

17 November 1863, 1

*From Beaufort.*—A deserter from the enemy's camp at Beaufort, who arrived here a day or two since, gives some interesting items of information.

The present force of the enemy at Beaufort is about ten thousand white troops, mostly foreigners, and six regiments of blacks, three of which have recently been organized.

Every week the Yankee officers read out a notice to the black troops purporting to come from across the lines, to the effect that all negroes who return to the Confederate territory will be hung immediately upon their arrival. By this infamous system of lying they are succeeding pretty well in retaining the fugitives, nearly all of whom would joyfully return to their masters if they believed it could be done with safety. They are thoroughly disgusted with the brutal rule of the Yankees, and long to get home again.

A new conscription has been ordered to take place to-morrow (Monday), by which all blacks between the ages of 18 and 60 will be enrolled in the army.

The small pox is raging to a fearful extent among the fugitive blacks, and a large hospital has been established a few miles from Beaufort for their reception and treatment.

Extensive preparations are making for an expedition of some sort, and from what our informant could learn from the officers, a simultaneous attack is contemplated against Charleston and Savannah in the course of a very short time.

[Savannah Republican.]