

## A female raid

SALISBURY, N. C.		
<p><b>A FEMALE RAID.</b></p>		
<p>Between 40 and 50 soldiers' wives, followed by a numerous train of curious female observers, made an attack on several of our business men last Wednesday, whom they regarded as speculators in the necessities of life, for the purpose, as we are informed, of demanding an abatement in prices, or forcing</p>	<p>put themselves in a position to demand of the Government, and they are not to those who can pay the highest prices, but to those whose necessities are pressing. The darkest days of our struggle are coming on. The times which try men's souls are at hand, and cursed be he who is not willing, not only to stake his property, but his life for the sake of our cause.</p>	<p>The weather was somewhat variable last week. Monday and Wednesday were days of working in the garden, and much of it was done. We had a thunder storm and summer shower Wednesday night, and a cold cloudy day on Thursday. Friday and Friday night, rain and sleet, and Saturday cold and cloudy, with sleet on the trees and covering the earth. The peach trees</p>
<p>quired. The first house visited was Mr. M. Brown's. They demanded he should sell them flour at \$19.50 per barrel. This he declined to do, alleging that his flour had cost him more than twice that sum. They then said they were determined to have the flour, and would take it, unless he would sell it to them at the price Government was paying for it; and accordingly went to work with hatchets on his store room door. After some time spent in vain efforts to open the door, a parley was had, and Mr. Brown agreed to give them, free of charge, ten barrels, if that would satisfy them. They accepted the offer, the flour was rolled out and hauled off.</p>	<p>The Commissioners appointed by the County Court to administer relief to soldiers' families, have been informed that the amount of \$50,000, will be held accountable in large part for this first demonstration of lawlessness? How have they discharged their trust? Have they any stores of corn or other provisions to distribute out to the destitute families of soldiers? None whatever. They thought it best to give them the money, and let the heads of families purchase their own supplies where it would suit them best. An honest conviction, no doubt, but the plan has been subject to the grossest abuses for months, and has failed in accomplishing the end designed. Many have applied for and obtained money who were not in need, whilst helpless and suffering ones in remote parts of the county have perhaps received nothing. If the present Board of Commissioners continue to hold their office they should immediately lay aside their pride of opinion and judgment and visit Mecklenburg, Davie, Iredell, and other neighboring counties where similar appropriations have been made for the relief of soldiers' families, and learn from the Commissioners of these counties how they dispense this public fund for the relief of the needy. Let them go, all blushing with shame for the scene enacted in our streets on Wednesday last, and sit at the feet of the more successful Commissioners of these counties, and learn practical wisdom and enlarged views on a subject of vital importance to the country. They have trifled with the confidence reposed in them until the mob fiend has displayed his hideous form in our midst. Do they suppose they will escape the fury of the devil their mal-administration has helped to arouse? Men of position are already suspected of countenance, if they did not secretly provoke, the proceedings of last Wednesday. It is natural, for one of the immediate and sure results of such out-breaks is the destruction of confidence between man and man, and the corruption of dark suspicions and restless jealousy. Let officials show by extra diligence in the discharge of their duties as Justices of the Peace and as Commissioners, that these suspicions are groundless as to them. They owe it to themselves and to the public, and will not escape the consequences of neglect.</p>	<p>Now, this sort of weather has injured the fruit nor that it will.</p> <p><b>CONCERT.</b>—The Military Brass Band of the glorious 4th N. C. Reg't., will give a Musical Entertainment this evening at Murphy's Hall. They are entitled to receive a full house, and we doubt not our citizens will so decide. The Rowan Rifle Guards, one of the first companies to enter the service, Capt. (now Major) James H. Wood's company, and the Iredell Blues, are parts of this Regiment; and this Band was raised out of them. They are dear to us. Let us fall and see and hear them to-night.</p>
<p>They next visited Mr. John Enniss, of the firm of Henderson &amp; Enniss, and made a similar demand on him. He gave them three barrels of flour.</p>		
<p>They next called on Mr. Frankford, who, it is reported, told them he had not been speculating in provisions, and that he now had nothing in his store but himself. "So ladies if you take any thing here, you will have to take me—yes, take me. I'll go with you any where you please." They next called on</p>		
<p>Mr. H. Sprague. Mr. S. received them in his usual calm and courteous manner, and gave them a barrel of molasses.</p>		
<p>They also called on Mr. David Weil, whom they charge with having run up flour from \$40 to \$50, and who was supposed to have a large lot at the depot to be shipped, South. It turned out, however, that he had none within their convenient reach. He gave them a sack of salt.</p>		
<p>They next called on Mr. Thos. Foster, who was advertising salt on consignment. He told them the salt belonged to a man in Wilmington, and that he had no interest in it beyond that of an agent. That he felt it to be his duty to protect it, &amp;c., and that rather than they should take it, he would give them</p>		
<p>\$20 out of his own pocket. Some one in the crowd answered—"We will take that, and the salt too." Mr. Foster replied, that he would take the responsibility of also giving them one sack of salt. They accepted this offer and left.</p>	<p>If the ladies who composed the party of last Wednesday will take the trouble to think a little, they will see that although that day's work may not prove hurtful, yet that the experiment of "impressment" is a very dangerous one, and must, if persisted in, lead to the gravest consequences imaginable. In the first place, it is unjust to the few whose property is taken. Others who have done as much or more to bring them in trouble, are unfairly permitted to escape. For instance, it was the duty of the Commissioners for relieving soldiers' families to have practiced common foresight and purchased provisions for their use, so that none would be left to suffer by heartless speculators. You passed by these Commissioners on Wednesday and</p>	<p><b>FASTING AND PRAYER.</b></p> <p>Next Friday is the day designated in the President's Proclamation to be observed as a day of Fasting and Prayer. There will be services in the Methodist Church in the forenoon, at which time notice will be given of other services if any are had.</p> <p>We have noticed that there are crowds of people in our streets, on these occasions who seem to feel no interest whatever in their proper observance. They never go near the church, and altogether, treat the matter with indifference. This conduct is only consistent with infidelity and atheism—a disbelief in the Christian religion or in the existence of a living and true God. And yet we think ninety-nine out of a hundred of those to whom we allude would promptly deny they are either infidels or atheists. Will they not, next Friday, put this question to themselves: Am I doing right in refusing to humble myself before God, my Creator, when asked to do it as on this day?</p>
<p>They also called at the door of a building formerly occupied by Mr. Simmons; but we think they found nothing there.</p> <p>And finally they visited the North Carolina depot, in search of flour, supposed to be on to Mr. Weil, and other parties believed to be</p>		<p>The Almighty has never yet undertaken to humble pride but he has done it effectually, whether in nations, communities or individuals; and sooner or later every proud thing in his Government will be brought down into the dust.</p> <p><b>THREE LEGGED CHICKEN.</b>—Mr. M. E. Reese, of this county, gave us, a few days ago, a hen with three legs. She has about as little use for the third leg as for the seven toes on it. It is a kind of reserve property, we suppose, which will only come into use when she has lost one or both of the legs which now do her walking and scratching.</p> <p><b>AXONITE WORK.</b>—Mr. Henry Canup has</p>

speculators in this and other provision articles. They found, and took forcible possession of, ten barrels flour, belonging to some one in Charlotte.

This completed the day's work. The next morning was spent in settling the question of division—a delicate, and as it proved, a difficult question. There was some disputing, flashing of eyes, and some angry words. It was, however, accomplished, whether satisfactorily to all or no, we cannot say.

This movement was aimed as a blow at the practice of speculating in provisions. Whether or not it fell on proper subjects is not for us to determine. Indeed, that is a question which none should presumptuously decide.

These proceedings were also caused, in part, by pinching want. It is said there are many families in this town and vicinity who have not tasted meat for weeks, and some times, months together. Of course they have had no butter, molasses, or sugar. Many of them have no gardens and consequently no vegetables of their own raising; and the scarcity and high price of potatoes, peas, beans, &c., render it extremely difficult if at all possible, for them to obtain these articles.

What, then, have they to support life? Bread and water! Bread is the only thing with their limited means they could provide for themselves; and at present prices, it is not very easy for even the industrious poor to provide this. They certainly cannot afford to buy flour at \$50 per barrel. Fortunately, our soil is peculiarly adapted to corn, which, as a staff of life, is not excelled in the world. And we believe there is enough of this invaluable grain in the country to save us from suffering. The only difficulty about it is in distributing it among the people. Speculators must be prevented from sending it out of the reach of our needy people. Avaricious holders of grain and other provisions, for high prices, must open their eyes to the danger of their selfish and covetous practices. It is impossible for the poor to endure the hardships and privations these two classes have imposed upon them. They cannot, they will not; and it is the part of wisdom to recognise the truth and provide against the dan-

male your demand on those you considered speculators. The latter have been doing what every body loves to do, to wit: making money. The former have proved inefficient and unworthy the trust committed to their hands for your benefit. Was your decision just? The Commissioners are sharp business men in their own affairs, and stood as good a chance to look ahead for you, as the speculators to look ahead and make money for themselves.

Again, many a speculator whom you did not visit, is as guilty as those you did visit. It is not fair that one should be made to answer and another allowed to escape. All should be treated alike. But how will you do this? Some have made thousands of dollars, others only hundreds. How will you grade your demands so as to make them bear equally on all? It ought so to bear, for it is manifestly wrong to deal partially with them. What a difficult task it would be to proceed upon this rule! and yet it is the only fair one. In fact, your plan can't be made to work equally unless you could require every man in the community to make a truthful exhibit of his business transactions since the war begun; and without equality, there will be just cause of complaint, there will be bitterness of feeling, and speedily we shall see wrangling, and deadly strifes amongst ourselves; for these are the fruits of lawless proceedings. We shall then destroy each other out-right, and fall an easy prey to the unprincipled and cruel enemy who is seeking to subjugate our country.

The County of Rowan at the beginning of the war, appropriated \$50,000 for the relief of soldiers' families. The Legislature has also made a liberal appropriation of which Rowan will receive some sixteen or seventeen thousand more. This if properly managed, will certainly save the beneficiaries from extreme suffering. But this provision, handsome as it is, will not admit of any considerable number depending on it alone. We must all work, and work hard, to support ourselves by producing our own food and clothing, as far as possible. This fund is intended as a help, and not as a main dependence. Indeed it would be impossible for the County or State to support the people in idleness. All must work, and make out with as little as possible. Our soldiers in the field are often reduced to half and even quarter rations. Let us at home cheerfully submit to the same hardship, and persevere as they do, hoping in God for a final triumphant issue out of all these our present sore trials. It will surely come if we are faithful to ourselves. But in God's name let us not fall to devouring each other by 1865,

given in a hen's egg which has on it a representation of the sun. The figure is natural, and not artificial. Whether it is intended to represent the rising sun of the Southern Confederacy or the setting sun of the old United States, is a question which would be better decided by a hen convention. We wish they would sold it soon, and give an intelligent explanation of this and other eggs which have been laid on editor's tables within the last six weeks.

## CONGRESSIONAL.

### SLAVES IMPRESSED.

Mr. Phelan offered the following, which was agreed to:

"Resolved, That the Military Committee be instructed to inquire into the expediency of paying for slaves impressed by the Government, and who have died or who shall hereafter die whilst in the service of the Confederate States, from causes legitimately attributable to such impressment.

### PUNISHMENT OF DELINQUENT QUARTERMASTERS AND COMMISSARIES.

Mr. Orr, of South Carolina, submitted the following, which was agreed to:

"Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary be instructed to inquire and report upon the propriety of passing an act providing that, should any Quartermaster or Commissary fail to account for money or public property which has gone into his hands officially for a greater amount than his official bond, shall be liable to indictment, and upon conviction be subjected to infamous punishment, and that said Committee have leave to report by bill otherwise.

Mr. Davis, of North Carolina, introduced the following, which was referred to the Military Committee:

"A Bill to be entitled 'An act to provide for the payment of certain North Carolina troops from the time of their enlistment.

"The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, that the troops heretofore raised by the State of North Carolina, under requisitions made on that State by the Confederate States, shall be paid from the date of their enlistment."

Planters, look to your hog-pens. A distinguished author says, "the pen is mightier than the sword."

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