

## WARRANTIES OF NEGRO SOLDIERS

The country was informed not long since by Adjutant-General THOMAS, that he had established a camp of Negro Soldiers on the famed "Island No. 10." The exploits of this "camp" are recorded below. It consisted of twenty or twenty-five negro soldiers, as do the majority of his twenty Regiments. Of this twenty or twenty-five, fifteen have been guilty of the most horrible crimes beings said to be human are capable of; and all the rest are doubtless ready to conform to this example. "It is with these materials that fanatics would light the torch of servile insurrection, knowing, as well as they know existence itself, that its brute strength will sweep humanity to one common ruin, leaving in its train only violated womanhood and the blood of infants crying aloud for retribution. And yet they persist in schooling this brute power to know itself and to use its strength. Upon them, who possess understanding to know the consequences, and not upon the animal instincts which acknowledge no mental control, be the responsibility :

[From the St. Louis Republican.]

MR. EDITOR:—We landed at a place called Compromise, in Tennessee, near the dividing line between Kentucky and Tennessee, and heard there, from the neighbors, of a most horrible murder, committed yesterday morning, Tuesday, the 4th. Eighteen negro soldiers, fully armed, having come from the camp on Island No. 10, went to the house of Mr. Frank Beckham, on the river, immediately where we landed this morning, and murdered him, aged forty years, his old father, (Maj. Berj Beckham, aged eighty,) and four children of Mr. F. Beckham, Laura aged fourteen, Kate aged ten, Caroline seven, and Richard two years. They first caught Mr. F. Beckham and his aged father, tied them, marched them to the edge of the bank of the river, shot and stabbed them, and threw their bodies into the water. They then threw little Dick into the river, tied the two youngest girls together, and threw them in, then forced the oldest girl and beat her over the head with their muskets until she sank down. The bodies of old Major Beckham and the youngest child have been recovered. Many of our passengers and myself went to the house and saw them. Fortunately two of the family of children were off at school, and the mother and one child four years old, went up to Owensboro, Kentucky, with us on our last trip. *All the rest were murdered.*

Twelve of the negroes were caught by our cavalry and are now confined at Island No. 10. Six are yet at large. The immediate motive for the deed was thought to be the fact that Mrs. Beckham took up the river with her, a negro girl as nurse, whose mother had run off, and was at Island No 10.

The negroes had before endeavored to steal the girl away, but Mr. Beckham drove them off with arms. The above is a correct statement of the murder I got from the neighbors and a Mr. Max Jehlan, who had, just an hour before, left Mr. Beckham's house, and is now a passenger on the boat.

Truly yours,

GEORGE O. HART.

## Outrageous Conduct of the Commanding Officer of the Government Boat Rob Roy.

On last Friday night the Government steamer Rob Roy landed on Dr. F. G. McGavock's plantation, fifty miles above Memphis. The Doctor, who was at his lower plantation, and who owns thousands of acres of rich land which extends over twenty miles on the Mississippi, is known as a good Union man, and cultivates his plantations under the protection of Gen. Hurlbut. On the night named a detachment of Union soldiers, on an expedition from Columbus to enlist negroes, took by force several of them, whom they dragged in most brutal and outrageous manner on board the steamer Rob Roy. The overseer of the upper plantation rode to the lower place to inform the doctor of the outrage committed by the soldiers. Doctor McGavock, who is a most intelligent and amiable gentleman, who has traveled all over the world, was very much grieved on account of a body servant who was amongst the lost, and with whom he traveled thousands of miles—a faithful, intelligent negro, whom he regarded more as a friend than a slave. He at once started to Memphis, to complain before Gen. Hurlbut. This officer, who had issued a special order concerning the Doctor's plantations, was very much irritated in finding his order violated and his safeguard disregarded, and placed at once in the hands of the Doctor a letter directed to Col. Adams, in which he ordered the immediate release of these slaves, who had been taken against their will, and further ordered him to report the officer in command of the expedition to be cashiered at once. As soon as the Doctor was put in possession of these documents, he took passage on the steamer Belle Memphis to overhaul the Rob Roy, but that boat had undoubtedly lauded at Columbus, and the negroes have been enlisted. We hardly think that this is the proper way to reinforce Gen. A. both's command, and we are glad that Major General Hurlbut does justice to Union men in the same spirit in which he punishes traitors and rebels in Memphis and his District.—*St. Louis Republican.*