The Press.

MONDAY, JUNE 10, 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!

FORNEY'S CALIFORNIA PRESS

Will be ready TO-DAY, at 2 P. M.

Price Six Cents per copy in strong wrappers, and stamped, ready for mailing.

This paper is published expressly for

CALIFORNIA CIRCULATION,

And contains a complete summary of what has transpired in our City, State, and the Atlantic States, since the departure of the last steamer for California.

First Page.—Count de Montalembert; Military Pharmaceutics; Judge Taney and the Habeas Corpus; The Sufferers by the Conflagration of Glarus, Switzerland; Notes on the Rebellion; Letter from Stroudsberg; Major General McCall's Orders.

Fourth Page.—Kentucky and the Union.

The Address of the Border State Convention.

We have before us an address to the people of the United States, signed by eleven citizens of Kentucky, four citizens of Missouri, and one citizen of Tennessee. We recognize in the names of those attached to it many eminent gentlemen, who have served the Republic with honor in days gone by, and for whom we entertain a most profound respect. The list is headed by John J. Crittenden and James Guthrie, two of the most celebrated representatives of the great Whig and Democratic parties. Fidelity to the Union, and a long experience in the councils of the Union, entitle these gentlemen to address the people of the Union; and, whatever their suggestions may contain, we have no doubt they will be attentively read by the American people, and considered with that degree of calmness and attention which they always bestow upon whatever emanates from so distinguished a source.

These gentlemen address their fellow-citizens by virtue of their position as members of the "Border State Conference." This Conference was the last deception of the treacherous Virginia Convention, before it threw off the mask of Union, and whirled the Old Dominion into the eddies of secession. The proposition passed that Convention in favor of a Conference of "the Border slave States, and such other slave States as have not passed ordinances of secession," to meet at Frankfort, Ky. Kentucky, Missouri, and two counties of Tennessee elected delegates in obedience to the request of Virginia, but that State, having subsequently passed an ordinance of secession, repudiated her own proposition, and refused to participate in the council she had summoned together. The delegates from Kentucky, Missouri, and Tennessee have been in session for several days, and the address before us is the result of their deliberations. The delegates from Kentucky have also joined in an address to the State of Kentucky, recommending allegiance to the Union, kindness and friendship towards the South, and the preservation of an armed neutrality.

The Conference presents to the people of the United States two distinct propositions, in the following words, as a remedy for our national troubles and an effective measure of pacification:

1st. That Congress shall at once propose such constitutional amendments as will secure to slaveholders their legal rights, and allay their apprehensions in regard to possible encroachments in the future.

2d. If this should fail to bring about the results so desirable to us and so essential to the best hopes of our country, then let a voluntary Convention be called, composed of delegates from the people of all the States, in which measures of settlement may be devised and adopted, and the nation rescued from the continued horrors and calamities of civil war.

The logic of the address is very weak, its pathos very effective, and its recommendations of an impracticable and inefficient character. We have an instinctive respect for any exhibition of grief, and there are many manifestations of such a feeling in this address. War always brings woe, and the rhetoric of woe must necessarily be very affecting. We have a large number of pretty specimens in our literature, but many far more commonplace than passages of the document before us. If peace could ever result from painful metaphors and sad similes, we would commend the gentlemen of the Border State Conference as fully equal to the work of pacification; but the hour, alas! calls for deeds, not words, and these worthy people have yet to show themselves equal to its demands.

There is a timidity about the address which tends greatly to weaken it. We see traces of doubt and hesitancy in every paragraph. The seceded States are treated with tenderness—the United States are recognized with reluctance. The members of the Border State Convention are either laboring under convictions which they cannot express, or striving to publish opinions which they do not believe. We look in vain for the assertion of one brave principle, or the expression of one timely sentiment. We are very mildly told that, in the opinion of the delegates, the Constitution does not delegate to its ministers the power of destroying it, and "that the *obligation exists* to maintain the Constitution of the United States, and to *preserve the Union unimpaired*;" but this very proposition, which of itself closes the argument, seems to terrify the gentlemen enunciating it, and straightway they proceed to the discussion of questions as old and obsolete as the "Removal of the Bank-Deposits," or the "Independent Treasury Bill." They ask the people of the North to enter into a National Convention to redress grievances which never existed, and to provide constitutional guarantees for traitors who have abjured the oath of allegiance to the Constitution. They tell us that the "masses" of the seceded States, who have committed treason under the influence of "greatly exaggerated" fears, may be thus "disposed to listen to the calls of interest and of patriotism, and return to the family from which they have gone out;" but they do not tell us how we are to secure the Republic from a recurrence of these "greatly exaggerated" fears, and these "masses" from repeating their infamy.

Let us suppose the North, in imitation of a past spirit of dangerous magnanimity, should accept the compromise of these distinguished gentlemen, and that Congress, instead of voting supplies to the army, and placing our military and naval establishment on a war footing, should direct the President to disband the volunteers and terminate the blockade: Have we any assurance of co-operation or acquiescence from the States of the South, who are the principal parties to the arrangement? Would Mr. Jefferson Davis dismiss his troops from Harper's Ferry, or raise the siege of Fort Pickens? Would the rebels of Virginia forego their designs upon the capital, or the people of Memphis permit a Senator from Tennessee to express his opinions to his constituents of that city? If these people are unanimous in any one sentiment, it is their declaration of a determination to spurn any proffer of peace which does not mean a complete submission on the part of twenty-three States of the Union, and an ineffaceable brand of dishonor upon their name. Mr. Davis has threatened Northern lives with "Southern steel," and Mr. Stephens has claimed the capital of the North by "reversionary right;" and every act of Mr. Davis indicates a desperate determination to carry out his threats, if the means at his command are competent to the work.

Gentlemen of the Border State Conference, it is vain to speak of compromise. The dreadful peril we have just escaped admonishes us to be prepared against the possibility of any such a surprise in the future. Conscious of their own rectitude, mourning over what they deemed the errors of their impetuous brethren of the South, and sincerely desirous of harmony, the Northern people dreamed a long dream of conciliation and peace, and were only awakened by the cannon at Fort Sumpter, and the tramp of approaching legions. The arbitration of the sword is a fearful one, but it has been forced at last upon a patient, long-enduring, and reluctant people. We have no wish to drag Kentucky into the conflict—we have no desire to press upon her lips the bitter cup of civil war—but she has her destiny in her own hands, and the time is present when she must either be for us or against us. "*The obligation exists to maintain the Constitution of the United States, and to preserve the Union unimpaired,*" and we insist upon it that Mr. Crittenden, Mr. Guthrie, Mr. Dixon, and the people they represent, shall do their part in honoring that obligation, or meet the consequences of a refusal. An armed neutrality will only be permitted so long as it is consistent with the dignity of the United States and the military necessities of the present war.

We do not question the patriotism of these gentlemen, but we do think they sadly misapprehend the duties which a sense of devotion to their country imposes upon them. Must we forever weep? Must we never cease this lamentation, this wringing of hands, these unseemly demonstrations of misery and despair? Terrible as civil war is, deplorable as all its consequences must be, is it not better than the degradation and disgrace of its inevitable alternative? Is there nothing in our history, in the memories of the past, in the associations of the present, and the anticipations of the future, in a violated Constitution, a threatened Union, and an imperilled nationality, to arouse these people to an exhibition of that manhood which has always been their proudest boast? We have faith in this nation, nor can we think that its day of trial will be the day of its downfall. We cannot believe that it is in the decrees of Providence for this Republic, so magnificent and mighty in its youth, to die an untimely death, by the hand of treacherous children. We look beyond the clouds and gloom of the present, and see America in the future, as the poet Shelley did, a half a century ago:

"This land is like an Eagle, whose young gaze
Feeds on the noontide beam; whose golden plume
Floats moveless on the storm, and in the blaze
Of sunrise gleams when Earth is wrapped in gloom:
An epitaph of glory for the tomb
Of murdered Europe may thy fame be made,
Great People! As the sands shalt thou become;
Thy growth is swift as moth, when night must fade,
The multitudinous Earth shall sleep beneath thy shade."

The Payment of Our Volunteers.

We had occasion, some days since, to allude to the immediate necessity for the payment of our volunteers, and to urge upon our State Government the propriety of advancing to every soldier from Pennsylvania a month's pay. Any such action would be nothing more than a loan to the General Government for a few weeks, as there is no doubt that Congress will, immediately after its organization, proceed to complete all necessary arrangements for the payment of the army. Our soldiers have been submitting to many inconveniences and troubles by reason of the scarcity of money amongst them, and the measure of relief we proposed impressed us very forcibly as being calculated to increase their military efficiency and alleviate many of the hardships of the soldier's life.

It is with pleasure, therefore, that we are enabled to announce upon reliable authority that arrangements are being made by the State Government at Harrisburg to advance one month's pay to every volunteer now mustered into service from the State of Pennsylvania. The amount of money thus to be distributed will be over three hundred thousand dollars, and it will, no doubt, be refunded by the Government at Washington. The Governor deserves great credit for the manner in which he has thus appreciated the wants of our soldiers, and for the promptness with which he has provided for their comfort and efficiency. We trust that the example of Pennsylvania will be followed by the other States who have soldiers under arms.

We also take this occasion to renew our warning to the soldiers against speculators and swindlers who may attempt to purchase their drafts at exorbitant rates of usury. No penalty can be too severe for those who seek to make money out of the necessities of our brave and patriotic volunteers, and it is the duty of the officers in command of regiments and companies to visit any attempt at the perpetration of this injustice with severe and summary punishment.

The Presentment of the Grand Jury.

The Grand Jury of the United States District have presented to the court the result of their investigations into the charges of mismanagement and malpractice which have been made in reference to the equipment of the troops. The conclusions of the jury are necessarily very meagre, as they were embarrassed by the narrow sphere of their jurisdiction. They find that great irregularity existed in the conduct of affairs, and show many instances of carelessness and incompetency which, it is to be regretted, they were unable to trace to any legitimate or responsible source.

The presentment of the Grand Jury is very unsatisfactory, and shows the necessity that exists for a thorough investigation of all matters connected with the equipment of the troops. It is not enough for the members of this body to say, in a mysterious way, that they have evidences of "gross and palpable frauds." The people demand that these evidences be made public, and that punishment be visited upon the wrong-doers, whoever they be. We have no desire to accept suspicions when we can have facts, and it is the duty of our authorities to investigate the surmises of the Grand Jury. It is due to the credit of the State and the reputation of her rulers that there should be an instant and thorough examination.

The Cincinnati *Enquirer*, of the 5th, says: We regret to learn of the indisposition of Major General McClellan, and hope his illness is but temporary.

WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENCE.

Letter from "Occasional."

[Correspondence of The Press.]

Washington, June 9, 1861.

The universal grief of the loyal people of the loyal States of the Union over the grave of Douglas, like the sorrow manifested upon the death of Clay and Webster, and like the mournful exhibition of national woe when Andrew Jackson was gathered back to the bosom of his Maker, is a thoughtful commentary upon the party prejudices and passions that surround and embitter the active life of an American statesman in his struggles with his oppponents. When God calls our great ones hence, we cease to wrangle over their merits; and, while yielding to the Omniscient decree, we testify our regret at their loss, and our repentance for our injustice to the departed, by clustering around their grave and praising the very virtues we were ever too ready to deny them when they lived among and led the crowds of men. Recollect well how the more party Democrats objected to the praise of Jackson, after his decease, by those who opposed him in life; and I can never forget how a bitter old Whig criticised the Democrats who came forward to show their respect when Clay and Webster were gathered as a rich harvest into the garner of the great Reaper. And now, when the Douglas dies, in the prime of life, after a most animated canvass, which called out the most violent feelings and stimulated the most acrimonious discussions, some of his particular friends cannot understand why many who antagonized him in life should so sincerely deplore the dispensation of his death. Washington Irving tells us that at the portals of the tomb all enmities die; and that from the fresh earth of the new made grave nothing but flowers of forgiveness should spring. But he spoke for those who needed forgiveness—who could not be tried at the bar of posterity upon their own records.

"Honest Griffiths," in "Henry VIII," in speaking of the great man of that day, even against her own gracious mistress, Katharine, uttered an unconscious untruth when she said:

"Men's evil manners live in brass: their virtues
We write in water."

because it is true that a powerful people would rather remember the good done by their leaders in council and in war than the wrong. We treasure up that which reflects credit upon our race and nation, and would rather hide the imperfections and errors of our leaders than indulge in the same foolish over their memories which divided us when they lived. A public character must have been a monstrous criminal if his short-comings in life were not lost sight of after his death.

Who shall be the historian—the biographer—of Stephen A. Douglas? Who shall paint, in familiar colors, the picture of his life, his progress, his achievements, his cotemporaries, and his death? Much as I scorn indiscriminate eulogy of a really original man, I have a much more profound contempt for the man who, when a nation is in tears over a great loss, buries himself, like a malignant Old Mortality, in awakening every old prejudice, and in restoring to light the forgotten calumnies of other times.

A man like Douglas should have a genial biographer; one who knew him well, and who loved him, not for his politics, but in spite of them—in a word, one who loved him for himself alone.

I perceive that Mr. Dallas, our old townsman, the late American minister at the Court of St. James, has returned to his old stamping ground, and is now living in or near Philadelphia. It may be gratifying to his numerous friends to know that Mr. Dallas, in all his relations to this Government for more than five years past, near the English Government, has received the cordial endorsement of the present Administration. Mr. Dallas was retained by James Buchanan most reluctantly. The latter always disliked the former, and when J. B. got into the Presidency, one of the first objects of his suspicions was Geo. M. Dallas. But this only served to put the latter on his guard, and to protect him against an abject submission to the atrocious policy of the Administration of the boasted "favorite son of Pennsylvania." Although President Buchanan dedicated himself to a slavish obedience to the behests of the miserable slavery despots of the South, towards whom Mr. Dallas bore certain relations of family and of political obligation, the monstrous injustice of his proscription of Robert J. Walker, his connection, not to speak of others, and the recollection of Mr. Buchanan's jealous hatred, kept George M. Dallas on the right track. He comes back, more than ever a loyal man, though some of his family sustain near relations to the Southern people.

Mr Adams, the successor of Mr. Dallas, is winning golden opinions at the Court of St. James. He will enforce the claims of the United States with all "*the inherited power of his name.*"

Occasional.

Public Amusements.

"The American Cousin at Home," in which Mr. Sothern made such a decided hit, at the Walnut-street Theatre, in his two engagements last season, has been produced at the Winter Garden, New York, with the advantage of new and beautiful scenery, including a magnificent panorama of the Hudson river. The play has been considerably altered—expanded here, contracted there, and improved every where. It is not quite so long as it was. The New York critics acknowledge that Charles Gayler *can* write a play. Mr. Sothern, of course, is *Lord Dundreary*, and also the Honorable and ubiquitous *Sam*—certainly a surprising "double." Mr. Blake is said to have failed (as we expected) in the peculiar part of *Binney*, in which our Mr. Hemple made himself so much at home. Mr. Vining Bowers has obtained considerable praise from the New York press for his personation of *Asa Trenchard*. One of the critics contends that he is equal to Jefferson—who, by the way, has gone to California, where his "Mazeppa" is likely to astonish the natives very considerably. The part of *Asa Trenchard's* sister, played here with so much spirit and effect by Mrs. Anna Cowell, is taken by Mrs. Chanfrau at the Winter Garden, but the celebrated "Dixie" song, which Mrs. Cowell gave here with so much success during the scene of the voyage up the Hudson, has been made the finale of the play in New York, and is sung in separate verses, but with a full chorus, by the different characters, instead of a "tag." Mr. Sothern's personation of the *two* heroes in this amusing extravaganza is spoken of in New York as wonderfully effective, and we can well believe this, seeing what it was here.

Talking of Mr. S. Hemple's *Benney*, reminds us of a notice respecting him in the *City Item*, as follows:

"The citizens of Carlisle may prepare themselves for a treat. Mr. S Hemple, the popular comedian, has been selected by a couple of gentlemen of this city as stage manager, to select a company to play there this summer. It will be first class—comprising the leading people of the Walnut street Theatre—and they will perform a succession of tragedies, comedies, farces, and burlesques. This is the finest company that has ever left Philadelphia for a summer tour."

Theatricals are all but on leave of absence in this city. McDonough's Olympic Theatre, Race street, is open, and the spectacle-piece of "Beauty and the Beast" has been revived with splendor and success—Mrs. H. Chapman as *Beauty*, and Mr. McDonough as the *Beast*. A complimentary Benefit will be given to Mr. McDonough some evening this week, and he may reckon on a bumper.

Walnut street Theatre is occupied by a band of Ethiopian Minstrels, (Hooley & Campbell's troupe,) to whom are added, this week, those eccentric performers, Frank Brower and Billy Birch—these, with Cotton and Duley, make a quartette of *dark* comedians to be equalled no where. There are vocalists, musicians, dancers, actors—we know not what, in fact, in this capital company.

Sanford's Opera House, Eleventh street, reopens this evening, with Sanford's troupe, in a concert, (glees, duets, solos,) and the usual *nigger* specialties and fun for which this house is famous.

The very interesting performance, by the Hancock Girls' Grammar School, at the Academy of Music, last week, will be repeated there on Tuesday evening. It principally consists of the charming operatic Cantata of the Coronation of the Rose. The sight of the female pupils, neatly attired, and picturesquely presented on the stage, is worth the price of admission. The Conductor, as on the previous occasion, will be Mr. *Prof.* John Bower, to whom, at the request and in the name of several who attended the first performance, we take leave to suggest that there is not the slightest occasion for him, when supposed to be in his place conducting, to be wandering about among the audience, as he was too much the case last season. The singing ought have received at rehearsal. The intrusion of a Conductor, vibrating among the vocalists, when he ought to be stationary, adds nothing to the interest of the scene. It is not Mr. Prof J. Bower, but the charming young ladies, whom the public want to see. The proceeds of this performance will be, as before, for the Volunteers' Fund.

We stated, last week, that Mr. B. Young, whom we have always recognized as a reliable actor, will be stage-manager of Walnut-street Theatre during the next season. Among the re-engagements already made, are Mrs. Anna Cowell, Mr. Edwin Adams, Mr. S. Hemple, Miss C. LaMarque, and Mrs. Thayer. The "star" system, so long persevered in at the Walnut, will be continued next season.

Mr. Joseph D. Murphy, who has been business agent of Mrs. Garrett*z*on since she has been connected with Walnut-street Theatre, retires from that position, to occupy a similar post at Arch-street Theatre, under the lessee*s*hip of Mrs. John Drew. Mr. Donelson (Mr. Murphy's brother) will be the future business agent at Walnut-street Theatre.

Among the company already engaged at Arch-street Theatre, by Mrs. Drew, are Mr. and Mrs. John Gilbert, Mr. and Mrs. Shewell, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Henri (from Baltimore), Miss Mary Wells, and Miss Emma Taylor. The preparations for the opening have been several weeks under way. The alterations will be very great, including the reseating of the boxes and parquette, to allow twenty inches (instead of the usual eighteen) to every person. All the seats will be the same as in the Upper Circle (which are improved and *purified*—in more senses than one. Not one yard of the old scenery, not one article of the old wardrobe, will be retained—new scenery and a splendid wardrobe are now in hand, and a beautiful drop-scene, by one of the best scene-painters in America, has already been commenced. It is Mrs. Drew's design not to have any "stars," but to rely wholly on a first-rate stock-company, and to bring out, in quick succession and in the best manner, the best acting pieces, old and new, in the language. Mr. John Drew's position will give him unusual opportunities of selecting and sending over the most attractive novelties on the London stage. Mr. W. S. Fredericks will be Mrs. Drew's stage-manager. We had nearly forgotten to mention that, besides having the interior wholly improved and renovated, the exterior of Arch-street Theatre will also be brushed up—which it very greatly needs.

John Dawe is starring throughout England, with brilliant success. The last account we have of him was at Liverpool, where, with permission from Boucicault, he was playing *Myles*, in "The Colleen Bawn." His performance is highly eulogised in the *Liverpool Albion* and the *Northern Press*, but we find the truest appreciation of Mr. Drew's merit in *The Porcupine*, a local publication in the manner of *Punch*, which speaketh thus:

"Having once mentioned *Myles*, it is impossible to go further without doing honor to Mr. Drew, who is, beyond all question, the finest Irish actor living. And, perhaps, the finest that ever lived. Comparisons are unpleasant, but so many persons have mentioned Mr Drew's name in opposition to Mr. Barney Williams, that we may be excused for saying that, whilst the former is undoubtedly a quieter actor, he is not only more effective, but better deserves to be. To compare them is to compare the mother of Boots at the Swan, with the low comedy prattle of the "Boots at the Swan." Mr. Williams takes the stage and the house by storm; Mr Drew, from the moment the first word of rich, racy brogue drops unctuously from his lips, pervades the stage and house as if they were his right, and always had been. Mr. Williams extorts bursts of laughter by rollicking staginess and traditional Paddy-ism. Mr. Drew wins them by seemingly spontaneous and unmistakable humor, but more often diffuses quiet smiles and draws stealing tears by touches of that nature which makes the whole world kin. In pathos, Mr. Drew has no superior on the stage, and when the text is pithy and pointed, whether in sarcasm or emotion (as when he promises *Hardress Cregan* the contempt of a rogue, or puts in his claim to be the mother of *Eily*, because he has brought her into the world a second time), his delivery is inexpressibly telling, though perfectly unforced. We do not remember any actor who combined, in the portrayal of Irish character, so many and such eminent histrionic qualities. If the highest achievement of art is to conceal art; if moving and interesting truth to nature is the best proof of mimetic power, Mr. Drew has laid a sure foundation for a great and enduring dramatic fame."

We have hitherto said little about the success of Adelina Patti at the Royal Italian Opera, in London. We take the following from the *Athenæum*, which has a reputation for the ability and fairness of its musical critiques. The passages which we here put in *Italics* convey a very just appreciation of the wear-and-tear of a voice which has been overworked in public since its possessor was seven years old:

"It is nearly as difficult for a new *Somnambula* to appear on a Tuesday in London as it was for a new *Don Juan* to try his fortune here on the Monday. As following a Pasta, a Malibran, a Persiani, a Kemble, a Lind, a Viardot, (to mention merely the half-a-dozen first-class *Sonnambule*s it is no joke for one inexperienced in Europe once more to attempt a part, which, pretty and thoroughly sympathetic to the audience though it be, is here known in all its keys and capabilities. Mdlle. Patti, on Tuesday night, was, from first to last, greeted with applause as rapturous as attended the best of her predecessors. Bouquets (a rare sight at Covent Garden, when even an established favorite is in the case) broke out in a thick shower at the end of her first air. The house seemed determined to pass an unanimous vote that she was perfect. We recollect no similar ovation at the Royal Italian Opera. In the midst of such plaudits and recalls, and of such enthusiastic talk as "swept the corridors," it was hard for those who were less transported, (they appeared to be very few,) to avoid feeling somewhat dizzy; and such impressions, as are now to be offered, on their part, may seem tame, if not perverse. On Tuesday, Mdlle. Patti struck us as *a singular combination of youth and maturity*. Her appearance is not unpleasing; her figure is girlish; *her voice is already developed to its utmost, if not already fatigued. A blind man might have fancied it the property of a singer past her prime*. It is a high *soprano*, well in tune, reaching easily to E flat *in alt*—powerful enough for any theatre; more flexible than fascinating. Her shake is clear and brilliant. She seems to prefer *staccato* changes and ornaments, and according to the fashion of the day (when the fashion of worn out singers is to complain of the height of the pitch), she obviously delights in astonishing her public on the topmost notes of the scale. As an actress, she appeared to us composed rather than full of feeling. What she did was elegant and unaffected; not always, however, appropriate. For instance, throughout her first sleep-walking scene she soliloquized in full voice till the moment when the young girl lies down to repose. This was, to our thinking, the best part of her performance. In the rest of it there was nothing to displease, but we failed to discern traces of that sensibility which seems the distance between talent and genius, no matter what the physical means be. In short, we cannot feel so sure, as the world on every side for the moment is, that another first-class artist, or one who may become such, has appeared. 'Time tries all.' If Mdlle. Patti do prove the *rara avis* so long desired—if the sensation of Tuesday be justified in her coming performances—so much the better for all who hear and for all who write on music."

This is evidently a conscientious criticism, encouraging and generous, as well as discriminating, but carefully on the non-committal principle.

LATEST NEWS

By Telegraph to The Press.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Special Despatches to "The Press."

Washington, June 9.

Late from Harper's Ferry.

A reliable gentleman, whose name is prudently withheld, but in whose statements implicit reliance is placed here, was at Harper's Ferry within twenty-four hours. He was informed that Jeff. Davis, Beauregard, and Wigfall had been at Harper's Ferry within a few days. From an acquaintance whom he found, and between himself and whom a mutual confidence had long since been established, he gathered some facts: The troops are in hourly anticipation of an attack from the Union forces. They were apprehensive of approaches from different quarters, and the road to Manassas Junction should be taken from their control, they would, if overcome in an engagement, all become prisoners.

The supply of rations to the troops was very irregular; sometimes for two or three days there was abundance, but the other part of the week was often passed without a regular meal at mess hours. Many of the privates were deserting, and a feeling of probable defeat dampened the ardor of the men.

It is the opinion of some of our experienced military officers here that the troops will attempt to evacuate Harper's Ferry on the approach of the Federal troops; but the very fact of their retreat being cut off will suggest to them the necessity of a desperate struggle for victory.

Fort Corcoran.

The works at this fort have been steadily pushed forward. The men are the best workers in the army, and Fort Corcoran will stand a monument of their industry long after Time has conquered the belligerents in this national struggle, and laid the participants at rest.

Arrest of More Spies.

Friday morning, in the early gray of day, a number of the men in the Sixty-ninth left Fort Corcoran to bring in their oxen. They espied a band of men in the distance, making observations. Information was sent to the fort, and a detachment sent out, who surrounded and captured five men. They were brought in and handed over to General Mansfield.

Movements at the Navy Yard.

Last evening the *Montezello* sailed with orders to report to the flag officer at Fortress Monroe.

The steamer *Mount Vernon* arrived yesterday from Fortress Monroe. As she passed Evanspert, thirty-five miles below Washington on the Potomac, that town was seen to be on fire—to what extent could not be ascertained, though the flames and smoke indicated a general conflagration.

The *Mount Vernon* received a number of large sheet-iron buoys on board and proceeded down the river again.

Movement of Steamers.

The steamer *Thomas Freeborn* will have her repairs completed on Tuesday, when she will again take her place in the blockading squadron until required for "other" service.

The steamer *Ice Boat* is freighted with shot, and, with steam up, is ready for a move at a moment's notice. She has been under sailing orders for several days.

The *Powhatan* lies at the wharf with four of the thirty-nine prisoners from Alexandria on board. The others have been released, on taking the oath. The fellows left their card of thanks to the captain, for the care and kindness received while they were "guests" on board the *Powhatan*. No doubt it was much preferable to the rebel camp life which they had experienced.

Soldiers' Pay.

The soldiers' pay is now due, and they want it. Government prefers to wait the assembling of Congress; some murmuring is heard. But they will have their money immediately. If delay occurred it would have a strong tendency to thin the ranks when the three months' enlistment expires. The soldiers *need* their money. They have nobly done their duty, and in no event should delay occur in handing to each man his dues.

Troops in and Near the City.

Thirty-six full regiments, a number of battalions and companies, and five artillery corps, independent of the artillery connected with regiments, have arrived in Washington since the 18th day of April, led by the pioneer regiment, the 25th Pennsylvania, Colonel Baker. Of these about 22,000 are in Virginia, the balance, 20,000, are in Washington and suburbs, and at the Relay House.

Special Agent to the Pacific Coast.

Victor Smith, Esq., late a member of the "Frontier Guards" at Washington, and for ten years last past connected with the Cincinnati daily press sails in the *Northern Light* on Tuesday for San Francisco, as special agent of the Treasury Department on the Pacific coast.

New Tariff Circular.

The Treasury Department has just issued a circular explanatory of the act of March, 1851, relative to appraisement of imported merchandize, and of the act of March last. Two periods of time are therein indicated as dates at which values are to be ascertained. It is the opinion of the Department that the former of these periods named—the date of actual shipment—applies to merchandize exported from a shipping port of the country of exportation, and that the latter named—the date of exportation—applies to merchandize exported from an interior country having no shipping port. The regulations heretofore established are, therefore modified accordingly.

Diplomatic Relations with England and Austria.

It is thought that the action of the British Government in its recognition of the validity of letters of marque and reprisal from the Confederate States was a discourtesy unprecedented in diplomacy, in view of the fact that its decision was hastily announced, without first awaiting the arrival of the new American minister, Mr. Adams, who was prepared properly to represent the policy of the Administration.

Although Austria has not directly protested against Mr. Burlingame, our new minister to that court, it is known that some other gentleman, less objectionable than himself, on account of his legislative prominency in behalf of Italy, would be acceptable.

Policy of General Scott.

The experienced veteran, who directs and controls the military movements of the day said to a confidential friend, within a few days, that peace would be restored to the whole country and the country restored to its legitimate proportions by the return of May month in 1862. His movements now in regard to Virginia evidently indicate a grand *coup de grace* that will decide the supremacy of military power in that State. The advance of troops from three or more points upon Harper's Ferry, the complete preparation of Gen. Butler's column to make an advance upon Norfolk, and Gen. McDowell's column now prepared for advancing upon Manassas Junction, suggests a grand simultaneous movement upon those important points, that will decide the supremacy and control in that State.

Military Movements.

Nearly one hundred army wagons arrived by trains yesterday. Immediately on arrival men commenced putting them together. This morning a large number of them were loaded up with provisions and sent out of the city, some of them to the camps in Virginia, and others apparently for a more distant point.

A company of U. S. Cavalry paraded the city at an early hour and passed into Virginia They carried rations and provender.

The State of Missouri is detached from the Department of the West, and incorporated into that now under the command of Gen. McClellan.

But for the depredations of certain volunteers on private property in Hampton, and for miles around, as well as in Fairfax county, it is represented here that the Union feeling in Virginia would have been considerably strengthened. Efforts are now being made to remedy the just complaints, and to assure the inhabitants of protection.

The Fourth Connecticut Regiment.

Hartford, June 9.—The Fourth Connecticut Regiment of volunteers leave to-morrow morning for Jersey City, on the route to Washington.

Great Movement toward Harper's Ferry.

A Balloon for Reconnoitering Purposes Tested.

Washington, June 9.—The Rhode Island regiments break up their camps at midnight and leave per railroad in the direction of Harper's Ferry early to-morrow morning. Their marine battery was to-night brought into the city, taken to the railroad depot, unlimbered and loaded on the train, together with the artillery horses and those belonging to the full staff, at 6 o'clock this evening. Professor Allen, of Rhode Island, this afternoon brought into the city a large balloon which he inflated from the city gaspipe at the corner of Massachusetts avenue and Fourth street, and afterwards loaded it down with sand bags for more convenient transportation to the Rhode Island camp, about one mile north of the capitol, at which place a cord five thousand feet long was attached to the basket and an experimental excursion made to that height.

The balloon is for immediate reconnoitering purposes, and it is said that he will start on his aerial voyage early to-morrow morning.

It is said that several other regiments are also under orders for a movement at daybreak. The 3d, 4th and 5th battalions of the District of Columbia volunteers are also under similar orders. They believe they are to go to Frederick, Md.

There is trouble in the New York Ninth Regiment, growing out of the alleged incapacity of the officers, including Col. Stiles. Yesterday nearly 200 of the men refused to be sworn in for three years under that commander.

Two sons of a distinguished naval commander, now in the service, are privates in the regiment, and are among the disaffected. Some of these men afterwards returned and were sworn in, but the greater portion of them will enlist into the Eighth and other New York regiments. Much regret is expressed that there should be disaffection of this kind in one of best regiments in the service. The Ninth has made many friends since they arrived here, while Col. Stiles is deservedly esteemed.

At 6 o'clock this morning a full company of the New York Second Regiment arrived and joined their companies; also, a large detachment for the New York Ninth.

The precise military movements contemplated from this point, and soon to be executed, are of such a character as do not authorize publicity.

FROM HAGERSTOWN.

THE REBELS AT WILLIAMSPORT.

No United States Troops Arrived at Hagerstown or Williamsport.

Hagerstown, June 9.—No troops from Chambersburg have reached either this point or Williamsport to-day. The Confederate pickets were seen to-day from Williamsport by means of a glass. Their number was 53. Horses were also discovered picketed half a mile beyond the river on the crest of the hill. The observer judged the number of rebels in the neighborhood to be about 200. The largest body is encamped at Falling Waters, five miles below. Every ford is strictly guarded, and the rebels have seized and broken up every skiff on the river they could get. As soon as the river falls there will be fifty fords of easy access for infantry and cavalry, and the passage of the Potomac cannot be prevented.

Latest from Harper's Ferry.

Hagerstown, June 9.—Reliable intelligence from Harper's Ferry on Thursday says there has been no change of position literally. The number of troops is put down, from half a dozen sources, at 12 000, but the correspondent believes it to be about 9,000.

The news to-day confirms the report that the bridges at Harper's Ferry and Sheppardstown have been mined, and that trains of gunpowder are laid from the middle piers in water-proof cases, with long fuses attached.

The writer has seen eleven deserters from Harper's Ferry, Shepherdstown, and Martinsburg to-day. They escaped across the Potomac last night.

Fifty Virginians, at Williamsport, (Union men,) are awaiting the advance of the Federal troops to enable them to return to their homes.

The rebels have destroyed Dam No. 5, on the Potomac, eight miles above Williamsport, to-day, to prevent the construction of boat-bridges on its breast for the passage of the Federal troops, and it is suspected they will destroy Dam No. 4, nine miles below Williamsport, to-night. The Chesapeake and Ohio Canal men are very indignant, and large numbers of them will join the Federal forces.

The Tennessee Election.

Nashville, June 8.—The vote in this city for separation and co-operation was 2,693; against it, 256. Eleven other districts in this county gave 2 393 for separation and representation, and 88 against it. In Memphis the vote stood 5,608 for separation, 4 for no representation, and 5 for Union. The interior, as far as heard from, is nearly unanimous, and the State is largely for Secession.

Louisville, June 8.—At Clarksville, Tenn, the vote to-day on separation and representation was 561 against *one* for separation. The vote was unanimous in three precincts.

From Fort Monroe and its Surroundings.

Baltimore, June 9.—The steamer *State of Georgia* left Old Point last night and arrived here to-day with the following intelligence:

On Friday, the 10th New York regiment (National Zouaves) reached Fort Monroe in the *State of Georgia* and the *George Peabody*, and the *Marion* landed the 9th regiment (Scott Guards) on Saturday, who immediately proceeded to Newport News. Col. Hawkins' regiment goes to the same place to-day.

Gen. Butler has returned to Fort Monroe. The Naval Brigade is temporarily in charge of Colonel Wardriss of the Massachusetts Third regiment, and the men are now being inspected. Those unfit for service will return to New York. The remainder will choose their officers, and Bartlett will doubtless be rejected. The battalion will at once be armed and equipped.

An outpost at Newport News was fired upon Friday, and, in the alarm, private McCarty, of the Fourth Massachusetts regiment was accidentally shot.

A large fleet of transports have been added to the service here. Great activity prevailed at Newport News last night on account of rumors of armed rebels in the vicinity. An order was sent to foil the trees near the batteries.

The steamer *Quaker City*, while on a reconnoissance on Friday, when near Cape Henry, threw a shell into an old frame building. About thirty armed men ran out, mounted their horses which were concealed in a thicket and scampered off.

General Butler has issued stringent orders to prevent depredations on private property. Those thus suffering at Hampton have had the amounts of their damages refunded.

BURNING OF EVANSPORT—A REGIMENT LANDING AT PIG'S POINT.

New York, June 8.—The *Evening Post* has a special despatch from Washington, reporting the arrival of the steamer *Mount Vernon* from Fortress Monroe. The passengers report that the entire town of Evansport, eleven miles above Acquia Creek, was in flames. The property in the town is principally owned by Union men. [The town consists of a saw-mill that suspended operations long since, an unoccupied store, and a few shanties, the population comprising somewhat less than a dozen negroes.]

The same despatch reports that the steamer *Cambridge* was disembarking troops at Fortress Monroe, and that another steamer was landing a regiment at Pig's Point.

Additional from Fort Monroe.

New York, June 9.—The steamer *Alabama*, from Fort Monroe, brings 50 Virginia refugees. One of these reports the *Merrimac* raised and in the dry dock at Norfolk. Five regiments are now at Newport News.

Affairs in the Old Dominion.

CAPTURES AND SEIZURES OF CONTRABAND ARTICLES.

Alexandria, June 9.—Two prisoners were captured yesterday by four privates of company C, of the Michigan regiment, a mile this side of Berks station, on the Orange and Alexandria railroad, and 13 miles from this point. One of the prisoners was a corporal in a cavalry company, and the other a private in the Governor's Mounted Guard from Richmond. The Michigan men, while scouting, approached Berks station, when they saw a number of stacks of muskets and put back. They were seen and pursued by the two cavalry men, but sought refuge in ambush and succeeded in capturing their pursuers. The prisoners were brought to town and treated with exceeding kindness. Their names are Dr. Thomas M. Fleming and Samuel Green.

Seven thousand yards of cassimet and other military goods were seized at the Adams Express office to-day, consigned to the Point of Rocks, *via* the Alexandria, Hampshire, and Loudoun Railroad, valued at about $10,000. The seizure of goods in this vicinity belonging to the rebels will almost pay the expenses of the expedition.

The first issue of the soldiers' newspaper by the Fifth Pennsylvania Regiment appeared this evening. It is printed in fine style, on the old Alexandria *Sentinel* press, and is full of interesting information regarding the condition of the soldiers, &c. It is edited by Lieutenant Ely, of Lebanon county. Several of its columns are devoted to German literature.

Affairs in the District of Columbia.

Washington, June 8.—Hon. Emerson Etheridge's name having been mentioned in connection with the clerkship of the House of Representatives, he recently called on Colonel Forney to assure him that he