

HEAD-QUARTERS, SUFFOLK, VA., }

NOVEMBER 1, 1862. }

GENERAL ORDERS, }
No. 19. }

The General Commanding had indulged the hope that General Orders No. 6, of October 1st, 1862, in regard to the taking of the property of citizens for private uses of officers and soldiers, would meet with universal approval, and render any further action on his part unnecessary. But in this view he has been too confident. A few, very few, bad men have disgraced themselves, their Regiments, and their States, by straggling from their commands, and robbing the country along their line of march. Complaints are made that houses and barns have been entered, animals taken, poultry killed, without any authority or necessity, by soldiers carrying three days full rations in their haversacks. Odd Fellows and Masonic Halls are reported to have been entered and plundered of their regalia, charters, and other valuables. A Church is said to have been desecrated by some lawless miscreants having neither the fear of God or man before their eyes, and its sacred vessels carried off.

If these depredations were not committed by a few black sheep, there would be serious cause of apprehension respecting the public integrity, and the workings of our institutions. But to the end that the present general wholesome influences may be continued, it is essential that squads, companies, and regiments, should purge out the offenders against the peace and good order of society and of the Federal service.

The wholesale pillage and wanton destruction of property in Maryland by the Southern invaders of her soil is condemned by the civilized world, and must not be pleaded in justification of unauthorized acts of individuals.

The Commanding General calls upon all to co-operate with him in bringing the guilty to speedy trial.

BY COMMAND OF

MAJOR GENERAL PECK:

LIEUT. & A. A. A. Gen'l.

Aunt Augustus Wilson
Co R 58th Regt P.V.
General Orders

