The Daily Post.

JAMES P. BARR,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR

TERMS:—Daily, Six Dollars per year, strictly in advance. Weekly, Single subscriptions One Dollar per year; in Clubs of five, One Dollar

LOCAL AFFAIRS.

Oil Items.

From last week's Venango *Spectator*, we clip the following items: Mr. Funk, operating on the McElhany farm, Oil creek, eight miles from the mouth, struck a fountain vein last week, at a depth of 400 feet. Large quantities of oil were instantly thrown out and the stream continued for about two days, before subsiding. Having no vessels to receive it, the greater portion of this oil was lost—say three-fourths. The farm belongs to Dr. Haldeman, of Ohio, one of the proprietors of the Buchanan farm, and is in what has heretofore been known as the "Dry Region."—This is, undoubtedly, a first class well.

Riley & Co., of Cleveland, on the Pops farm, 4 miles down the river, tapped a good vein of oil, on Friday last, at a depth of 312 feet. They gather 80 barrels of oil in 12 hours, by voluntary flow, and are making preparations to pump.

Raymond & Underhill, on the Allegheny, opposite the mouth of Pithole, struck a good vein on Friday last, at a depth of 275 feet.—This is the third or fourth vein struck in their well and it will be in pumping operation soon.

Dr. Christy & Co.; on the Clapp farm, struck a heavy vein of oil on Thursday last, at a depth of 310 feet. They commenced pumping on Saturday at the rate of four barrels per hour.

The new well of the Corplanter company, on the Clapp farm is, perhaps, the best in the region. It is on Oil creek, a short distance from the mouth, and 320 feet deep. The first fourteen days of its running 1,000 barrels of oil were put up, and it is now yielding 100 barrels in 24 hours. As a tangible fact of its yield, the company has now in store, at Pittsburgh, 2,000 barrels of oil from this well alone.

The Michigan Rock Oil Company, under the superintendance of M. W. Kelsey, Esq., have completed their Refinery at Oil City, mouth of Oil creek, and it is now in full operation, producing a refined oil of superior quality. This is a move in the right direction. A few establishments like this in the oil region, and we shall no longer be at the mercy of the sharks of the oil trade.

REPUBLICAN COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.—At a meeting of the Allegheny County Republican Executive Committee, held on Saturday morning, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the Republican Executive Committee of Allegheny county would most earnestly and emphatically join in the just and general condemnation of the infamous frauds committed upon our volunteer soldiers of Pennsylvania; more especially upon the men of Allegheny county now at Washington defending the Capital of the nation.

Resolved, That the Grand Jury of the county and the District Attorney are hereby requested to give their attention to the frauds perpetrated in Allegheny county.

Resolved, That the course of the Hon. Samuel A. Purviance, in resigning all further connection with the present State Administration, deserves the commendation and respect of all honest and honorable men.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to carry out the objects of the foregoing resolutions.

THOS. M. MARSALL, Chairman.
THOS. F. WILSON, Secretary.

PITTSBURGH GUNS SPIKED AT BALTIMORE.—According to the Baltimore *Sun* two Columbiads, shipped from this city to Fort McHenry were spiked last week in Baltimore. The *Sun* says: "From a visitor at the fort yesterday, we learn that the two large columbiads sent down from the Pittsburgh foundry, and intended for Fort McHenry, were spiked while left standing on the gondolas at Locust street dock over night. Rat-tail files were used for the purpose by the parties engaged in the unwarrantable act, and the job was so complete that it is thought the guns will have to be sent back for the purpose of re-boring the touch holes. Workmen were employed yesterday in endeavoring to extract the obstructions by boring, but met with poor success."

FLAG PRESENTATION.—On Saturday morning the Pittsburgh Rifles, Capt. Smith, came in from Camp Wilkins, and after marching through a part of the city, halted, about ten o'clock, in front of the residence of W. A. Howard, Esq., Third street, near Grant, where they were presented with a beautiful stand of colors, made for them by several ladies of the vicinity. Rev. W. D. Howard, of the Second Presbyterian church, made a feeling presentation address, which was appropriately responded to by Capt. W. Smith, of the Rifles. The corps is one of the finest ever organized in this city and the flag could not have been more worthily bestowed.

BURGLARS IN ALLEGHENY.—On Friday night the residence of Mr. James Godfrey, hard ware dealer, located in the Second Ward, Allegheny, near the outer depot, was burglariously entered and ransacked, but with the exception of a dress coat and some smaller articles, nothing was taken. The same party, it is supposed, entered the residence of E. D. Johnston, boot builder, in the same vicinity, and helped himself to a few articles of dress. The door was unlocked by means of an "outsider." Suspicion falls upon a stranger, who came to Mr. Godfrey's house in the evening, representing that he was without money and hungry. He was provided with supper, after which he left the premises.

THE THIRTEENTH REGIMENT.—A letter from one of the volunteers in company "I," Thirteenth Regiment, states that haversacks, overcoats and canteens for the men reached "Camp Scott" on the 30th. The Regiment has everything now but tents. The men are reported in good health and spirits, and appear to enjoy camp life, though they would prefer going at once into active service.

A RENEGADE PENNSYLVANIAN.—The Lancaster, (Pa.) *Express*, says that the principal of a firm in New Orleans, La., who recently sent but eight foreigners to work on their canal, fully equipped at their expense, to fight against the good old Union, is a native of Lancaster county, and owns two fine farms there.

THE HOUSEHOLD JOURNAL.—We have received part 2 of Vol. II of the "Household Journal," from the publishers, embracing Nos. 5 to 8. It is full of choice reading matter and sells at the low figure of seventeen cents. It can be had of the booksellers and news dealers.

TELEGRAPH FROM THIS CITY TO FRANKLIN.—The parties connected with the proposed telegraph line, which we recently noticed, are now considering whether to extend the line from Butler to Pittsburgh by way of Tarentum, or direct by the plank road.

DROWNED.—The body of a young man named, named Alexander Greenlee, late of Mercer county, was found in Pithole creek, Venango county, on Sunday last. An inquest was held, and a verdict of accidental drowning rendered.

FIFTH REGIMENT HOME GUARD INFANTRY.—The following is the result of the election for regimental officers of the above regiment, held on Friday: Colonel—Charles G. Smith; Lieut. Colonel—Jas. M. Cooper; Major—J. W. F. White.

IMPORTANT TO CITY TAX PAYERS.—The City Treasurer, Mr. Eichbaum, announces that the city taxes are now due, and all persons wishing to avail themselves of the discount allowed for prompt payment must settle up within the prescribed time.

POST OFFICE CHANGE.—The name of the Post office at the mouth of Oil creek has been changed from Corbplainter to Oil City. C. B. Reynolds has been appointed Postmaster in place of the former incumbent, Mrs. Moran.

ACCEPTED.—The Hopkins Infantry, Capt. Wishart, Washington, Pa., have been accepted and ordered to hold themselves in readiness for marching.

PATENT ISSUED.—Abraham Reese, of this city, has been awarded a patent for an improved bolt and rivet machine.

THE returns for regimental officers of the Home Guard Infantry, Sixth Regiment, will not be counted off until to-day.

DES STEBBINS & MUNSON have removed their office to No. 191 Penn street, near St. Clair.

The Committee of Public Safety.

The regular weekly meeting of this body was held at the Board of Trade Rooms on Saturday afternoon, Judge Wilkins presiding.

Hon. Wm. F. Johnston, from the Executive Committee, reported that they had agreed, in conjunction with the Committee on Home Defense, upon a plan for organization of the Home Guards, which will be found elsewhere. In relation to the soldiers shirts seized here *en route* for Savannah, as contraband of war, and a bale of red flannel seized with the same, he reported that the house who shipped the flannel, in New York, had claimed the value of this flannel, some $180, and desired the committee either to pay for it (having been used by the ladies) or refuse to do so, to give them an opportunity of suing for the value of the goods. The owner of the shirts had also placed his claim in the hands of an attorney for suit. A sub-committee had been appointed to inform the attorney that if liable the committee would pay, but if the shirts were contraband of war, they would refuse. Gov. Johnston said he did not think that any lawyer would dare to bring suit in this matter; if he did he would run great risk of hanging.

Reuben Miller, Jr., chairman of the Finance Committee, reported the receipts of the week as follows:

Cash from South Pittsburgh	$100.00
" Birmingham, 1s. Precinct	80.00
" " 2d "	215.00
" McClure Township	54.75
" Lower St. Clair Township	100.00
Orders " Sixth Ward Pittsburgh	50.00
" " Lower St. Clair Township	100.00
	$699.75
The total receipts so far are	$18,733 50

The report was approved and filed.

Wm. M. Edgar, Esq., Chairman of the Relief Committee, made a report, showing that they are now affording relief to 502 families, (an increase of 90 since last week.) The total distribution thus far has been $2,713 67 in cash, $625 in groceries, $29.50 in dry goods and 1950 bushels coal. The committee had received $8,000 in cash from the Finance Committee. The report was accepted, approved and filed.

Hon. P. C. Shannon, chairman of the Committee on Home Defense, reported the result of the regimental elections, which we have already published, and read the plan of holding an election for Major and Brigadier Generals, which will be found in our columns.

The report of the committee was, after some discussion, finally adopted.

The following, offered by Mr. Cass, was adopted:

Resolved, That the committee on Home Defense be instructed to report to the next regular meeting of this committee a plan for designating the order of rank of the several Brigadier Generals and Colonels.

The committee then adjourned to meet on next Saturday afternoon at three o'clock.

Sharpshooting.

As far as we are aware, no particular pains have been used to perfect the men now organizing for active service in the several encampments of this State in the use of the rifle or rifled muskets placed in their hands. Most of the volunteers have some experience with the rifle, and others are expert marksmen. We wish to direct attention to the following facts presented by the New York *Evening Post*, showing the immense importance of sharpshooting:—According to accounts of firing kept in the late Italian war, it is said to require not less than two hundred and seventy pounds of lead to "kill a man" in battle. And yet, into the regiments will be able to destroy a battery of light artillery at eight hundred yards distance (nearly half a mile) in one minute.

The battles of the revolution were gained by the rifle; and American troops have always retained a name among the armies of the world for excellent marksmanship. In the Italian war each man killed cost four thousand two hundred rounds of ball cartridge. At the battle of Victoria, in the Peninsular war, eight hundred balls were fired for each man killed. At the battle of Cherubusco the Mexicans threw away 1,000 shots for every eight hundred rounds they fired, while the Americans killed one for every one hundred and twenty-five rounds.

The value of good shooting in action cannot be overrated; and every general who has commanded in battle has felt the benefit of large partially disciplined armies, picked men, even on the outskirts of battle, and with unerring aim pick off the enemy in detail. The mere knowledge that they are thus marked by men who have only to aim to make death certain is often quite sufficient to make the enemy's force waver, in an important position; and with Howard, Taylor, Scott and Grant at hand, there would be quite able to cope with and render useless the enemy's field artillery.

We allude to this because we desire to impress upon those who superintend the organization of reserve corps in various States the importance of establishing everywhere competitive rifle exercises, encouraging by every means citizens of all ages to make themselves expert in the use of the rifle. In less than two years the English have become a nation of marksmen; and setting aside the immense increase in effectiveness which they have thus gained in case of war, the mere feeling of confidence with which troops thus practiced will go into battle is in itself a moral force which cannot be overrated.

We are not likely to lack men to maintain the Union against all enemies that may come; but every body desires that this war may be short and sharp; and to make it so nothing will be of so much use as to have every soldier a dead shot, and every regiment a regiment of sharpshooters. Those who are now in the field will have to perfect their practice in battle; but for those who remain at home and await a further call, there is time still to make themselves more effective for their country's service. Let us have rifle galleries and shooting matches in every city, town, village and country neighborhood, throughout the country; and with proper encouragement we shall soon be a nation of crack shots.—*Harrisburg Patriot and Union.*

Election of Field officers for the Home Guards.

At the meeting of the Committee of Public Safety, held on Saturday afternoon, a plan for the election of Major and Brigadier Generals for the Home Guards, agreed upon by the Executive and Home Defense Committees, was unanimously ratified. On Saturday next, the 8th inst., is fixed on for the election of a Major General. The eight regiments of Home Guards are divided into three brigades—the First Regiment of Rifles and the Second and Fourth of Heavy Infantry to constitute one, the Second of Rifles and the First and Third of Heavy Infantry another. Each brigade elects a Brigadier General on the same day that the Major General is chosen. The cavalry companies organized are provided for in the arrangement. The elections are to be held at the armories of the respective companies, and only actual enrolled members permitted to vote. The elections are to be conducted under the general rules observed in the elections for regimental officers, and the returns handed in to the Committee on Home Defense, at City Hall, on Monday, 10th inst. The Committee on Home Defense will publish the details governing the elections in a day or two. All rules inconsistent with the above are repealed.

We congratulate the Committee upon the adoption of this programme, as we believe it will give more general satisfaction than the appointment of the officers named, and we rejoice that an early day has been appointed for the election, as the Home Guards and their officers will thus be enabled to prepare in due season for the appropriate celebration of the Fourth of July.

INCONSTANT.—Officers Gumbert and Moon of the Mayor's police, on Saturday morning visited the house of Mr. Whitaker, on Four Mile Run, up the Allegheny, and there arrested a man named John Stevenson, aged about thirty; who had been stopping at Whitaker's with a young girl of seventeen, named Charlotte Johnson, who passed as his wife.—Mrs. Stevenson, who followed her husband from their residence near Salem, Ohio, states that he eloped with the girl, who was employed as a servant in the family, some time since. In the afternoon Stevenson was committed by the Mayor until to-day, when he will probably be sent to Salem, for trial, on a charge of adultery.

STRAWBERRIES AND CREAM.—M. McGinley, at his confectionery on Fifth street, opposite the Exchange Bank, is now serving up the most delicious strawberries and cream, and ice cream of all flavors. A word to the wise is sufficient.

THE June term of the Court of Quarter Sessions commences this morning.

PERSONAL.—Andrew Carnegie, Esq., the gentlemanly superintendent of the Western division of the Pennsylvania Central Railroad, arrived in town on Saturday, from Washington City, where he acts in conjunction with Col. Thomas A. Scott, of the War Department, in managing those roads which the Government have taken charge of for their own use. His visit was brief, as he left yesterday afternoon again for the East. Although young in years, his experience and services are indispensable at this moment to the Government in the present crisis of the country. We hope soon to see him back again, as he is always hailed with pleasure, and a welcome guest in this, his native city.

NEW COUNTERFEIT.—We learn through Messrs Feld & Lard, of the National Bank Note Reporter, that a new and dangerous counterfeit Five Dollar bill on the Howard Banking Company, Boston, Mass., has just made its appearance. Vig. Santa Claus in a sleigh drawn by eight deer, on the roof of a house; five females grouped around an ornamental figure 5, 5 above, on right end; medallion head, 5 below, on left end. The words "The Howard Banking Co." are very black. Better refuse all fives for the present.

SANFORD and his company will continue to amuse the public at the Theatre this week.—They performed to a fine audience on Saturday evening, and pleased all. The "comic ends" are well sustained by Moran and Dixey, while their instrumental music and songs are excellent. To-night the great burlesque of "The Seven Sable Sisters," with an excellent programme in addition will be performed, and we expect to see the house crowded.

A RUMOR prevailed in the city on Saturday that the Pittsburgh rifles had been ordered to Wheeling, but it proved unfounded. It probably originated from the fact that they received their knapsacks, haversacks, cartridge and cap boxes and other equipments on Saturday morning, and appeared on parade with them for the first time, on the occasion of the presentation referred to elsewhere.

THE NEW CAMP.—The arrangements for the new camp at Hulton are being thoroughly and rapidly perfected, and it will probably be ready for occupancy by the middle of the week. One company, the "Warren Guards," from the "wild cat" region, is now in camp there.

THE REBELLION RECORD.—The publishers sends us No. 5 of the "Rebellion Record," edited by Frank Moore. Hunt & Miner are the Pittsburgh agents.

RECOGNIZANCES FORFEITED.—Saturday being the last day of the March term, a number of recognizances were forfeited in the Criminal Court.

THE M'Combs Cadets have, we understand, been accepted, and go into camp at Wheeling, this week.

DENTISTRY.—Dr. C. Sill, No. 246 Penn street, attends to all branches of the Dental profession.

JOSEPH MEYER & SON,
Manufacturers, and Wholesale and Retail Dealers in
FURNITURE AND CHAIRS
No. 424 Penn Street, above the Canal,
Have on hand a large assortment of Fancy and Plain Furniture, in Walnut and Mahogany of their own manufacture, and warranted equal in quality and style to any manufactured in the city, and will sell at reasonable prices. apr26-tf

DR. C. BAELZ,
WATERCURE AND HOMEOPATHIC PHYSICIAN,
ALSO—AGENT OF
RAINBOW'S CELEBRATED TRUSS
FOR
RUPTURES.
deltf COR. PENN AND WAYNE STS.

SEAT OF WAR.
THREE MAPS.
NO. 1.
PLAN OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON.
With Delaware, Maryland and parts of the surrounding States.
NO. 2.
Pennsylvania, Virginia, Maryland, New Jersey, and a large portion of Ohio—to Cincinnati.
NO.
1. UNITED STATES,
from Atlantic to Pacific, showing all the Forts.
N. B.—These Maps are New Steel Engravings on good paper. They are just published, and show by Red Lines, the Stations of the different regiments of the Federal and Rebel Armies.
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LYON ARNSTHAL.
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Fine Old Whiskies,
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EATON, MACRUM & CO.,
No. 17 & 19 Fifth Street,
HAVE RECEIVED "UNION" NECK Ties, "Union" Watch Guards, "Union" Head Dresses, "Union" Buttons, "Union" Rosettes, Union Badges, &c. Red, White and Blue Ribbons, all widths' Grey Flannel and Fancy Traveling Shirts. Military Companies supplied with all kinds of Furnishing Goods at prime Cost. my24

THE LATEST NEWS.

BY TELEGRAPH.

A BATTLE AT ACQUIA CREEK.

Brisk Firing on Both Sides.

GOVERNMENT VESSELS HAULED OFF, SHORT OF AMMUNITION.

TWENTY REBELS KILLED AND WOUNDED.

SUPPLY OF WAR MATERIAL SENT.

ATTACK TO BE RESUMED.

Schooner Lynchburgh Seized.

ENGAGEMENT AT FAIRFAX COURT HOUSE.

APPOINTMENT OF ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

Ex-Governor Pratt Arrested.

JUDGE DOUGLAS RECOVERING.

ALEXANDRIA, June 1.—The steamer Gipsey, from Darlington, via Fort Washington arrived

She left the fort at 10 o'clock this evening and brings information that the engagement with the rebels at Acquia Creek yesterday resulted in the steamers Freeborn and Anacostia retiring after a severe fight, in which, it is said, a number were killed on both sides.

The steamers retired to await the arrival of the Pawnee.

The latter, on reaching Fort Washington, was detained to await the transport to Baltimore with troops, supposed to be the 71st New York Regiment.

On the arrival of the latter they proceeded down the river in company.

The 4th Pennsylvania Regiment has arrived here.

Three wounded dragoons have been brought here on a wagon from the neighborhood of the Fairfax Court House.

WASHINGTON, June 1.—1 15 P. M.—Capt. Dahlgreen forwarded a despatch to the Secretary of the Navy, stating that this afternoon a battery at Acquia creek opened fire on the U. S. vessels Water Witch, Anacosta and Freeborn. Report says the vessels responded, and the firing on both sides was brisk. One of the batteries was silenced after more than an hour's firing, when the U. S. forces suddenly became short of ammunition and hauled off.

A steamer was immediately despatched to the Navy Yard for a full supply of powder and shot. She has arrived. The Pawnee and another vessel has returned and will arrive there by 12 o'clock to-night with an abundant supply of war materials, so that firing upon the battery will be re-opened in the morning.

This engagement must have occured after the Cataline passed Acquia creek, at 2 p. m. The report is that none were killed or wounded on board the U. S. vessels.

A gentleman arrived to-day from Fortress Monroe, reports that when he left yesterday, 450 slaves had arrived at the fort, and they stated that a general uprising of the slave population was expected.

Gen. Butler was to await further reinforcements before moving further into the enemy's country.

WASHINGTON CITY, June 1.—3 *o'clock P. M.*—By the arrival at the Navy Yard of the steamer Resolute, Lieut. Budd commanding, we have full particulars of the attack on the batteries at Acquia Creek yesterday morning. The Freedom, Captain Ward, opened fire on the ferry boat Page, lying at the right of the depot. The second round was fired at the depot buildings, and the third across the bow of the Page By this time three batteries had opened on the Freeborn, supported by the gun boat Taylor. As soon as the Freeborn and Taylor's range they commenced firing shell with marked effect, several of them falling into the batteries. In a few minutes their small batteries were completely silenced. The main battery on the hill, supposed to be armed with ten rifled cannon, now opened a terrific fire upon the Freeborn, to which the Freeborn and Anacosta replied with considerable effect. The Anacosta took up a position and played upon the depot with rapidity, firing thirteen shells, three of them taking effect and causing much consternation among the rebels. The Resolute did not use the guns, owing to finding that their calibre was too small to do effective service. Only one shot struck the flotilla. It was a ricochet shot, striking the Freeborn on the gunwale, and passing over one of the sailor's arms, doing him no harm—then, striking a gun-carriage it fell upon the deck. No one was killed or wounded on our side. On the rebel side the damage was considerable, as men were seen conveying the dead and wounded to places of safety. We have no means of knowing the exact loss on the rebel side. At ten minutes of twelve o'clock the firing ceased and the flotilla hauled off

The Resolute arrived here at noon, having in tow a coal boat to obtain fuel for the squadron.

The Pawnee was passed last night en route for the late scene of action.

The flotilla is at anchor within five miles of Acquia Creek.

It is believed to be impossible to silence the third battery, as it is of rifled cannon, without a landing force.

ALEXANDRIA, June 1.—A sentinel at Cloud's mills, on the outskirts of Alexandria, was shot and killed last nigt, and another wounded, it is supposed by rebel scouts.

A river craftsman who arrived late last night, reports having heard continuous firing in the direction of Acquia Creek.

The hope entertained by many at the North that secession would dwindle away before the United States forces, and loyalty raise its head, is not reassured by interviews had with the prominent citizens of Alexandria, who express their grievances in the strongest language.

The officers of the command here exert themselves to the utmost to create a better feeling, with only partial success. The experience gained from this occupation will doubtless lead to great discrimination in the future selection of the troops. For this purpose, Col. Stone, while in command here, gained great favor among the citizens for his efforts to subdue some unruly spirits among the military, whose conduct had an injurious effect on the successful dissemination of Union principles.

There are many unsatisfactory rumors afloat with reference to the movements of Gen. Lee. The present unprotected state of Alexandria assures many, as it is not believed that the movements of the rebels will be so conducted as to unnecessarily hazard the lives of Southern women and children, and the property of Southern citizens.

It it not likely that there will be a moment's warning of any engagement that may occur. This uncertainly breaks the rest of officers, soldiers and civilians. Your reporter slept standing last night, with a trusty sentinel by his side to awaken him on the first alarm.

There was some uneasiness last night, but it passed off without any alarm.

ST. LOUIS, June 1.—Two regiments of Iowa volunteers are now quartered at Keokuk, and a third is expected daily.

The Legislature voted an appropriation of $800,000 for war purposes.

The New Orleans *Picayune* of the 27th announces the arrival at that port of the privateer Calhoun, having in tow the schooner John Adams, the Boston brig Panama, and the schooner Mermaid of Provincetown, Mass., all whalers, having 60 barrels of oil aboard.

A Montgomery despatch of the 24th to the Mobile *Advertiser* says an order has been issued to the clerks of the departments to be ready to leave for Richmond on Wednesday or Thursday.

Col. M'Arthur's regiment of Illinois volunteers moved Southward, but are under orders to march at a moment's notice.

Gen. Doniphan has declined the Brigadier Generalship tendered him by Governor Jackson.

WASHINGTON CITY, June 1.—The Richmond papers of Thursday, give the details of Jeff. Davis' journey from Montgomery to Richmond: President Davis accompanied by his aid, Col. Wigfall and lady and Hon. Robt Toombs, of Georgia, left Montgomery by the cars on Sunday evening last. They made no special stoppages on the route, and owing to a previous severe indisposition of the President it was desirable that his trip to Richmond should be as private as practicable. The President and suite were welcomed to Virginia by a deputation of the Governor of the State and Mayor of Richmond.

These gentlemen reached the party at Petersburg and accompanied them to Richmond. Arriving on Wednesday, President Davis accompanied by his cortege on horseback, left his quarters at the Spotsword House and proceeded to the fair grounds. On leaving the saddle, the President was surrounded by an eager crowd of soldiers and civilians whom he indulged to a hand shaking performance until the presure became so great that he was compelled to retire to the balcony of the executive department, where in response to the demands of the assemblage, he delivered a brief and pertinent speech. Ex-senator Wigfall, Gov. Letcher and Mayor Mayo followed with brief speeches in response to the call of the crowd, the President and suite proceeded to the adjoining parade ground where a review of the troops took place.

HARRISBURG, June 1st.—A scout that left Harper's Ferry, after a stay of two days, reports that the average desertions per day were about 25. The character of the surrounding country affords peculiar facilities for desertion. Large quantities of provisions are taken from Maryland to Harper's Ferry which should be prevented by the government immediately. Officers there believe that, unless they retreat, they will be surrounded within a week by the United States troops.

Gen. Patterson passes up in a special train to Chambersburg to-morrow and will have charge of the expedition. Three regular officers are serving on his staff.

The number of forces on the Maryland Heights overlooking the Ferry is less than three thousand, and these have four guns in their battery.

The clothing of the Virginia troops are giving out. Eighty of them are obliged to wear blankets during the heat of the day to conceal the deficiencies.

The Kentucky troops and regulars of the rebel army are well clad. The rebels speak depressingly of the state of affairs, but declare they will fight hard.

No troops have yet moved South of Chambersburg.

BALTIMORE, June 1.—The steamer from Old Point Comfort brings the following despatch:

Fortress Monroe, May 31, 5 o'clock, P. M.—The Naval Brigade, from New York, has arrived and been landed near Hampton. Great complaint is made of their want of arms, uniforms, and camp equipage. When will the authorities of New York learn that it is the height of folly and cruelty to send troops to the seat of war in such a condition?

Colonel Bartlett passed with nearly 500 men in full view of the enemy's batteries, without arms to defend themselves

Two more regiments from New York are hourly expected.

A battery of heavy cannon is being erected at Newport News Point.

The Federal transports are constantly passing Sewall's Point, just beyond the range of the rebel battery, whose sentinels are visible.

There is no recent intelligence from Norfolk. Com. Pendergrast will not allow a boat to go up with a flag of truce, although parties here are anxious to bring away relatives.

The steamer Quaker City brought up the prize schooner Lynchburg, of Richmond, from Rio Janeiro, with a cargo of 8,000 bags of coffee.

The fugitive slaves in the fortress and camp are mustered and provided with rations like the soldiers. Gen. Butler issued a stringent order against plundering in the vicinity of the camp.

WASHINGTON CITY, June 1.—All orders for the movements of the troops are cautiously guarded from inquiries for reasons eminently proper, and what is known of them can therefore be gathered only from public observations. That frequent alarms startle the respective camps, is a fact beyond doubt, and excites if possible, increased watchfulness. The programmes are suddenly changed according to circumstances, the department being kept constantly advised, by day and night, of all important incidents requiring attention. This will account for the non-execution of pre-engaged plans. It not unfrequently appears that accounts are greatly exaggerated, though unintentionally, by those who are most to be relied on, while reports of minor importance are magnified, owing to the excitement occasionally prevalent in the camps. It is a reasonable presumption in military circles that the Federal authorities know as much about the rebel movements as the enemy does those of the Government.

WASHINGTON, June 1.—An engagement occurred in the vicinity of Fairfax Court House, in which four of the United States troops were killed, and twenty-seven of the rebels killed, and wounded, according to the official report.

There have been no arrivals from Acquia Creek since yesterday afternoon, and the government had heard nothing additional up to half past one o'clock to-day.

It is not known that all the 71st New York regiment went to Acquia Creek, but it is believed that detachments were sent.

The military headquarters has information that one of the Fire Zouaves was killed, and another wounded, near Alexandria, last night.

ALEXANDRIA, June 1.—It is reported that at daybreak this morning Company B, of the 2d U. S. Dragoons, Lieut. Tompkins, while reconnoitering in the neighborhood of Fairfax Court House, twelve miles from Alexandria, were fired upon by the rebels. The Dragoons charged four times through the village, and were fired upon by the rebels concealed in the houses. Lieuts. Tompkins and Gordon both had their horses shot from under them. Three of their horses were wounded. Two men are missing and three wounded. It is estimated that the Dragoons killed from 15 to 20 rebels. The Dragoons captured five prisoners and left them at the camp of the 28th N. Y. Regiment.

HARRISBURG, June 1.—The announcement of the appointment of the Hon. William M. Meredith as Attorney General of the State, vice Mr. Purviance, resigned, and the acceptance of the same, has given great satisfaction to men of all classes.

Two regiments move toward Chambersburg from Lancaster, to-day.

Ten regiments are already there, and these added to five hundred cavalry, make the force ten thousand in round numbers at that point.

Governor Curtin returned this morning from Philadelphia.

ST. LOUIS, May 31.—Judge Treat to-day decided Gen. Harney's amended return in the *habeas corpus* case of Capt. McDonald as fully sufficient, and adjourned the Court till to-morrow, to allow counsel to prepare an answer.

Eleven minute guns were fired to-day in honor of Surgeon General Lawson.

The correspondent of the *Republican* says that a strong Union feeling exists in Western Arkansas, and if the secession ordinance were submitted to a vote of the people, it would be defeated three to one in that section of the State.

CHILICOTHE, June 1.—On Thursday night the train going east, with the 22d Ohio regiment on board, was thrown from the track by the breaking of an axle. George W. Ballou, of Chillicothe, Ohio, was killed; one soldier had his thigh bones fractured, another had his arm broken, and a third had a broken jaw. A number was bruised slightly and otherwise injured.

BALTIMORE, June 1.—Ex-Governor Pratt was arrested last evening at Annapolis, by order of the Government, and taken to the Washington Navy Yard.

It is also rumored that Ex-Governor Lowe has been arrested.

Mr. McLane, late Minister to Mexico, was nominated by the secessionists in the Fourth Congressional District to-night.

WASHINGTON CITY, June 2.—At 1 o'clock this morning one of the Connecticut regiments broke up their camp here and went over into Virginia.

All was quiet during last night among the camp on the Virginia shore between Alexandria and Cambridge.

BALTIMORE, June 2.—The Confederates seized the western mail at Harper's Ferry this morning, coming east. They emptied the mail car.

NEW YORK, June 1.—The New York 7th regiment arrived here at half-past five o'clock this evening. Their reception was grand, and a most enthusiastic one.

WASHINGTON CITY, June 1.—The following account of the fight at Fairfax Court House was communicated for the *Evening Star* last night: Company B, of the Second Cavalry, consisting of twenty-four privates under Lieut. Tompkins and Second Lieut Gordon and three of the Fifth New York Regiments, Quarter, and Adjutant Frank, were reconnoitering within 300 yards of Fairfax Court House by the Winchester road, when they were fired on by two of a picket guard.

One of them they took prisoner, and the other escaped, though fired at. The dragoons then charged in the village from the north side, and were fired on from the Union Hotel, formerly kept by James Jackson, who murdered Ellsworth. The man firing on them was instantly shot down. The dragoons then charged through the principal streets of the village, and were fired upon from many houses, and by platoons from behind fences.—Having passed thus to the end of the village, they wheeled about and instantly charged back and were then met by two considerable detachments of rebels with a field piece.—Firing again, they cut a third detachment in the rear and left the village, bringing with them five prisoners, and killing throughout the engagement 27 of the rebels. Three other dragoons were killed, and two are missing.—Assistant Quartermaster Cary of the New York 5th, was wounded in the foot. Lieut Tompkins had two war horses shot under him, and the last in falling on his leg injured it slightly.

HAGERSTOWN, June 1.—This morning the rebels again attempted to take possession of the ferry boat lying opposite Williamsport for the purpose, it was conjectured of removing to Falling Waters, a point about four miles below, where there is a considerable number of rebel troops stationed, who doubtless intended by means of the boat to cross to the Maryland side on a marauding expedition. The Union company at Williamsport, as soon as they perceived the rebels taking possession of the boat, ordered them to desist, which they refused to do, whereupon the Union men opened fire which was as briskly returned, and the fire was maintained on both sides for about an hour. Three or four of the rebels were wounded while on the boat at the commencement of the fight. The boat was soon abandoned by the rebels, and it remains safely at its moorings. It is reported that the attempt to capture it will be repeated to-night. The river will be closely watched by the Union guards, who have been reinforced by a company from Clear Spring. The Union company from Sharpsburg is on its way up to Williamsport with one or two field pieces.

WASHINGTON CITY, June 2.—From a messenger direct this morning at 10 o'clock from Acquia Creek by the steamer Anacosta, the following facts are obtained relative to the contest yesterday at Acquia Creek. The engagement commenced on Friday, as heretofore stated, and lasted two hours. Yesterday it was renewed and continued twice that length of time. The lower or beach battery, which had been so essentially damaged the day previous, had in the meantime been repaired by the confederates in force, it is supposed 2000 strong. The Freeborn yesterday approaching to about two miles from the shore early in the afternoon fired four or five shots, when the Pawnee entered into the conflict, taking a position near to the land. For the first two hours, the fire from the shore batteries was very brisk, but was returned with more expedition by the Pawnee. During the engagement she fired 160 shells, one of which was seen to explode immediately over the heads of the confederates who were working the battery. The observer through the telescope saw a number of bodies of them carried away in wagons. During that time the shore movements were exceedingly brisk.

The Freeborn lodged three shells in succession in the beach battery, perceptibly damaging the works, which had the effect of greatly diminishing the fire.

The Pawnee received two shots, one of which passed through the cabin, damaging some crockery but not the vessel, except making a passage through the bulwarks of slight consequence.

The Pawnee received eight or nine shots but all too high to inflict much damage. One struck the main topsail yard, which was there; by unslung. Another grazed the mizzenmast head. One passed through the hammock nettings.

It is the opinion of the officers on board that had the Confederates been provided with good gunners, the vessels might probably have been sunk in the engagement.

Some Confederate shots passed over the masthead to the Maryland shore.

The Anacosta arrived here this morning, the Pawnee and Freeborn hauling off beyond the range of the enemies fire.

NEW YORK, June 3.—The steamer Northern Light has arrived from Aspinwall with $378,000 in gold from California.

Col Gutheres had been arrested at Panama, suspected of disaffection to the Peruvian government.

It is reported that Marquero had ousted Bogota, and arrested President Calvo. This is thought to be unfounded, though likely to occur.

Two British subjects have been murdered by the Peruvian authorities. One was suffocated, and the other starved to death in prison, because he had killed a robber who attacked him.

The Yankee which went down on Friday with despatches, fired a few shot only, not being prepared for a long contest.

The railroad depot and buildings on shore at Acquia Creek are destroyed. The damage to the beach battery is not considered permanent as the confederates can soon repair it. It is safe to say that at least ten or twelve were killed on the part of the confederates. It is not known how many were wounded. All the officers engaged in the fight concur in the opinion that the confederates have rifle cannon, perhaps several, and, in all, it is supposed eight guns.

FORTRESS MONROE, June 1.—There are no military movements to-day to chronicle. Our troops are transporting heavy cannon to the Big Bape, midway between Fort Monroe and the opposite shore.

Order begins to reign at the encampment.

One tenth of the Vermont regiment are on the sick list, mostly measles.

The regiment at Newport News are to-day liberally supplied with fresh provisions, from the want of which they have greatly suffered.

Notwithstanding the hard work in the trenches, the Massachusetts and Vermont regiments, yesterday sent down nearly a dozen sand bags for their Northern friends.

A gentleman who left Yorktown at four o'clock P. M., says there were about 4000 secession troops assembled there, but none are to be seen between that point and