

A Call From Missouri.

FELLOW CITIZENS OF THE FREE STATES: Placed on an advanced post of liberty in the present struggle for the maintenance of our Government, we have in obedience to the call of our President, organized the four regiments of volunteers from Missouri. As citizens of a State whose first executive is, as you well know, opposed to the Government of the United States, we, as a matter of course, cannot expect support from him, or the State Government, for furthering the purpose of the Federal Government. We are therefore compelled to appeal to the sympathies of our fellow citizens in the free States, who have, with unprecedented unanimity come to the support of our Government, for the necessary means of providing our first equipment. Many of our men are destitute of the means to purchase the necessary uniform, blankets, &c.

Having no claim on our General Government until after three months' service, we appeal to the sympathies of our Union-loving fellow citizens in the free States for the necessary assistance and support, fully satisfied that a part of that patriotic liberality so freely shown to their own volunteers, will not be withheld from us. Anticipating such sympathy we will strain every nerve to uphold the authority of our Federal Government in this remote and important post of the great West, against treason and rebellion, in order that the wishes of the patriots and Union loving men of this country may soon be fulfilled, and that rebellion be forever crushed, and the cause of right and justice be triumphant over treason and secession.

Gov. Gustavus Koerner, of Belleville, Ill. has kindly consented to act for us as receiver and disburser; and without consultation, we feel at liberty to ask Isaac Sherman, Esq. and Sigismund Kaufman, Esq., of the City of New York, Evans Rogers, Esq., of Philadelphia, and Judge Russell, of Boston, to act in our behalf in those cities.

FRANK P. BLAIR,
Colonel First Regiment Missouri Volunteers.
HENRY BEERNSTEIN,
Colonel Second Regiment Missouri Volunteers.
F. SIGEL,
Colonel Third Regiment Missouri Volunteers.
NICHOLAS SCHUTTNER,
Colonel Fourth Regiment Missouri Volunteers.

All papers friendly to the objects of this publication will confer a favor by copying it into their columns.

Position of the Government.

The N. Y. Tribune has advices from Washington which assure it that the government is fully determined on war—an active and aggressive war, to vindicate the power and dignity of the United States. Mr. Lincoln has long been strongly in favor of this policy, and so have Messrs. Blair, Chase, and Cameron. Messrs. Seward and Wells at first dissented, but have at length yielded to the general voice of the people. In allusion to the recent attacks in the newspapers upon the Administration, Mr. Lincoln said on the 1st: "We can afford to pass them by with the dying words of the Massachusetts statesman, 'We still live.'—I am sure they don't worry me any, and I reckon they don't benefit the parties who write them."

From a statement in the *Washington Republican*, we gather that fifty-one persons are now employed—that is, paid—about the Capitol of the United States as draftsmen, clerks, messengers, &c., &c., in connection with the Capitol Extension, which is at a dead stand, while the amount paid these gentlemen—mainly open or secret sympathizers with the Secession rebels—is considerably over \$1,000 per week.—We respectfully suggest that they may be discharged in a lump, and the money now paid saved to buy Provisions and Munitions for the War.—*New York Tribune*.

Military Matters at Washington

Special dispatches to the Cincinnati Commercial.

Washington, May 10.

The Pennsylvania Regiment, together with four hundred regular Army Infantry and Sherman's Six-gun Battery, came in this evening. The regulars are just returned from Texas, and look rather worse for wear.

Six companies of flying artillery with thirty-six field pieces are now stationed here. The number of troops now in the city limits exceeds 25,000.

Daily visits to the White House and Departments give me the best possible opportunity to ascertain the relative zeal of President, Secretaries and assistants in discharging their duties at this momentous time, and I can assure your readers, that all labor faithfully and energetically for the country's good.

An absence of exciting events for a few days should not induce the belief that matters are going wrong or slow at headquarters. The war will be prosecuted vigorously as soon as plans of intended aggressive movements are fully elaborated, and all the means to carry them out successfully will be at the hand of the military authorities.

No less than eight steam craft, heavily loaded with ammunition, and with clothing, blankets, &c., and provisions, have arrived up the Potomac within the last forty-eight hours. Supplies now here would feed one hundred thousand troops a whole year.—Much confusion has prevailed heretofore, in the subsistence department, but matters are now rapidly brought into working order.

Four hundred unmounted cavalry arrived this afternoon. They marched through Maryland, from the Pennsylvania line, without being the least molested.

Thos. F. Meagher, the Irish patriot, reached here last night. He is attached to the 69th Regiment, the band of which escorted him to quarters.

Senator Wade is here on military business.

SPECIAL

Explosion in a Virginia Coal Mine.

Explosions of "fire damp" are not as common in the coal mines of this country as in those of Great Britain, and are therefore more noticeable when they do occur. On the 30th ult., three Germans at work in a coal mine at Wegee, on the Ohio river, a few miles below Wheeling, went into the mine as usual, with their lamps burning on the front part of their caps. A strong wind had interfered with the ventilation of the mine, so that the "fire damp" had accumulated. The explosion of gas must have occurred immediately on their entrance, but the fact was not known until two hours afterwards, when the strong smell of gas and the disturbance of the soil awakened suspicion. Two men went in at the risk of their lives and pulled out the insensible bodies of the three miners. Two were dead, and horribly shattered by the explosion. The third is alive and may possibly recover.

The people of Virginia have reason to be indignant at the manner in which they are made a cat's-paw to pull hot chestnuts out of the fire for the rebel confederacy. Virginia has been drawn into the secession folly, and the seat of war thus transferred to a safe distance from the Cotton States, and these States now fail to rush to the rescue when the Virginians suppose that they are in imminent danger of attack.—"If the Southern Confederacy is worthy of existence," says the *Richmond Examiner*, "it will come at once to the front." "The Southern States," it says again, "are both traitors and cowards if they do not come at once to the front." "Why," it exclaims, "do the wheels of the chariot tarry? The hour for action is on us, and if the South has half the decision for which it has the credit that hour will not pass unemployed." The people of Virginia begin to suspect that they have got into bad company.—Their State is the rat that foolishly volunteered to put the bell on the cat.

A gentleman who recently returned from the South, where he had spent some years, says that the great body of the Secessionists feel perfectly sure of taking Washington. They expect to bring 400,000 men into the field by midsummer, when they calculate that the heat will be far more oppressive to the Northern troops than to theirs, and that then if not sooner, they expect to achieve their great triumph. They calculate on powerful aid from Maryland at the critical moment and mean to make sure work of it.

We print these calculations to warn our people of the desperate nature of the struggle before us. We cannot make too great preparations for it, nor be ready for greater sacrifices than will be imperatively required.—*New York Tribune*.

A leading mercantile house in Philadelphia, which has done much and paid liberally to stand well with the South, lately received a letter from a debtor in Louisiana in these terms:

"Our note to you for \$10,000, due this day, will not be paid. We have lent the money to the Confederate States, and you may go to—"

The creditors hope to make of their account a cartridge to fire at the rebels.—They have no idea of ever realizing it otherwise.

The *Washington Chronicle* of Sunday says: Major Anderson, who arrived in Washington yesterday, was the bearer from New York of \$4,000,000 in gold from the New York sub-treasury to the U. S. Treasury in Washington.

Last week, the ladies of Boston were informed that five thousand shirts, for soldiers, were required within twenty-four hours.—They joined with them some of the ladies of Roxbury, secured the assistance of sewing-machines, went to work in "Liberty Hall," their headquarters, and had the whole number completed fairly within the allotted time.

By an address from Frank P. Blair and others to the citizens of the Free States, published in another column, it will be seen that the loyal men of Missouri appeal to their brethren here for aid in arming against the enemies of the Union. Their State Government will give them neither sympathy nor assistance; but they are right in looking to the Free North for their help, and they will not be disappointed.

The *Richmond Enquirer* whines pitifully over what it calls the "hypocrisy of Northern Statesmen." It says the fact is clearly demonstrated that the "Northern allies" upon whom we chiefly relied, are as 'falls as hell,' and that our only safety, is in the erection of a wall between us and them as high as Heaven."

U. S. CAVALRY.—The attention of the Government has been given to the organization of the mounted troops now in the U. S. regular service. The present strength is as follows: Two regiments of dragoons, 2,000; one regiment of mounted riflemen, 1,000; Two regiments of cavalry, 2,000.—Total, 5,000 men. These soldiers are stationed in different parts of the country.—There are about 1,000 of them at present located in the Department of the East, chiefly members of the Second Cavalry.—Of the new addition to the army, to consist of 7,000 men, one or two regiments will be "horse soldiers."

There is a private in the Rhode Island regiment at Washington who is worth half a million of dollars. The *Tribune's* Washington correspondent states that he saw him mopping the floor of the barracks.