

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, October 1, 1863.

GENERAL ORDERS, }
No. 129. }

I. The following schedules of prices for articles named therein, adopted by commissioners appointed pursuant to law, for the State of Virginia, are announced for the information of all concerned; and the special attention of officers and agents of the government is directed thereto:

Richmond, October 1, 1863.

Hon. Jas. A. Seddon, Sec'y of War:

SIR,

The commissioners appointed under section 5th of the bill recently passed by the confederate congress, regulating impressments, being required to agree upon and publish a schedule of prices every two months, or oftener, if they should deem it proper, in accordance with the foregoing requisition, we respectfully lay before you the following schedules of prices, marked A and B, for the ensuing month. Owing to the difficulty of obtaining satisfactory information as to pork, we have postponed the appraisement till our next assessment.

The following schedule presents the maximum prices to be paid for the articles appraised, at all cities and usual places of sale, and when impressed elsewhere, the same prices are to be paid elsewhere, less the cost of transportation to the city or usual place of sale to which the article would go ordinarily for sale from that neighborhood, or less the cost of transportation to the point at which the government needs the article, and wishes it to be sent; provided, that in no case the amount deducted for transportation as above, shall exceed 25 cents per bushel for grain, and 25 cents per cwt. for long forage, flour, bacon, iron, &c. In addition to the established price of transportation, the government to pay all legal tolls; and where farmers cannot procure nails for baling forage, government to furnish the same at cost, which will be deducted from the established price of baling:

SCHEDULE A.

| ARTICLES. | QUALITY. | DESCRIPTION. | QUANTITY. | PRICE. |
|-------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|---------|
| 1 Wheat, | Prime, | White or red, | Per bus. of 60 lbs. | \$ 5 00 |
| 2 Flour, | Good, | Fine, | " bbl. of 196 lbs. | 22 00 |
| " | " | Superfine, | " " 196 lbs. | 26 50 |
| " | " | Family, | " " 196 lbs. | 28 00 |
| 3 Corn, | Prime, | White or yel'w, | " bus of 56 lbs. | 4 00 |
| 4 Unshelled corn, | " | " " | " " 56 lbs. | 3 95 |
| 5 Corn meal, | Good, | - | " " 50 lbs. | 4 20 |
| 6 Rye, | Prime, | - | " " 56 lbs. | 3 20 |
| 7 Cleaned oats, | " | - | " " 32 lbs. | 2 00 |
| 8 Wheat bran, | Good, | - | " " 17 lbs. | 50 |
| 9 Shorts, | " | - | " " 22 lbs. | 70 |
| 10 Brown stuff, | " | - | " " 28 lbs. | 90 |
| 11 Ship stuff, | " | - | " " 37 lbs. | 1 40 |
| 12 Bacon, | " | Hog round, | " pound, | 1 00 |
| 13 Salt pork, | " | - | " " | 1 00 |
| Fresh " | Fat and good, | - | Per lb. net weight, | 45 |
| 14 Lard, | Good, | - | " pound, | 1 00 |
| 15 Horses, | First class, | Artillery, &c. | Av'ge price per head, | 350 00 |
| 16 Wool, | Fair or Merino, | Washed, | Per pound, | 3 00 |
| 17 Wool, | Fair or Merino, | Unwashed, | " " | 2 00 |
| 18 Peas, | Good, | - | " bus. of 60 lbs. | 4 00 |
| 19 Beans, | " | - | " " 60 lbs. | 4 00 |
| 20 Potatoes, | " | Irish, | " " 60 lbs. | 4 00 |
| 21 Potatoes, | " | Sweet, | " " 60 lbs. | 5 00 |
| 22 Onions, | " | - | " " 60 lbs. | 5 00 |
| 23 Dried peaches, | " | Pealed, | " " 38 lbs. | 8 00 |
| 24 Dried peaches, | " | Unpealed, | " " 38 lbs. | 4 50 |
| 25 Dried apples, | " | Pealed, | " " 28 lbs. | 3 00 |
| 26 Hay, baled, | " | Timothy or clover, | " 100 pounds, | 3 00 |
| 27 Hay, baled, | " | Orchard or herd grass, | " 100 " | 3 00 |
| 28 Hay, unbaled, | " | Orchard or herd grass, | " 100 " | 2 70 |
| 29 Sheaf oats, baled, | " | - | " 100 " | 4 00 |
| 30 " " unb'd, | " | - | " 100 " | 3 70 |
| 31 Blade fodder, baled, | " | - | " 100 " | 3 00 |
| 32 " " unb'd, | " | - | " 100 " | 2 70 |
| 33 Shucks, baled, | " | - | " 100 " | 2 00 |
| 34 " unbaled, | " | - | " 100 " | 1 70 |
| 35 Wheat straw, bl'd. | " | - | " 100 " | 1 00 |
| 36 " " unb'd, | " | - | " 100 " | 70 |
| 37 Pasturage, | " | Interior, | " head per month, | 3 00 |
| 38 " " | Superior, | " | " " " | 4 00 |
| 39 " " | First rate, | " | " " " | 5 00 |
| 40 " " | Good, | Near cities, | " " " | 5 00 |
| 41 " " | Superior, | " | " " " | 6 00 |
| 42 " " | First rate, | " | " " " | 7 00 |
| 43 Salt, | Good, | - | " bus. of 50 lbs. | 5 00 |
| 44 Soap, | " | - | " pound, | 40 |
| 45 Candles, | " | Tallow, | " " | 1 00 |
| 46 Vinegar, | " | Cider, | " gallon, | 1 00 |
| 47 Whiskey, | " | Trade, | " " | 3 00 |
| 48 Sugar, | " | Brown, | " pound, | 1 00 |
| 49 Molasses, | " | New Orleans, | " gallon, | 8 00 |
| 50 Rice, | " | - | " pound, | 20 |

SCHEDULE A—Continued.

| ARTICLES. | QUALITY. | DESCRIPTION. | QUANTITY. | PRICE. |
|---|-------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------|
| 51 Coffee, | Good, | Rio, | Per pound, | \$ 3 00 |
| 52 Tea, | " | Trade, | " " | 7 00 |
| 53 Vinegar, | " | Manufactured, | " gallon, | 50 |
| 54 Pig iron, | " | No. 1 quality, | " ton, | 125 00 |
| 55 Pig iron, | " | No. 2 quality, | " " | 110 00 |
| 56 " | " | No. 3 quality, | " " | 100 00 |
| 57 Bloom iron, | " | - | " " | 180 00 |
| 58 Smith's iron, | " | Round, plate and bar, | " " | 380 80 |
| 59 Rail road iron, | " | - | " " | 190 00 |
| 60 Leather, | " | Harness, | " pound, | 2 60 |
| 61 " | " | Sole, | " " | 2 40 |
| 62 " | " | Upper, | " " | 2 80 |
| 63 Beef cattle, | " | Gross weight, | " 100 pounds, | 16 00 |
| 64 " " | Superior, | " " | " 100 " | 18 00 |
| 65 " " | First rate, | " " | " 100 " | 20 00 |
| 66 Sheep, | Fair, | - | " head, | 30 00 |
| 67 Army woolen cl'th. ¾ yard, | Good, | 10 oz. per yd. | " yard, | 4 50 |
| 68 Army woolen cl'th. | " | Pro rata as to greater or less | Width or weight. | |
| 69 Army woolen cl'th. 6-4 yard, | " | 20 oz. per yd. | Per yard, | 9 00 |
| 70 Army woolen cl'th. | " | Pro rata as to greater or less | Width or weight. | |
| 71 Flannels, | " | 6 oz. per yd. | Per yard, | 3 00 |
| 72 Cotton shirting, | " | 4½ yds. to lb. | " " | 42 |
| 73 " " | " | 3½ yds. to lb. | " " | 50 |
| 74 " sheet'gs, 4-4 | " | 3 yds. to lb. | " " | 60 |
| 75 " oznab'gs, | " | 6 oz. per yd. | " " | 60 |
| 76 " " | " | 8 oz. per yd. | " " | 70 |
| 77 " drills, | " | 3 yds. to lb. | " " | 70 |
| 78 Cot. shirt'g stripes, | " | 3 yds. to lb. | " " | 70 |
| 79 " tent cloths, | " | 10 oz. per yd. | " " | 87 |
| 80 On the above enu- merated cot- ton cloths, pro rata as to greater or less width or weight. | merated cot | ton cloths, pro | rata as to greater or less width | |
| 81 Cotton warps, | Good, | - | Per pound, | 1 63 |
| 82 Army shoes, | " | - | " pair, | 10 00 |
| 83 Shoe thread, | " | - | " pound, | 2 00 |
| 84 Wool socks, men's, | " | - | " pair, | 1 25 |
| 85 Mules, | First rate, | Wagon, &c. | Av'ge price per head, | 300 00 |

In assessing the average value of "first class artillery and wagon horses at \$350," we designed that the term should be accepted and acted upon according to its obvious common sense import. In other words, that horses should be selected, and then impressed accordingly as their working qualities and adaptation to army service, together with their intrinsic value, would warrant a judicious purchaser in considering them as coming within the contemplation of the commissioners when they assessed the average value of such horses as the government needed, at \$350. But cases might arise, however, when the public exigencies would be so urgent as to demand that all horses at hand should be im-

pressed. Yet under ordinary circumstances, when family or extra blooded horses, or brood mares of *admitted high value* are impressed, we respectfully suggest to the Secretary of War to have instructions forwarded to the impressing officers to propose and allow the owners to *substitute* in their stead such strong, sound and serviceable horses or mules as shall be considered and valued by competent and disinterested parties as first class artillery horses, or first rate wagon mules.

The term "average value per head" was used in contradistinction to a fixed and uniform price for each horse or mule. We supposed that in impressing a number of horses or mules, whether owned by several persons, or one individual, that some might be estimated at \$250, or even at less, and others at different advanced rates, according to their worth, up as high as \$450, or above that amount—thus making an *average* value or price for a *number* of good, sound and efficient horses, \$350 each, and mules \$300 each.

In illustration of our views, we will add, that a horse with only one eye sound, might, in all other respects, be classed as a first rate artillery horse, yet the loss of one eye would justly and considerably curtail his value. So a horse from 10 to 18 years of age might be deemed in all other particulars as a first class artillery horse, but of course, however efficient or able to render good service for a year or so, yet his advanced age would justly and materially impair his value. Any horse, however he may approximate the standard of a first class artillery horse, must, according to deficiencies, fall below the maximum price; and as few comparatively exactly come up to the standard, and therefore are entitled to the maximum price, so of course in all other instances the price should be proportionately reduced, as imperfections place them below the standard of first class, &c.

E. W. HUBARD,
ROBERT GIBBONEY,
Commissioners for Va.

SCHEDULE B.—*Hire of Labor, Teams, Wagons and Drivers.*

| | QUANTITY AND TIME. | PRICE. |
|--|--------------------|---------|
| 1 Baling long forage, - - - | Per 100 pounds, | \$ 0 30 |
| 2 Shelling and bagging corn, sacks furnished by government, - - | " 56 " | 05 |
| 3 Hauling, - - - - | " cwt. per mile, | 06 |
| 4 Hauling grain, - - - - | " bus. " | 03 |
| 5 Hire of two-horse team, wagon and driver, rations furnished by owner, - | " day, - | 10 00 |
| 6 Hire of same, rations furnished by the government, - - - | " day, - | 5 00 |
| 7 Hire of four-horse team, wagon and driver, rations furnished by owner, - | " day, - | 13 00 |
| 8 Hire of same, rations furnished by the government, - - - | " day, - | 6 50 |
| 9 Hire of six-horse team, wagon and driver, rations furnished by owner, - | " day, - | 16 00 |
| 10 Hire of same, rations furnished by the government, - - - | " day, - | 8 00 |
| 11 Hire of laborer, rations furnished by owner, - - - - | " day, - | 2 00 |
| 12 Hire of same, rations furnished by the government, - - - | " day, - | 1 25 |
| 13 Hire of same, rations furnished by owner, - - - - | " month, - | 40 00 |
| 14 Hire of same, rations furnished by the government, - - - | " month, - | 20 00 |

E. W. HUBARD,
ROBERT GIBBONEY,
Commissioners for Va.

By order.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.