

# Rafferty's Journal.

BY S. J. ROW.

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## THE LITTLE ONE.

And is true what I am told,  
That there are lambs within the fold  
Of God's beloved Son—  
That Jesus Christ with tender care,  
Will in his arms most gently bear  
The helpless "little one."  
O yes? I've heard my mother say,  
He never sent a child away.  
That scarce could walk or run;  
For when the parent's love besought,  
That he would touch the child she brought,  
He blessed the "little one."  
And I, a little straying lamb,  
May come to Jesus as I am,  
Though goodness I have none,  
May now be folded in his breast,  
As birds within the parent's nest,  
And be his "little one."  
And he can do all this for me,  
Because in sorrow on the tree,  
He once for sinners hung;  
And having washed their sins away  
He now rejoices, day by day,  
To cleanse the "little one."  
Others there are who love me too;  
But who with all their love can do  
What Jesus Christ has done?  
Then if he teaches me to pray,  
I'll surely go to him and say,  
Lord bless thy "little one."  
Thus by his gracious Shepherd led,  
And by his mercy gently led,  
Where living waters run,  
My greatest blessing he has,  
That I am a little lamb of His,  
Who loves the "little one."

## THE TRAITOR'S CHILD.

The energies of the American troops stationed at Fort Washington after their evacuation of New York, were fully taxed to repel the many sorties made by the enemy against them. It required a constant and careful watch upon the part of the Commander-in-Chief to prevent a surprise, and the more surely to effect this, a system of observations was maintained along the road, so that information passed from point to point, was sure to reach the camp before the British could carry out their designs. The majority of persons living on the line from the city to Kingsbridge, gladly aided in this plan of police, and thus rendered essential service to the cause. One of this number, however, a Mr. Jennings, at last took umbrage from some order of Washington or his subordinate, and with a reprehensible cunning, he determined to abandon the American, and serve the interests of the foe. So secretly were these plans concocted and carried out, that no one outside of his own family suspected his disaffection.

The British General accepted the offered services, and pledged himself to pay largely for them. It was proposed that a number of his troops should march as far as his neighbors, who would, of course, communicate their movements to Jennings, who in his turn, instead of passing the warning, was to conceal the forces until reinforcements could arrive, and a formidable demonstration could be made against the fort.

"And for this service, in any event you shall have a thousand pounds," said the British General to the traitor. "Should it overtake in the end the overthrow of the rebels, the sum shall be trebled, while other rewards shall be truly bestowed. You are certain that you have confided the matter to no one?"

"Not a soul, save those of my own family know it," Jennings replied.

"Of whom does your family consist?"

"My wife who is an invalid, and an only daughter."

"How are they affected by your change?"

"I know not, nor do I care. But of course they will follow my wishes, which have been law to them. My daughter is the only one who would think of a difference of opinion and even she would never dare to give it expression."

"I have heard that the majority of your American females have imbibed a sort of romantic attachment to George Washington, which might lead them to sympathize with him, but of course you are sure of your child, and can answer for her."

"With my life!"

"Suppose you allow me to invite her here. It would be a safe thing, and at the same time remove her from the suspicion of collusion, should you be discovered."

"I cannot part with her sir! She has aided me heretofore and can do so again. She is very obedient, so we need not fear her."

"Enough! Manage the matter yourself, I am content. Now for our plans. To-morrow at dusk a company of Capt. Trevor's command will be got in motion, and arrive about midnight at your house. You will conceal them and await the others. When they are all gathered together you will guide them to the attack. The rebels being off their guard will find an easy prey!"

So far as the intentions of the British officer were concerned, the meditated plans were carried out. A number of picked men were concealed at the house of Jennings and at a proper time marched towards their destination. Under cover of the night they proceeded to the next station on the road when their advance was suddenly checked.

A sharp rattle of musket balls which seemed to have been designedly fired above their heads, brought them to an immediate halt. A second discharge gave them to understand that their further progress would be dangerous. Captain Trevor, who was in command, immediately gave orders for a countermarch, and in less than ten minutes the whole body were in a retrograde position.

cer, who, however, did not interfere between them.

"Did you hear my question?" roared Jennings. "Tell me, do you know of this?"

"I do!" replied the girl in a low tone.

"I thought so! Now tell me the person's name."

"It was I!"

"You! Serpent! You betray me!"

"Father, hear me. I did send word to our General that the enemy were to make an attack on the fort, but your name was not mentioned as being a party to the expedition. No harm can come to you. I know how long and how ardently our countrymen had struggled against oppression; how nobly they contended against superior forces; how true was their devotion to the cause in which they were engaged, and I could not look quietly on and see their destruction attempted. I sent word of this, but in saving them I did not betray you!"

"Even in a calmer and more feeling tone she continued:

"Father—'tis the last time I shall call you so—I bid you farewell forever. Your maledictions may be hurled against me, but never will you again look upon my face. Ere another day has passed Washington shall know of your treachery. Your only safety is in flight. In England you may enjoy the fruit of your baseness, but here you cannot remain. Farewell, forever!"

She passed from the room, as the tears which she could no longer control, coursed rapidly down her cheeks. She repaired at once to the bedside of her mother, in whose soul the last flickerings of life were fast failing. She knelt beside her and even as she prayed her worn spirit was released from bondage.

"Alone an orphan! God help me!" she exclaimed as she pressed her trembling lips to those that had so often met hers in love.

Jennings lingered not long. Soon after he was on his way to England, where he lived, as traitors should, in splendid disgrace. Hester became the wife of a Revolutionary officer, and lived long enough to give to her descendants the valuable example of the Christian and the patriot mother.

All that is excellent in government—all that is glorious in the history of the past—all that promises stability and prosperity in the future—cluster around the federal government, and excite the true patriot to its maintenance. In its life and perpetuity, the hopes of civil and religious freedom throughout the world are centered. When it is overturned by the machinations or the arms of traitors, these hopes will expire in the blackness of an evening night. Hence the cause of the Union will survive defeat repeated over and over again. The prize for which the Union party contends in this struggle, is nothing less than the life of the only free republican government in the world; while patriots would rejoice to have the forces of such a government always victorious, yet such uninterrupted success can hardly be expected, when the foes they have to conquer are so numerous and their arms so powerful, and are now indebted to the fostering care and ennobling influence of the very government they would overthrow, for all they possess of manliness and skill in war.

TOUCHING INCIDENT OF THE BATTLE FIELD.—A staff officer from Charleston, engaged in the battle of the 21st of July, says: "I rode out the day after the battle to view the ground, and passed piles of dead in various positions. Under a large tree I saw a body lying, well dressed, with a fancy sword, and a banker's chief over the face. It attracted my curiosity. I stopped, removed the handkerchief, and saw one of the handsomest faces I ever met with, of a boy not more than 12 or 14 years of age. His appearance and dress indicated high social position; probably he was a temporary aide to a general officer. To ascertain who he was I examined his pocket, and found a testament, in which was written, 'James Simmons, New York. From his loving mother. My son, remember thy Creator in the days of thy youth.' I wished very much to take the body away, but I was 6 miles from quarters, on horseback, and it was impossible."

AN OLD LAW.—A law against obtaining husbands under false pretences, passed by the English Parliament in 1770, enacts—that all women, of what average, rank, profession, or degree—whether virgins, maids, or widows—who shall after this act, impose upon, seduce and betray into matrimony any of His Majesty's male subjects, by virtue of scents, paints, cosmetic washes, artificial teeth, false hair, Spanish wool, iron, iron stays, bolstered hips, or high heeled shoes, shall incur the penalty of the law now in force against witchcraft and like misdemeanors; and the marriage, under such circumstances, upon conviction of the offending party, shall be null and void.

A cooper, finding considerable difficulty in keeping one of the heads of a cask he was finishing in its place, put his son inside to hold the head up. After completing the work much to his satisfaction, he was astonished to find his boy inside the cask, and without a possibility of getting out, except through the bung-hole.

I don't miss my church so much as you may suppose," said a lady to her minister, who called on her during her illness; "for I make Betsy sit at the window as soon as the bells begin to chime, and she tells me who are going to church, and whether they have got on anything new."

You cannot preserve happy domestic pairs in family jars.

## THE LAST SPEECH OF SENATOR DOUGLAS.

Delivered in the great Wigwam at Chicago, May 1st, 1861, to 10,000 people.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I thank you for the kind terms in which you have been pleased to welcome me. I thank the Committee and citizens of Chicago for this grand and imposing reception. I beg you to believe that I will not do you nor myself the injustice to believe this magnificent ovation is personal homage to myself. I rejoice to know that it expresses your devotion to the Constitution, the Union, and the flag of our country. [Cheers.]

I will not conceal gratification at the uncontrollable test this vast audience presents—that what political differences or party questions may have divided us, yet you all had a conviction that when the country should be in danger, my loyalty could be relied on. That the present danger is imminent, no man can conceal. If war must come—if the bayonet be used to maintain the Constitution—I can say before God my conscience is clean. I have struggled long for a peaceful solution of the difficulty. I have not only tendered the States what was theirs of right, but I have gone to the very extreme of magnanimity.

The return we receive is War, armies marched upon our Capital, obstructions and dangers to our navigation, letters of marque to invite pirates to prey upon our commerce, a concerted movement to blot out the United States of America from the map of the globe. The question is, are we to maintain the country of our fathers, or allow it to be stricken down by those who, when they can no longer govern, threaten to destroy.

What cause, what excuse do Disunionists give us for breaking up the best Government on which the sun of heaven ever shed its rays? They are dissatisfied with the result of a Presidential election. Did they never get beaten before? Are we to resort to the sword when we get defeated at the ballot-box. I understand it that the voice of the people expressed in the mode appointed by the Constitution must command the obedience of every citizen. They assume on the election of a particular candidate that their rights are not safe in the Union. What evidence do they present of this. I defy any man to show any act on which it is based. What act has been omitted to be done? I appeal to these assembled thousands that so far as the constitutional rights of the Southern States, I will say the constitutional rights of slaveholders are concerned, nothing has been done, and nothing omitted of which they can complain.

There has never been a time from the day that Washington was inaugurated first President of these United States, when the rights of the Southern States stood firmer under the laws of the land, than they do now; there never was a time when they had not as good a cause for Disunion as they have to-day. What good cause have they now that has not existed under every Administration?

If they say the Territorial question—now, for the first time, there is no act of Congress prohibiting Slavery anywhere. If it be the non-enforcement of the laws, the only complaints that I have heard have been of the too vigorous and faithful fulfillment of the Fugitive Slave Law. Then what reason have they? The Slavery question is a mere excuse. The election of Lincoln is a mere pretext. The present Secession movement is the result of an enormous conspiracy formed more than a year since, formed by leaders in the Southern Confederacy more than twelve months ago.

They use the Slavery question as a means to aid the accomplishment of their ends. They desired the election of a Northern candidate, by a sectional vote, in order to show that the two sections can not live together. When the history of the two years from the Lecompton charter down to the Presidential election shall be written, it will be shown that the scheme was deliberately made to break up this Union.

They desired a Northern Republican to be elected by a purely Northern vote, and then assign this fact as a reason why the sections may no longer live together. If the Disunion candidate in the late Presidential contest had carried the United South, their scheme was, the Northern candidate successful, to seize the Capitol last Spring, and by a United South and divided North hold it. That scheme was defeated in the defeat of the Disunion candidate in several of the Southern States.

But this is no time for a detail of causes. The conspiracy is now known. Armies have been raised, war is levied to accomplish it. There are only two sides to the question. Every man must be for the United States or against it. There can be no neutrals in this war; only patriots—or traitors.

Thank God Illinois is not divided on this question. [Cheers.] I know they expected to present a united South against a divided North. They hoped in the Northern States, party questions would bring civil war between Democrats and Republicans, when the South would step in with her cohorts, aid one party to conquer the other, and then make easy prey of the victors, and their scheme was carnage and civil war in the North.

There is but one way to defeat this. In Illinois it is being so defeated by closing up the ranks. War will thus be prevented on our own soil. While there was a hope of peace I was ready for any reasonable sacrifice or compromise to maintain it. But when the question comes of war in the cotton-fields of the South or the corn-fields of Illinois, I say the farther off the better.

We cannot close our eyes to the sad and solemn fact that war does exist. The Government must be maintained, its enemies overthrown, and the more stupendous our preparations the less the bloodshed, and the shorter the struggle. But we must remember certain restraints on our action even in time of war. We are a Christian people, and the war must be prosecuted in a manner recognized by Christian nations.

We must not invade Constitutional rights. The innocent must not suffer, nor women and children be the victims. Savages must not be let loose. But while I sanction no war on the rights of others, I will improve my countrymen not to lay down their arms until our own rights are recognized. [Cheers.]

The Constitution and its guarantees are our birthright, and I am ready to enforce that inalienable right to the last extent. We can not recognize Secession. Recognize it once, and you have not only dissolved government, but you have destroyed social order, upturned the foundations of society. You have inaugurated anarchy in its worst form, and will shortly experience all the horrors of the French Revolution.

Then we have a solemn duty—to maintain

the Government. The greater our unanimity the speedier the day of peace. We have prejudices to overcome from the few short months since of a fierce party contest. Yet these must be allayed. Let us lay aside all criminalations and recriminations as to the origin of these difficulties. When we shall have again a country with the United States flag floating over it, and respected on every inch of American soil, it will then be time enough to ask who and what brought all this upon us.

I have said more than I intended to say. [Cries of "Go on."] It is a sad task to discuss questions so fearful as civil war, but sad as it is, bloody and disastrous as I expect it will be, I express it as my conviction before God, that it is the duty of every American citizen to rally round the flag of his country.

I thank you again for this magnificent demonstration. By it you show you have laid aside party strife. Illinois has a proud position. United, firm, determined never to permit the Government to be destroyed. [Prolonged cheering.]

CHEERING FROM LOUISIANA.—The Buffalo Advertiser says: "We are gratified to be able to present to our readers cheering news from the southwest. We are informed by a wealthy and influential citizen of that section, who we have no reason to suppose for obvious reasons, that Louisiana is still loyal. Although our informant is somewhat enthusiastic in his loyalty, yet we feel confident that his statements may be relied upon. He says that almost all the old Whigs of Louisiana are now Union men, not only anxious for the suppression of the rebellion, but ready, when the time arrives, to co-operate with the federal forces to that end by armed assistance. These loyal men are a majority in the state, and are in daily communication with each other upon this subject. Their ardent desire is that the government shall send an army to relieve them from the odious tyranny of secession under which they are now living. Texas is also, they say, in a similar condition, and our loyal brothers in the southwest are anxiously expecting succor from the North. Among the leading Union men the idea is universal that if our government would take one important Southern port upon the Atlantic, and force the free navigation of the Mississippi by the occupation of New Orleans, then the rebellion would be substantially quelled—the desire only the presence of Fremont, with a small army, to rally the Union men of Louisiana around him. These things are constantly canvassed by our Union friends among themselves. Unaided, they are powerless, but they call to us for support and they should have it."

The following is an extract from a letter received in Boston, from a Virginia lady, now residing in Washington: "Senator Johnson's friend, —, of Tennessee, is now stopping with us, his brother with Mary. They are both so earnest in the Union cause, risking their lives, property and everything earthly, that we feel much interested in them. On his way from Tennessee, —, traveled part of the way with a Georgian who had been at the battle of Bull Run, and, mistaking him for a Secessionist, talked freely with him. He says Southerners are astonished at the Northern troops; they fight like tigers; so steady, so cool. A Louisiana regiment, the 'Chain-Gang' Regiment, to my knowledge, brought off twelve men; an Alabama and Georgia regiment were nearly annihilated. In fact, he says: 'Sir, it was a victory on the part of our troops, but a dear bought one. You know they will not allow any paper or individual to publish over 3,000 killed and wounded; but I know positively that it was fully 8,000; and a few more such victories would break us up.'"

THE CAMPAIGN IN MISSOURI.—The anxiety of the rebels to get possession of St. Louis and Jefferson City, in order to draw Missouri into their confederacy, is evidently just now very great. Moreover, in that State are the lead mines, upon the working of which the Southerners depend for their supplies of shot, and that metal we know to be very scarce in the dominions of Jeff. Davis. They attach great importance, and very justly so, to the campaign in both Southwest and Southeastern Missouri, and will fight hard for the mastery in that section. Gen. Fremont, however, is just as determined, and we can easily perceive, intends, without delay, to make a grand demonstration in Western Missouri, and about the same time a similar movement in Eastern Missouri, by which the rebel forces will be divided, and, in all probability, crushed out irrevocably in the one campaign. A decisive victory of this kind will have considerable influence in bringing the war to a speedy termination.

A SLY DEVICE—EQUAL TO "NOBODY HERE."—It is suggested that the usual elements of external mourning be dispensed with by those who have lost relatives who were bravely sustaining their country's right, and in this met with a glorious death. The reasons for the suggestion are that it would give our streets and churches a distressing and gloomy aspect, that many families cannot afford it, and the loss of father, husband or brother is not, under the circumstances, cause for that bitter dispensation of Providence, because the gloom is brightened by the glory of triumph in the discharge of the holiest obligations of duty.—[Richmond Whig.]

James, my son, take this letter to the post office and pay the postage on it. The boy returned highly elated and said: "Father, I see a lot of men putting letters in a little place, and when no one was looking, I slipped yours in for nothing and bought a gingercake with the money."

To cure dyspepsia: Take a new axe, put a white hot iron in it, bore a hole in the top of the handle, fill the hole with gum camphor, and seal it up. Then take the axe and cut cord wood, at fifty cents a cord, until the heat of the handle dissolves the camphor.

A down east editor thus logically nudges his delinquent subscribers: "We don't want money desperately bad, but our creditors do; and no doubt they owe you. If you pay us, we'll pay them, and they'll pay you."

Tea is selling at Fredericksburg, Virginia, at two dollars per pound, and sugar at fifty and sixty cents. It must cost something to steady the nerves of the "mother of Presidents."

## VOICE FROM THE ADMINISTRATION.

SPEECH OF HON. CALEB B. SMITH.

At a meeting held in Providence, Rhode Island, on Friday evening, the 16th August, the Hon. Caleb B. Smith, Secretary of the Interior, made an address, from which we make the following extracts:

It is idle, my friends, to indulge in the hope that, if we cannot sustain this Union we can sustain republican institutions. For, let me assure you to-night, that if we cannot preserve our present Government in its present form, we cannot sustain a free government in any form. There is great truth—there is great force in the sentiment so eloquently pronounced by the immortal statesman of Massachusetts, "Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable." Why is it, my friends, that this discord prevails among us? Why is it that a portion of our own citizens are now thundering at the very door of the Capitol with hostile artillery? I know there is one element of discord in our system, and I intend to speak plainly in all that I have to say. It is the question of domestic servitude that has rent asunder the temple of liberty. What is there in this question of slavery that should divide this people? Why, my friends, when this Government was formed, when we marched from the battle-fields of the Revolution, every State of the Union with a single exception acknowledged the institution of slavery. It has been abolished in New England, in New York, and Pennsylvania; and our States of population and magnificence as free States. But for the last ten years an angry controversy has existed upon this question of slavery. The minds of the people of the South have been deceived by the artful representations of demagogues, who have assured them that the people of the North were determined to bring the power of this Government to bear upon them for the purpose of erasing out the institution of slavery. I ask you, is there any truth in this charge? Has the Government of the United States, in any single instance, by any one solitary act, interfered with the institutions of the South? No, not one.

The theory of this Government is, that the States are sovereign within their proper sphere. The Government of the United States has no more right to interfere with the institution of slavery in South Carolina than it has to interfere with the peculiar institution of Rhode Island, whose benefit I have enjoyed to-day. But, my friends, during the last summer, when the great political contest was raging throughout the land, then it was that designing and dishonest men, for the purpose of accomplishing their own selfish schemes, appealed to the prejudices of the Southern people, denouncing those who supported Mr. Lincoln as Abolitionists—as men who would disregard the constitutional rights of the South, and trample upon the powers of the Government. Excited by these iniquitous appeals, they were ready to take arms to prevent the inauguration of that President whom a majority of the people had declared to be the man of their choice.

My friends, I have known the President long and well. It has been my fortune to be selected as one of his constitutional advisers. I have had the honor of being connected with this Administration since its commencement, and I tell you to-night that you cannot find in South Carolina a man more anxious, religiously and scrupulously to observe all the features of the Constitution relating to slavery, than Abraham Lincoln. Had the people of the South been willing to wait and see whether he would regard that oath which, in the presence of the assembled nation, he had taken, they would have found that the Administration ever organized in this country would have more conscientiously regarded and protected the rights of the South than this Administration would have done. I know that I speak the sentiments of the President and his advisers—of those who have controlled his Administration.

My friends, we make no war upon Southern institutions. We recognize the right of South Carolina and Georgia to hold slaves if they wish them. But, my friends, we appeal to you to uphold the great banner of our glorious country, and to leave the people of that country to settle these domestic matters according to their own choice and the exigencies which the times may present.

I do not invoke you to engage in this war as a war against slavery. We are warring for a different principle. But there is an old adage brought down to us from the ancients: "That whom the gods would destroy they must first madden." They are afflicted by that madness which for their wickedness God's providence has brought upon them. And that will do more to crush out the institution of slavery than would have been done by the peaceful administration of the Government in ten centuries. If that should be the consequence, I have no tears to shed. To the future and to Providence I leave the issues of this great question.

It is not the province of the Government of the United States to enter into a crusade against the institution of slavery. I would proclaim to the people of all the States of this Union the right to manage their institutions in their own way.

I know that my fellow-citizens will recognize that as one fundamental principle upon which we commenced this contest. Let us not give our opponents any reason to complain of in this respect. Let us not bring to bear upon them the power of despotism; but the power of the people of a republican government where the people rule. Let us bring it to bear upon them so that the traitors shall receive such condign punishment as all the world may see the fate which a free people visits upon traitors. No spectacle would afford us so much satisfaction as to see dancing from the gallows the bodies of Jefferson Davis and John B. Floyd, Henry A. Wise, and all those men who have involved this country in the greatest affliction which can overtake any people.

Let a man be a plain, quiet worker, not proclaiming himself melodiously in any wise, but familiar with us, unpretending, letting all his littleness and feebleness be seen unhidden, and wearing an ill-cut coat withal, and though he be such a man as is only sent on earth once in five hundred years, for some special human teaching, we shall not be likely to call him inspired.

Many a man is blackballed by those who are hardly fit to perform that operation upon his boots.

## THE JOURNAL.

SUMMARY OF WAR NEWS.

INDEPENDENCE, Mo., August 20.—The Santa Fe mail and Canon City express arrived here last evening, three days ahead of time, bringing dates from Santa Fe to the 6th inst. A report reached Santa Fe two days before the mail left, that Major Lynd of the 7th Infantry, U. S. A., in command of about 500 Federals, surrendered to the Texas troops, 3,000 in number, without firing a shot. Major Lynd abandoned Fort Fillmore on the 26th ult., and marched toward Fort Stanton, eighteen miles from Fort Fillmore. He surrendered his whole command to the Texas troops. It was believed in Santa Fe that the Texans have also taken the stock and coaches belonging to the Santa Fe and El Paso Mail Company, as their coaches failed to arrive in Santa Fe. On the 2d inst., an engagement took place at Mesilla between a body of Federal troops and 700 Confederates under Capt. Baylor. Capt. McMeily and Lieut. Brooks of the Federal army were wounded in the engagement. Twelve of the Confederates were killed. Night put an end to the engagement. The Texans were remaining in Mesilla and the Federal forces going to Fort Fillmore, about 100 miles distant. Considerable forces were entertained for the safety of Fort Union, and the commanding officer of that point was having it fortified and entrenched. Col. Loring, formerly of the U. S. A., is said to be in command of a body of Texas Rangers. The weather on the plains was very warm, and Buffalo were in abundance in many places. The mail party found it difficult to get through the large herds, which covered the woods and plains.

August 21.—That our readers may see what a precious set of scoundrels the secessionists are we copy the following boasting account of the burning of Hampton from the correspondent of the Petersburg (Va.) Express—a most bitter secession paper. The letter is dated August 9th, from "Camp Bartlett: "On Wednesday evening it was decided by Gen. Magruder to be expedient and proper to burn Hampton. In furtherance of this subject, just after dark the troops were removed from in sight of Hampton to another road, which approaches nearer to Newport News, and not far from the town. The Old Dominion cavalry, under command of Capt. Phillips, and the Mechenburg cavalry, under command of Capt. T. F. Goode, and a command of infantry, under Col. Hodges, were detailed for the hazardous purpose of firing the town. The cavalry companies marched in front, and the infantry behind. Just here I will state that an efficient fortification had been thrown across the main street by the Yankees, but the guns had all been removed. We marched to the fortifications, carried our horses off from the street, and then dismounted. Infantry were detailed to hold our horses while we were to execute the work. We marched down the street, and while a consultation was being held, a brisk fire opened from the bridge upon us. They were supposed to be from forty to one hundred strong. An order was then issued for the reinforcement of the infantry, which was no sooner given than Col. Hodges' joined with them in double-quick time and rushed to the spot. The rascals only fired once after the infantry made an attack upon them. They ran off as fast as their cowardly legs could carry them. No one on our side was injured. We were now ordered to proceed with the burning, and harder work a set of fellows never did. We continued to set fire to house after house, until all were in flames within and below the fortification. A portion of the cavalry companies were then detailed to complete the burning above the fortification, which they did, and then covered the retreat of the infantry to camp, about three miles distant. The town was most effectually burned, and I feel sure that no person was burnt, though it was about midnight."

On the other hand, the following false statement is from Richmond (Va.) Dispatch, of August 9th, and considering the fact that the rascals knew and now admit that this "crowning act of barbarity" was done by order of their own general, Magruder, it is icy cool! Lying and perjury must be learned as a profession or business, in Secession! "The news of the last crowning act of barbarity seems to be confirmed. The quiet, unoffending old village, which even the British spared in the late war, has been converted into a heap of ashes by the Black Republican invaders. A more wanton, unprovoked and infernal piece of pure diabolism was never committed."

This has been an interesting day among the military in the neighborhood of the capital. A distinguished party, consisting of the President of the United States, Secretaries Cameron, Seward and Chase, together with Major Gen. McClelland and staff, have been visiting the various camps on both sides of the Potomac. The weather was clear and remarkably pleasant after the recent heavy rains. The appearance and movements of the several brigades were in a high degree creditable. The young General was everywhere greeted with oft repeated cheers and with an enthusiasm unbounded. The customary salutes were fired both for him and the President.

It is understood that the government has fully determined to cause the arrest and confinement of every person in the north, whom it can be satisfactorily proved aiding league with the confederates, or in any way aiding and encouraging their movements. This will explain the arrests that have taken place within the past few days—and the indications are that many more will follow.

The President carries the great burden of this war without bending. His health is perfect. His courage is perfect. To the discharge of his onerous duties as Chief Magistrate, he adds the labors of supervising the national military movement. From Kansas to the Potomac, the armies are under his eye. His care and vigilance comprehend the whole.

The Potomac fleet now consists of eleven well-armed steamers and eleven launches, each carrying fifteen men and a dahlgren 12 pounder. It is evidently abundantly able to prevent the rebels from crossing or making a feint to cross sufficiently formidable to call off troops from Washington.

A dispatch states that the steamer Hannibal City, with Federal troops from St. Louis, bound southward, was fired into by the Confederates at Commerce, Mo., and sunk. 300 Federals were taken prisoners.

Johnston and Beauregard have been reinforced by some 15,000 or 20,000 since the Bull Run battle, and it is reported to-day that Yorktown, Norfolk and Richmond have been almost gendred of troops.