in the office of such Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer or depositary, or any Collector of taxes, shall, prior to the first day of January, 1864, in the course of the lawful business of such officer, have received in payment or on deposite, in such office, any forged or counterfeit Treasury notes, and shall establish by proof to the satisfaction of the Secretary of the Treasury that the receipt of such forged or counterfeit Treasury notes was not the result of any want of diligence or care and attention on the part of such officer, but was in good faith a mistake, involving no fault on his part, the Secretary is invested with the power to relieve such officer from liability. The proof contemplated by said section, in case any tax collector has received such counterfeit notes and is unable to trace them to the person from whom they were received, shall be made out in writing, accompanied by the affidavit of the collector, and transmitted to this office, through the State Collector, who is required to give his written opinion as to the merits of the application for relief.

23. Producers of sweet potatoes in 1863 may make commutation by payment of the money value thereof, at rates to be fixed by the Commissioners under the impressment act. The commutation will be collected by Post Quartermasters, and not by the Collectors of money tax.

24. An act approved 15th February, 1864, provides that when cotton or other property subject to taxation in money, shall have been burned or otherwise destroyed by authority of the Government, before the expiration of the time fixed by law for the payment of the tax thereon, the tax payer may apply to the District Collector, who may, if satisfied of such destruction by Government authority, remit the said tax. If the tax in any such case shall have been paid in advance, it shall be refunded by the State Collector, and the tax-payer, in every such case, when credit against him, shall have the right of appeal to the Secretary of the Treasury, which appeal shall be transmitted by the State Collector, with his views, to this office.—When the crop out of which the tax in kind is to be paid, has been taken or destroyed by the enemy, the District Collector may remit the tax in whole or in part, according to the extent of the loss sustained by the tax payer. The facts in each case shall be reported to the District Collector, and the remission shall not be valid until approved by him, and in case the loss be sustained prior to assessment, the assessor, on satisfactory proof thereof, may make deduction therefor in proportion to the loss.

In practicable districts, the Post Quartermasters holding and controlling the estimate of taxes in kind, shall be held and considered as the district Collector, upon whom the power is conferred to remit. But in impracticable districts where estimates have been turned over to the District Collector of money taxes, he shall not have power to remit.

25. The daily wages of detailed soldiers and other employees of the Government, which are exempt from taxation as income, extends only to persons who are employed and paid by the Government, and who do not receive a regular salary but only daily wages.

26. The tenth of tobacco shall be collected by the agents appointed by the Secretary of the Treasury, and all tax assessors shall transfer their estimates of the tobacco, due from each person, specifying both quantity and quality to said agents or to sub-agents, taking their receipts therefor, and shall also transmit a copy of these estimates to the chief of the produce tax office at Richmond. The tax assessors shall also require a statement from each farmer or planter as to the different qualities of tobacco raised by him, and shall assess as due the Confederate States one tenth of each of said qualities which shall be stated separately in his estimates, and shall be delivered separately by the farmer or planter.

TAX ON PROFITS, MONEY AND CREDITS UNDER ACT OF 17TH FEBRUARY, 1864, LEVYING ADDITIONAL TAXES.

27. The district Collectors shall as soon as practicable, after being furnished with the necessary forms, send the assessors throughout their respective districts to inquire after and procure returns of all taxable property, moneys, or effects in such districts, and all taxes due by any person, corporation, company or firm therein and the said assessors shall require each tax payer to make due return on oath of all articles or objects taxed by sections one, two and three of the act of 17th February, 1864, entitled an "Act to levy additional taxes for the common defence and support of the Government," to wit:

I. Upon the value of property real, personal and mixed, of every kind and description, and not exempted by the act or taxed at a different rate, a tax of five per cent. shall be assessed, levied and collected.

II. Upon the value of gold and silver wares and plate, jewels, jewelry and watches, a tax of ten per centum shall be assessed, levied and collected. The value of the above property taxed under section one shall be assessed on the basis of the market value of the same or similar property in the neighborhood where assessed, in the year 1860, except land, slaves, cotton and tobacco purchased since 1st day of January, 1862, when the said land, slaves, cotton and tobacco shall be assessed at the price actually paid for the same by the owner.

III. Of the value of all shares or interests held in any bank, banking company or association, canal navigation, importing and exporting, insurance, manufacturing, telegraph, express, railroad and dry dock companies, and all other joint stock companies of every kind, whether incorporated or not, five per cent. tax shall be assessed, levied and collected. The value of property taxed under section 2 of said act, and enumerated under this head, shall be assessed upon the basis of the market value of such property in the neighborhood where assessed, in such currency as may be in general use there in the purchase and sale of such property, at the time of assessment, that is, on the 17th day of February, 1864.

IV. Upon the amount of all gold and silver coin, gold dust, gold or silver bullion, whether held by the banks or other corporations, or individuals, five per cent. shall be levied and collected, and upon all moneys held abroad, or upon the amount of all bills of exchange drawn therefor on foreign countries, a tax of five per cent. shall be levied and collected. Such tax upon money abroad to be assessed and collected according to the value thereof at the place where tax is paid.

The tax upon gold and silver coin and gold dust, and gold and silver bullion, is five per cent. of the amount to be paid in kind out of the thing taxed. That is a tax of five dollars in gold is to be paid on every hundred dollars in gold coin, &c. If the article taxed be money held abroad, or a bill of exchange drawn therefor, it shall be valued as assessed at its value in Confederate currency at the place where the tax is paid.

V. Upon the amount of all solvent credits and of all bank bills and all other papers issued as currency, (except non-interest bearing Confederate Treasury notes,) and not employed in a registered business, the income derived from which is taxed, a tax of five per cent. shall be assessed and collected. This tax to be paid in Confederate currency, and the credits, bank bills and other papers issued as money, to be assessed at par according to the amount exhibited on their face.

The taxes on all property, coin, money, credits, stocks, shares, bullion, &c., before mentioned, and laid for the year 1864, shall be assessed as on the day of the passage of the act, and be due and collected on the first day of June, 1864, or as soon thereafter as practicable, allowing an extension of ninety days west of the Mississippi river.

28. The mode and manner of assessing and tax shall be as follows: Instead of receiving the returns on individual lists, heretofore practised, each District Collector shall be furnished by the State Collector with three copies of the tax digest in book form, with appropriate headings and columns for all of the subjects of taxation, and the equivalent of a fourth book in loose sheets, the latter of which will be sent him in advance of the books. Upon the receipt of the sheets, he will immediately place them in the hands of the assessors of the district, who shall proceed to make the assessments, requiring each tax payer to sign his name to his assessment, having first been sworn according to the form of oath in these instructions prescribed, and shall give to each tax payer a receipt in the form herein prescribed. The assessors shall transmit the sheets from time to time, as they are completed, to the District Collector, who shall transcribe them into one of the books furnished him, taking the names of the tax payers in alphabetical order, and after the assessment is completed and notice given, and time for hearing appeals has expired, according to law, the District Collector shall proceed to collect the taxes on the first day of June, and shall furnish the Commissioner of Taxes and the State Collector each, with a copy of the tax book, transcribed into the other sheets copies of the digest as furnished him, which copies shall be certified to by the assessors as true and correct. So much of the instructions of 15th May, 1863, and of all subsequent instructions as are not inconsistent with the existing tax laws, and so far as inapplicable to the tax assessed 1863, as amended, are hereby declared to be in full force.

29. The following exemptions under the Acts of 17th February, 1864, laying additional taxes shall be allowed by the Assessors to wit:

I. Property of each head of a family to the value of $500, and for each son actually engaged in the army or navy, or who has died or been killed in the military or naval service, and who was a member of the family when he entered the service, to the further sum of $500.

II. Property of the widow of any officer, soldier, sailor or marine, who may have died or been killed in the military or naval service, or where there is no widow, then property of the family, if they are minor children, to the value of $1,000.

III. Property of every officer, soldier, sailor or marine, actually engaged in the military or naval service, or of such as have been disabled in such service, to the value of $1,000.

30. The foregoing exemptions shall not be allowed to any person whose property exclusive of household furniture shall be assessed at a value exceeding $1,000. Where property held or owned on the 17th day of February, 1864, has been injured or destroyed by the enemy, or the owner has been temporarily deprived of the use or occupancy thereof, or in case of lands, has been deprived of the means of cultivating the same, by reason of the presence or proximity of the enemy, the assessor may reduce the assessment of property, in proportion to the damage sustained by the owner, or if the injury occurs after assessment and before the payment of the tax, the same may be reduced in the same ratio by the District Collector, on satisfactory evidence submitted to him by the owner or assessor. He is authorized, in receiving returns of property, money, &c., to administer oaths to tax payers in the following form:

"You do solemnly swear that you will render a true and faithful return and statement of all the property articles or objects which you are liable to taxation, and of which a return is required by law to be made at this time, and that you will truly answer such questions as may be put to you, touching your property or effects, or any assumption which may be claimed, and also as to any tax in relation thereto, so help you God." The Assessor, after administering this oath, will then interrogate the tax payer as to his or her return, and as to any other fact or circumstance necessary to be known in striking at a true return, and after the same shall have been entered on the list or sheet, the tax payer will be required to sign it, as hereinbefore stated. If any exemption is claimed, the first thing to be ascertained by the Assessor will be, whether, exclusive of household furniture, the value of the property of the tax-payer subject to the tax, according to the basis of valuation laid down in the act, exceeds one thousand dollars. If it does, no exemption can be allowed. If it does not, the party will be interrogated under oath as to the facts upon which it is claimed, and if the facts be satisfactorily established, the exemption will be allowed.

31. The question as to whether the value of the tithes of 1863 or those of 1864 is to be deducted from the tax on the value of property for 1864, has so many attendant difficulties that it is deemed best not to settle it at present by the Department, but to refer it to Congress at its meeting in May. The tax not being payable in advance no injury will ensue from the delay.

ADDITIONAL TAX ON PROFITS, LEVIED UNDER ACT OF 17TH FEBRUARY, 1864.

32. Immediately after receiving the necessary forms, the District Collectors shall cause their assessors to proceed through their districts, and require returns of the profits made on trade and business, such returns to be made within such time as may be prescribed by public notice, as follows:

I. On all profits made by buying and selling at any time between the first day of January, 1860 and the first day of January, 1863, any spirituous liquors, flour, wheat, corn, rice, sugar, molasses or syrup, salt, bacon, pork, hogs, beef or beef cattle, sheep, oats, hay, fodder, raw hides, leather, horses, mules, boots, shoes, cotton yarns, wool, woolen, cotton or mixed cloths, hats, wagons, harness, coal, iron, steel or nails, a tax of ten per cent. shall be assessed and collected. This tax is in addition to the tax on income and profits under the tax act of 24th April, 1863.

II. On all profits made by buying and selling between the first day of January, 1862 and the first day of January, 1863, money, gold, silver, foreign exchange, stocks, notes, debts, credits or obligations of any kind, and *any merchandise, property or effects of any kind* not enumerated in the preceding paragraph, a tax of ten per cent. in addition to the tax on such profits in income, under the act of 24th April, 1863, shall be assessed and collected.

III. On the amount of all profits exceeding twenty-five per cent. made during the year 1863 by any bank or

STAUNTON SPECIAL AND GENERAL NEWSPAPER.

Staunton Spectator.

STAUNTON, VA.

TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 1864.

☞ From this date, we will not receive, in payment of accounts, notes above the denomination of five dollars.

INSTRUCTION NEEDED.

The tax act passed by Congress on the 17th day of February 1864, entitled "an "Act to levy additional taxes for the common defence and support of the Government," provides that a tax of five per cent. shall be levied "upon the value of property, real, personal and mixed, of every kind and description not hereinafter exempted or taxed at a different rate," and that the value of such property "shall be assessed on the basis of the market value of the same or similar property in the neighborhood where assessed in the year 1860, except in cases where land, slaves, cotton or tobacco have been purchased since the 1st day of January, 1862, in which case the land, slaves, cotton and tobacco so purchased shall be assessed at the price actually paid for the same by the owner."

The instructions of the Commissioner of taxes to the assessors and collectors, given in section 16 of his instructions, seem to conflict with the tax act, which levies five per cent. on the assessment of 1860, as they seem to instruct the assessors to assess the property at its value in 1864, instead of 1860. The 16th section of his instructions reads as follows:

"*All property*, currency, credits, income and profits and every article or object subjected to taxation shall be estimated, valued and assessed at the value thereof *at the time of assessment*, in Confederate Treasury notes."

The people would like the instructions to be somewhat more explicit.—They understand the tax act, but don't think the 16th section of instructions to be consistent with the tax act.

PROVOST GUARD.

It will be seen by reference to the advertisement of Capt. Avis, Provost Marshal of this place, that he is desirous of receiving recruits between the ages of 45 and 50. Those between these ages liable to military service would do well to apply at once, as by being members of the Provost Guard they would be kept near home where they could see to the interests and welfare of their families, and have an opportunity to give some supervision to their farming operations.

FUNDING.

Those blessed or cursed with funds have been rapidly funding during the past week. Up to Saturday last, the Depositary at this place had received fifteen hundred thousand dollars ($1,500,000). The funding tide is just now at its flood, and as much more will be funded before the ebb will occur.—Those who need 4 per cent bonds or *tax* money should lose no time.

McCLELLAN'S LOSS.

Gen'l McClellan's official statement of the Yankee loss in the battles around Richmond from the 26th of June to the 1st of July, 1862, inclusive, was as follows:

Killed 4,5[illegible] wounded 7,700, missing, 5,958 aggr[illegible] 15,249.

TAXES.

As all of our readers will have taxes to pay, they will be interested in the instructions of the Commissioner of taxes to the Collectors and Assessors of Confederate taxes published on the first page of this paper.

The communication from the army, signed "many voters," calling upon Lt. Jos. N. Ryan to become a candidate for clerk of the circuit court, is not published for the reason that he has already anticipated the wishes of his friends in the army by announcing himself a candidate.

☞ Capt. J. W. G. Smith, Provost Marshal and C. S. Enrolling officer at Harrisonburg, has been transferred to the Trans-Mississippi Department and appointed Enrolling officer in that Department. The best wishes of his friends will attend him to his new field of duty.

☞ The want of space this week necessitates the postponement of the publication of several communications on hand.

The communication signed, "Members of Company B, 52d Va. Infantry" is [illegible] by the name of the author, [illegible] therefore declined.

[illegible] contributions to the Fund for the [illegible] family of the late Dr. [illegible] Norfolk hero and martyr, [illegible] the sum of twenty thousand [illegible]

[illegible] contributions thus far received [illegible] for the relief of Maimed [illegible] amount to more than fifty thou[illegible] The Society has a great [illegible] and will need vast sums.

[illegible] a letter to his [illegible] that he will not [illegible] and requests them to [illegible] his name as such [illegible]

[illegible] which had been up [illegible] in Mobile, had [illegible] Johnston for one.

[illegible] Anderson has [illegible] of the entire forces [illegible]

BALTIMORE ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

The Ministers of the Baltimore Conference in Virginia were convened in Bridgewater, Rockingham county, on the 10th inst. There were over 50 Ministers present. The Rev. Norvell Wilson presided. An anniversary missionary meeting was held on Saturday, the 12th, which was addressed by Revs Norvell Wilson, J. Ball, and J. Lentz, after whose addresses the sum of $[illegible] was subscribed for missionary purposes. The proceedings of the Conference were very harmonious. That conference adjourned on Monday to meet at New Market, in Shenandoah county, on the 2nd Thursday of March, 1865.

The following is a list of the appointments:

Baltimore District.

S. Romaine, P. E.

Salem—J. L. Figg.
Gerrardstown—J. C. Price.
Hedgesville—L. R. Jones.
Martinsburg—J. H. Bear, W. McDonald.
Jacksonville—J. P. Hall.
Newport—A. G. Peterkin.
Roanoke—To be supplied.
Pocahontas—J. L. Kilgore, M. N. Jones, E. G. Jackson, Supp.
Covington—C. A. Tyler.

Lynchburg District.

J. S. Martin, P. E.

Lynchburg—To be supplied.
Rockbridge—J. J. Figgatt.
Fairfield—W. H. Stringer.
Augusta—H. A. Gover, E. H. Jones.
West Augusta—W. H. Riggleman.
Churchville—T. Hinderaker, J. N. Gray.
East Rockingham—J. P. Hyde, (one to be supplied.)
Millboro'—J. Leaf.

Lynchburg District.

J. K. Gardner, P. E.

Lewisburg—P. H. Whitsor.
Frankford—J. W. Ewan, (one to be supplied.)
White Sulphur—L. C. Minor, M. May.
Blue Sulphur—J. L. Wasson, (one to be supplied.)
Clintonville—[to be supplied.]
Levelton—A. A. P. Neal.
Green Bank—J. W. E. Graham.
Monroe—L. D. Nixon, C. T. Dillard.
Gap Mills—J. P. Chittum, (one to be supplied.)
Petersburg—F. S. E. Sixoas, L. Butt.

South Branch District.

S. H. Griffith, P. E.

Franklin—[one to be supplied,] J. Crickenberger, J. Temple, Sup.
Moorefield—J. Beatty.
South Branch—O. P. Wirgman.
North River—S. Smith.
New Creek—H. Hoffman.
Monterey—S. H. Dolly, J. L. Snyder.
Highland—(to be supplied.)
Warm Springs—T. Briley.

Rockingham District.

E. R. Virgin, P. E.

Staunton—J. C. Dice.
Mt. Sidney—R. Smith.
Rockingham—J. A. H. Moore.
Bridgewater—Geo. R. Jefferson, C. L. Dameron.
New Market—A. P. Bonds, A. Weller.
Woodstock—J. E. Armstrong.
Front Royal—R. R. S. Hough.
Luray—I. Lentz.
Wesleyan Female Institute—Wm. S. Baird, Principal and member of Staunton Quarterly Conference.

Winchester District.

W. G. Eggleston, P. E.

Winchester—J. R. Wheeler.
Winchester Circuit—J. W. Wolf, E. F. Hetrick.
Berryville—Wm. Hodges.
Berkeley—J. W. Tongue.
Jefferson—J. Gibson, J. H. March, Sup.
Shepherdstown—L. L. Kreglo.
Springfield—C. L. Torreyson, (one to be supplied.)
Warrenville—D. Harris, (one to be supplied.)
Hillsboro'—J. B. Waugh, B. Hough.
Shanandale—J. H. Wolff.

London District.

S. S. Roszel, P. E.

Loudoun—F. H. Richey, A. Robey.
Leesburg—[to be supplied.]
Waterford—D. W. Arnold.
Fairfax—[to be supplied.]
Fredericksburg—[to be supplied.]
Stafford—[to be supplied.]
Round Hill—[to be supplied.]
N. Wilson, D. Trout, J. W. Kelley, Superannuated preachers.
G. G. Brooke, Chaplain Confederate States Army, member Covington Qr. Conf.
D. Ball, Missionary to Confederate States Army, member Salem Qr. Conf.
J. Landstreet, Chaplain C. S. Army, member Lonsdale Qr. Conf.
J. M. Grandin, Chaplain C. S. Army, member Staunton Qr. Conf.
C. F. Lumbleum, Chaplain C. S. Army, member Front Royal Qr. Conf.
F. M. Carson, Chaplain C. S. Army, member Winchester Qr. Conf.
P. B. Smith, Chaplain C. S. Army, member Blacksburg Qr. Conf.
S. Rodgers, Captain C. S. Army, member Lewisburg Qr. Conf.
L. W. Hasing, Chaplain C. S. Army, member Staunton Qr. Conf.
M. G. Balthis, Chaplain C. S. Army, member Winchester Qr. Conf.
S. F. Butt, Chaplain C. S. Army, member New Port Qr. Conf.
W. R. McNeer, Chaplain C. S. Army, member Monroe Qr. Conf.
Geo. H. Zimmerman, Chaplain C. S. Army, member Woodstock Qr. Conf.
J. T. Maxwell, Chaplain C. S. Army, member New Port Qr. Conf.
W. G. Coe, left without an appointment.

For the Spectator.

Capt. Wm. A. Balthis:

Sir:—A number of the citizens of Staunton desire you to become a candidate for the office of Sergeant of the corporation. It is a matter of public notoriety that within the past year a number of horses have been stolen in the streets, many west houses have been plundered, and other robberies committed. A general sense of insecurity of the rights of person, and property, prevails throughout the community.

The people desire to see these evils corrected; many of us believe that if you were entrusted with the administration of the police, they would be corrected. Your intelligence and high character as a man and your gallantry as a soldier give the best assurance that you will not shrink from the discharge of your duty in the enforcement of the laws.

As you have been disabled from active military service in the field, by serious wounds received in the defence of your country, it is proper that your countrymen should testify their appreciation of your courage and capacity by electing you to this position of honor and responsibility. We therefore ask that you will declare yourself a candidate.

MANY VOTERS.

The Havanna correspondent of the New York "Journal of Commerce," says:—General Preston, of the Confederate States, is residing here at the house of Colonel Charles J. Helm. He awaits the arrival of the Emperor for Mexico, and will probably go down to Vera Cruz to assist in the honors of investing the new dignitaries. It is probable he will be recognized as Minister from the Confederate States."

Gov. Harris, the fit representative of the indomitable spirit betrayed by Tennessee through all this war, was with Gen. Johnston during the recent engagement near Dalton.

Vice President Stephens was serenaded in Augusta, on Friday night, when he made a short speech. We are glad to learn that he is recovering from his recent serious indisposition.

Major General Bate assumes command of Breckinridge's Division, in Johnston's army.

FOR THE SPECTATOR.

CAMP IN ORANGE COUNTY, VA., Army N. Va., Feb. 27, 1864.

The Young Men's Christian Association of Va., have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of much valuable religious literature from the ladies of Bethel, Protestant Episcopal and Augusta Churches of Augusta County, Va., for which the Association desire to express to those ladies through this Committee their profound thanks. This is but one of the many testimonials of that earnest regard which the ladies of our country have exhibited for the soldiery, and spiritual improvement of its brave defenders, and we value it the more, because it comes as a token of remembrance from the generous and faithful hands of those whose softening influence has been cast as a stay and a buttress to our country's cause.

Reading of this kind is sought with an avidity by the soldiers which is indicative of their appreciation of the value of time and importance of improving it, and we most devoutly hope and pray that the spirit of God will continue to bless us in its manifestation here and everywhere until His body will be known and acknowledged among men. We invoke this spirit to enable us, not only to fight the good fight of faith, but to fight successfully for the liberty and independence of our beloved country.

With renewed assurances of high esteem, we are truly, &c.

N. COBB,
ED. D. CAMDEN,
R. J. JORDAN,
} Committee.

FOR THE SPECTATOR.

CAMP 12TH VA. CAVALRY, Monroe Draft, March 16, 1864.

Mr. Editor:—Echols' brigade and the 14th Va. Cavalry, were today reviewed by Major-Gen'l John C. Breckinridge. After the review the troops were addressed by the Maj. General, of which addressed by the following is an imperfect synopsis.

He said that the Brigade Commander had requested him to speak to the troops, that he acceded to the request, but that he should be very brief, and what he had to say should be spoken in a conversational manner; that he had not made a speech since the beginning of the war, and didn't expect to make one until it was ended. He had come here to assist in the defence of Virginia, and hoped that we should get along well together—that he was pleased with the troops here, and believed they were good soldiers—that physically speaking, he had never seen better; promised that on the day of battle he would be visible. He considered the prospects of the South brighter at present than at any previous time since the beginning of the war. That whereas, at the commencement of the war, we were divided, now we were united, and determined in the defence of the rights, liberty and honor of the South. That we now had larger and better disciplined armies in the field than ever before, and whilst he would not say that the war would end this year, yet he believed it would. Considering the enormous debt of the Yankees—two thousand millions of dollars—he believed that their finances would break down, which would end the war. At the beginning that banner, (pointing to the Confederate flag) was called "true sectarian rag," now it commanded the respect and admiration of the world. Whether the war ended this year or the next, or the next, it was our duty and determination to lay down our arms only when the liberty and independence of the Southern Confederacy is recognized and acknowledged.

Three cheers were then called for by Brigadier General Echols, and three rousing cheers made the welkin ring in honor of the great hero of Murfreesboro. Everbody is favorably impressed by the new commander of the Department of Western Virginia and no one more so than

MILES.

HEADQUARTERS, ARMY N. VA., 12th Nov., 1863.

To the President of the City Council, Richmond, Va.:

Sir—My attention has been directed to a resolution reported in the body over which you preside, having for its object the purchase by the City of Richmond of a house for the use of my family. I assure you, sir, that no want of appreciation of the honor conferred upon me by this resolution, or insensibility to the kind feeling which prompted it, induces me to ask, as I most respectfully do, that no further proceedings be taken with reference to the subject.—The house is not necessary for the use of my family, and my own duties will prevent my residence in Richmond.

I should, therefore, be compelled to decline the generous offer, and I trust that whatever means the City Council may have to spare for this purpose may be devoted to the relief of the families of our soldiers in the field who are more in need of assistance and more deserving of it than myself.

I have the honor to be,
Very respectfully,
Your ob't servant,
R. E. LEE, Gen'l.

YANKEE PRISONERS.—The Rockingham Register says that thirteen Yankee prisoners were committed to the guardhouse in Harrisonburg, on Thursday evening week. They came up the Valley, and were a lot of New York cavalry captured at Snickersville, in Loudon county on Saturday week. The capture was made by a portion of the Clarke cavalry at home on furlough in connection with a couple of Mosby's men. We had 21 men, and the Yankees 21. We killed 4, wounded 4, and brought off the 13 unhurt prisoners, with their horses and fixments. We had one man killed, and one wounded. The Clarke cavalry at home on furlough "picked up" these Yankees by way of keeping their hands in.

Under date of March the 14th, Lincoln made a call for 200,000 men, in addition to the 500,000 called for Feb. 1st, 1864. Glendower is still "calling spirits from the vasty deep." "The more the merrier." Nobody in the South is alarmed. Lincoln is still calling for help. He needs more than will be granted.

Gen. Wool has published in one of the Albany papers his plan of subjugating the South. He would have two hundred and fifty thousand men under Gen. Grant, and as many more under Gen. Meade, moving upon the enemy at once and with irresistible power.

Fifteen home guards of Madison county, N. C., had a fight recently, with thirty five tories, under the lead of the notorious Kirk, of Green county, Tenn, and six of our men were killed. Four of the enemy, including Kirk, were killed.

A number of the leading and public citizens of South Carolina have begun the noble task of raising a fund, by contribution, for the establishment in Charleston, of a Home for the widows and orphans of soldiers who have died during the war.

There is not at present a single cotton spindle in operation in the city of Lowell, Massachusetts. The mill, which formerly gave employment to about thirty thousand females, are now as silent as the tomb.

Gen. Patton Anderson has been ordered to the Trans-Mississippi Department.

JOINT RESOLUTION

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA.

The Senate and House of Representatives, in their deliberate wisdom, have declared that it is the duty of the people, to be set apart and observed as a day of humiliation, fasting and prayer, in the language following, to wit:

"Reverently recognizing the Providence of God in the affairs of man, and gratefully remembering the guidance, support and deliverance granted to our Patriot Fathers in the memorable war which resulted in the independence of the American Colonies, and now repeating in Him our supreme confidence and hope in the present struggle for Civil and Religious Freedom, and for the right to live under a Government of our own choice, and deeply impressed with the conviction that without Him nothing is strong, nothing wise and nothing enduring; in order that the people of this Confederacy may have the opportunity, at the same time, of offering their adoration to the great Sovereign of the Universe, of penitently confessing their sins and strengthening their vows and purposes of amendment in humble reliance upon His Divine Counsels and Almighty power

"The Congress of the Confederate States of America do resolve, That it be recommended to the people of these States, that FRIDAY, the 8th day of April next, be set apart and observed as a day of Humiliation, Fasting and Prayer, that Almighty God would so preside over our public counsels and authorities; that He would inspire our armies and their leaders with wisdom, courage and perseverance; and so manifest Himself in the greatness of His power, that we may be safely and successfully led through the chastening to which we are being subjected, to the attainment of an honorable peace; so that while we enjoy the blessing of a free and happy Government, we may ascribe to Him the honor and the glory of our independence and prosperity."

A recommendation so congenial to the feelings of the people will receive their hearty concurrence; and it is a grateful duty to the Executive to unite with their representatives in inviting them to meet in the Courts of the Most High. Recent events awaken fresh gratitude to the Supreme Ruler of nations. Our enemies have suffered repeated defeats, and a malignant scheme to burn and plunder our Capital, and to destroy our civil Government by putting to death the chosen servants of the people, has been baffled and set at naught. Our armies have been strengthened; our finances possess rapid progress to a satisfactory condition; and our resources in a country is animated with a hopeful spirit, and a fixed determination to achieve independence.

In these circumstances it becomes us, with thankful hearts, to bow ourselves before the throne of Most High, and while gratefully acknowledging so many mercies, confess that our sins as a people have justly exposed us to His chastisement. Let us recognize the suffering which we have been called upon to endure, as administered by a fatherly hand for our improvement, and, with resolute courage and patient endurance, let us wait on Him for our deliverance.

In furtherance of these objects, now, Therefore, I, JEFFERSON DAVIS, President of the Confederate States of America, do issue this my Proclamation, calling upon the people of the said States, in conformity with the desire expressed by their representatives, to set apart FRIDAY, the 8th day of April, as a day of Humiliation, Fasting and Prayer, and I do hereby invite them on that day to repair to their several places of public worship and beseech Almighty God to preside over our public councils, and to inspire our armies and leaders with wisdom, courage and perseverance; and so to manifest Himself in the greatness of His goodness, and in the majesty of His power, that we may secure the blessings of an honorable peace, and of free government; and that we, as a people, may ascribe all to the Honor and Glory of His name."

Given under my hand and the seal of the Confederate States of America, at the City of Richmond, on this 12th day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four.

(SEAL.)

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

By the President:
J. P. BENJAMIN,
Secretary of State.

FOR THE SPECTATOR.

Major John B. Watts:

In the course of a few weeks it will devolve upon the people of Augusta, to elect some person to fill the office of Clerk of the circuit Court. The gentleman whose name heads this article is eminently qualified for the position and in a time like the present, when the services of old gray haired men are neither expected nor required in the army, his election would be especially appropriate. Major Watts is a lawyer by profession and has been a citizen of the county for many years—he is thoroughly identified with the people—is a man of close business habits and enlarged experience and withal polite and courteous in his disposition. His election would secure to the public a Clerk, familiar with the duties of the office, and a public servant, honest, capable and efficient, and one accustomed for more than thirty years to the transaction of business in all of its details. Let Major Watts announce himself at once for the position and rest assured of the cordial support of

MANY FRIENDS & VOTERS.

The Atlanta *Confederacy* learns from scouts and citizens immediately from the Federal lines; that the enemy's strength at Ringgold and Chattanooga is under 20,000 effective men.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

AUCTION SALES.

BY PECK & TAYLOR, Auctioneers.

We will sell at our Auction Store, on Hickle's corner, on Friday, 25th instant,
400 yds 4-4 bed cotton,
Cotton yarns,
Handkerchiefs,
Irish linen, Colored Cambrics,
Black Alpaca, Black Cashmere,
Spool Cotton, Hooks and Eyes,
MANUFACTURED TOBACCO,
Over-Coats,
Black Pepper,
Horse Shoes,
and a variety of other articles.
March 22—1t PECK & TAYLOR.

CATLETT & ALBY, Auctioneers.

AUCTION SALE.—MONDAY, MARCH 28th, (Court day,) we will sell, in front of our Auction Room, a lot of Furniture, consisting of Chairs, Tables, Washstands, &c., also, 1 Two-horse Wagon and Harness.
Terms Cash in the old currency, if paid down.
March 22—1t. CATLETT & ALBY.

GOODS AT AUCTION.—I will sell, on Saturday, March 26th, at public auction, at my store, (Brandebarg's old stand) opposite the Virginia Hotel, without reserve, my entire stock, consisting of Dry Goods, part of Cotton Cloth, Osnaburgs, Yarns, Knitted Towels, 1-4th Linen, Silks, Leather Shoes, Nails, &c. Sale to commence at 10 o'clock.
March 22—1t. C. W. TURNER.
Vir. copy.

$50 REWARD.—ROBBED STABLE.—Stolen from my stable, near Madison Mills, Madison county, Va., on Tuesday night, the 20th of December,
A Large Bay Horse,
with some white about the hind ankles; very coal mark behind in one eye, and is an excellent trotter. I will pay the above reward for the recovery of said horse.
A. SHERMAN.
Staunton Spectator insert to amount of $4, and charge Register office.—*Rock. Register.*
Mar 22—1t.

JACK, "BILLY."—The novelist of the Richmond Public Cab, to there the same of one Jack, or Billy, hereby claims the property of the public. Those who may wish to have the amusement of the public have permission to do so by paying the charges of the cab. Jack is fed to any of the amusement of the public, and any others who may have a fancy for the amusement, can feed at the house of Jack, Sandy, and others above Centreville. The charge for feed will not exceed $25.00.
March 22—4t. VARMINT CLUB.

MANUFACTURING.—[illegible]
March 22—1t. [illegible]

WANTED TO HIRE.—[illegible] country near Staunton. Apply to
March 22—2t. [illegible]

MARRIED.

By the Rev. John J. Taylor, on the 10th ult, at Port Republic, Rockingham county, Mr. GEO. E. ARBOGAST, of Rockingham county, to Miss ELIZA SHERMAN, of Augusta county.

On the 16th inst., by the Rev. Mr. Dice, Mr. JOHN G. BUTLER, and Miss ADELINE BATEMAN, all of Augusta county, Va.

On the 10th of March, by Rev. Jacob Middlecoff, of the Tanner Church, at the residence of the bride's father, near Harrisonburg, Rockingham county, Lt. ELISHA WILFONG, of Pendleton county, to Miss MARGARET ANN HEAVENER, daughter of Mr. Jacob Heavener, near Mount Crawford, Rockingham county, Va.

On the 17th inst., by the Rev. Mr. Dice, Mr. JOHN W. FITZER, of the 1st Va. Infantry, and Miss MARTHA A. MOLLVERY.

DIED.

Died, at Clover Creek, Highland county, on the 15th inst., WM. MCCLURE MILLER, infant son of John H. and Frances V. Sing, aged 2 years, 3 months and 15 days.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

TO THE PEOPLE OF AUGUSTA.

In response to the call made upon me in the last number of the "Spectator," by ONLY VOTER, and at the urgent solicitation of a large number of my fellow citizens, I will be a candidate for the office of Clerk of the Circuit Court of Augusta county, if I ascertain, by the canvass, that I have the position; but must say that I do not consider the position my majority when I express the wish that I may be able to fill the duties of the office to the satisfaction of the public.

To those with whom I am not acquainted, it may not be out of place to say, that I am a disabled soldier, having lost a leg while in the service of a company from this county, (the "Rockbridge Artillery," Gen. Augusta Guards, 1st Va. Regt.) at the battle of Chancellorsville. Being permanently disabled from further service in the country in the field, I am indebted to this my action to civil pursuits, and promise if elected to the position I now seek, to devote to the duties of the energy and industry, and character of talent I may possess.

With this brief statement, I respectfully submit my claims to the people of Augusta, to which authority, whether favorable or unfavorable, I will cheerfully submit.

JOS. N. RYAN.

MY experience in last Summer's campaign, which was the few short months I have made chase, warrants me that in addition to my previous qualifications of Clerk of Co. E, 52d Va. Infantry, I am qualified to the duties of the office of Clerk of the Court, and on account of a severe wound in the leg, which makes it impossible for me to do duty in the field, I will be unable to render service to my country in the capacity of an infantry soldier, I, in compliance with the request of many of my friends, announce myself a candidate for the position of Clerk of the Circuit and County Courts of Augusta, State of Virginia.

J. G. MATHENY.
Mar 8—tds.

WE are authorized to announce WILLIAM A. YUNDT, as a Candidate for the office of Clerk of the County Court of Augusta, at the ensuing election in May next.
Feb. 16—ds.

WE are authorized to announce JOHN J. LEMOW as a candidate for the office of Sheriffalty for Augusta county.
Feb 16—ds.

WE are authorized to announce Mr. SAMUEL PAUL, as a Candidate for the office of Sheriffalty for Augusta county.
Feb 23—tds.

TO THE VOTERS OF AUGUSTA.—I hereby announce myself a Candidate for re-election to the office of Clerk of the County Court of this county.
A. F. KINNEY.
March 15—tds. Depositary.

WE are authorized to announce JEFFERSON KINNEY, as a Candidate to the clerkship of the County Court of Augusta county.
March 22—tds.

WE are authorized to announce ELI CLECK, as a candidate for the Sheriffalty of Rath county.
March 22—5t*

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

NOTICE.

OFFICE PROVOST MARSHAL,
STAUNTON, March 10th, 1864.

I hereby give notice to all persons between the ages of 45 and 50, *who are now required to go into service*, that I am prepared to receive recruits within the above named ages for local duty as Provost Guard.—Persons within the prescribed ages who desire to remain near home would do well to apply at once.

JOHN AVIS, Capt.
and Provost Marshal.
March 22—1t

AUGUSTA COUNTY COURT CLERK'S OFFICE, to wit:

ESTRAY.—Taken up by Wm. N. Moorman, on his land in the county of Augusta, near Staunton, the 1st day of March, 1864, of the following description:

A Horse of bay color, about 16 hands high, three white feet above the pastern joint, white specs on back—caused from saddle; also, a small white spot on the near side caused by the girth, supposed to be seven years old. And appraised at $100 by James Crawford, Thornton Berry and L. J. Parkins.

Extract—Teste,
W. H. JEWELL, D. C.
Mar 22—2t

NOTICE TO STOCKHOLDERS.—By virtue of the 25th paragraph of instructions from the Office of the Commissioner of Taxes in Virginia, authorizing that Stock Companies pay the five per cent. *ad valorem* tax upon their capital stock, assessed under the Tax of February 17th, 1864, the Board of Directors of the

CENTRAL BANK OF VIRGINIA

have determined to pay said tax of which the Stockholders hereby have notice. They will therefore withhold said stock in making in their lists of taxable property.

W. H. MANN,
Cashier.
March 22—4t

$100 REWARD.—MORSE STOLEN.—On Saturday night, the 19th inst., there were two Sorrel Mules from the subscriber of the above county, about nine years old, [illegible] Dun is a bay mare 15 hands high, about 12 years old, [illegible] shod all round. The above reward will be paid for the recovery of the mules and a fair reward for the thief, or information of the skulk who took the mules.

The other was a bay horse, about 15 hands high, and 8 years old [illegible] shod all round. [illegible] is a very [illegible] and [illegible] prefers paying to working. A reward of $50 will be given for the recovery of each or each horse separately.

PETER HIVE.
March 22—3t

$50 REWARD.—On the 18th inst., [illegible] I had hired from the Depository, [illegible] He is seventeen years old, [illegible] dark features. I will give a reward of $50 for the recovery of said boy, or information of his whereabouts.

E. B. PRESBITT.
March 22—3t

BOND LOST.—About Wednesday [illegible] last, the subscriber lost or [illegible] Bond [illegible] by Dr. E. H. Sampson to Dr. [illegible] and dated [illegible] payable [illegible] The finder will be liberally rewarded by the return of the bond.

[illegible]
Mar 22—4t

MISCELLANEOUS.

$50 REWARD.—Runaway from the Blacksmith Establishment, on the 1st of March, a Negro Boy, named

FRETWELL,

belonging to E. [illegible] Fretwell is about 5 feet 8 or 9 inches high, [illegible] blood color, [illegible] He was purchased in Richmond last year, and we have reason to believe he is now lurking about Staunton, or the Depot, or in the country. The above reward will be paid for his apprehension and safe delivery to us, or in proportion for any part of the time.

D. & H. FOBES.
Mar 15—4t*

AUGUSTA COUNTY COURT CLERK'S OFFICE, to wit:

ESTRAY MARE.—Taken up by [illegible], in Augusta county, the 15th day of March, 1864, the following description, to wit:

A Mare, of Sorrel color, with a blaze in her face and right hind foot white, [illegible] supposed to be [illegible] years old.

Extract—Teste,
W. H. JEWELL, D. C.
McCleary and Jones Bay.
March 15—3t.

$25 REWARD.—[illegible]

$25 REWARD.—[illegible]

SALT! SALT!—[illegible]

MISCELLANEOUS.

At a meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Augusta, held on Tuesday, February 23d, 1864, the following resolutions were adopted and ordered to be published in the papers of this town:

"Resolved, That public notice be given that the Banks located in this county will be required by the Supervisors of Augusta county, to pay the tax on their capital stock, for the year 1863, and that the Commissioner of the Revenue be requested to furnish the Cashiers of the four per cent. Banks with a copy of the resolution authorized by the 1st Section of the act of Congress, and that he be requested to furnish the Cashiers of the Banks located in this county with a copy of the resolution of the Board of Supervisors, passed on the 17th inst., unless said depositaries of Banks, or any of them, give proper notice to the Board of Supervisors, that said parties are willing to avoid the tax imposed on the stock of said Banks, by paying said tax at the time prescribed by the act of Congress, in lieu of the tax of 5 per cent. imposed on said stock.

"Resolved, That it be made the duty of the Clerk of this Board, to furnish a copy of these resolutions to the Cashiers of the Banks located in this county, and request them to pay the tax on their respective Banks, and if they prove to be delinquent, to report the same to this Board.

"And, also, that the regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors, be adjourned until Monday, February 29th, 1864, for the purpose of considering the report of the Cashiers of the Banks located in this county, and that the Clerk be directed to give notice of the adoption of these resolutions, and of the time of the adjourned meeting of the Board of Supervisors, by publication in the Staunton Spectator."

Extract from the minutes of the Board of Supervisors of Augusta county, Feb. 23d, 1864.

Teste, W. H. JEWELL, D. C.

Mar 1—4t

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, Richmond, Feb. 18, 1864.

TREASURY NOTICE.

OFFICE ACT OF FEBRUARY 17, 1864.

[illegible] Bonds [illegible] Treasury Notes [illegible] Bonds [illegible] Treasury Notes [illegible] Bonds [illegible] Treasury Notes [