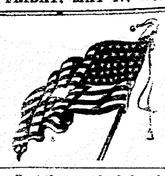
The Press.

FRIDAY, MAY 17, 1861



Forever float that standard sheet!
Where breathes the foe but falls before us!
With Freedom's soil beneath our feet,
And Freedom's banner streaming o'er us!

FIRST PAGE.—Northwestern Virginia; Military Matters; Letter from "Asa Trenchard;" Our War Correspondence; Letter from St. Louis; The Louisville Journal on the Secession of Tennessee; Interesting from Baltimore. FOURTH PAGE.—The Pulpit; France and Jeff Davis; Marine Intelligence, &c.

Terrorism in the South.

When the turbid wave of Secession dashed over Maryland a few weeks since, it seemed as if every vestige of nationality and patriotism had been swept away, and we of Pennsylvania began to examine our flints and firelocks in the expectation of meeting an invading army in Delaware or Chester. If any one had predicted on that dark and fatal April day, when our fellow-citizens were murdered by an uncontrollable mob, that before another moon had set, the flag which was then dishonored would be elevated—that the cockade of treason would be banished—and an army of the Republic would pace the streets of Maryland's metropolis unmolested, and all this without taking a single life or shedding a drop of blood, he would have been regarded as an enthusiast or a dreamer. A month has not transpired, and yet we see every condition realized, and feel that Maryland is as honestly and surely in the Union as Pennsylvania or New Jersey.

The agencies used for the purpose of securing the secession of Maryland were the same which the conspirators successfully adopted in the extreme Southern States, and if Maryland had been on the other side of the Potomac, or under the rule of such men as LETCHER, MASON, and HUNTER, we would certainly see a Confederate army on Federal Hill, and meet the pickets of General BEAUREGARD along Mason and Dixon's line. There is a very strong Southern sentiment among her people, her interests are largely identified with the system of slave labor, and there are men among those high in authority who were in constant conference with the conspirators, and anxious to carry out their schemes. They gained a temporary success, and to all appearances, and for all practical purposes, it was as effectual as that gained in Georgia or Florida.

In Maryland patriotism was crushed out by terror. There is no agency more potent than that which appeals to the imagination. It is natural for us to go with the multitude, and the multitude instinctively seek the safest path. So long as peace reigned the people of Maryland were content to cling to their allegiance, but when a comparatively small band of ruffians precipitated murder amongst them, and threatened the lives of all who refused to bow down to the idol of treason, there were thousands who either accepted the humiliating alternative or fled for safety into more loyal States. Hundreds placed the Secession cockade on the breast, because a refusal might have brought the knife to the heart, or the pistol to the head. The reign of terror was complete, and its sceptre was acknowledged by all classes, from the Governor down to the town constable. The newspaper press actually surrendered, and either obeyed its commands or adopted a system of silence.

Maryland is not the only place in the world where terror may rule. Unless the strong hand of law and order is applied, it is as apt to visit one section as another. Panics are easily created. A dozen men might go into Chestnut street at noon-day and terrify one-half of the people with a story about an invading army investing Fort Delaware, or Fort Mifflin, and it the affair was ingeniously managed we would have hundreds under arms before evening, and on the way to resist the invader. We might publish in this morning's journal a statement that a detachment of traitors had undermined Independence Hall, with the intention of blowing it up, and it would take a very large police force to keep the crowd which would certainly collect to apprehend the miscreants, or muse over the smouldering walls of our temple of freedom. The people of one-half of the Southern States have been driven into revolution by stories as absurd as these which we have used in illustration. There are thousands of people to-day in Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi who love the Union as fervently as they did six months ago, and yet these people trample our flag because they think it is the emblem of their subjugation, and retire every night with the fearful anticipation of having to encounter, at an early hour in the morning, Mr. LINCOLN and Mr. SEWARD at the head of an army of negro desporadoes and thieves.

Here is an illustration in point: A Richmond newspaper—and for scurrility, bad English, and falsehood commend us to the newspapers of Richmond—publishes a paragraph purporting to come from "The *Democrat*, of West Chester, Pennsylvania," to the effect that military companies were being formed in that town, to invade the South, and that heir banners were to be inscribed with the watchword, "Booty and Beauty." Then we have an impassioned appeal to the men of the South to fly to arms, march on Washington, and disperse the Administration which raises its armies by such a "hellish suggestion!" There is no such newspaper printed in West Chester as "*The Democrat*." We have traced this paragraph in nearly all the newspapers from Virginia to Texas, and it is but a specimen of the stories which are invented to madden and mislead the people of the South.

The remedy which has been applied to Maryland, and with so much success, must be applied to the other States who have been terrified into acts of treason. The leaders must be overpowered, as they have been in Maryland. Terror must be banished, as it has been from Maryland. The people must be assured of safety. Their fears must be appeased, their industry protected, and commerce permitted to seek its natural channels. If we had permitted the mob to control that State, we do not think there would now be a thousand outspoken Union men from Snow Hill to Cumberland. We believe if General BUTLER or General CADWALADER entered New Orleans to-morrow, planted a battery on the levee, encamped five thousand troops on Canal street, and issued a proclamation similar to that published in Baltimore last Monday, the American flag would float from every flagstaff before night, and the *Picayune* would give us a leader next morning on the advantages of the Union, and the necessity for dealing with secession as with treason. We believe that there is a great Union feeling latent in all of these States. Notwithstanding the precautions used to smother and conceal it, tokens of its existence are brought to us on almost every breeze that comes from the Gulf. It is bubbling up in Kentucky, Tennessee, and Virginia; it has flooded out treason in Maryland and Missouri, and when the armies of the Republic are in Frankfort, Memphis, and Richmond, as they are in Baltimore and St. Louis, we will see the same glorious results which they have achieved. Thus far our triumph has been almost bloodless, and we pray that it may be so to the end.

NAVAL ORDERS.—Captain WM. C. NICHOLSON, Governor of the Naval Asylum, and Surgeon J. M. FOLTZ, Surgeon of the Asylum, have both been ordered to report for duty, on board the United States steam frigate *Roanoke*, fitting for sea at New York. The *Roanoke* will be the flag ship of one of the divisions of the blockading squadron.

☞ We have received from the agent, F. Ratchford Starr, Esq., 400 Walnut street, the annual report of the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York, from which we learn that the assets of the company now exceed seven and a quarter millions of dollars. The company has made arrangements to issue war policies, the particulars of which will be cheerfully given by the agent, Mr. Starr.

TO MILLINERS AND STRAW TRADE.—Particular attention is invited to the large sale of straw goods this morning, by N. F. Pancoast, auctioneer, 451 Chestnut street, consisting of 300 cases of every grade straw and fancy bonnets, ladies' fancy and men's palm hats. Ten cases of men's boots, &c.

Piracy or Privateering?

When Lord JOHN RUSSELL lately said, in the House of Commons, on the 2d of May, in reply to Mr. EWARTS' question, "whether privateers sailing under the flag of an unrecognised Power would be dealt with as pirates?" —that, as regards letters of marque, the Southern Confederacy must be considered belligerent, it is to be presumed that he had some definite meaning. We suspect that he desired to declare that the Secession States, though not to be acknowledged as independent, have a right to issue letters of marque against the ships and other property of Northern citizens found anywhere, at sea or in harbor. That is, as European countries at peace with England did acknowledge the right of the revolted Thirteen Provinces, from 1776 to 1783, during the War of Independence, to issue letters of marque against British vessels. The difference between a *pirate* and a *privateer* is great. In Bouvier's Law Dictionary it is stated, as the acknowledged law of nations, that Piracy is a robbery or forcible depredation on the high seas, done *animo furandi*, (with a desire of theft,) in the spirit and intention of universal hostility. The same authority declares that a Privateer is a vessel owned by one, or by a society of private individuals, armed and equipped at his or their expense, for the purpose of carrying on a maritime war, *by the authority of one of the belligerent parties*.

Therefore, when Lord JOHN RUSSELL officially declared that, "as regards letters of marque, the Southern Confederacy must be considered belligerent," he makes England admit, most emphatically, the *right* of the Seceding States to employ privateers, by issuing letters of marque. Without such admission of right, every ship waging war on the high seas would be a *pirate*, in the eye of the law of nations.

If "belligerent," with whom? Most certainly not with England, or any other Power, except the United States. If recognized as so "belligerent," the question comes—may not the privateers commissioned, by the Southern Confederacy, to kill and plunder, carry their prizes into Liverpool, Portsmouth, Bristol, Southampton, Hull, Cork, or any other British port, and there dispose of them? It is undeniable, if there be any meaning in Lord JOHN RUSSELL'S words, that England will *not* look upon Mr. JEFFERSON DAVIS'S privateers as pirates. This may cause some disagreeable results by and bye.

Col. Anderson and John C. Breckinridge.

A telegraphic despatch from Harrisburg appeared in yesterday's papers to the effect that "Colonel ANDERSON stated to Governor CURTIN that ex-Vice President BRECKINRIDGE would join him (ANDERSON) at Cincinnati, and take command under him." This announcement, considering the course of the ex-Vice President, doubtless surprised every person who read it; and although vouched for, according to the despatch, by a member of the Legislature, we supposed that, like many other things that come over the wires, it was a mistake. Colonel ANDERSON did say, in the presence of Governor CURTIN: "*Since leaving Philadelphia*, I have been informed that ex-Vice President BRECKINRIDGE will join me at Cincinnati, &c." This information, it seems, was given by a person who, five or six weeks ago, heard the ex-Vice President deliver what he considered a Union speech, and, *therefore*, he would fight for the Union under Colonel ANDERSON.

While we should rejoice to see Major BRECKINRIDGE, like his distinguished uncle, Dr. BRECKINRIDGE, for the Union, and opposed to the heresy of Secession, we need something more than the account sent over the wires from Harrisburg to convince us that he would take command under the gallant Colonel ANDERSON.

WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENCE.

Letter from "Occasional."

[Correspondence of The Press.]

WASHINGTON, May 16, 1861.

A despatch from Harrisburg, in the Baltimore *Sun*, to the effect that John C. Breckinridge had offered to take command under Major Robert Anderson, to whom has been assigned, by the President of the United States, the raising of a brigade of Kentucky olunteers to assist in quelling insurrection, and to maintain the Constitution and the laws, has created a good deal of surprise in this quarter. Why it should have produced in Harrisburg, in the language of the despatch, "a gratifying sensation," I cannot conceive.

Mr. Breckinridge was not only the candidate of the Secessionists for President, but, since the inauguration of Mr. Lincoln, has disgraced himself by contributing to incite those passions and excitements which have driven the country to the precipice of civil war. His immediate bosom friend, Gov. Magoffin, acting unquestionably under his counsel, has been so successful in his treacherous complicity with the Disunionists in Kentucky, as to induce the general apprehension that that noble State will be forced into companionship with South Carolina, Mississippi, and other conspiring States. The fact that Mr. Breckinridge has been, and probably is, in daily confidential intercourse with the avowed chiefs of the conspiracy, is not denied. His confidants and intimates in Washington have always been among those who sympathized with and assisted the Secession movement, and until this extraordinary announcement of Colonel Anderson, no man here, and I venture to say few men in Kentucky, ever doubted that the first opportunity presented for him to declare his earnest and active sympathy with the Disunion movement would be eagerly embraced by Mr. Breckinridge. With these facts before us, I am constrained to regard such an accession as an inconceivable calamity. Either Mr. Breckinridge and those who agree with him have been acting falsely, or they have not. If they have been sincere in their persevering and unrelenting opposition to the constitutionally elected authorities, and in their equally persistent and uncompromising adherence to the Disunion conspiracy, all the oaths of allegiance they may take to the existing Government will not prevent them from becoming instruments of disaffection among the Union men, and from taking advantage of any possible weakness of our glorious cause. If they have not been sincere in their long companionship with Rhett, Cobb, and Slidell—if, in other words, they have been cheating the Disunionists, how much confidence can we place in their pretended avowal of eleventh-hour regard for the Government as it is? Our danger is more imminent than ever, now that just such men as Mr. Breckinridge express their willingness to unite against those with whom they have been so confidentially and closely connected. The patriotic men of Kentucky, the Crittendens, the Masons, and the Prentises, will laugh at the mere idea of John C. Breckinridge enlisting in the army of Union men, and denounce the complacency of his condescension when he proposes to take a command under Colonel Robert Anderson. Can it be possible that Colonel Anderson was deceived? Did he not know that in all the operations to take place hereafter the war must be upon the South, upon the very men with whom Breckinridge has been associated, and to whom he has committed his political and personal fortunes? The object of this movement must be evident, and undoubtedly looks to some dishonoring compromise; for, if men like Breckinridge are put in positions of command, why should not Jefferson Davis himself be smitten with a sudden conviction that he, too, should join the forces of the United States? Why should not Mason, and Hunter, and Pryor enlist under the banners of Major Anderson? Once in possession of influence, they could then proceed to demoralize the army, and insist upon a reconstruction on their own terms. Colonel Anderson has impressed the country with the belief that he is not a mere martinet, ready to obey the orders of his superiors, but a conscientious soldier, who feels that he is fighting an honest battle—fighting, in fact, for government and for freedom. How could such a man be associated with John C. Breckinridge, who, in the special session of the Senate, only a few weeks ago, in reply to Stephen A. Douglas, declared that nothing had been done to appease the South, and that Mr. Lincoln and his party were intent upon destroying the institution of his section; and furthermore, who, on his return home, in consultation with such men as Governor Magoffin, entered into new relations with the Confederate chiefs, and undoubtedly contributed, directly or indirectly, to the regiment of Kentucky volunteers now in Virginia ready to strike at the Federal capital, if necessary, or to shed the blood of the Northern men now in arms under the flag of the country. Major Anderson cannot forget that Mr. Breckinridge also, after the adjournment of the Senate, took the stump against Guthrie, and Harney, and Mason, and indicated his determination, unless certain assurances were given, to unite his fortunes with the Southern Confederacy. The gallant defender of Fort Sumpter need only look to the character of the Kentucky troops now in Virginia to ascertain the sincerity of the tardy repentance of the Vice President. Putting the most favorable construction upon this offer of Mr. Breckinridge, it amounts simply to the confession that he and his followers have been too fast in their movement, and that they now desire to retrace their steps, but insist as a condition precedent that they shall be clothed with commanding, authoritative positions in the army of the republic. If they really mean that they are stricken with remorse, let them enter the ranks as private soldiers; let them do as thousands of unquestioned Union men have done and are doing—men of fortune and social position, mechanics in prosperous business, and wealthy farmers who give up all, and look to nothing but the glory to be acquired in serving their country. It would sell the well-earned laurels of Colonel Anderson if he led a brigade or regiment officered by such men as John C. Breckinridge, who i bound hand and foot, committed body and soul, to the worst designs of the Secessionists!

Some sensation has been created by the intelligence that a number of Disunionists, under the direction of John A. Washington, the late owner of Mount Vernon, have taken possession of the sarcophagus in which the remains of the Father of his Country have been preserved, and carried it o some distant point. I shall not be surprised if the story proves true. It will only show how utterly they have been infatuated and deluded. This Mr. John A. Washington acquired an unenviable notoriety in trafficking with the estate of his great ancestor. He chaffered with the ladies of America, who raised the money to purchase it, like a very Shylock, and now, in keeping with his character, he assists in despoiling the property which he had fairly conveyed to the country. The plea put forth, that he reserved the ground which surrounds the tomb, is a sort of negative pregnant, because, in reserving it his object was to save himself from the reproach of selling the grave of Washington, and not of dishonoring the memory of the illustrious chieftain by removing the bones, for which a grateful people paid him so well, to a foreign soil, torn by dissensions, and oppressed by men who are every day insulting the maxims of his great Farewell Address. Nearly a thousand years ago the whole Christian world rose in arms, impelled by one mighty impulse, to rescue the Holy Sepulchre from the hands of the infidel. Let the infidels and banditti of the South be admonished by this historical incident. Every step they take only adds to the enormity of their crimes, and to the burden of their provocations. OCCASIONAL.

LATEST NEWS

By Telegraph to The Press.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Special Despatches to "The Press."

WASHINGTON, May 16, 1861.

Legion of the Union.

It has been proposed, in some quarters, and the idea will very probably be adopted, to strike off a medal, to be presented to every volunteer who has entered into the service of the Government to defend the capital and to suppress rebellion, in commemoration of the patriotism and services of our brave soldiers. The whole army would be denominated, under this arrangement, a "Legion of the Union," and the medal alluded to would perpetuate this honorable and appropriate title.

Col. Morehead and the Baltimore Sun.

That traitorous sheet, the Baltimore *Sun*, in its issue of to-day, in referring to Col. MOREHEAD, the commander of one of your finest Philadelphia regiments, says: "He expressed himself freely as being averse to the shedding of blood, and hoped such a result would be reached as will require no further advance of his command towards the South." I believe this statement is an infamous falsehood, and that Col. MOREHEAD, as a good soldier and true patriot, will faithfully discharge any military duty that may devolve upon him. But it may as well be understood, first as last, that in this war a rebellion in the Southern States is to be suppressed, at all hazards, and no man who is unwilling to march against men arrayed under the black banner of treason, wherever it is unfurled, should be connected with our army. The future course of Col. MOREHEAD will doubtless show that he is ready to follow the flag, and to keep step to the music of the Union.

The Baltimore *Sun* is constantly endeavoring, in a jesuitical way, to excite the animosity of its readers to our Government, and lure the people of Maryland on to destruction, by inducing them to link their fortunes with the Secessionists. It is a question well worthy of consideration whether, at a time like this, the dissemination of its treasonable sentiments in a district now occupied by our troops should not be prevented.

A Bloodless Victory.

Gen. B. F. BUTLER'S movements in Baltimore, viewed in connection with the Secession movement in that city on the 19th of April, have given no little gratification here. Not that revenge or retaliation is sought, but as a conclusive demonstration of the fact that mob violence has been controlled and humbled. BUTLER'S decided movements stand out in admirable contrast with the pusillanimity of Mayor BROWN, who came to Washington, not to ask the aid of a force to establish law and order, but to plead with the President to stay the march of troops to their city, and let mob rule have its full sway. BUTLER has marched to Baltimore with the men from whose ranks their associates were shot down. He has established order and restored confidence by a bloodless victory over the Secession strength which had obtained supremacy, and his presence is hailed with pleasure by every friend of the Union and of law and order.

General BUTLER'S proclamation is an admirable official paper, and distinguishes him as eminently qualified, by his knowledge of national jurisprudence, for the responsible and important position which he occupies. His prompt arrest of ROSS WINANS is another corroboration of this fact, whose connection, if not with the steam-gun, certainly with the large number of pikes seized by order of BUTLER, will implicate him in treasonable operations, from which he will have some difficulty in disentangling himself. It will be remembered that ROSS WINANS illuminated his gardens and place when, in the early progress of the Crimean war, a temporary success by the Russians over the English troops was announced, and not a few of his own citizens remember that demonstration, and consider it quite in keeping with his sympathy now with Secession.

The District Militia.

The volunteers of the District have been formed into eight battalions, comprising 3,300 men. They are exercising daily in drill, and are becoming quite proficient in military tactics.

Grand Review.

Yesterday four regiments were on the Avenue at the same time, and formed an imposing spectacle. The regiments were the New York Fifth, Twelfth, Twenty-fifth, and Twenty-eighth. They paraded on the Avenue, and passed in at the Treasury Department before the President and his Cabinet. The troops were fully armed and equipped, and each regiment was preceded by a full drum corps.

The Cabinet.

A protracted session was held yesterday, and the division pro rata of troops from the different States for the three years' service was disposed of. The proposition of the New York committee to send into the war service a large additional force was accepted, and the addition from that State was fixed at fourteen regiments. The committee stated that 50,000 men were waiting anxiously to be admitted into the war order, and 50,000 more could be obtained at very short call, if required.

There was no session of the Cabinet to-day, but a meeting is called for to-morrow.

The Steam Gun.

The steam gun captured by General BUTLER was not only made in Boston, but DICKENSON, who had charge of the gun when captured, is a Boston man, and had it made under his own superintendence.

Federal Appointments.

The following appointments have been made: Dr. W. S. WALLACE, of Illinois, paymaster at Rondout, New York.

FRIEND W. SMITH, postmaster at Bridgeport, Connecticut.

William G. Coffin, of Indiana, has been appointed to the Southern Superintendency of Indian affairs, in the place of Mr. Rector. He left to-day for the country west of the Mississippi, with important instructions respecting the welfare of the Cherokee, Choctaw, Chickasaw, and other Indian tribes. It is known that the delegates representing the Indian tribes recently returned to their homes, were, while here, favorably impressed with the friendly feelings of the Government for their prosperity. They will be reassured through Mr. Coffin that it is neither designed nor desirable to interfere in any way whatever with their domestic institutions, including slavery, while they will be convinced that it is to their interest to forever remain on terms of peace with the Federal Government.

Troops from Michigan.

A regiment of one thousand troops from Michigan are to arrive this evening.

The City is Quiet.

The encampment of a large number of regiments has left the city comparatively free from the perpetual parade and music which we have seen and heard for some weeks past.

Mrs. Lincoln.

The President's lady is announced to return this evening or early to-morrow.

Importunity of Office-Seekers.

It would naturally be supposed that the announcement that, for the present, no personal application for civil offices would be received by the Executive, was sufficient to cut off all applications of that class. Not so. The President was to-day importuned by half a score of that class, some of whom have come on the second time from Illinois to press their claims for place.

The Ringgold Battery.

The battery of the Ringgold Artillery, with horses, &c., complete, arrived yesterday, much to the gratification of the Ringgolds, who will immediately call out their war dogs for practice.

Arrivals from Philadelphia.

At Willard's.—A. W. Sawyer, J. Ferne, L. E. Cassidy, J. B. Manheim, S. A. Miller, M. Johnson, H. Sims, T. H. Dukay, W. B. Bement, W. P. Hacker, H. A. Shackleford, G. Kimbel, Jr., A. Wheeler, S. S. Moon, E. Tousey, P. G. Gillett.

Brown's.—L. Bamburger, J. S. Smith, E. P. Gordon, T. J. Jefferson, Wm. McIntosh and two children.

Kirkwood's.—J. Rolland, W. W. Wiley, C. F. Rottenfellow, Samuel Blair, J. J. Granger, C. S. Hughes, Jas. S. Neall.

National.—D. Stone, R. McLaughlin, W. H. Pierson, C. A. Rinson, R. S. Reynold, G. W. Knox.

FROM BALTIMORE.

PASSAGE OF TROOPS TO WASHINGTON.

Release of an Alleged Spy by the Rebels at Harper's Ferry.

BALTIMORE, May 16.—About six o'clock this evening, the First Regiment of Michigan volunteers, 780 men, under Colonel O. B. Wilcox, and three companies from Pennsylvania, in all 1,100 men, arrived *viâ* the Northern Central road, and, marching through the western section of the city to the Mount Claria depôt, took the cars for Washington. They presented a splendid appearance, being fully equipped, and accompanied by a fine band.

The engineer, from New York, who was arrested three days since, at Harper's Ferry, as a spy, was Mr. Charles H. Haswell. He states that, being detained several hours at the ferry, in consequence of the trains not connecting, he was recognized by a person who represented him as an engineer, and consequently a draughtsman, and also as a member of the New York Yacht Club, which had offered yachts to the Federal Government. Added to this, Mr. Haswell had given to a person a copy of the New York *Herald*, in which was a diagram of Harper's Ferry.

Upon these allegations he was arrested and placed in the guard-house, and after an examination at headquarters was ordered to be furnished with bread and water only. Liberty was, however, given him to communicate with his friends. Col. Massie, aid-de-camp, obtained a revocation as to the order for a bread-and-water diet, and Captain Clark, on the second day, succeeded in obtaining permission to remove him to private rooms, and to procure his meals from the hotels. Last evening two messages were received at headquarters, from the friends of Mr. H., which effected his release, and he is now en route for New York.

He expressed unqualified gratitude for the kindness shown to him by Colonels Massie and McDonald, and to the commander-in-chief of the Virginia forces and other officers. The courteous treatment of these gentlemen, and their efforts to obtain his release and mitigate his imprisonment, seem almost to have atoned, in the mind of Mr. H., for the annoyances to which he was subjected. For many weary hours he was confined in a small guard-room, exposed to the rude gaze of the crowd, who taunted him with abuse and threats of a halter.

These insults Mr. Haswell generously attributed to a want of discipline on the part of the sentinels, who should have protected him from such treatment. Mr. H. vindicates his declarations when examined that he was not a spy, by declining to give any information as to the number of troops at Harper's Ferry, their condition, and the character and extent of the fortifications that have been erected there.

Important from Wheeling.

TWO CULVERTS NEAR HARPER'S FERRY BLOWN UP.

The Rebels Expecting an Attack.

Virginia Regiment of Union Men.

NEW YORK, May 16.—A special despatch from Wheeling to the New York *Herald* says that passengers have returned thither from an ineffectual attempt to reach Baltimore by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, who report that two culverts on the railroad, near Harper's Ferry, have been blown up and the rails removed. The rebel troops there are hourly expecting an attack. They are about 3,000 in number.

A full regiment of Union men will be in camp at Wheeling in a few days.

A number of Secessionists have been ordered to leave Wellsburg.

A number of Secessionists, arrived at Wheeling from below, report the temporary detention of a party of Virginians, including Judge Brockenborough, a member of the Montgomery Congress, at Gallipolis, Ohio.

Philadelphia Troops at Baltimore.

BALTIMORE, May 16.—The Philadelphia regiments have their camp, near Fort McHenry, in fine order already, under the good discipline of their officers.

The troops were visited to-day by many citizens, who had a pleasant intercourse with them. They have not yet occupied Federal Hall, but being convenient to it can readily do so whenever it should be thought expedient.

Affairs in Missouri.

ST. LOUIS, May 16.—The testimony in the case of the Walnut-street tragedy closed yesterday, and the following verdict was rendered: "That six of the persons shot on Walnut street were killed by musket-balls, discharged by volunteers, United States soldiers, under the command of officers unknown to the jury; that two of the persons shot at the time were killed by pistol shots, fired by persons unknown to the jury."

Keokuk and Quincy papers say that hundreds of Union men have been driven out of Missouri, under orders issued by a Council of the Southern Legion.

A despatch from St. Aubert to the *Democrat* says Zeisner, residing in Liberty township, near Osage bridge, has been arrested and sent to Jefferson City for trial by martial law for raising a company of Union volunteers.

A military encampment of about two hundred State troops, at St. Joseph, mostly armed with guns recently taken from the arsenal at Liberty, was dispersed on the 13th.

The enlisting at the arsenal continues active, about three hundred recruits having been received yesterday.

It is understood that Hyde Park, in the northern part of the city, has been leased by the Government, and a regiment of troops will be quartered there.

ST. LOUIS, May 16.—Camp Springs, in Western Hyde Park, in the northern, and the heights near the reservoir, in the southwestern part of the city, were occupied by U. S. troops to-day as a precautionary and protective measure.

The march of the troops through the city was quiet.

Capt. McDonald, for whose release an effort was made by writ of habeas corpus, is in Colonel McArthur's camp at Caseyville, Ill. He was taken across the river in a skiff on Monday night, and marched under guard to Camp Biscoll. An unsuccessful attempt to rescue the prisoner was made between the arsenal gate and the river by a considerable number of persons, but the prompt arrival of reinforcements, and a few remarks from Capt. McDonald himself, prevented trouble.

Col. Anderson and Mr. Breckinridge.

DIFFICULTY AT LOUISVILLE APPREHENDED.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., May 16.—The Lexington and Frankfort agents report that they do not know of the whereabouts of Mr. Breckinridge, but say that everybody in both places ridicules the report of his taking command under Col. Anderson. It is also universally discredited here.

Street rumors say that there is likely to be a difficulty here between the opposing parties on the advent of Col. Anderson.

Wisconsin Legislature.

MADISON, Wis., May 16.—The Legislature of this State convened in extra session yesterday.

Governor Randall's message recommends that six regiments, in addition to the one now waiting for orders, be put into camp, and equipped by the State; also, that $2,000,000 be appropriated for war purposes.

From Harrisburg.

HARRISBURG, May 16.—Major General McCall left this city to-day for home, but will return to-morrow.

The Second Regiment received orders to-day to move to the York encampment.

There has been no appointment of the two Brigadier Generals, nor is there any indication who will be the appointees.

The Governor, in his message to-day, says that he has no power to dissolve the twenty five regiments already mustered into the service of the United States. Public opinion will not warrant him in disbanding any regiment, and he is determined not to do it.

The stay law is not yet signed by the Governor, but it will be, beyond a doubt, in a few days.

The Army Clothing Contracts.

HARRISBURG, May 16.—The contracts for clothing for the troops have been awarded. The successful bidders are principally from Pittsburg.

From the South.

NEW ORLEANS, May 16.—The report that the commissioners have been sent from Havana to Montgomery is denied.

MONTGOMERY, May 16.—The Postmaster General has issued a proclamation, announcing that he will commence the control of postal affairs on the 1st of June.

ALEXANDRIA, Va., May 16.—(Via New Orleans.)—The North Carolina and Virginia collectors have ceased making their returns to the United States Government.

The Southern Mails.

WASHINGTON, May 16.—Owing to the interruption, by the Virginia authorities, of the means of conveying the mails from Norfolk to Hampton Roads, and from Old Point to Eastville—though especially for the accommodation of the citizens of that State—the Postmaster General has annulled the contract.

From representations made to the Department, it is probable that for similar reasons nearly all, if not the entire, river mail service will be officially discontinued, in the course of a few days, in the Secession States.

Sad Casualty.

A MOTHER AND CHILD BURNED TO DEATH.

BOSTON, May 16.—In Manchester, Mass, last evening, a child of Francis Chiston accidentally set fire to a fluid lamp. Both the child and its mother were enveloped in the flames and burned to death before assistance could be rendered.

Important War Orders.

Nine New York Regiments to be sent to Fortress Monroe.

FIVE MORE FOR WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, May 16.—An order was issued today by the War Department for nine of the fourteen regiments accepted yesterday on the solicitation of the New York Union Committee, to proceed to Fortress Monroe, and the other five to repair to Washington.

The concentration of so many troops at the former post is a fact of important significance.

It is believed here that Major General Butler will have command in that quarter.

The President to-day promoted both Brigadier-Generals McClellan and Butler, each to be a Major General.

Captains Franklin and Meigs are to be Colonels, and Colonel Thomas Brigadier General.

Occasional arrests are made of persons accused of giving aid and comfort to the enemy. The last was that of a man from Alexandria, who, it was shown, had tampered with the Government troops, and endeavored to persuade them to join the Confederate army. He was turned over to await orders from General Mansfield.

Col. Anderson at Cincinnati.

CINCINNATI, May 16.—Col. Anderson arrived in this city this afternoon. He was met at the depot by the Mayor, who tendered him the hospitalities of the city. He was then escorted through the principal streets by a procession of citizens and military. An immense throng of people was gathered along the line of march, and the most hearty expressions of welcome greeted the hero. His brother, Larz Anderson, at Camp Dennison, had his soldiers drawn up in line to present arms as the train passed.

Massachusetts Legislature.

BOSTON, May 16.—The appropriation bill of three million for State war expenses, and the seven million loan bill to the General Government, passed both branches of the Legislature to-day by a unanimous vote.

The bill for organizing the Home Guard was also passed.

The Legislature will inspect the troops in garrison to-morrow. They number about three thousand.

Resumption of Specie Payments.

HARRISBURG, May 16.—The following supplement to an act for the equalization of the currency of the State, approved 17th day of April, A. D., 1861, has passed both houses of the Legislature:

SECTION 1. That the banks of the Commonwealth are hereby required, until the second Tuesday of February next ensuing, to receive at par, in payment of all debts due, or to become due to them respectively, the notes of all the solvent banks of the State which paid specie for their liabilities on, and immediately prior to the 19th day of November last, and which shall continue solvent. And the said banks are also hereby authorized to pay out in all their business transactions and discounts the said notes, so long as the banks issuing the same shall remain solvent; but in case any president and a majority of the board of directors of any of the said banks should certify in the contract, under oath or affirmation of the president, that they have just reason to believe that any bank included in said category is in an unsound or unsafe condition, the owner or owners shall appoint a commission to investigate the same, as provided in the third section of the act of October 13, 1857, entitled an act providing for the resumption of specie payments of the banks, and for the relief of the debtors. And no bank shall be required to receive the notes of any bank thus discredited until reported sound and solvent by such commission. And the period for the resumption of specie payments by the banks of this Commonwealth is hereby extended until the second Tuesday of February, 1862.

SEC. 2. That the several collectors of taxes, tolls, and other moneys of the Commonwealth, and the county treasurers, are hereby authorized to receive for State purposes the notes of the solvent banks of this Commonwealth, though not specie-paying banks, in payment of the said taxes, tolls, and revenues, and the State Treasurer is hereby authorized to receipt for the same in the same manner as though said banks were specie paying.

SEC. 3. That on failure of any bank in this Commonwealth to comply with the provisions of this act its charter shall thereby be forfeited; and such fact being satisfactorily made known to the Governor, he shall declare such forfeiture by proclamation, and the directors thereof shall forthwith make and execute an assignment to trustees, as provided by the act entitled "an act regulating banks," approved the 16th April, A. D. 1850.

SEC. 4. That any bank or incorporation which has within one year suspended specie payments, or refused to redeem its notes as provided by the laws of this Commonwealth, the forfeitures, penalties, or liabilities arising therefrom not having been heretofore remitted or suspended by act of Assembly, shall be deemed thereby to have forfeited its charter; and upon such facts being satisfactorily made known to the Governor he shall declare such forfeiture by proclamation, and assignment shall be made by the directors as hereinbefore provided.

SEC. 5. That stated or special meetings of the directors of banks shall be held at such times and under such rules and regulations for the transaction of business as the directors may prescribe; and in the case of sickness or absence of the president, his place may be supplied with a president pro tem., to be appointed by the directors from among their number; and so much of any act or acts of Assembly inconsistent with the election of said president pro tem. be, and the same is hereby repealed.

SEC. 6. That the several banks of this Commonwealth shall be required to redeem in specie, or its equivalent, so much of their circulation as may be in the hands of the State Treasurer, and may be necessary to pay the August interest. That the president, cashier, or other officer, of any bank in this commonwealth, shall take an oath or affirmation, to be administered by some officer authorized to administer oaths or affirmations, that they will not knowingly or intentionally violate any of the provisions of the act to which this is a supplement; and that the thirteenth and sixteen sections of the act regulating banks, approved April 16th, 1850, and any other acts of Assembly conflicting herewith, be, and the same are hereby repealed. *Provided*, That no cashier shall engage in any other profession or calling, directly or indirectly, than that appertaining to the office of cashier.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

SPECIAL SESSION.

HARRISBURG, May 16, 1861.

SENATE.

The supplement to the act equalizing the currency of the State came back from the House numerously amended, and the amendments gave rise to considerable debate.

Mr. SMITH moved that the bill be recommitted to the Committee on Banks, which was lost.

Mr. CONNELL offered a further supplement to the section in relation to the oaths of bank officers, which was agreed to.

Mr. SMITH moved to postpone the further consideration of the bill indefinitely, which was not agreed to.

The amendments of the House were then concurred in.

Mr. IRBIN called up the bill for the appointment of three commissioners to revise the military laws of the State, and it was negatived.

Mr. FLEMY called up the joint resolution authorizing the Governor to appoint three commissioners to revise the revenue laws, and the same passed.

Mr. CLYMER called up the bill appropriating the five hundred dollars donated to the State by the Society of Cincinnati, for the purchase of regimental standards, which passed.

The bill from the House, making an appropriation for the payment of members, &c., passed.

Also, the bill relative to certain counties paying the expenses of their volunteers.

Mr. WELSH (Mr. Finney being in the Chair) offered a resolution tendering the thanks of the Chamber to Louis W. Hall for the able and impartial manner in which he had discharged the duties of Speaker of the Senate.

The resolution was adopted unanimously.

Mr. Hall is the youngest man who has ever filled the Speakership of the Senate, and his readiness and impartiality as a presiding officer have won for him the respect and regards of all his fellow-members.

The joint resolution for the purchase of Gilham's Manual was postponed indefinitely.

A resolution of thanks to Messrs Ewett and Ramsdell, clerks, was adopted, and at 12 o'clock the Speaker (Mr. Hall) declared the Senate adjourned *sine die*.

HOUSE.

The House continued in session last night until after 1 o'clock. The appropriation bill, which was passed, imposes an additional State tax of one half mill.

The House then resumed the consideration of the bill for the equalization of the currency of the State, and extending the time for the resumption of specie payments by the banks until the second Tuesday of February next.

After much discussion, an amendment was adopted providing that the several banks shall be required to redeem, in specie or its equivalent, so much of the circulation as may be in the hands of the State Treasurer, and may be necessary to pay the semi annual interest falling due in August.

The bill then passed finally—yeas 49, nays 25; all the city members present voted in the negative.

Mr. BYRNE called up the bill for the purchase of 10 000 copies of Baxter's Manual, which was passed.

This morning the House took up the joint resolution for the appointment of three commissioners to revise the revenue laws of the State, and report to the next Legislature, which passed finally.

The Governor's veto of the bill for the erection of a free bridge over the river Schuylkill, at South street, was then taken up, and the bill passed over the veto—yeas 53, nays 15.

The bill relative to the expenses of the volunteers in all the counties of the State, excepting the counties of Dauphin, Allegheny, Bradford, Lancaster, Crawford, and the city of Philadelphia, passed finally.

A bill providing for the appointment of chaplains for the volunteer regiments passed finally.

A message was received from the Governor, transmitting the correspondence of the Secretary of War in relation to the Pennsylvania regiments.

Mr. COLLINS offered a joint resolution for printing six thousand copies of the stay law, which was adopted.

Mr. PUGH offered a resolution tendering the thanks of the House to the Speaker (Mr. Davis), for the impartial manner in which he had discharged his duties. The resolution was adopted unanimously.

Mr. SELTZER offered a resolution, tendering the thanks of the House to E. H. Rauch