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EDITOR, PUBLISHER, AND PROPRIETOR.

MONTROSE, THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 1861.

THE UNION, THE CONSTITUTION AND ALL THE LAWS.

A second engagement has been had at Acquia Creek, and the rebel battery silenced. The rumor of a fight at Fairfax has been confirmed. About thirty rebels and three federal troops were killed. Particulars next week.

FOURTH OF JULY.—It is about time that arrangements were commenced for a good old-fashioned celebration of "The Fourth" here, as well as elsewhere. Americans can really appreciate the day now, to an extent they never have before. At the celebration in Montrose, last year, the orator delivered an excellent, historical, and patriotic address, beautifully spiced with a glowing tribute to our glorious UNION, and an appropriate and well-timed appeal to all to cherish the UNION sentiment in their hearts. All true UNION people were highly pleased with the tone of the address; yet a malignant few (not so few as they should have been) were offended because the speaker did not disgrace the occasion by a partisan harangue—and the next issue of the Montrose Republican contained a low-minded article, abusing him for making a "Union" speech in Montrose. If we could have as good a UNION speech here this year, it would be quite as well received and far more fully appreciated; and we venture to predict that even the most rampant sectionalist would so far respect the true patriotic sentiment of the country as to refrain from expressions of disapproval.

Let the American Fourth of July be now properly celebrated by the People, everywhere; for if now is not the time to do so, heartily, when is it? The threatened danger of losing the benefits of the work of July 4th, 1776, is now upon us, and to fail in rendering the due homage of patriots, would exhibit an absence of the fire of patriotism, which, though in times of peace and harmony, has necessarily slumbered, has not by any means become extinguished in the hearts of all true men of the UNION.

Then All Hail the Fourth of July!

☞ We learn that a Union Pole and and Flag were raised at Birchardville, last Saturday, June 1st. The ladies had made the Flag, and due preparations having been made, the patriotic "raising" took place in presence of a large assemblage of the people of the vicinity, accompanied by cheering, firing of guns, &c. An address was delivered by Eld. A. Virgil, of Greene, N. Y. The true Union sentiment is universal at Birchardville.

☞ The Governor has appointed Hon. Jacob Fry, Jr., of Montgomery, and Benj. Haywood, Esq., of Schuylkill, a committee to investigate the frauds in the State supplies for Volunteers. It is hoped that a thorongh investigation may be had, and that the heavy hand of justice may fall upon the thrice guilty robbers, be they men high or low in public or private life. If there be lower depth of moral treason, it is those who rob their country's volunteers. But because we will unsparingly denounce such double-dyed piracy, the cry of "traitor" is raised against us in Montrose by the organ that is supposed to represent the administration view of the matter.

Mr. Abbott, late a Philadelphia Member of the Legislature has been added to the Committee. Mr. Haywood had previously been requested to report wherein the troops needed relief, and in a telegram from Washington to the Governor he said:—

"The Fourth Regiment, Col. Hartraüft, and the Fifth Regiment, Col. McDowell, are suffering badly. Their blouses and pants are of all colors, made of damaged goods of inferior quality, mostly of 'shoddy,' and some of 'Kentucky Jean.' The blankets are of the quality of ice blankets, not fit for horses. The shoes are of wretched material. The heels come off, and they are constantly ripping. Many are almost barefoot. The report among the troops is that their appearance was so bad, that General Mansfield said they were not fit to take to the field."

☞ We were willing (and so expected) that the administration should remove every office-holder who did not give it his vote; but we are disgusted to hear the cry of "no party" raised by a party, in time of war, and to hear promises made that "no removals are to be made for political reasons," when a directly contrary course is being pursued. It will be no fault of the Administration and its managing friends, if the parties—politically—are not driven further apart; for not content with proscription, the most infamous course of abuse, threats, and, in many cases, actual violence is being practiced by them, towards men whose whole lives are a good pattern of patriotism for the newly-established standards of public sentiment. The great mass of honest men in the Republican party are innocent of any intent to do wrong to their fellow citizens, but the presses and the men who endeavor to give tone to public sentiment, would establish a tyranny over men's minds, to which Old John Adam's Sedition law was but an initiatory step, and with which the "Reign of Terror" could scarce compete. But thanks to the good work of our Patriot Fathers we have a Constitution, able not only to preserve itself, but also the liberties of its adherents. The sooner that newly-fledged "patriots" discover this, the better for themselves and the peace of the country—for the old, tried, and true friends of this Union are yet a mighty host in the land.

☞ A telegram from Chicago states that Senator Douglas died on the 3d, at nine o'clock, A. M. It is perhaps true, as it had been looked for every hour, for some days past.

HARPER'S MAGAZINE FOR JUNE.—A good number. "The Coast Rangers," illustrations and all, are rich as cream. This issue commences the twenty-third volume, to which we wish the high prosperity it will deserve. Harper is not to be outdone in the things that culture and delight the popular taste. For sale at Smith's News Office.

—Knickerbocker and Peterson have not been received.

GIBSON AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—The Gibson Agricultural Society will meet at the Academy building on Saturday, June 15th, at 1 o'clock p. m., for the election of the officers of the society for the ensuing year, and the transaction of other important business. G. H. WELLS, Pres.
SETH ABEL, Sec.

☞ In response to an inquiry in regard to the intention of the Administration to interfere with slavery, Gen. Harney said:

"I must premise by saying that I have no special instructions on this head from the War Department. But I should as soon expect to hear that the orders of the Government were directed towards the overthrow of any other kind of property as of this, in negro slaves."

Gen. Harney has since been removed. Gen. Lyon has been appointed in his stead.

Birdseye View of the Army.

Under the call of the President of the United States upon the militia of the country to suppress the unlawful combinations usurping the powers of Government in the rebellious States, there are now, in active service in the field, on the lines extending from Cairo, on the Mississippi river, to Fort Monroe, at the mouth of the Chesapeake, somewhat over eighty thousand men. Of these from five to six thousand are at Cairo, about ten thousand at Cincinnati, and the remainder—say sixty-five thousand—are concentrating with threatening and overwhelming power upon the rebel lines in Virginia. As the forces which compose this latter body are the objects of most immediate interest in this vicinity, we propose to take a glance at their present whereabouts and movements, so that our readers may judge of the soldierly skill with which the grand old conqueror of Mexico is directing the uprisen people of the country in the work of crushing out the rebellion.

On the Virginia side of the Potomac, opposite Washington, there are seventeen regiments of volunteers, about a thousand District militia and several detachments of regular cavalry and artilery, amounting in all to about seventeen thousand men. This force is strongly entrenched for the defence of the Capital, and at the same time menaces the Manassas Gap junction with the Orange and Alexandria railroad—an important point, as its capture cuts off the Harper's Ferry rebels from the main bodies in the interior. In immediate contact with the Virginia *corps d'armee* are fifteen regiments of volunteers in the city of Washington, augmented by fifteen hundred of the District militia and a thousand regulars. These bodies make up about sixteen thousand troops inside of the Federal city, and with the seventeen thousand occupying the heights across the river, present the formidable array of thirty-three thousand men immediately under the eye of General Scott.

Supporting this force at Washington, and so posted as to concentrate either there or at Harper's Ferry, are ten regiments at Chambersburg, embracing eight thousand five hundred men; and seven regiments at York, Harrisburg, and on the North Central Railroad, amounting to about six thousand men; the two divisions summing up fourteen thousand five hundred. There are also moving upon Harper's Ferry two regiments at Grafton and one at Parkersburg, Virginia, making together a column of twenty-five hundred. In Baltimore and at Fort McHenry, there are five full regiments and a battalion of volunteers and a battalion of regulars, in all some four thousand eight hundred strong. Occupying Fortress Monroe, the village of Hampton and the point on James River, known as Newport News, are nine regiments of volunteers and a regiment of regulars, amounting to about nine thousand men.—*Philadelphia Inquirer.*

WHEW!—The Clarksville (Tenn.) *Chronicle*, which was a famous Union paper during the last campaign and supported Bell for President with the noble and patriotic motto "The Union, the Constitution, and the enforcement of the laws," is as hot as a salamander for disunion. It talks about us in the following rapturous style of panegyric:—

The people of the North are, at this moment, more abject slaves than the blacks on a cotton farm, and the readiness with which they obey the mandates of a tyrant, and submit to his violation of the Constitution, proves that they never were the safe repositories of freedom. A people who were once free and surrendered their liberties without a struggle, always had the souls of slaves.

☞ Alexandria wears an exceedingly dull aspect—like that of a Sabbath day. Many of the stores on the wharf are entirely closed, and the Secession sentiment among the community does not seem to have abated much. The women and children are leaving daily for the hospitable shores of Maryland. Freedom of speech is apparently unrestricted, except when too open and violent in the presence of the soldiers.

☞ The National Intelligencer, a journal conservative to a fault, takes strong grounds as to the right of the President to suspend the *habeas corpus*. In its paper of Thursday an editorial article of two colums discusses the subject thoroughly, and demonstrates beyond cavil that Mr. Jefferson exercised the right of a suspension on the mere ground of an anticipated insurrection. Gen. Jackson, both in Florida and in New Orleans, exercised the same powers, and in the case of the Whisky Insurrection the same thing was done. But the existing state of affairs affords a justification infinitely stronger than those just referred to.—*Exchange.*

—Lieutenant Slemmer and his original command from Fort Pickens have arrived North. They are worn out with the long labor and suspense undergone previous to their reenforcement.

Senator Douglas.

The loss of Stephen A. Douglas at this crisis, and there is little room for hope of his recovery, must be regarded as a National calamity. With whatever faults of character—we would rather say of education—Mr. Douglas was always and eminently an American Statesman. Sprung from the People and proud of his origin—prompt intrepid, self-assured—he was the best off-hand tit-for-tat debater in America—perhaps in the world. Entering the political arena poor, undistinguished, unfriended, without family influence, imposing presence, or personal following, in a mainly Southern-born community to whom he was a stranger and a Yankee adventurer, he filled, before he was thirty-five years of age, the offices successively of State's Attorney-General, Assemblyman, Register of a Land-Office, Secretary of State, Judge of the (State) Supreme Court, thrice elected after being once defeated, and finally entered the Senate of the United States when but thirty-five years old. We doubt that another American—we are sure that no other who began political life with so few advantages—ever held so many and such desirable stations before he had passed the meridian of the appointed life of man. He has since served fourteen years in the Senate, or throughout seven successive Congresses, always evincing a vigor of intellect and fertility of resource which command the respect of antagonists and the admiration of his many devoted friends.

So early, we think, as 1844, when barely more than thirty years of age, Mr. Douglas was regarded as a probable candidate for the Presidency; but he was not earnestly pressed til 1852, when he received, on one ballot in the Democratic National Convention, more votes than any of his competitors—92 out of 288.—A supposed party exigency finally led to a concentration of the vote on Gen Franklin Pierce. In 1856, he was again a candidate, and on the 16th ballot received 121 votes to 168 for Mr. Buchanan, and 6 for Gen. Cass. Again the prudence of the Convention overbore its most generous impulse, dictating this time the nomination of Mr. Buchanan. In 1860, he was a third time brought forward, and now led on every ballot, being at length declared the regular nominee. But meantime a considerable share of the Delegates had bolted, exploding the party, and nominating Vice-President Breckinridge to run against Mr. Douglas, which he did, to the certain defeat of both. Mr. Douglas had the large popular but Mr. Breckinridge the more considerable electoral vote.—The election of Mr. Lincoln had long been inevitable. Mr. Douglas—on whose naturally strong constitution the excitement, excessive labor and free habits for nearly thirty years of political gladiatorship had already made a deep impression, at the close of the late session went home from Washington probably to die.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

A Patriot Martyr.

A wail of sadness, deep and long, comes up from Alexandria—from the very house and at the very threshold of the very room where Washington once slept, and is now ringing from mountain to valley, through the risen North! Ellsworth has fallen—the young, accomplished and gallant soldier—the patriot hero—the martyr officer. He fell nobly in the cause of his country, with his "martial cloak around him"—with the Stars and Stripes waving in victory over his head, and the secession flag in blood, beneath his feet! His blood, freely shed—among the first spilled in our second revolution for Liberty, will moisten afresh the roots of our glorious Government, and grow armed men, who will come from the bloody ground like the iron men of Cadmus.

It may be said that Ellsworth was rash and impulsive, and sacrificed, indiscreetly, a noble, valuable life. But he was the colonel of a fighting regiment—a fiery force, whose idolatrous allegiance to their leader must be rivetted by deeds of physical daring! He dared, he wrought, he fell! and his sacred remains repose in the East Room of the White House—are wept over by the President, by all the great ones of the land, by his comrades, by the people, and are borne in triumphant state through great cities to their humble, but now honored, resting place, in the heart of the Empire State! The lightning, with its telegraph, flashes his praise, the thunders of cannon roll his eulogium. A Nation mourns over its fallen hero!

Glorious life! Glorious death! Ye patriot soldiers, weep, and emulate and take courage! If ye fall, ye will also be mourned and honored, and the starry banner of your country will be your immortal winding sheet! The blood of the martyr's is "the seed of the Church!" The blood of Ellsworth is one of the seeds of his country's vengeance and triumph!—*Binghamton Republican.*

Fraud of Army Contractors.

One of the most disgraceful and disgusting spectacles which the present war reveals, is the dishonesty and cupidity of contractors, speculators and middle men, between the Government and the poor Volunteers, who have left the comforts peaceful pursuits, of home, to serve their country on the field of battle; or, what is worse, and more dangerous, on the tented field, or the field of Barracks, where the enemy is miserable and unhealthy food, and garments which the winds of Heaven should not visit roughly, at the peril of their falling to pieces. Yes, the practical enemy is strong butter, half-starved or diseased meat, musty flour, stale vegetables, and blankets, and other garments, which libel the name they label. And all this comes from the selfish fraud and rascality of speculating contractors, who, to cheat the Government out of large sums, for they pay enough, will, like Hessians, not patriots, not Christians, thus prey upon the poor and suffering Volunteers!

Out upon such infamous imposture! Such pirates should be tarred and feathered and rode on a rail, for the exercise and amusement of the same Volunteers. It would be a new drill, not found in Hardee, but one very conservative, practical and necessary.—*Binghamton Republican.*

—Immense quantities of freight for the South are now going over the Nashville Railroad. It is rumored that the transportation of goods South by this rout will be stopped on Monday next. The exodus of Southerners for the North by railroad through Louisville is unprecedented, and is partly attributed to the stoppage of the boats on the Mississippi river. It is rumored that if the trade over the Nashville road is stopped, the Tennesseeans will advance into Kentucky and take possession of the road. The Union men of Kentucky have determined to permit no aggression from any quarter. The Memphis Bulletin announces the arrival of Gen. Beauregard, on the 29th instant, to take command of the Western division of the rebel army.

Gen. McClellan's Proclamation.

On Sunday night May 26, Col. Kelly, in command of the First Regiment of Virginia Volunteers, stationed at Wheeling, received marching orders. They left Wheeling at 7 o'clock Monday morning, moving toward Grafton. After their departure, the Sixteenth Ohio Regiment, 1,000 strong, stationed at Bellaire, under command of Col. Irvine, crossed the Ohio and followed Col. Kelly's command.

The Fourteenth Ohio Regiment, Col. Steadman, crossed the Ohio at Marietta about the same time, and occupy Parkersburg. Col. Kelly is in possession of Grafton this morning probably.

Before crossing the river, Gen. McClellan issued the following proclamation:

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF OHIO,
CINCINNATI, May 25, 1861

To the Union Men of Western Virginia:

VIRGINIANS: The General Government has long enough endured the machinations of a few factious rebels in your midst. Armed traitors have in vain endeavored to deter you from expressing your loyalty at the polls.

Having failed in this infamous attempt to deprive you of the exercises of your dearest rights, they now seek to inaugurate a reign of terror, and thus force you to yield to their schemes and submit to the yoke of the traitorous conspiracy, dignified by the name of the Southern Confederacy. They are destroying the property of citizens of your State, and ruining your magnificent railways. The General Government has heretofore carefully abstained from sending troops across the Ohio, or even from posting them along its banks, although frequently urged by many of your prominent citizens to do so.

It determined to await the result of the State election, desirous that no one might be able to say that the slightest effort had been made from this side to influence the free expression of your opinions, although the many agencies brought to bear upon you by the secessionists were well known. You have now shown, under the most adverse circumstances, that the great mass of the people of Western Virginia are true and loyal to that beneficent Government under which we and our fathers have lived so long.

As soon as the result of the election was known, the traitors commenced their work of destruction. The General Government cannot close its ears to the demand you have made for assistance. I have ordered troops to cross the river.—They come as your friends and brothers; as enemies only to armed rebels, who are preying upon you. Your homes, your families and your property are safe under our protection. All your rights shall be religiously respected.

Notwithstanding all that has been said by the traitors to induce you to believe our advent among you will be signalized by an interference with your slaves, understand one thing clearly; not only will we abstain from all such interference, but we will on the contrary, with an iron hand, crush any attempt at insurrection on their part.

Now that we are in your midst, I call upon you to fly to arms and support the General Government; sever the connection that binds you to traitors; proclaim to the world that the faith and loyalty so long boasted by the Old Dominion are still preserved in Western Virginia and that you remain true to the stars and stripes.

(Signed) G. B. McCLELLAN,
Major General Commanding.

Important Letter from Cameron.

WASHINGTON, May 30, 1861.

SIR—Your action in respect to the negroes who came within your lines from the service of the Rebels is approved. The Department is sensible of the embarrassments which must surround officers, considering military operations in a State, by the laws of which slavery is sanctioned. The Government cannot recognize the rejection by any State of the Federal obligations, nor can it refuse the performance of the Federal obligations resting upon itself. Among these Federal obligations, however, none can be more important than that of suppressing and dispersing armed combinations formed for the purpose of overthowing its whole constitutional authority.

While, therefore, you will permit no interference by the persons under your command with their relations of persons held to service under the laws of any State, you will, on the other hand, so long as any State within which your military operations are conducted is under the control of such armed combinations, refrain from surrendering to alleged masters any persons who may come within your lines. You will employ such persons in the services, to which they may be best adapted, keeping an account of the labor by them performed, of the value of it, and the expenses of their maintenance. The question of their final disposition will be reserved for future determination.

SIMON CAMERON, Sec. of War.

To Major-General BUTLER.

WASHINGTON, May 31.—It was stated in despatch last night that a number of vessels were fitting out here for some destination not publicly disclosed. The following despatch, received from the Navy Yards, between four and five o'clock this evening, affords an explanation.

"The Keystone State reports that in passing Acquia Creek at noon, the steam gun-boat Freeborn and Anacostia were engaging the battery at that point with success. Shall I send the Poca hontas with her ten-inch gun to assist." The despatch was signed by Cap. Dahlgren, the commandant at the Navy Yard. Immediately on the receipt of the despatch the Navy Department ordered two men-of-war down to the support of Captain Ward.

Acquia Creek is fifty four miles from Washington, and the battery is located at the terminus of the Richmond, Fredricksburg and Potomac Railroad. Vessels can approach within musket shot range of the battery.

CORRUPTION OF THE ADMINISTRATION.—The Administration of Gov. Curtin has become so steeped in corruption and imbecility that the stomach of the Attorney General has revolted. Rank indeed must be the rascality which would compel such a step upon his part, and such a public rebuke to his own party chief. Below we give his letter of resignation:

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Harrisburg, May 24, 1861.

To Andrew G. Curtin, Gov. &c.:

For reasons which appeal to my SELF-RESPECT, I cannot consent to continue any longer in connection with your administration.

I therefore tender you my resignation of the office of Attorney-General of the State. SAM'L A. PURVIANCE.

Restoration, Not Conquest.

The large numbers of original Union men of the South, who fought against secession up to a certain point, and are now, to all appearances, as earnest in rebellion as the original disunionists, may have been induced to take part against the Government under the impression that it is impossible to restore things as they were before hostilities commenced, and that they can never return to the Union except as subjects and inferiors. Upon no other reason can we account for the sudden and swift change which has come over so many hitherto loyal men in the South. They evidently embrace rebellion as a painful and disagreeable necessity, forced upon them by events against which they have struggled in vain. At heart they are loyal—desiring the restoration of the Union as it was before the war began, but deluded by the false impression that this is impossible.

Now, in order to remove this delusion and to produce a counter-revolution at the South, it is the duty of the Government, of the Northern people, and the Northern press, to assure the people of the Southern States whose inclinations are loyal, that it is possible for them to return to the Union without forfeiting their rights and privileges as sovereign States. The same Constitution that has protected them will continue to protect them. Of course, justice must have its course—treason must be punished—guilty men must suffer for their crimes; but this is a matter which will affect individuals, and not the established rights of communities and States. In fact, the government is fighting for nothing more than the restoration of things as they were before secession commenced. Southern men who have drifted into rebellion under the impression that this cannot be, should disabuse themselves of their fatal error—and Northern men cannot be held guiltless who strive to deepen it.—*Harrisburg Patriot.*

The Case of Merryman.

John Merryman, a prominent citizen of Baltimore county, Maryland, was recently arrested upon the charge of having participated in the burning of the bridges on the Northern Central railway, and incarcerated in Fort Henry. Upon application to Judge Taney a writ of *habeas corpus* was issued requesting General Cadwallader to produce the body of Merryman and show cause why he should be detained. General Cadwallader refused to appear, but sent word to the Chief Justice that he was authorized by the President of the United States to suspend the writ of *habeas corpus* in such cases, and in the exercise of the discretionary power thus reposed in him, he declined obedience to the order. The Judge then directed a writ of attachment to issue against the General, commanding him to appear and answer for contempt, which the United States Marshal was unable to serve—whereupon Judge Taney then read the following statement:—

I ordered the attachment yesterday, because upon the face of the return the detention of the prisoner was unlawful upon two grounds—

1st, the President under the Constitution and the laws of the United States, cannot suspend the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus* nor authorize any military officer to do so.

2d, a military officer has no right to arrest and detain a person not subject to the rules and articles of war, for an offence against the laws of the United States, except in aid of the judicial authority and subject to its control. If the party is arrested by the military, it is the duty of the officer to deliver him over immediately to the civil authority, to be dealt with according to law.

I forbore yesterday to state orally the provisions of the Constitution of the United States, which make these principles the fundamental law of the Union, because an oral statement might be misunderstood in some portions of it, and I shall therefore put my opinion in writing and file it in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, in the course of the week.

The Judge added that the military authority was always subordinate to the civil; that under ordinary circumstances it would be the duty of the Marshal to proceed with a *posse comitatus* and bring the party named in the writ into Court, but from the notoriously superior force that he would encounter this would be impossible. He said the Marshal had done all in his power to discharge his duty. During the week he should prepare his opinion in the premises, and forward it to the President, calling upon him to perform his constitutional duty, and see that the laws be faithfully executed, and enforce the decrees of this Court.

We suppose that when all the facts of this case come to the attention of the President he will not hesitate to order the surrender of Merryman to the civil authorities. We do not see how this can be avoided under the oath to support the Constitution of the United States. Merryman's offence, if anything, is treason—and the laws define the proper mode of trying and punishing that crime. Maryland has not revolted against the authority of the United States and the courts are still in full power and vigor. If he is not tried and condemned by ordinary process of law, we do not understand how he can be punished. Not by court martial, because he has never been subject to military government. A summary trial and execution without affording the opportunity for defence, to which every person charged with crime is entitled, would be little less than murder. While the Government is attempting to establish the supremacy of law it should not encourage the slightest needless infraction of the sacred obligations of the Constitution.

☞ None but a physician knows how much a reliable alterative is needed by the people. On all sides of us, in all communities everywhere there are multitudes that suffer from complaints that nothing but an alterative cures. Hence a great many of them have been made and put abroad with the assurance of being effectual. But they fail to accomplish the cures they promise because they have not the intrinsic virtues they claim. In this state of the case, Dr J. C. Ayer & Co., of Lowell, have supplied us with a compound Extract of Sarsaparilla, which does prove to be the long desired remedy. Its peculiar difference from other kindred preparations in market is that it cures the diseases for which it is recommended, while they do not. We are assured of this fact by more than one of our intelligent Physicians in the neighborhood and have the further evidence of our own experience of its truth.—[Tennessee Farmer, Nashville, Tenn.

—The Hon David Taggart, formerly Speaker of the Pennsylvania Senate, has been appointed Paymaster in the Army.

Peculating in Pennsylvania.

We learn from the Philadelphia Inquirer, and the Pittsburg Despatch that the swindling jobbery by which a heavy lot of worthless uniforms were furnished to the Pennsylvania troops, is receiving a thorough overhauling. These journals give the names of the parties, chiefly notorious politicians who figured as middlemen or go-betweens in these most infamous transactions. It appears that favorites received contracts for furnishing parts of uniforms at $10 each, when responsible bids were put in for $7.50; that pantaloons, made of very poor material, were paid for at the rate of $5 each, when they could have been obtained at retail for $2.50, affording the maker a profit of twenty-five per cent. even at that low rate. The journals give the names of prominent politicians who are charged with having received handsome sums for consummating these contracts.

We know nothing personally of these facts; but from what is taking place in this city and elsewhere, we have no doubt of their general correctness.

That there is to be a good deal of stealing in expending the vast sums furnished for the war, is to be expected. Some men who are ostentatiously and constantly appearing before the public in the guise of patriots, have too long profited by levying black-mail upon the Legislature and Government contracts, not to take naturally to so rich a placer as the current contest affords. We know them and their acts. So long as they live they will labor in their vocation.

Submitting to these peculations as a necessity, we nevertheless insist that the equipments, munitions and provisions which they furnish for our brave boys, and out of which these carrion vultures make money, shall be of a good quality. Let the Government, if need be, but not our heroic troops, be the sufferer. Give our soldiers, gentlemen peculators! stout coats and warm blankets, good meat, and sweet bread, even though you charge the Government twice what they are worth, and put the excess into your own pockets.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

Army Peculators.

In the New York Tribune of May 25, we find the following article, which we commend to our readers for their perusal and consideration:

"How anybody but fiends can, for lucre, wilfully palm off upon the Government sleezy and rotten blankets, and rusty and putrid pork, to cover by night and feed by day our brave sons and brothers who are enduring unwonted fatigue, and braving death, in defence of our country, passes comprehension. And yet that such things are done by men who furnish equipments and supplies for some of the regiments now in active service, is beyond all doubt. We have heard names mentioned in connection with there infamous transactions. At present we forbear to repeat them. Something must be done to stop these outrages upon our brave troops. Vultures that prey ubon the hearts of the dead on the battlefield, are human compared with monsters who furnish rotten blankets and rotten meat to the living in the camp. They must be summarily dealt with, and at the very beginning of the war before their crime becomes chronic. Wellington's remedy would be effectual. In the Peninsula War, some peculiar Commissioners, who made money by furnishing bad provisions to the army, were sent by him first to a drum-head court-martial, and thence to the gallows. Let New York and Pennsylvania traffickers, who palm off rottenness and putrescence upon our troops, profit by the example."

HARD ON THE YANKEES.—If the Richmond Examiner may be believed, the great object of the cotton rebellion is to get rid of the Yankees, who are, so cordially treated by the aristocracy of the South. The paragraph below evinces the most bitter feeling, and some of the articles which we see in Eastern papers show that there is no great amount of love lost between Yankee land and Cottondom.

"All the benefits and advantages of a long war sink into insignificance when compared with the certain good that will result from having nothing hereafter to do with the sensual and infidel literature of the North; nothing to do with its counterfeit manufactures, nor its knavish trade; nothing to do with its free-loves, agrarians, and anarchists; nothing to do with the thieves cut-throats, lazaroni, and pauper banditti of New York; and, best of all, nothing to do with the Yankee, half-nomad, half Jesuit, who infests, and distubs society, civilized and savage, in every corner of the world. As mischievous and prolific as the Norway rat, he stealthily insinuates himself into every country, and depredates on society in annually increasing geometrical ratio, because he breeds and multiplies in geometrical ratio. The South now has hundreds of thousands of these vagabond, nomadic, thievish gypsy-like Yankees within her confines; but we hope the South will soon become too hot to hold them."

☞ A lying volunteer, quartered in the Senate Chamber of the capitol, wrote a letter to his sweetheart in Ohio, but was called away before he had time to address the envelope; it was found by a Senator who opened the missive, supposing it to be intended for him. The chap had written to his lady love about the good prospects before him and, then wound up by telling her that he didn't intend to come home "till he had Jeff Davis's heart in his breeches pocket."

SIGNIFICANT.—It is said that 5,000 applications have been made at the Philadelphia Custom House for inspectorships, clerks, &c. The appointments are for four years, while the volunters in the army are enlisted for only three years, which is said to be the reason given for preference of service in the former over the latter.

A VIRTUAL RECOGNITION.—The New Orleans Commercial Bulletin thinks that the attempted blockade of the Southern ports is, according to all principles of international law, a recognition of the separate and distinct nationality of the South.

WISTAR'S BALSAM OF WILD CHERRY, as a safe and speedy remedy for Coughs, Colds, Sore Throat, Bronchitis, Asthma, Croup, Whooping Cough, and incipient Consumption, has stood the test of time, and has the sanction of numerous physicians who employ it in their practice. SETH W. FOWLE & Co., Proprietors, Boston. Sold by Druggists and Agents every where.

BALTIMORE, May 31.—Ex-Governor Pratt was arrested this evening at Annapolis, by order of the Government, and taken to the Washington Navy Yard. It is also rumored that Ex-Governor Lowe has also been arrested.

Abstract of News.

—The export of cotton is a great question in all its relations. There has been a supposition that the exportation might be carried on by means of the Southwestern routes. It now appears that the Southern Congress passed an act restricting its exportation except through Southern ports. This news comes to us by the way of New Orleans.

—The leave of absence of Mr. Carl Schurz is revoked. He will proceed on his mission to Spain, and not go to Fort Monroe with his regiment.

—The ship Abelin from Boston has been seized by the Southern authorities at New Orleans.

—Mr. Richard Harrison, has been elected to fill Mr. Corwin's vacancy in the Seventh Congressional District of Ohio.

—Ex-Governor Banks of Mass. has accepted the offices of Brigadier General and Quartermaster General in the army.

—The Border State Convention is to issue a general address to the people. All the members have been sworn to be faithful to the United States.

—A virtual conscription is now common at New Orleans. A Yankee, who was driven into forced enlistment there, has written home: "Tell the boys we shall aim high and fire blank cartridges."

—The outrages of the speculators are eliciting curses both loud and deep over our whole commonwealth, from all classes. On Saturday, we are informed, one of the volunteers From Camp Johnson was shot while attempting to steal a turkey, having been driven there by insufficient and unfit food.

—None Maine volunteer company there are thirty-one over six feet in their stockings. They are called the "thirty-one infants."

THE editor of the Cleveland Plaindealer says he has been a "Hail Columbia" Democrat all his life, and proposes to die a "Yankee Doodle Dandy."

—The Virginians have removed Cape Henry lights and built fires on the beach about half mile distant, to deceive captains, in consequence of which the Albion with 800 tons iron from England to Baltimore, ran ashore.

—The Mobile papers say that the agent of the French Government is now in that city, collecting information for the Emperor Napoleon.

—Gen. James Watson Webb, of New York, has been appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Brazil.

—In the C. S. Circuit Court at Boston, Washington Snelling of East Boston, who plead guilty to opening a letter belonging to another person, has been sentenced by Judge Sprague to twelve day's imprisonment and a fine of $75.

Hon. Wm. M. Meredith has been appointed by the Governor, Attorney-General of the Commonwelth. We are informed that he has accepted.

—Several vessels improperly captured by the blockading forces have been ordered to be released. The Government will act promptly in all future cases of a similar character.

☞ The Boston Post published a letter from ex-President Pierce, in which the following paragraph occurs:

"The very idea of dismemberment of the Union has always been to me one of terrible significance. Still, if it holds a place in the inevitable march of time—if the noble fabric must totter to its fall—there is, I humbly hope, no inexorable necessity that its ruins be stained with gore."

☞ The Democratic papers of the whole country are occupied with indignant denunciations of the mob spirit inaugurated by the Republican press. Nothing has done more to revive the Democratic zeal than these very mobs which have tried to beat down freedom of speech and freedom of the press.

☞ The following language, taken from Senator Douglas's speech in the Senate on the 2d of March last, is worthy to be reproduced:

"I can confirm the Senator's declaration, that Senator Davis, of Mississippi, himself, when on the Committee of Thirteen, was ready at all times to compromise on the Crittenden proposition. I will go further and say that Mr. Toombs was also"

The Crittenden compromise was almost unanimously refused by the Republican party.

☞ Postmaster General Blair, has issued the following order;

"All postal service in the States of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Texas, will be suspended from and after the 31st inst.—Letters for officers temporarily closed by this order, will be forwarded to the dead letter office; except those of Western Virginia; which will be sent to Wheeling."

☞ A man, found sneaking about among the tents of some of the Ohio troops, near Washington the other day, was suspected of having put poison into a quantity of sugar that lay exposed, whereupon some men caught him, and made him eat of the sweet crystals until the emetic effects confirmed their suspicions; and yet they were in error; the sugar had not been poisoned, but the men were ignorant of the number of pounds of sweets at which the human stomach begins to rebel. After being confined for some time in the guard house, he was liberated, glad to escape with his life. He will not be caught around among those Ohio men soon again.

☞ It has been determined by the Government to give every man, of whatever rank, serving in the army or navy, a diploma on parchment, or parchment paper, signed by the President and heads of Departments.

THE CLOTHING FRAUDS.—Hon. J. W. Killinger, Rep. M. C., of Lebanon county, publishes a card in the Courier, in which he states that his duty requires him after a visit to Washington, to expose the wrongs that have been inflicted upon the troops of Pennsylvania. He concludes his publication in the following strong but just language:—"We have reason to be proud of our officers and our men, but we have also reason to denounce our public authorities for the manner in which they have treated them. I declared to our Company, and I now repeat the declaration publicly, that it has been base and inhuman, and I only await a more thorough investigation to hold up to the public scorn and indignation the individuals who have proved so recreant to their trust, and so faithless to their public duties."