



CLEARFIELD, PA.

Wednesday Morning May 8, 1861.

Giving aid to the Enemy.

The Journal of this place, in its last issue, furnished its readers with the following paragraph:

STARS SHOW WHICH WAY THE WIND BLOW.—It is reported, that quite a number of strong sympathizers with the Southern traitors are still in our midst. If this be so, they should be careful how they express their sentiments, or be prepared to take up their shoddy with their friends, as the Pennsylvania Legislature at its last session passed an act defining treason in this State.

Is not this an act of treason? Writers upon Public Law agree, we think, in saying that any information by a citizen of a nation to a foreign enemy is an act of treason. Therefore, if the above paragraph contains the truth, and by any chance the information thus given, should reach the authorities or people now arrayed against the authorities of the United States, is not the editor thus "furnishing information"—"giving aid and comfort," to the enemy?

We submit the question to those better versed in law than we profess to be—assuring our neighbor that if this ill-natured and bad tempered article shall lead him into trouble, and he shall be arrested under the Act of Assembly to which he refers, or under any other act, we will volunteer as witnesses in his defence, and swear point blank that his assertion is correct, and that there is, therefore no cause of action.

If we have "traitors" in our midst, and the editor knows it, it is his duty to make information in due form against them.—Come forth, then, Sammy, and give us their names. If you fail to do this, you must either be an accomplice, or else stand before your fellow citizens a self-convicted falsifier and slanderer.

But the purpose of this publication is too obvious to be misunderstood. It is solely for the purpose of terrifying all those who are disposed to question in the slightest degree, the propriety or policy of any of the measures of our public servants, either State or National, or to make any allusions, whatever, to the causes that have led our country into its present deplorable condition. For instance, in his address in Curwensville the other night, urging the enrollment of volunteers, Mr. Swoop commenced by saying that he expected, or feared this result, in case of the election of Lincoln, and that he had therefore sought his defeat. [We do not pretend to give his words—only the substance.] This gave serious offence, as we are informed. In the opinion of some of his hearers, it was such an evidence of disloyalty as it was feared would lead to a mutiny.

We profess to know the sentiments of the citizens of this place to whom reference is made in the above article—we claim that we know their feelings, wishes, intentions and speech, much better than our neighbor, and we have yet to hear the first word of disloyalty from anyone of them.—They are an intelligent, loyal, law-abiding people. But they know their rights, and will enjoy the privilege of exercising them. Among other free things so much boasted of last fall, "free speech" was most prominent. Whilst they enjoy this right, it is not their desire or intention to abuse it—nor to let others do so; but to live in all respects as true, faithful, loyal and law-abiding citizens, and the true, steadfast and devoted friends of the Union—ready at any hour to spare their fortunes or their lives, or both in its support or defence.

Some of those self-esteeming patriots have taken great offence at our remarks last week, in reference to the destruction of the Government property at Norfolk. We were not aware that French terrorism reigned in this Republic of ours; but such seems to be the fact from what we can see and hear occasionally in the muttering tones of wrath which sometimes display themselves to our view. We will inform those toadies that as long as Liberty dwells in our land, and we have an existence, we will criticize the official acts of our rulers, both civil and military—as well as the meddlesome conduct of those self-proclaimed "free speech" patriots, who have dug a ditch for their neighbors to fall in, but begin to realize the fact that they may become the occupants themselves. If, however, these heroes (?) succeed in torturing our humble remarks to be treason, we shall tell them in the language of Patrick Henry: "If it be treason, make the most of it!"

The Patriot & Union remarks that while thirteen appointments have been given to the editors and attaches of the New York Tribune, not a single man connected with the establishment, has volunteered to defend the Flag of his country. Straws, &c.

Read the care of Dr. J. W. Potter in another column. The Doctor is a worthy young man, and deserves the patronage of those who are in need of medical aid.

Flag Presentation—Interesting Ceremony.

In pursuance of previous arrangements made by the ladies of this place, a beautifully embellished silk Banner was presented to the Washington Cadets of this place on last Wednesday afternoon, in front of the armory.

The ceremonies were opened with an appropriate prayer by Rev. Mr. Galloway. After which, an eloquent and patriotic address was delivered by Hon. G. R. Barrett—(of which we failed to obtain a copy.)

Miss Sophia McLeod then rose presented the flag to Capt. Lorain, accompanying it with the following beautiful address, delivered in a most creditable style.

Washington, Cadets: In behalf of the ladies of Clearfield, both married and single, it is made my duty to present to you this Flag, your patriotic gift. This duty might have been entrusted to far more competent and able hands; but in deep regard, and burning love, for the "Stars and Stripes" of my country, I yield to none. See! it is fair and unspotted! Majestic, beautiful emblem of the States still united. All its glories belong to us—its shame to the false and fallen. To you, we entrust this precious banner to guard and defend. Confident of your courage and devotion in the field, we cheerfully commit it to your hands. But, I fear that you may not take this flag with you, but may march to the battleground under a Battalion flag. Be it so—it will be a twin flag, and whichever you wave, either this one or another like it in the actual conflict and the ensanguined field, its stars should be pierced, and its tattered folds be rent, clutch it, even in its tatters, and bear still aloft its mutilated remains! bear it, and grasp it, until he ri and sinew alike yield in death! Had I the power I would make this a memorial flag, and have it share all your perils and all your triumphs. Go, then, brave soldiers! and carry with you our united heart-felt wishes, our devout hopes for your success in the field, and for your safe return.

With this Banner take our wishes— Success to the brave; May you triumph in battle, Beneath its proud wave; May these stripes, in their beauty, And these gems of the blue, Ever float o'er the heads Of the loyal and true. And remember, true fellows, Wherever you go; Your flag must ne'er tremble Before a proud foe. And may God bless you, boys! Amid dangers to come; And return each in safety Again to his home. 'Tis in vain to suppress The emotions which swell Our hearts as we give you This parting Farewell.

The splendid gift was acknowledged on the part of the Cadets by William A. Wallace, Esq., as follows, delivered in his usual style of energy and eloquence.

Accept the thanks of the Cadets. The gift you bear them they will cherish in their hands they trust it will never be dishonored. The fair donors will ever be remembered. The Standard of their Country, received from hands like these, demands, and will receive, their warmest affection. But three weeks since, our once happy and united country still smiled with peace and prosperity. Her citizens pursued their usual avocations, and all looked for a bright future. The usual political divisions yet existed, and although feeling ran deep, no signal of war rippled the surface. A placid calm pervaded all the North. It was the calm that precedes the storm. The storm has burst upon us, and now we find sections arrayed against sections, brother against brother, son against father; armed men are marching, martial music everywhere resounds, and all portends that very soon the Southern breeze will bring to our ears the sound of the rush of armed squadrons, the clang of arms, and the din of battle. Why is this? It is because men have been forgetful of their allegiance, have dared to raise their mailed hand against the Constitution of their country, and sought to subvert it. It was because this Flag—heretofore the synonym of all that was chivalric and daring, borne in triumph through three wars, and bathed in blood in a hundred victories—has been insulted. The signal of the majesty of the government, the ensign of the sanctity of the law, and the herald of the capacity of a free people for self-government, has been degraded.

This flag, that once through 'Southern' halls The soul of 'valor' shed, Now hangs as mute on 'Southern' walls As if that soul were dead. There sleeps the pride of former days— There glory's thrill is o'er— And hearts that once beat high for praise, Now feel that pulse no more.

LADIES—To carry this flag in unsullied triumph shall be the highest, noblest aim of those to whom you present it. In the deadly charge, or through the perilous breach—where'er it leads the way—the thought of its fair givers, of the nation's honor, of our glorious Constitution, of all that we revere in the past or hope for in the future, shall nerve the arm, and prop the soul, and urge them on to victory. Its crimson stripes show dimly forth the carnage of the ensanguined field; its stainless white is emblematic of that mercy that should distinguish the noble victor; and, ladies, they promise you, that no gore stain from out its crimson stripes shall sully its pure white, and that with the performance of stern, relentless duty, no barbaric act shall mingle.

CADETS—Receive your Flag, the emblem of your country's honor. By all the hallowed memories that cluster round the Stars and Stripes, by the bright eyes and fair forms of the donors, by your own and your country's honor, by the solemnity of the oath you have just taken, I conjure you to bear it worthily. Follow it through the deadly conflict to the cannon's mouth, and ere it be dishonored, let the best blood of your hearts bathe its azure field and virgin stripes in crimson. Soldiers—Receive your flag as soldiers should—with three hearty cheers.

And the Cadets did receive it as soldiers should—with three hearty cheers.

THE WAR NEWS!

PRESIDENT'S PROCLAMATION

THE BLOCKADE.

The Governor's Message.

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES. A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, The existing exigencies demand immediate and adequate measures for the protection of the National Constitution and the preservation of the National Union, by the suppression of the insurrectionary combinations now existing in several States, for opposing the laws of the Union and obstructing the execution thereof, to which end a military force, in addition to that called for by my proclamation of the 15th day of April, in the present year, appears to be indispensably necessary.

Now, therefore, I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States and Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy thereof, and of the Militia of the several States when called into actual service, do hereby call into the service of the United States forty-two thousand and thirty-four volunteers to serve for the period of three years, unless sooner discharged, and to be mastered into service as infantry and cavalry. The proportions of each arm and the detail of enrollment and organization will be made known through the Department of War.

And I further direct that the regular army of the United States be increased by the addition of eight regiments of Infantry, one regiment of Cavalry and one regiment of Artillery, making altogether a maximum aggregate increase of twenty-two thousand seven hundred and fourteen, officers and enlisted men, the details of which increase will also be made known through the Department of War.

I further direct the enlistment, for not less than one, or more than three years of eighteen thousand seamen, in addition to the present force. The details of the enlistment and organization will be made known through the Department of the Navy.

The call for volunteers hereby made, and the direction for the increase of the regular army, and for the enlistment of seamen hereby given, with the plan of organization adopted for the volunteer and for the regular forces hereby authorized, will be submitted to Congress as soon as that body assembles.

In the meantime, I earnestly invoke the co-operation of all good citizens in the measures hereby adopted for the effectual suppression of unlawful violence, for the impartial enforcement of constitutional laws, and for the speediest possible restoration of peace and order, and with these of happiness and prosperity throughout our country.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington, this 31st day of May, in the hundred and sixty-one, and of the Independence of the United States the eighty-fifth.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN, By the President: W. H. SEWARD, Secretary of State.

Commodore Pendegast issues the following order, announcing the strict blockade of the ports of Virginia and North Carolina.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN. UNITED STATES FLAG SHIP CUMBERLAND, OFF FORTRESS MONROE, VA., April 30, 1861.

I hereby call attention to the proclamation of His Excellency, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, under date of April 27, 1861, for an efficient blockade of the ports of Virginia and North Carolina, and warn all persons interested in it that I have a sufficient naval force here for the purpose of carrying out that proclamation.

All vessels passing the Capes of Virginia coming from a distance and ignorant of the proclamation, will be warned off, and those passing fortress Monroe will be required to anchor under the guns of the fort and subject themselves to an examination.

G. J. PENDEGAST, Flag Officer, Commanding Home Squadron.

Governor's Message.

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER, HARRISBURG, APRIL 30, 1861. To the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania:

GENTLEMEN:—The present unparalleled exigency in the affairs of our country, has induced me to call you together at this time. With an actual and armed rebellion in some of the States of the Union, momentous questions have been thrust upon us which call for your deliberation, and that you should devise means by legislation for the maintenance of the authority of the General Government, the honor and dignity of our State, the protection of our citizens, and the early establishment of peace and order throughout the land. On the day of my induction into the Executive office, I took occasion to utter the following sentiments: "No one who knows the history of Pennsylvania, and understands the opinions and feelings of her people, can justly charge us with hostility to our brethren of other States. We regard them as friends and fellow-countrymen, in whose welfare we feel a kindred interest; and we recognize, in their broadest extent, all our constitutional obligations to them. These we owe and are ready and willing to observe generously and fraternally in their letter and spirit, with unswerving fidelity. "Ours is a national Government. It has within the sphere of its action all the attributes of sovereignty, and among these are the right and duty of self-preservation. It is based upon a compact to which all the people of the United States are parties. It is the result of mutual concessions, which were made for the purpose of securing reciprocal benefits. It acts directly on the people, and they owe it a personal allegiance. No part of the States, can voluntarily secede from the Union, nor absolve themselves from their obligations to it. To permit a State to withdraw at pleasure from the Union, without the consent of the rest, is to confess that our Government is a failure. Pennsylvania can never acquiesce in such a conspiracy, nor assent to a doctrine which involves the destruction of the Govern-

ment. If the Government is to exist, all the requirements of the Constitution must be obeyed; and it must have power adequate to the enforcement of the supreme law of the land in every State. It is the first duty of the national authorities to stay the progress of anarchy and enforce the laws, and Pennsylvania, with a united people, will give them an honest, faithful and active support. The people mean to preserve the integrity of the national Union at every hazard.

It could scarcely have been anticipated at that time, that we should so soon be called upon for the practical application of these truths in connection with their support and defence by the strong arm of military power.

The unexampled promptness and enthusiasm with which Pennsylvania and the other loyal States have responded to the call of the President, and the entire unanimity with which our people demand that the integrity of the Government shall be preserved, illustrate the duty of the several State and National Governments with a distinctness that cannot be disregarded. The slaughter of northern troops in the city of Baltimore, for the pretended offence of marching, at the call of the Federal Government, peaceably, over soil admittedly in the Union, and with the ultimate object of defending our common Capital against an armed and rebellious invasion, together with the obstruction of our Pennsylvania troops when despatched on the same patriotic mission, impose new duties and responsibilities upon our State administration.—At last advice the General Government had military possession of the route to Washington through Annapolis; but the transit of troops had been greatly endangered and delayed, and the safety of Washington itself menacedly threatened. This cannot be submitted to.

Whether Maryland may profess to be loyal to the Union or otherwise, there can be permitted no hostile soil, no obstructed thoroughfare, between the States that undoubtedly are loyal and their national seat of Government. There is reason to hope that the route through Baltimore may be no longer closed against the peaceful passage of our people armed and in the service of the Federal Government. But we must be fully assured of this, and have the uninterrupted enjoyment of a passage to the Capital by any and every route essential to the purposes of the Government. This must be attained, possibly if possible, but by force of arms if not accorded.

The time is past for temporizing or forbearing with this rebellion; the most causeless in his history. The North has not invaded, nor has she sought to invade a single guaranteed right of the South. On the contrary all political parties and all administrations have fully recognized the binding force of every provision of the compact between the States, and regardless of our views of State policy, our people have respected them. To predicate a rebellion, therefore, upon any alleged wrong inflicted or sought to be inflicted upon the South is to offer falsehood as an apology for treason. So will the civilized world and history judge this mad effort to overthrow the most beneficent structure of human government ever devised by man.

The leaders of the rebellion in the Cotton States, which has resulted in the establishment of a provisional organization assuming to discharge all the functions of governmental power, have mistaken the forbearance of the General Government; they have accepted a fraternal indulgence as an evidence of weakness, and have insanely looked to a united South, and a divided North, to give success to the wild ambition that has led to the seizure of our national arsenals and arms, the inventory and bombardment of our forts, the plundering of our mints, has invited piracy upon our commerce, and now aims at the possession of our National Capital.—The insurrection must now be met by force of arms; and to re-establish the Government upon an enduring basis by asserting its entire supremacy, to repossess the forts and arsenals and other Government property so unlawfully seized and held; to ensure personal freedom and safety to the people and commerce of the Union in every section, the people of the loyal States demand, as with one voice, and will contend for, as with one heart; and a quarter of a million of Pennsylvania's sons will answer the call to arms, if need be, to wrest us from a reign of anarchy and plunder, and secure for themselves and their children, for ages to come, the perpetuity of this Government and its beneficent institutions.

Entertaining these views and anticipating that more troops would be required than the number originally called for, I continued to receive companies until we had raised twenty three regiments in Pennsylvania, all of which have been mustered into the service of the United States. In this anticipation I was not mistaken. On Saturday last, an additional requisition was made upon me for twenty five regiments of infantry and regiment of cavalry; and there have been already more companies tendered than will make up the entire complement.

Before the regiments could be clothed, three of them were ordered by the National Government to proceed from this point to Philadelphia. I cannot too highly commend the patriotism and devotion of the men who, at a moment's warning, and without any preparation, obeyed the order. Three of the regiments, under similar circumstances, by direction of, and accompanied by officers of the United States army, were transported to Cockeysville, near Baltimore, at which point they remained for two days, and until by directions of the General Government they were ordered back and went into camp at York, where there are now five regiments. Three regiments mustered into service are now encamped at Chambersburg, under orders from the General Government; and five regiments are now in camp at this place, and seven have been organized and mustered into service at Philadelphia.

The regiments at this place are still supplied by the Commissary Department of the State. Their quarters are as comfortable as could be expected, their supply of provisions abundant, and, under the instruction of competent officers, they are rapidly improving in military knowledge and skill. I have made arrangements to clothe all our regiments with the utmost dispatch consistent with proper economy, and am most happy to say that before the close of the present week all our people now under arms will be abundantly supplied with good and appropriate uniforms, blankets and other clothing.

Four hundred and sixty of our volunteers, the first to reach Washington from any of the States, are now at that city; they are now provided for by the Government, but I desire to send them their clothing at the earliest possible opportunity. I am glad to be able to state that these men, in their progress to the National Capital, received nobody injury, although they were subjected to insult in the city of Baltimore, such as should not have been offered to any law-abiding citizen, much less to loyal men, who, at the call of the President, had promptly left their own State in the performance of the highest duty and in the service of their country.

A large body of unarmed men, who were not at the time organized as a portion of the militia of this Commonwealth, under the command of officers without commissions, attempted under the call of National Government, as I understand, to reach Washington, and were assailed by armed men in the city of Baltimore, many of their number were seriously wounded, and four were killed. The larger part of this body returned directly to Philadelphia; but many of them were forcibly detained in Baltimore; some of them were thrust into prison, and others have not yet reached their homes. I have the honor to say that the officers and men behaved with the utmost gallantry. This body is now organized into a regiment, and the officers are commissioned; they have been accepted in the service, and will go to Washington by any route indicated by the Federal Government.

I have established a camp at Pittsburg, at which the troops from Western Pennsylvania will be mustered into service, and organized and disciplined by skillful and experienced officers. I commend to you with great satisfaction, the fact that the banks of the Commonwealth have voluntarily tendered any amount of money that may be necessary for the common defence and general welfare of the State and the Nation in this emergency; and the temporary loan of five hundred thousand dollars authorized by the Act of the General Assembly of the 17th April, 1861, was promptly taken at par. The money is not yet exhausted; as it has been impossible to have the accounts properly audited and settled with the accounting and paying officers of the Government as required by law, an account of this expenditure cannot now be furnished. The Auditor General and State Treasurer have established a system of settlement and payment, of which I entirely approve, that provides amply for the protection of the State, and to which all parties having claims will be obliged to conform.

A much larger sum will be required than has been discretely appropriated; but I could not receive nor make engagements for money without authority of law, and I have called you together, not only to provide for a complete re-organization of the militia of the State, but also, that you may give me authority to pledge the faith of the Commonwealth to borrow such sums of money as you may, in your discretion, deem necessary for these extraordinary requirements.

It is impossible to predict the lengths to which the madness that rules the hour in the rebellious States shall lead us, or when the calamities which threaten our hitherto happy country shall terminate. We know that many of our people have already left the State in the service of the General Government, and that many more must follow. We have a long line of border on States around disaffected, which should be protected, to furnish ready support to those who have gone out, and to protect our borders we should have a well regulated military force.

I, therefore, recommend the immediate organization, disciplining and arming of at least fifteen regiments of cavalry and infantry, exclusive of those called into the service of the United States; as we have already ample warning of the necessity of being prepared for any sudden exigency that may arise. I cannot too much impress this upon you.

I cannot refrain from alluding to the generous manner in which the people of all parts of the State have, from their private means, provided for the families of those of our citizens who are now under arms. In many parts of the Commonwealth, grand juries, and courts and municipal corporations have recommended the appropriations of moneys from their public funds, for the same commendable purpose. I would recommend the passage of an act legalizing and authorizing such appropriations and expenditures.

It may be expected that, in the present detachment of trade and commerce, and the withdrawal of so much industry from its ordinary and productive channels, the selling value of property generally will be depreciated, and a large portion of our citizens deprived of the ordinary means of meeting engagements. Although such forbearance may be expected from a generous and magnanimous people, yet I feel it my duty to recommend the passage of a judicious law to prevent the sacrifice of property by forced sales in the collection of debts.

You meet together at this special session, surrounded by circumstances involving the most solemn responsibilities; the recollections of the glories of the past, the reflections of a gloomy present, and the uncertainty of the future, all alike call upon you to discharge your duty in a spirit of patriotic courage, comprehensive wisdom and firm resolution. Never in the history of our peace-loving Commonwealth have the hearts of our people been so stirred in their depths as at the present moment. And I feel, that I need hardly say to you, that in the performance of your duties on this occasion, and in providing the ways and means for the maintenance of our country's glory and our integrity as a nation, you should be inspired by feelings of self-sacrifice, kindred to those which animate the brave men who have devoted their lives to the perils of the battle field, in defence of our nation's flag.

Gentlemen, I place the honor of the State in your hands. And I pray that the Almighty God, who protected our fathers in their efforts to establish this our great constitutional liberty—who has controlled the growth of civilization and christianity in our midst, may not now forsake us; that He may watch over your counsels, and may, in His providence, lead those who have left the path of duty, and are acting in open rebellion to the Government, back again to perfect loyalty, and restore peace, harmony, and fraternity to our distracted country.

A. G. CURTIN.

PHILADELPHIA, May 24, 1861. All travel to the South is stopped. No communication with Baltimore or Washington is permitted by the military authorities. Gen. Patterson's results (relieved by the transport of troops and munitions of war). Three hundred passengers from Washington reached this city to day. We have occupied thirty hours in the journey from that capital in this journey. Nineteen members of the Twenty-first Regiment of New York have just arrived and leave immediately to join their comrades at Washington. They took the Perryville and Annapolis. Commodore Gregory, of Rhode Island, accompanies this detachment of the Twenty-first to the capital. He stands withstanding his advanced years, and his services to the government, which have been in the navy for fifty years.

REPORTS FROM PERRYVILLE. PERRYVILLE, May 24.—At three o'clock this afternoon, an express arrived at Annapolis, and a train for Washington. The troops were drawn up in two lines, with arms. Major Anderson walked between the lines uncovered. Major Anderson passed quietly through Philadelphia this morning. The train there, and at every station on the route, cheered loudly, and pressed forward the hero by the hand. Two companies of troops went down on the train as an escort. The Weldon took eight large boxes, filled with provisions for Washington. The steamer Maryland, Captain Sherman, United States Navy, has just arrived at Perryville from Annapolis and Baltimore. She brings back the locomotive. The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad has furnished all the locomotives the government want. The Maryland landed passenger cars at Annapolis, took aboard a strong force of Massachusetts troops, and sailed for Baltimore. It landed the troops and a large quantity of military stores at Fort Mifflin. It sailed into Baltimore with the blue flag flying. Other American flags were also flying in Baltimore. City was quiet.

Fort Madison, a strong earthwork commanding the harbor and city, is in possession of federal troops. The steamers Baltic and Kelle were at Annapolis last night, with stores. The guns in the batteries at Perryville completely command Harlee de Ge, and this place is virtually in our possession.

Two companies of the Fourth regiment United States artillery are among recent reinforcements of Fort Mifflin. I learn from passengers who left Baltimore to day, and who are direct to Virginia, that the South are raising regiments in numbers not dreamed of by any of the North.

FROM WASHINGTON CITY. WASHINGTON, May 24, 1861. The quiet of the past week continues here, but every day helps to strengthen the defenses of Washington and the discipline of the troops. The railroad facilities between here and Annapolis are much improved since additional cars have been brought from Philadelphia. Mr. Thomas A. Scott, President of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, who has charge of the route, has the right again in the right place.

The songs of the Maryland Legislature are regarded with distrust and aversion. But little faith is put in the protestations of the Border States. A little money on the part of the Government is needed to keep Maryland quiet. The Providence Marine Artillery arrived here yesterday evening, and are much admired.

Some of the Pennsylvania troops have been sent down to Fort Washington. The accounts from down the river along both sides of Chesapeake Bay are satisfactory. The rebels do not yet believe, and no batteries have been erected.

Captain Meigs returned here to day by his recent expedition to Fort Fisher which, he says, is so reinforced, and otherwise strengthened, as to make a reduction utterly impossible for six months for which time it is well provided.

General Harney has prepared an address to the people of Missouri, urging them to stay in the Union. He is ready to stand to the last by the flag which he saw twenty stars advance into the service.

War will be opened in a few days demonstrations upon Alexandria and Norfolk. The South has undoubtedly decided to act only on the defensive, and an attack is expected here.

A gentleman of my acquaintance, who has just returned from Harpo's Ferry. He took particular pains to ascertain the condition of Virginia forces at that point. He says positively that there are not over five hundred men congregated there, two thirds of whom are armed. Penitents are exceedingly scarce, and the troops have had to live on short rations.

The gentlemen at Curwensville express a willingness to join a party to come down and "throw the Republic into Shaw's den," are respectfully informed that such an enterprise will be undertaken at their peril. If they come as the thief comes, in the darkness, and a land provided with laws for the protection of persons and property, to keep no mid-night guard at our official protect it from the stealthy approach of the house-breaker.

Thanking them for this timely warning, we only ask that they shall come as honorable men should come—come themselves, sending no substitutes—and be open day. Perhaps we should ask a little previous notice—say one or two hours—but we are not particular on the point. They can exercise their own pleasure as to this. We merely make the suggestion, thinking that some of their neighbors, as well as some of our own, who might desire to witness the entertainment, could thus have an opportunity of doing so.