

The Franklin Repository.

BY MCCLURE & STONER.

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Franklin Repository.

INSIDE OF REBELDOM.

Col. Grierson, who made the most daring raid through rebeldom on record, having penetrated some six hundred miles of its territory, declared it was an "empty shell" and ready to break at any time. The success of the Union arms. Since the Old Flag has been triumphant at Vicksburg, at Port Hudson, in Tennessee, at Helena, and it is considered that it will soon float over Charlie.

Since then we have read with no common degree of interest the comments of the journals in the West of the traitors upon the progress of the Union cause. We now hear them from us, and they are confessedly in the suggestions, and naturally enough, dependent in tone. Some seem to think a falsehood well adhered to answers the purpose of truth, and accordingly the Richmond Dispatch, insists "Lee gained a tremendous victory at Gettysburg," and that, "he fell back purely of his own will and from no compulsion of the enemy." The Richmond Examiner is crying for blood, and denounces the weakness of Jeff. Davis in not promptly hanging Union persons by way of retaliation. It says:

"Mr. President Davis' proclamations and pronouncements, his horrible threatenings and gloomy appeals, have been so often repeated that they are the sneer of the world. But never have they resulted in one solitary performance. He is very obstinate, very bitter; when he gets into a quarrel with some Southern officer over whom the law gives him temporary control. He is very firm indeed in maintaining a minion or a measure against the smothered indignation of a people who are compelled by their present unfortunate situation to support silently a great deal from their officials. But when his duty brings him into contact with the enemy he is gentle as the sucking dove.

"Mr. Stephens was sent to Washington with a letter of credence to Lincoln, and another of instructions to himself from President Davis: A good deal was said in this last letter about titles, &c., which looks pitiful enough; and the rest relating to the business on hand, amounts to this: that if the Federal Government will only vouchsafe a civil word or so, will say, for instance, that it would like to mitigate the horrors of war, the Confederate Government would be happy to indulge in boundless compassion for the two Yankees aforesaid. As to the two murdered Confederate officers in Kentucky, who feels compassion for them?"

"Now, who will deny that the Confederacy makes a sorrowful figure in this matter?"

The retreat of Lee across the Potomac into Virginia again was as unexpected as crushing to the rebels. It at once brightened their hopes of transferring the war to Northern soil, and cost them half of their best army. The Richmond Dispatch says that "opinions are various with regard to the motives which induced Gen. Lee to withdraw his army to the Virginia side." Again it says: "That it has had the immediate effect of stimulating the war passions of the North, and enabling Lincoln with the more ease to recruit his shattered ranks, can hardly be denied. But it must be recollected that this was the consequence, not of the expedition itself, but of the withdrawal of the troops, and has not therefore the slightest bearing upon the wisdom of the measure. Had Gen. Lee destroyed the army of Meade, as there was every reason to hope, we should then have seen how fatal was the blow he had struck.

"He failed to accomplish his object; but failure in execution implies no want of judgment in the conception, unless the means should be ridiculously small. They were not so in this case. Gen. Lee believed them to be ample."

The Richmond Examiner says: "Gen. Lee has re-crossed the Potomac. With this announcement, it is supposed, the second invasion of the United States is at an end. The Government and its chief General undertook this campaign on their own responsibility, and at their own time. Public opinion did not impel their action. But public opinion did most certainly justify, approve, and adopt it. Although it has been abruptly terminated by an unsuccessful battle, we are far from thinking that the design was injudicious.

"This war can be terminated only by such a measure. It might have been gloriously terminated in a month had Gettysburg witnessed the annihilation of the Union army of the Potomac. But that battle was fought in a position which rendered success impossible. Why it was fought is yet unknown."

The Montgomery Advertiser gives a doleful account of rebel prospects in Tennessee. It says Bragg's retreat from Tullahoma is "much to be regretted," and that it "will have a very injurious effect, not merely on the people, but on the troops, particularly those from Tennessee," a number of whose troops, it says "have already deserted." It thus pictures the results of Bragg's retreat:

"The retreat from Tennessee opens the northern counties of Georgia and Alabama to the incursions of the enemy. In our own State the Tennessee valley will be desolated, and raiding parties will penetrate the counties lying between the Tennessee and the Alabama, and east of the Bigbee rivers. This will bring the enemy to our own doors, and open the way to the rich counties of South Alabama."

"But there is another view of this question which is important. Vicksburg having fallen, Grant has an army of eighty thousand men at his disposal. It will be impossible for Gen. Johnston to oppose this army with any hope of success, and as he retires towards the Bigbee, which we suppose he will do, Grant will close on him, and unite his army with that of Rosecrans. Here, then, will be an army of one hundred and sixty or seventy thousand men encamped on the soil of Alabama."

The Chattanooga Rebel, Vallandigham's organ in rebeldom, thus discourses upon the advantages gained by the retreat of Bragg:

"Among the objects of repining to which the mind very naturally reverts in contemplating the loss of Middle Tennessee, none forces itself more persistently upon us than the rich crops of grain which our retreat threw into the hands of the enemy.

"The crops of Tennessee, like the soil and all else therein, were fair to see. Many a time during the last three months have we cast a hopeful eye upon the teeming acres and their fruitful promise. But luxury, rather than the absolute want, was the main figure in the prospect. We saw with gratification the energetic industry which was converting a thousand cotton fields to patches of corn and wheat in the far South, and at no time did we fear starvation or even need. Hence we have not regarded the Middle Tennessee crops—while to be greatly desired—as absolutely essential to our existence, nor do we at this time.

"It would be wanton affectation were we to deny an extreme regret at the loss of so much produce; but we can continue to do without it; and, in any event, there is no use crying over spilled milk."

The attack upon Charleston seems to have thrown the rebel papers into consternation. They see the hand-writing upon the wall, and confess that the home of treason is probably doomed. The Charleston Courier hopes to save the city; but says its "hope may prove a delusion," that "the capture of our city, may, perchance, delight his (our) base and corrupt heart." It has dim perceptions of the "last ditch," but is philosophical withal. It says:

"On the supposition of the foe's success, it is our duty to avoid incurring his fiendish malignity. All who can be of no service in the work of defense should betake themselves to places of shelter. And it were well not to defer removal to a late day. We may be compelled to remain; or, if we make good our escape, circumstances may oblige us to leave all our personal effects behind."

The Mercury, commenting on the attack upon Morris Island, says:

"It appears to us to be useless to attempt to disguise from ourselves our situation. By whose fault we got into it, it is vain now to inquire. The Yankees having gained possession of the southern half of Morris Island there is but one way to save the city of Charleston, and that is by the speedy and unflinching use of the bayonet. If the fight on Morris Island is to be now a fight by engineering contrivances and cannon merely, the advantage is now with the enemy. With their iron-clads in the water and their men in occupation of the land, it is likely to be a mere question of time. The fall of Fort Wagner ends in the fall of Charleston—Fort Sumter, like Fort Wagner, will then be assailed by land and sea, and the fate of Fort Pulaski will be that of Sumter. Gen. Gilmore, commander of the Department, was the man who reduced Fort Pulaski. Charleston must be saved as Richmond was."

The Mobile Advertiser has been holding a post-mortem examination on the rebel cause, but, after careful inspection, thinks that they "live in it yet." But some of the subjects of Jeff seem to be weak in the knees. It says that "there are those who are ready to submit, and anxious for peace and the security of their property on the basis of submission." It adds, that "there have been some signs of this white feather." Will Vallandigham please "make note on't!"

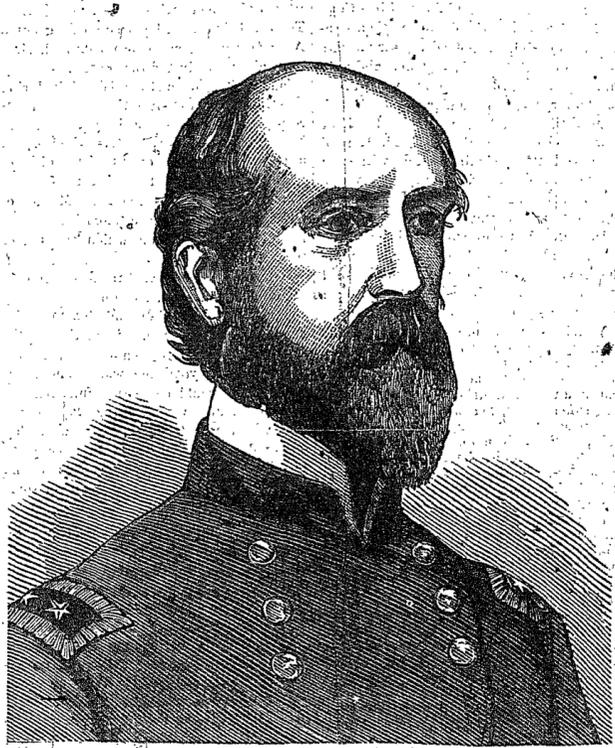
The Richmond Enquirer, of the 16th, contains a proclamation by Jeff. Davis, calling out, under the Confederate Conscription act, all white men between the ages of 18 and 45, to serve for three years, under penalty of being punished for desertion in case of disobeying the call. They are offered the privilege of joining Volunteer organizations before the enrollment.

The Enquirer, in an article headed "Military Necessity," urges that the only salvation of the Southern Confederacy is in making a levy en masse, such as is called for in this proclamation. The application of martial law to a country in a state of siege, the absolute control of all trading, especially of drink, within military lines, the abolition of substitute exemptions and foreign protections, the material enlargement of the President's power to revise elections of officers, to make appointments, and to get rid of incompetent officers. We believe that Jeff. is not expected to wait for a decision of the courts to ascertain whether such despotic powers are constitutional or not!

The New York riots furnish the only faint gleam of hope for the despairing traitors. They grasp it as sinking men reach for straws. The Enquirer says the news is "cheering to us, indeed, because it portends the breaking down of the whole structure of Yankee society." It had evidently judged the result by the cowardly conduct of Gov. Seymour, forgetting that there is a national government, at once determined and able to enforce its laws.

The movements of Gen. Grant in the Southwest have stricken terror into the very heart of rebeldom. The fall of Vicksburg, Port Hudson, Jackson, and the defeat of Price at Helena, are described by the Richmond Whig as "the most serious disasters that have attended our arms since the commencement of the war." The same paper deplors the loss of Jackson, the capital of Mississippi. It says: "The evacuation of Jackson, Miss., left in the hands of the enemy the rolling stock of the New Orleans, Jackson and Great Northern, the Mississippi Central and Mississippi and Tennessee railroads. The motive power alone consists of over forty engines. The loss is of incalculable importance and is wholly irreparable. Nothing goes well in the Southwest."

The markets in Richmond are eminently interesting. Gold sells at \$9 premium; bacon at \$1.50 per lb.; butter \$1.50; candles \$5; coffee \$4; sugar \$1.50; whiskey \$35 per gallon; wheat \$7.50 per bushel; rye \$7; peas \$15; corn \$10; flour \$35 per barrel; Hay \$400 per



Major General George G. Meade.

ton; molasses \$10 per gallon; potatoes \$15 per bushel; oats \$6 per bushel; lime \$10 per bbl; dried apples \$11 per bushel; dried peaches \$16 per bushel. Such are some of the fruits of this causeless, unholy rebellion!

THE SOUTHERN COAST.

The Rebels in Pennsylvania—Hilton Head—Fort Royal Hotel—Beaufort—The Country on Beaufort River—Visit to Fort Pulaski—A Century Plant in Bloom—Army Amusements—The Department of the South—Character of the Negro Troops—Gen. Gilmore—A Month of Adventure.

NEWBERN, N. C., July 14, 1863. Since I left you I have traveled something over two thousand miles, have seen many strange sights and great curiosities, and yet I doubt whether I have had as interesting a time as you poor Pennsylvania Dutch have been enjoying for the past month. I have not heard a word from home in the past three weeks, and you may imagine my anxiety to hear how you have all fared during your (don't be alarmed, I borrow the expression from a Chambersburg female) "three weeks in hell." The news we have, gives me reason to hope that the Rebels are ere now South of the Potomac or captured, but the details are imperfect and I can't trust the papers.

You have heard that I left New York for South Carolina on the 20th of May. After passing off Charleston on the 23d, and having a fine view of the city, Fort Smith, the blockading fleet, &c., we reached Hilton Head on the 24th, and at once set to work. The military post, "Hilton Head," is on the Northern point of the Island of that name, and is the headquarters of the Department of the South. The soil is a light, dry sand, and apparently barren, but it is the richest on the Continent. Except where military operations have destroyed the verdure, trees, plants and shrubbery of all kinds grow in luxurious profusion, and for agricultural purposes on better soil can be found than that of the Sea Islands in the vicinity of Port Royal. Almost any vegetable could be had here as early as the middle of April. All the business of the Department centres at Hilton Head, and it is therefore quite a lively place, very different in appearance from what it must have been when, two years ago, the proprietor of the then only house in the place (now used for Quartermaster's and Telegraph offices), could look around and proclaim himself "lord of all he surveyed." The only and first-class hotel of the place is doing a large business, in which the proprietors are aided by a lot of filthy negroes, and abetted by flocks of "greybacks" and bed-bugs, which in numbers and voracity, rival those of a Confederate camp of long standing. The principal meal, dinner, commences with a course of "flea soup" and ends with "fly pudding," at least, after careful examination, I found mine always contained a large proportion of such ingredients as led me to suppose that they must be named as above. We enjoyed these delicacies at the moderate rate of \$2.00 per day.

Beaufort, or Beaufort River, was in peace times a town of considerable importance. It must have been a delightful place of residence, and numerous handsome buildings, surrounded by beautiful gardens, and parks, attest the fact that the "chivalry" appreciate its sea breeze and healthful atmosphere. It is the garden spot of our country, now desolate and unproductive, because the worthy sons of men who only sixty years ago "ducked" Ministers of the Gospel, broke up religious meetings and burned churches; took it into their fanatical heads to lay violent hands upon our Country's Constitution, and to build up a government under which their evil and perverted natures could give their passions full sway, fearless alike of the laws of God or civilized men.

Business called on the 1st of June, to Fort Pulaski, Georgia. On the way we stopped at Tybee Light House, and visited the Martello Tower, a small fortification built by the Spaniards something over two hundred years ago. It is circular in form, with walls about 8 feet thick, and composed of a composition of shells, sand and cement, which has now become almost as solid as granite. The Fort is garrisoned by a company of the 28th N. Y. V., and commands I believe the main ship channel from the Atlantic Ocean to the Savannah River. Fort Pulaski on an Island at the entrance to the River, is of brick, strongly built. You will remember the accounts of its reduction and capture by Gen. G. A. Gilmore, who last week, gave the rebels another proof of his skill as an Engineer, by his operations near Charleston. Near the Fort I had the pleasure of seeing a specimen of American Aloe or Century plant in bloom. There are quite a number of old plants in the vicinity, but neither the oldest inhabitant, nor the most intelligent contraband, had ever seen any of them in bloom. Though, quite warm, the climate at the Fort is exceedingly healthy, but one death having occurred in the Regiment which garrisons it, in the past year. The Regiment—the 28th N. Y., though isolated from the rest of mankind—manages to live very comfortably. Three evenings in each week, they are entertained by dramatic performance, given by members of the Regiment, with a negro operatic performance to fill up the odd evenings. They have a neat little stage, with its drop curtain, scenery, &c., in regular theatrical style. The performance, on the night I visited the Fort, was quite creditable, and was attended by the Colonel commanding the Fort, and his estimable lady and by many other officers and their wives. The garrison were keeping a close watch upon the Rebel Ram Fingal, the smoke from her boilers being visible from up the river. She has since been captured by the Monitors.

The Department of the south is the best clothed, best equipped, best fed, and in numerical proportion, the most expensive of any in the United States service,—it is, I doubt not, composed of men as brave and true as any, and yet under the control of the General, who was lately relieved of his command it has accomplished little else than the emancipation of some thousands of negroes. They are literally swarming in every Department—are becoming insolent and overbearing—and in one of the negro regiments, they recently became so insubordinate, that it was necessary to give several of them "sudden discharges" from the service of the United States, which will enable them to enlist in that fabled army which Old John Brown is supposed to command. Under good officers, the negroes would make good soldiers, but their present expeditions to the main-land are disgraceful in the extreme. They plunder, burn and lay waste all that is in their path. The property of the poor widow who has no part nor lot in the rebellion shares the same fate as that of the wealthiest rebel in the State. It was this state of things which made me doubly anxious about our Pennsylvania homes, while the Rebels were with you. I feared that they would adopt retaliatory measures, and am as much surprised as rejoiced that they did not.

The removal of Gen. Hunter and filling his place by the brave and skillful General Gilmore, shows us that the administration has appreciated the troubles under which the Department was laboring, and gives us promise of better things in the future. The late news from Charleston encourages us to hope that the promise will not be long unfulfilled. After a month's sojourn in our dominions in S. C., driving or rambling through groves of orange and magnolia trees, sailing about the bayous and creeks, being wrecked

on an oyster bank, building lines along the sea shore, through forests and across marshes where we momentarily expected to be "drafted" by alligators, laying cables across four rivers, "melting" in day-light and being "chawed" up by flies, fleas and mosquitoes at night, we fulfilled our mission and departed for a more congenial clime, where one does not hear, see and smell the "inevitable contraband" every moment in the day, where "greybacks" will no longer be so gently o'er us stealing, and which altogether is the most comfortable ranche, we have fallen upon in two years' experience in the army. Congratulate us therefore, that our lines have fallen in places so pleasantly, and that we are living in hopes that but a few months will elapse ere we have the pleasure of taking you by the hand, and of enjoying ourselves as in days gone by.

PHILADELPHIA.

Our Correspondent—The Draft in Philadelphia—Hon. William B. Mann—Reserving Volunteers—The Decline in Gold—The Skies Brighten for the Union.

Correspondence of The Franklin Repository.

PHILADELPHIA, July 25, 1863.

In complying with your request to become your regular correspondent at this point, I am reminded that the position is not entirely new to me, having, as long ago as 1846, acted for a brief period in that capacity, from another place. I would rather write for the Repository from any other point than this. This is your commercial emporium. Your citizens receive a large number of papers daily, and they are about as well posted on City news as we are, who have to depend mainly on the papers, for information of what is transpiring at our own doors. While much of the local news would be interesting to many of your readers, who are not so fortunate as to receive a daily mail, to others it would be stale and uninteresting, and consequently I will not attempt to report it in detail. The more prominent events only will be noticed, and they briefly.

Although the draft has been made in half the Wards of the City, very little excitement has been caused by it. A committee of prominent citizens, of each political party, has been selected to witness the drawing in every Ward, and no charge of unfairness has, in any case, been made against the Provost Marshal and his assistants. Those who draw prizes from the wheel, in most cases, take it in good humor. Where substitutes can be had for \$300 or less, they are offered in preference to paying the fine; but it is understood that a very large proportion are paying \$300 for exemption. Ample provisions will be made for the support of the families of those who, from convictions of duty or otherwise, respond in person to the call of their country. The drafting for the whole City will be concluded next week.

Some of the city volunteers, who responded to the call of the Governor, are beginning to return to their homes. The independent company of William B. Mann returned yesterday, and were escorted through some of the principal streets, by other military organizations. Capt. Mann appears to be able to take a turn at almost anything. After the first battle of Bull Run, as Colonel of the 2d Regiment of Pennsylvania Reserves, he hastened to the defense of the Capitol, and continued in command of his regiment for some months. Understanding the politics of Philadelphia better, undoubtedly, than any other man, of any party, he is at once a successful politician, a brave soldier, an accomplished lawyer, and efficient District Attorney.

The decline in Gold is a favorable feature financially, of the last week. This decline must favorably affect the prices of foreign merchandise, as duties will be more easily paid, while in connection with the opening of the Mississippi, the rates of domestic fabrics should give way.

The skies brighten for the Union, and with a continuance of recent successes, the war cannot be prolonged beyond this year. If the draft could be postponed, as the copperhead Journals of New York desire, the rebels might be encouraged to make a desperate effort to recover their lost ground. But with the prospect of an accession of 300,000 men to our army, if they do not see, they can soon be made to feel the hopelessness of their position.

TUSCARORA.

The rebels considered they had a good joke on us when they defended Manassas with wooden guns. While acknowledging the corn, we beg leave to call their attention to several wooden mortars that gave them more annoyance at Vicksburg than all other guns. The mortars threw six, twelve and twenty-four pound shell with considerable accuracy. Captain Trissellian, a "fighting Irishman," on Gen. Logan's staff, conceived the idea of manufacturing mortars from logs. Securing several sound logs, he had them bored out and then hooped them with iron. With a small charge of powder they answered better than iron mortars, for they made little noise. The rebels confessed that more damage was done by these shells than any we threw into Vicksburg.

Major General Maury, commanding at Mobile, is alarmed lest General Grant should take it into his head to "move on the works" erected for the defense of that Rebel city, and accordingly he issues a proclamation to the people setting forth his fears, and calling upon them to prepare for such an event. Maury's fears may be realized.

BRIEF WAR ITEMS.

The Nashville Union says: Deserters are again leaving the shattered ranks of Bragg's army, and delivering themselves up to our authorities. Some place their number as high as 10,000.

Capt. Ulric Dahlgreen—son of the Admiral—is promoted to a Lieutenant-Colonelcy of Volunteers for gallant conduct at Gettysburg. Among his certificates of good behavior, was a lost leg.

The navigation of the Mississippi, temporarily suspended by the presence of an armed mob, has been resumed. The steamer Imperial arrived at New Orleans from St. Louis on the 16th, having met with no obstructions on her voyage.

Surgeon-General Hammond, just returned from Gettysburg, says that the most cruel act of the Rebels within remembrance was the leaving of 11,000 Rebel wounded without only six Rebel surgeons to attend to them. Great suffering has been endured by these unfortunate men, so barbarously deserted by the chivalry of the South.

Persons from Hagerstown and Williamsport represent on the authority of the citizens of those places that during the last three days of Lee's stay north of the Potomac his entire army, officers and privates, were in a most fearful state of despondency and trepidation on account of their universal expectation of being attacked.

General Hurlburt announces to the War Department that Colonel Hatch, commanding an Iowa regiment of cavalry, had encountered the Rebel cavalry on the 13th inst., at Jackson, Tenn., and after a severe fight routed them, killing, wounding, and capturing two hundred. He also released four hundred conscripts, and took 250 horses.

The Rebel cavalry at Gettysburg was in constant trouble; if it appeared beyond the protection of the infantry lines on either flank, it was charged into by the national cavalry, and sent pell-mell back to its hiding place; and if too far within our own lines, the horses were demoralized by the explosion of shells.

Of the one thousand eight hundred and fifty men comprising the "Iron Brigade," who went into the fight at Gettysburg, seven hundred and twenty-eight were killed or wounded, and four hundred more were unaccounted for on the following day. The brigade is composed of the 2d, 6th, and 7th Wisconsin, 19th Indiana, and the 24th Michigan.

A soldier returning to his regiment, which is under Meade, on the Potomac, said yesterday: "This mob must be put down; the conscription must be enforced. Here I am returning for eighteen months to my regiment, after a spell of sickness. My regiment is not half full; it ought to be filled up; and that at once. These men who make a riot, would cut the throats of the soldiers in the field."

Gen. Meade was frequently under the fire at Gettysburg, though he does not appear to have exposed himself unnecessarily. He rode along the lines, attended by the orderlies guiding every movement, and halting and sending to the front demoralized officers and men. At one time his horse was killed under him, the canister shot passing through the flap of the saddle, grazing the leg of the General.

A personal friend and fellow-soldier of Gen. Hooker writes home: "I give you my word that the stories about his drunkenness are utterly false. So far from being drunk at Chancellorville, the fact is that when he was made insensible by the concussion of a cannon-shot against a column upon which he was leaning, and spirits were wanted for his use by the surgeon, not a drop could be found at his quarters, and it was long before it could be obtained."

The capture of Chattanooga by General Rosecrans is a matter which has attracted very little attention, yet it is almost as important an announcement as the surrender of Vicksburg. The latter gave us the Mississippi, but Chattanooga is the key to the whole internal railway system of the South. East Tennessee now becomes ours as a matter of course, and the mountain region which split the South like a wedge passes naturally into our control. Chattanooga, in its way, means as much as Vicksburg.

The Government has ordered the Rebel General W. Fitzhugh Lee and Capt. Winder into confinement, to await the action of the Rebels at Richmond in reference to the sentence of death passed upon Captains Sawyer, of New Jersey, and Flynn, of Indiana. On Thursday they were removed to a casemate in Fortress Monroe, and notice was sent to Richmond, giving the authorities there to understand that, if the two Union officers were hung, the same death would be visited upon Lee and Winder.

The government is in possession of information going to show that there is a thorough understanding between the New York and Southern Rebels. When the evidence comes to be known to the public, the assertion in the Tribune weeks ago that Lee's invasion of Pennsylvania was prompted by a copperhead embassy from New York, will appear amply supported by proof. A widespread organization is known to exist in Northern cities which is in close affiliation with the Southern leaders.