

# STAUNTON SPECTATOR AND GENERAL ADVERTISER.

Staunton Spectator,

TUESDAY, FEB. 12, 1862.

Word.

These who desire to pay their subscription in  
will do so by mailing to good feeds and  
good word.

One Recent Event.

We are not disposed to take a gloomy view of the seemingly sad reverse with which our cause has recently met. We do not feel disengaged by them; on the contrary, we believe that they will eventually result in good to the cause of the South.

"The bad may have a bitter taste,  
But sweet will be the flavor."

These events are but the thunder-saps which were necessary to avert the giant of Southern energy from its fatal re-cess. We had indulged too long a fancied security, and it was necessary for our good that we should be aroused to a proper sense of our duty under the trying circumstances by which we are surrounded. We were enjoying our ease and dignities, and, as though there was no one to molest or make us afraid, whilst a powerful and ruthless enemy was exerting all of his energies, with might and main, to prepare and equip an enormous force to fall upon us unexpectedly at some weak and unprotected point. That he should succeed in gaining a few successes, after so much vigilance and preparation on his part, and such carelessness and listlessness on ours, furnishes no cause of wonder or alarm. The news of these reverses fall upon the ears of the brave and patriotic like the sound of the trumpet calling to arms, and inspires them with a determination to battle on their armor and rally, with the spirit of heroes, to the defense of the banner of freedom and independence. While we feel secure, our volunteers, who have been for a long time in the service, and who were beginning to pine for the sweet pleasure of home, were hesitating whether or not they would re-enlist; but we mistake their spirit for bravery and patriotism, if the news of our recent reverses does not determine nearly every soul to re-enlist with an increased determination to liberate and conquer the enemy, and to share in the glory of establishing the freedom and independence of their country. They have acquired a name and fame which they will not tarnish by laying down their arms when their country and their dear native State call most loudly for the services of their brave hearts and strong arms. The Yankees may be guilty of the shame and infamy of disbanding and retreating home when the sound of hostile cannon was reverberating in their ears, but Southerners cannot be guilty of such dastardly conduct.—

Another is, that it will have a similar effect upon those who are not now in the service. We believe that thousands will now cheerfully volunteer, who have not done so heretofore, for the reason that they did not feel that their services were needed. Now that they are conscious of the necessity of their services, they will cheerfully offer them to the Confederacy. We do not believe that the patriotic spirit which animates the sons of this good old country will ever allow the nobility of a drift boy to dim their luster.

The number of volunteers required will promptly stop forth when their State calls for them.—

This county has too fair a name and her sons are too proud of it to allow the stigma of a forced draft to be upon it. They feel that to volunteer with bold and manly step, whilst as soldiers, will well baffle along as convicts enforced to the performance of a reluctant and disagreeable duty. We cherish the hope that the required number to furnish the quota of this State will cheerfully volunteer.

Another good effect which we expect to result from these reverses is, that our officials, upon whom the heaviest responsibility rests, will be awakened to the necessity of exercising more vigilance, activity and energy.

Last, but not least, is the effect it will have upon the conduct of the enemy. The finances of the enemy are now in a precarious condition, and another blow put upon the back of the same will break it down. The following is the view of the Richmond Examiner upon this point:

The enemy's exultation over their recent achievements will be extravagant enough; and the Federal Congress will be emboldened to demand all the measures required by the war. The demand note bill will go through the Senate with the legal tender clause, and the tax bill levying a hundred and fifty millions from the people, will become a law. Reparations, which might otherwise have been demanded from, will be heavily raised into a debt that gives

them financial trouble, and this time into deep water, that have no bottom. The legal tender clause of their treasury note bill will cut down the wealth of the entire creditor classes, and impose the chief burdens of the war, in the most odious form, upon the men who have so far contributed to it the most important aid. The rich will be disgraced by the meek and unequal measure, and the poor be burdened by the heaviest tax they have ever yet had to shoulder. The bills enforcements, which might have hung fire in the Federal Congress for a long time, but for the heavy sums coming up to it from Tennessee and North Carolina; they will now become laws, and the Northern people be made to feel, in all its weight, the burden of debt which their mad and bloody policy has imposed upon them forever.

It may, therefore, after all, be a kind Providence that has directed the recent reverses of the South. If they be the means of plucking the wings of moderation which will bring home the love of the patriots of the Northern people, they may prove more fortunate in ultimate consequences than the many victories we gained in the field. These victories increased, then, and continued the whole public interest in support of the war. The successes they have now obtained will soon affect as their expected results, and the losses and gains imposed by the Southern Government of Congress will tend to cool the ardor with which they have urged on the war.

The fall of Roanoke Island, Fort Henry and Donelson, and the subsequent capture of two thousand which would otherwise have impeded their progress. The government has taken advantage of these reverses, and will thrust the whole into the pockets of the people for the money these reverses have cost. The people, one now thinking of the wrongs of the South, will then think of the wrongs of the North, and the North will, before all, be over in remunerative and better conditions.

Independent Citizens Assembled.

The following appointments of Brigadier Generals in the Army of the Confederate States have been made by Congress:

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