WEEKLY SENTINEL.

WEDNESDAY.............. JUNE 12, 1861

The Commissary General and the House.

The *Journal* is out in a labored apology and defense of the late Commissary General. It says the action of the House in condemning the administration of the duties of the Commissary Department "was more than unjust—it was mean." In addition to this, it charges that the House was unjust and ungenerous for pronouncing Commissary MANSUR "incompetent and dishonest," and for removing him from office "without giving him a hearing, and without allowing him a fair chance to present testimony in his own behalf before the committee." It makes a great difference with that paper whose ox is gored. Democratic officials have been tried and condemned in precisely the same way by Republican investigating committees, their characters blasted, yet the *Journal* justified and gloated over the proceedings. Let us look at the facts in the case. A majority of the committee were the political friends of Mr. MANSUR and Governor MORTON. Is there any doubt that under such circumstances every leniency would be extended to the Commissary. Now, what do this committee say in the report which we publish elsewhere? They remark:

We have, in addition to the testimony taken of the soldiers, visited nearly all the companies, and received their statements, which correspond, in every particular, with the testimony taken. We have, also, personally inspected the provisions on hand in the Commissary Department, and have come to our conclusions, as set forth in this report, from personal inspection, as well as from the testimony.

The resolution of censure passed unanimously, and it should not be forgotten that the House is largely Republican. Now it is not for a moment to be supposed that the representatives were influenced by personal considerations in their action. We will take it for granted that the House is composed generally of gentlemen, and that they would not violate their official oaths in the discharge of an unpleasant duty. Yet the *Journal*, without any qualification whatever, pronounces the action of the House, the entire House, for it was an unanimous vote, with not only being *unjust*, but *mean*.

We do not desire to injure Mr. MANSUR in any way. He has, however, been most unfortunate in selecting his apologist. The defense is lame, weak and offensive. If conscious of his innocence of the charges preferred against him, he should not have resigned his position. If he had, and the Governor believed him guiltless—if, as the *Journal* says, the vote of the House "did an honest man a grievous wrong, and deprived the State of a valuable officer," as a friend of Mr. MANSUR he would have refused the resignation, and stood manfully by his appointee. But the action of the Governor in accepting the resignation of Mr. MANSUR, only confirmed the action of the House.

The *Journal* defends Mr. MANSUR in a singular way. It gives him great credit for being economical in one particular. He furnished the troops with cheap ground coffee, or coffee and poor beans ground up together, which all the witnesses testified was very poor, and some state that it made them sick. Queer economy that. But when he came to furnish his pork, he had different ideas of economy. Mr. MCTAGGART, a pork packer, swears that he would have sold the same article for 6½ cents per pound that MANSUR charged 7 cents for, and that on the 6th of May he purchased shoulders at 5 cents per pound.

We have not space to day to examine the testimony in detail. We will allude to only a few facts. Hon. WM. CUMBACK, who was a private in a company, testifies that if "compelled to live upon the issues to the army I (he) should call it poor, very poor fare," but the soldiers in his company got along comfortably from the fact that friends at home sent them many articles of food. We admit, with the *Journal*, that a commissariat is a difficult position to fill, and that Mr. MANSUR had no experience whatever in its duties, and in fact did not even know what a ration was. It is not singular, therefore, that the charge of incompetency should hold against him. But MANSUR is a shrewd business man, and knows how to make money, and has a passion for making it. Mr. ISRAEL MCTAGGART's testimony hits the nail square on the head in exposing the considerations which influenced the Commissary. MCTAGGART demanded that he should furnish a fair portion of the pork, but MANSUR demurred to that, and why? We copy from MCTAGGART's testimony:

In the conversation with Mansur he stated that it was a hard business, any how, and if there was anything to be made at it he (Mansur) might as well make it himself, or what was the same thing, furnish his own pork.

But enough for to-day. We have no desire to add a feather's weight to Mr. MANSUR's troubles, or even to wound his feelings. If he employs an advocate, he should select one who will not provoke criticism by palpable indiscretions. It was enough for the *Journal* to carry Mr. MANSUR upon its back, without condemning the action of those who have at least equal reputation and business capacity as Mr. MANSUR, with being both unjust and mean. We do not think the Republican members of the House will feel complimented with the criticisms of the individual who thought them all very honorable gentlemen, until he secured their votes for the office of State Printer.

We know that the editor of the *Journal* is a violent secessionist, but we do not think him so devoted to the principle as to induce him to secede from a lot of MANSUR's fine sugar cured hams. He would, however, insist upon the best quality of hams and repudiate most decidedly the soldier's fare, the thin, untrimmed, oversalted and in some cases sour shoulders, which they swear were furnished them. So far as MANSUR's rations are concerned, we think he would stick to his favorite principle of secession.

The Quartermaster's Department.

We published yesterday an article from the Newcastle *Courier*, a Republican print, reflecting upon the management of the Quartermaster's Department in this city. That paper charges that contracts were awarded for clothing at higher prices than was offered by another bidder. The Quartermaster says that the charge is true, but that the award was determined by the quality of the goods, the samples of the lowest bidder being so much inferior to the samples of those to whom the contracts were awarded, that the propositions of the latter were, for that reason, considered cheaper and more advantageous to the service. This explanation relieves the Quartermaster from the charges of favoritism alleged by the *Courier*. Mr. VAJEN, the present Quartermaster, is a gentleman of strict integrity and fine business qualifications. The office was proffered to him by the Governor without any solicitation on his part, and he accepted it, not because it would be of any pecuniary advantage to him, but only from patriotic considerations. We know it is an arduous and responsible position, and if honestly administered, a thankless one.

No Party.

Our Republican friends are daily proclaiming their desire that all party lines should be obliterated during the present crisis of the country. But with this profession of no partyism on their lips, the political guillotine is constantly at work chopping off heads of Democratic officials. In the meantime Democrats are gallantly offering their services and voting means for the vigorous prosecution of the war. It looks a little as though our Republican brethren are still as greedy as ever for spoils, and that they only mean by no party, no Democratic party. When the political guillotine ceases its work we shall have some confidence in Republican professions of no partyism.

The Speakership.

The Washington correspondent of the N. Y. *Tribune* says that the Speakership of the next House will probably be given to GALUSHA A. GROW, of Pennsylvania, or Frank P. Blair, jr., of Missouri. For the Clerkship no candidate is mentioned in competition with Col. Forney, the present incumbent.

☞ The cost of keeping an army of 100,000 men in the field for one year is estimated at $106,678,000.

The War.

The public mind is getting restive in its anxiety to hear of the commencement of hostilities, which will decide the integrity of the Union or the independence of the Confederate States. Looking at the field of battle from a Northern stand point, we can not arrive at any other conclusion than that the Union forces will obtain military possession of Virginia. The Government has the men, the materials of war, and all the appliances to secure that result, but it will not be accomplished without terrible and sanguinary conflicts. But whatever the sacrifice, to that complexion it must eventually come. The skill of Gen. SCOTT can not be questioned. To those who do not know the difficulty of advancing an army of undisciplined soldiers successfully, his movements may be regarded tardy, but he is playing the game to win. And we shall be able to appreciate the wisdom of his measures better in the future, when they shall have been fully developed, than now. We think the military genius of JEFF. DAVIS has been overrated; at least, thus far he has exhibited no extraordinary capacity in the art of war as a great leader. In our view the attack upon Fort Sumter should have been followed by an aggressive movement upon the North. If he had done that before the Government had time to have prepared for defense, he might have dictated the recognition of his Government. But he waited, counting upon the political divisions in the North to do his work, until the people rallied unanimously to the support of the Government, and demanded the most vigorous measures for its maintenance. There he failed in foresight, sagacity and skill. It was an error which will prove fatal to his success. By procrastination he lost the prestige which would have given him strength in the contest. Neither will he now be able to recover what he has thus lost. The delay of aggressive movements by the Confederates has enabled the Government to strengthen its position, develop its military resources and prepare for the conflict. It may be said that the delay will be of similar advantage to the South. This is true in part, but the delay has been vastly more to the benefit of the North. Six weeks ago the Government had but a few thousand regular troops, but during that time an army of two hundred and fifty thousand has been brought into the field well equipped, and a portion of them drilled, and all rapidly advancing in the discipline necessary for effective service, and more to follow whenever necessary. It looks to us, without a full knowledge of the military resources of the Confederates, that the Government will concentrate an overpowering force in Virginia with which the Secessionists will be unable to cope or resist.

A Decided Difference of Opinion.

A spicy controversy is in progress between Doctor SHERMAN, the distinguished Representative in the Legislature from Laporte county, and one NATHAN EARLYWINE, Moral Instructor of the Northern State Prison. We feel confident they must both be gentlemen, from the remarks they make about each other, and that each possesses high qualifications for the positions they fill by the grace of the Republican party. Doctor SHERMAN intimates that Mr EARLYWINE, the Moral Instructor aforesaid, has admirable "qualifications for a stud horse keeper," and Mr. EARLYWINE returns the compliment by intimating that "big windy Sherman" is "reeking from every pore with immorality, gambling, robbing men, while drunk, of their money," &c., &c., &c. Governor MORTON differs in opinion with Mr. EARLYWINE, for he has just appointed the distinguished Doctor Assistant Surgeon of Col. MILROY's Regiment. The *Journal*, also, differs with each gentleman in their estimate of the other. It says that EARLYWINE is "an upright and intelligent gentleman," and Dr. SHERMAN is "a gentleman worthy of any constituency." As the *Journal* pronounces both gentlemen (?) "reliable and intelligent," we must accept the endorsement and believe that each speaks truthfully of the other. We reproduce the communication of Mr. EARLYWINE to the *Journal* as a specimen of Republican literature:

MICHIGAN CITY, May 27, 1861.

EDITOR JOURNAL—*Sir:* After my respects, I desire a place in your valuable paper for these lines. In the *Journal* of the 27th I see that one Sherman, who, by the force of circumstances, holds a seat in the Legislature from Laporte county, has asked a place to drag my name into public notoriety unceremoniously. The citizens of this county only excuse themselves for voting for Sherman on the ground that they were desirous that the world should know the real difference between a real gentleman and a low flung, drunken, immoral, foul-mouthed slanderer and blackguard. Never were those two characters more fully represented than they are in the persons of Senator and Representative from Laporte county. In the person of Mr. Teegarden is found the gentleman in every particular, loved, and trusted, and honored by all who know him. Far different with big windy Sherman, whom to loathe is but to look upon, reeking from every pore with immorality, gambling, robbing men, while drunk, of their money, and going round to the shops of the worst dens in the city of Michigan, enticing them to the gambling table, and thereby ruining their habits and morals.

While I write, an affidavit is being filed and sworn to before a Justice of the Peace of this city, charging this Sherman, with others, with taking seventy-five dollars unlawfully and without right. This is the man who has seen fit to take advantage of his position as Representative and drag into the halls of the Legislature the name of a citizen of his own town without any provocation. In short, sir, I say that the influence and insinuations used by this Sherman in the halls of the Legislature are unjust, and those who are unjust, low-flung and ungentlemanly, and nobody but a corrupt villain and coward would do such a thing. As such a character I pronounce this man Sherman, for which I hold myself responsible. By giving these lines a place in your paper immediately, you will confer a favor on an old friend. Yours, with respect,

NATHAN EARLYWINE.

The Movement of Troops.

The telegraph states that there will be no demonstration for the present upon either Norfolk or Portsmouth, in both of which places there are large bodies of rebel forces. It is reported that there are ten thousand troops at each of those points, besides large numbers upon the various lines of defense contiguous thereto. It is evident that the Government is not yet prepared to move against such formidable forces. Further demonstrations upon Acquia Creek are abandoned until a force sufficient can be concentrated to make a successful movement. At Manassas Junction the rebels have erected formidable fortifications and have a large force to resist an attack upon that position. Probably an advance may be contemplated upon some other point not equally well protected, which will cut off the railroad communications northward from Richmond with equal effect. The intelligence from Harper's Ferry is contradictory. One account states that there are movements which look like an abandonment and retreat from there, while others state that an aggressive movement, with a large force, will be made by Gen. LEE upon Washington, relying upon the sympathy and aid of the secessionists in Maryland. If such an operation is intended, it is probable it will be supported by the advance of the Confederate troops upon Alexandria and Arlington Hights. The rapid concentration of Union forces in Virginia, confirms the opinion we have expressed that the sacred soil of the Old Dominion is to be the theater of the conflict during the summer, and that either the number of the rebel troops in that State and the energy of the confederates have been underestimated, or else it has been determined to collect an overpowering force for a successful demonstration upon Richmond at an early day. A collision between the contending force can not be long delayed, for daily they are coming in closer proximity. The out-post skirmishing thus far gives no indication of what the character of the conflict will be. The first engagement where large bodies will come in contact, will develop the materiel and fighting qualities of the two armies and the skill which directs them. Until such an event transpires, no just opinion can be formed as to the resources, energy and power of the Confederates and their ability to maintain an independent Government.

☞ The Lafayette *Argus* says the Indianapolis *Journal* is troubled with "water on the brain." Water is a stranger to any other part of his body.

Annual Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church for the Diocese of Indiana.

Wednesday, June 5, being the time appointed for the twenty-fourth annual convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the diocese of Indiana, the clergy and lay delegates met at half-past ten A. M., in Christ Church, in this city.

After appropriate religious exercises and the delivery of the Bishop's charge, the convention was organized—the Bishop in the Chair—and the Rev. L. W. Russ Secretary *pro tem*.

After the appointment of the several committees the convention took a recess until four o'clock P. M., when the Committee on Credentials reported the names of the lay delegates from twelve parishes as entitled to seats.

The Rev. Elias Birdsall was elected Secretary of the convention.

The clergy present, not members of the convention, were by a vote invited to honorary seats. Applications for admission to union with the convention being made on behalf of St. Andrews Church, Warsaw; of St. Thomas Church, Plymouth; and of the Church of the Holy Communion, Valparaiso, their papers were referred, and being found correct, these churches were admitted.

The canon "of communicants deserting the communion of the church," which gave rise to so much debate last year, was indefinitely postponed.

On Thursday morning the Bishop delivered his annual address, relating his official acts for the year and giving an encouraging statement of the position and prospects of the several parishes in the diocese.

After deliberation the canon was passed—"On differences between ministers and their congregations," by which a way is provided for severing the connection between any Rector and his parish in those unfortunate cases which sometimes arise, when there is no hope of a favorable termination of the parochial difficulties which may spring up between a minister and his pastoral charge. Action was also taken whereby the Standing Committee is authorized to appoint a treasurer during the recess of convention, in case the treasurer duly elected by the convention die, resign, or remove from the diocese.

An amendment to Canon XI was carried, whereby a new canon may be adopted by unanimous consent, without the giving of the one day's notice previously required.

The election of members of the Standing Committee resulted in the choice of the Revs. James Runcie, Horace Stringfellow, Jr., John B. Wakefield, Clergy; James Morrison, George W. Mears, M. D., J. B. McChesney, Laity.

After the recess the following named gentlemen were elected Deputies to the General Convention: The Revs. James Runcie, L. W. Russ, C. A. Foster, M. D., S. H. Battin, Clergy; Hon. And. Ingram, H. B. Payne, Hon. George A. Bicknell, Isaac L. Beach, Laity.

It was decided to assess the parishes for the expenses of the Diocese upon the basis of the two preceding years, viz: one dollar for each communicant in the parish, and to hold each parish accountable for the full payment of its assessment. The Board of Trustees of the Diocese for last year was re-elected, as also was the Hon. Andrew Ingram as Treasurer of the Diocese. It was resolved that the next meeting of the convention be held in St. John's church, Lafayette. Much of the time during the morning was occupied in routine business.

Friday morning, Canon X—under the authority of which a Missionary Board was created, and has acted for some years—was repealed, and the moneys hereafter collected for the missionary fund of the Diocese, will be subject to the order of the bishop.

After considerable routine business in the way of receiving reports, &c., and after the approval of the minutes of the convention, a portion of the 25th hymn was sung, prayers were offered, and the benediction was pronounced by the bishop.

The convention then adjourned *sine die*.

A Change.

The Watkins *Republican*, a Republican paper in New York, publishes the following stanzas, which it says appeared in the New York *Tribune* in 1854. It would seem that the feelings of that sheet toward the "Stars and Stripes" have since undergone a remarkable conversion. The Watkins *Republican* says:—"After reading the above, we think that all will agree in saying that Horace Greeley ought *at once* to have the oath of fidelity to the Union, the Constitution and the National flag, administered to *him*."

HAIL TO THE STARS AND STRIPES.

All hail the flaunting *Lie!*
The stars grow pale and dim;
The stripes are bloody scars—
A lie, the vaunting hymn.
It shields a pirate's deck,
It binds a man in chains,
It yokes the captive's neck,
And wipes the bloody stains.

Tear down the flaunting Lie!—
Half-mast the starry flag!
Insult no sunny sky
With *hate's polluted rag!*
Destroy it ye who can!
Deep sink it in the waves!
It bears a fellow man
To groan with fellow slaves.

Furl the boasted Lie!—
Till freedom lives again,
To rule once more in truth
Among untrammelled men.
Roll up the starry sheen,
Conceal the bloody stains;
For in its folds are seen
The stamp of rustling chains!

Not True.

It turns out to be untrue that there had been a movement in the First Congressional District in Kentucky to unite its destinies with the Southern Confederacy. The Louisville *Journal* of yesterday has the following account of the proceedings of the Congressional Convention in that District:

The delegates from the counties composing the First Congressional District of Kentucky, have met and adjourned. A proposition for the counties composing the District to secede and join Tennessee in the event the State united her destinies irrevocably with the Union, was voted down by a strong majority, and H. C. Burnett was nominated as a candidate for Congress.

Secession in Kentucky.

Passengers from Evansville state that BURNETT's Congressional District, in the western portion of the State, on the line of Tennessee, has seceded, gone over to the Southern Confederates. If this be true it gives the rebel forces an outlet across the territory of Kentucky to the Ohio river, and it will furnish a new field for the employment of the Union troops. It will make work also for the loyal citizens of Kentucky, who have determined their State shall maintain a position of neutrality in the contest between the Government and the Confederates.

The Remains of Douglas.

The widow of the lamented DOUGLAS has yielded to the unanimous wish of the people of Illinois, and has consented that his remains shall be buried in the State he loved so well and served so faithfully. The burial-place selected is Cottage Grove, near the Lake Shore, adjacent to Chicago, and where Mrs. DOUGLAS will make her future home. The people of Illinois will attest their affection for the deceased Statesman, one whom they long honored and who ever proved true to the confidence they reposed in him, by erecting a fitting monument to his memory.

Important.

INDIANAPOLIS, June 5, 1861.

Editor of Daily State Sentinel:

Will you please publish the following order, received at this office on yesterday:

"The Postmaster General directs that all letters mailed or distributed at the Indianapolis Postoffice directed to the Southern States, which can not be forwarded to their intended destination on account of the discontinuance of mail service, or any other cause, shall be at once forwarded to the Dead Letter Office."

A. H. CONNER, Postmaster.

JOHN BELL AT KNOXVILLE—GREAT ENTHUSIASM.—The Hon. John Bell addressed a large crowd at Knoxville yesterday, including the Louisiana volunteers, en route for Virginia. A dispatch says that he was enthusiastic in his remarks particularly to the soldiers, urging them to war against the North to the death, and declaring that five million men could not conquer the South. The excitement was intense in Knoxville, and the cause of the South is gaining ground rapidly.—*Nashville Gazette, 5th.*

The War.

The telegraph reports that General Scott has informed the President and Cabinet that he intends to have possession of Richmond and Memphis by about the 15th of July. If this is the programme of the war, we may expect warm and bloody work during the coming six weeks, for the confidence and enthusiasm of the Confederates in their ability to resist and overthrow an invading army was never at a higher pitch than now. The well informed Washington correspondent of the *Journal of Commerce* gives the following information about military movements in that vicinity, and the prospects of the war:

The military operations in this vicinity appear to be coming to some head. The number of Confederate troops within thirty miles of Alexandria, is increasing daily, and it is believed that they are well armed and equipped, and perhaps better prepared to go into active war than they will ever be, as their enthusiasm and confidence are at the highest point. Movements of troops from this side of the river to that, are going on. Regiments are under orders to march at fifteen minutes' notice. The question is, whether Gen. Scott is to order an advance upon the intrenched camp at Manassas Junction, or whether he intends to await attack. On each side an attack is expected from the other. It is probable, therefore, that for some days skirmishes between advanced posts or scouting parties will continue to occur, and the effect of these is to produce mutual exasperation and irritation, and whet the appetite for the coming carnage.

The three months' men are soon to be withdrawn from service, and their places taken by three years' men. All arrangements indicate on both sides, preparation for protracted war. The operations in Western Virginia and on the Ohio and the Mississippi, will, at an early stage of the war, be conducted on a large scale, under Gen. McClellan, now second to Gen. Scott in command in the United States army. A descent upon Memphis with an overwhelming force, by a flotilla and an army, is one of the greatest of the operations embraced in the programme of the war. As this will require much preparation, it may not be attempted till next winter.

The removal of the Montgomery government to Richmond will be, as we have abundant evidence already, attended with a transfer of immense bodies of Southern troops to Virginia. They are pouring in from all the Southern States, and the prospect is that the Southern crop of wheat, corn, &c., will be ample to sustain them. The non-export of cotton during the blockade of the sea coast, and the prohibition of its export *except* from Southern *sea ports*, will cause a still further diversion of slave labor in the cotton States to the production of corn and cattle, during every successive season of the war. There will be less of luxury and extravagance, and perhaps even some lack of ordinary comforts, in the Southern States, during a seven years war, and the same may be said of a portion at least of the Northern States; but it is evident that on both sides, all the privations consequent upon the chances of the struggle will be accepted, and indorsed with resignation and hope of a more happy future.

There is much uneasiness here in regard to the state of feeling in Maryland. It has been reported that arms and munitions of war have privately been brought into the State, and especially into the city of Baltimore; and kept concealed. Those who are disaffected toward the Government, but who are now quiet from policy, may, it is surmised, become rebellious should any important reverse be experienced by the Federal arms. Should this be so, it is also believed that the State would be plunged into social war. It is reported that Gen Cadwallader is to be assigned to another post, and his place supplied by a more vigilant and vigorous commander.

Favoritism.

The Cincinnati *Commercial* charges that gross political and personal favoritism prevails in the management of military affairs both in the National and State governments. It says: "Not only have the three great States of Ohio, Pennsylvania and New York been disgraced by the incompetence of their Executive officers, and all kinds of corruption and neglect suffered to infest for a time the military commissariat of each State, but there have been similar abuses at Washington, and in the War Department itself. It is familiar to most readers that many appointments have recently been made to high offices in the army, of men whose claims to be thus considered, were of very equivocal character."

In confirmation of its charge of personal and political favoritism in the War Department, it presents the following instance, one of many which, for the credit of our Government, it wishes were different:

The most recent instance of this kind we have noticed, is the appointment of Mr. Cummings, of the New York *World*, to be Brigadier General, with the comfortable assurance that it is to be followed by his appointment as Quartermaster General of the United States Army. While we have no objection to the conferring of so important and lucrative an office upon a member of the press, we think the circumstances of this appointment do little credit to the head of the War Department. Mr. Cummings was, until recently, a resident of Philadelphia, and an active, scheming and noticeably successful local politician. He has been for years the special satellite of Gen. Cameron, now Secretary of War, and has been devoted to the fortunes of that not over-immaculate politician, to a degree which it would be a mild term to call inordinate.

Removing to New York, Mr. Cummings established a first-class newspaper, chiefly through the contributions of the religious community, who were assured that the *World* would eschew the profane things of the vulgar press, and set a lofty example of Christian virtue, dignity and decorum, to all who came within its influence. After having sunk a hundred thousand or so of the capital stock in publishing this paper, which was so far enough from redeeming any of the pledges made to the donors—the conductor cast about to devise some method of stopping the leaks in a losing concern. From ancient affinities, he found no method so promising as the political job department. By an inordinate expenditure of flattery upon Mr. Cameron, both before and after his appointment to the Cabinet, the *World* secured his good graces, and the fruits are now apparent in his elevation to the most lucrative office in the American Army. We mean, of course, if managed according to the system which prevails among the political jobbers of the Cameron Cummings school.

From the Natchez Free Trader.

The Armaments of the South.

An able correspondent of the Daily Missouri State *Journal*, published at St. Louis, gives the sum total of the population and armament of the South, from which we make brief abstracts:

"The area of the South is more than 1,000,000 square miles, being twenty times larger than England, ten times larger than Prussia, five times larger than either Austria, France, Spain or Turkey, and nearly as large as all Europe together.

"The population of the South is 12,500,000; white population 8,500,000.

"To ascertain the number of fighting men in the South, I refer to the 50th page of the U. S. census for 1850, where it is stated that in the 20,000,000 of white inhabitants of the United States there were '5,500,000 fighting men between the ages of fifteen and sixty, who, in case of an emergency, were capable of bearing arms.' This would give to the 8,500,000 white population of the Southern States just 2,200,000 fighting men—an army nearly four times as great as that with which Napoleon the First invaded Russia."

The following table gives the number of arms seized by the South since the revolution was inaugurated, at Baton Rouge, Alabama Arsenal, Elizabeth, N. C., Fayetteville, N. C., Charleston, Harper's Ferry, Norfolk, and other places.

Total	200,000
Add State arms previously purchased	707,000
Revolvers on hand	200,000
State arms in Tennessee, Texas, Kentucky, Arkansas, Delaware, Maryland and Missouri	117,000
One gun of all kinds in the hands of one hundred thousand private families of the South, one rifle or shot gun each	1,650,000
Total arms in the South	2,674,000

This army has the two million two hundred thousand fighting men, and leaves a surplus of four hundred and seventy-four thousand arms for the old men and boys.

The South have of cannon as follows, adding the pieces abandoned at

Forts Macon and Caswell, N. C.	148
" Sumter, Pinckney and Moultrie, S. C.	225
" Pulaski and Jackson, Savannah	150
" Pensacola Navy-yard, &c.	291
" Morgan and Gaines, Ala.	227
Coast of Louisiana, &c.	464
Texas	171
In the 13 States now sold—	
Owned by State of Delaware	34
" " Maryland	40
" " Virginia	350
" " North Carolina	87
" " South Carolina	290
" by Georgia	163
" by Tennessee	150
" by Kentucky	183
" by Alabama	75
" by Texas	376
Other Southern States	240
Total number of cannon	5,700

Many of these guns are of the heaviest calibre, of which there are two hundred and forty columbiads, eight and ten inch calibre, and fifty-three rifled cannon; also Dahlgren's howitzers, mortars, &c. The South has also a boundless supply of shot, shells, powder and every other material and appliance to make her armaments efficient. Such is the banquet to which President Lincoln is now inviting his friends, who, on the principle of reconstruction and lust of commercial dominion, seek to subjugate the South!

Report of the Committee Appointed to Examine the Quality and Condition of the Provisions Furnished by Commissary Mansur.

The select committee of the two Houses to investigate the Commissary and Quartermaster Departments, herewith submit the following report in relation to the Commissary Department.

The investigation has been very tedious and laborious, yet we have endeavored to look into every thing connected with the Department with the closest scrutiny, as far as we have set forth in this report.

RATION ALLOWANCES.

The first thing demanding our attention was the charge against the Commissary of short ration allowances to the soldiers. And, in order that everything connected with the duties of his office may be fully understood, we would state that the Commissary General, so far as the duties of the present officer is concerned, is an agent of the State, receiving nothing for his services except his salary, and that it is his duty to the State to furnish good and healthy food for her soldiers at the lowest market price, charging the State only the amount so paid, and anything that this officer, or any person under his control, may make by way of commission, bonus, or otherwise, would be a fraud upon the State and a criminal breach of trust.

The soldiers being fresh from homes of plenty, and wholly unacquainted with the military service, and inexperienced in camp cooking and camp economy, the Governor and Commissary General thought best to issue extra rations to the troops and not confine them to regular army rations, which, according to army regulations are as follows for each one hundred men:

Of pork	75	lbs.
Or of beef	125	lbs.
Of flour	112½	lbs.
And if hard bread	100	lbs.
Of beans	8	qts.
And if rice	10	lbs.
Of coffee	6	lbs.
Of sugar	12	lbs.
Of vinegar	1	gall.
Of candles	1½	lbs.
Of soap	4	lbs.
Of salt	2	qts.

The rations, as furnished by the Commissary, have been heretofore reported to this body to be as follows for each one hundred men:

Of beef	150	lbs.
If of pork	110	lbs.
Of flour	150	lbs.
Of bread	30	lbs.
Of beans	16	lbs.
If of rice	12	lbs.
Of coffee	8	lbs.
Of sugar	16	lbs.
Of candles	3	lbs.
Of soap	6	lbs.
Of vinegar	2½	gal.
Of salt	12	lbs.
Of potatoes	100	lbs.
Of pepper	1	lb.
Of dried fruit	1½	bus.
Of onions	3	bus.

Of pickles and other anti scorbutics.

As to how far this bill of rations has been complied with we would refer your honorable body to the testimony of soldiers herewith appended, in connection with the statements hereinafter set forth in this report.

Your committee are clearly of opinion that the rations have exceeded the army regulations, but that there has been a deviation in accordance with the schedule in the report of the Commissary General heretofore made to this House. The favoritism towards some companies, by the employees of the Commissary, but which we have traced no knowledge to the Commissary himself, and that many of the complaints of short allowances of rations are well founded and are directly traceable to the employees of the Commissary issuing the rations. We are also of the opinion that, as a general thing, the companies have fared best whose officers have been the most careful and attentive to the wants of their men, and that much cause of complaint would have been removed by proper attention of the officers of the companies complaining.

QUALITY OF THE PROVISIONS.

In the careful investigation which we thought necessary to give as to the quality of the provisions, we find that the ground coffee furnished before the troops were supplied with green coffee and coffee mills, for the most part, was basely adulterated and almost worthless. When the Commissary went into the market for the first purchase of this article he found a limited supply, the grocery merchants having on hand but little sufficient amount for the supply of their regular customers and therefore it was necessary for this officer to make some immediate arrangement for furnishing this article. Mr. B. F. Tuttle, a grocer of this city, informed Mr. Mansur's assistant that he had an arrangement by which he could get coffee parched, ground and sacked, and as many pounds returned as he had furnished of the green coffee, and that he would be enabled to furnish the same at 13½ cents per pound, although he had refused to take less than 15 cents for what he had on hand when Mr. Mansur first applied.

Mr. Mansur accepted this proposition, and accordingly Mr. Tuttle employed Mr. Herman Bollman to do the work, and he swears that in roasting, grinding and packing coffee it loses from 16 to 25 per cent. in weight, and that to make up this loss to him, and to pay him for his labor and expenses of packages, boxes, &c., he put 45 pounds of parched beans to each sack of green coffee, so that he made for his profits 20 pounds of green coffee for each sack of green coffee thus prepared. We are therefore inclined to the opinion that the coffee was much more adulterated, from a comparison of the testimony of the soldiers of the worthless character of this article, and their statements in relation to an article of ground coffee furnished by Mr. Andrew Wallace, manufactured at Columbus, Ohio. The coffee, after being prepared by this man Bollman, was ordered by the Commissary General to be put up in 12, 14 and 16 oz. packages, as the assistant Commissary alleged, for convenience in distributing; the 12 oz. packages were counted at the actual weight, and the 14 oz. for one pound.

We are at a loss for any reason for the adulteration of this coffee at considerable trouble and expense, when, according to the testimony of witnesses, it is a well known fact to grocery dealers that beans and peas "ruin and spoil the coffee" prepared in this way. Nor does the testimony of the Commissary or Mr. Tuttle make anything by this operation—a criminal practice and crying evil, that should be condemned rather than encouraged.

The meat, with the exception of the bulk shoulders, has generally been a fair article. The bulk shoulders referred to have been furnished by the Commissary General out of his own pork houses, and the complaint of the soldiers has been nearly universal of its inferior quality, that a large portion of it was too light, and that it was all very salt, not well cured, and generally in a bad condition. There is no doubt that other meat was occasionally bad, but we regard this as an evil which could not well be avoided. The beans have been of a poor quality, a good portion of them being entirely worthless. A part of the dried fruit has also been very bad, but is now remedied, and a good article is being furnished.

The testimony shows that there are no further well grounded complaints as to the quality of provisions.

THE MANNER OF MAKING PURCHASES.

The Commissary deserves great credit for the zeal and energy which he has displayed in making purchases in his department, at the lowest market price, with the single exception of the meat furnished by himself and brother. The testimony shows conclusively that he did all in his power to produce competition in the market, and to purchase at the lowest cash price, wherever that could be done, except the pork. It was in testimony that he was offered pork by other parties, but that he made no offer to any one to furnish pork until he was told by Mr. Israel McTaggart that if he did not afford him an opportunity to furnish a part of the pork meat, he would expose him in the public prints; when, after making some further objections about Mr. Murphy, the Inspector, making unfair charges for inspecting pork, he consented to purchases being made by other parties. Mr. Mansur had been furnishing his own bacon shoulders at 6 cents, and had been furnishing on shoulders at 7 cents per pound, when all purchases since have been made for bulk shoulders at 5 12-100 and bacon shoulders at 6 12-100 cents per pound, and the testimony is that plenty of good quality could have been purchased at this price if not at less rates. It is but just to Mr. Mansur to state that he refused at all times to sell for a less price than he was charging the State. But had he, should, instead of remarking as he did to Mr. McTaggart, that the Commissary's business was to buy at the lowest price and accept if any one else would use the same diligence to procure the pork on as good terms for the State as any other article of provisions. The pork furnished by Mansurs was weighed by his brother, and no account kept except the voucher and a cash account. Therefore we have no means of ascertaining the correctness of the weight. Mr. Mansur's brother swears that it was correctly done.

THE ACCOUNTS.

We find no errors in the accounts except for the sum of $166 48, for which the proof was not satisfactory, and we were unable to find the person purporting to execute one of the vouchers. We have no doubt but that it was a forgery perpetrated on the Commissary. When the matter was brought to the notice of the Commissary he withdrew the vouchers numbered 323, 538, 550½, 562, 567 and 597, covering the above amount, for the purpose of investigating the same, and says that he will furnish a full explanation or will not present them for payment, as he intends the State shall lose nothing thereby. The payments of his customers two receipts for the payments of the same, one of which is the same goods; the receipt of the witnesses say, one of these receipts was blank, and some testify that both were filled up in this way. The design of this officer in taking these receipts in this way was undoubtedly that one should be filed with the vouchers for the purpose of retaining in his own hands, and that the original should be filed in the office of the State Auditor as a voucher; but the manner of taking them, no indorsement of duplicate being made thereon, has given rise to various charges of his designs to bring in double claims. This, with the fact of his withdrawing a part of the vouchers from the Auditor's office after the committee commenced their investigation, made it necessary for us to examine the books of the persons furnishing provisions, where any such books have been kept, and making a careful comparison of the accounts with the vouchers on file.

WHAT IS LEFT UNDONE.

We have been unable to investigate the ration receipts, for the reason that there has been no book account kept of them. The receipts are on file, but the book keeper of the department swears that it would take two weeks to examine them, and there are no means of ascertaining what amount of provisions are on hand, without making an inventory, there being nothing in the office showing this fact. For these reasons it is impossible for the committee to report whether all the provisions have been faithfully applied to the use of the troops, but your committee know of no facts tending to impeach the honesty of the Commissary General in this respect. We herewith append a list of the vouchers, with the number, date and amount of each, that we have investigated, amounting in all to the sum of $22,688 23, after deducting the numbers specified as not satisfactory. We also append a statement of the amount of money drawn by the Commissary to date of our report amounting to $32,047 55.

We also append to this report the statement of Lieut. Jefferson C. Davis, the Government Commissary at this time for this State, showing that he estimates the cost per man for each day at a small fraction over sixteen (16) cents for regular army rations.

We can not close this report without remarking that the haste with which the troops were brought together, and the large amount of provisions necessary for a supply, and the number of inexperienced persons necessarily employed in attending to the troops, rendered mistakes unavoidable; and that no person connected with the department ought to be censured unless mistakes have occurred through ignorance or willful negligence. We herewith append the testimony taken in our investigations. We would, however, remark that we have, in addition to the testimony taken of the soldiers, visited nearly all the companies, and received their statements, which correspond, in every particular, with the testimony taken. We have also personally inspected the provisions on hands in the Commissary Department, and have come to our conclusions as set forth in this report from personal inspection, as well as from the testimony.

All of which we most respectfully submit.

T. J. CASON,
ROBT. PARRETT,
JAS. S. HULL,
HORACE HEFFREN.

Cassius M. Clay's Letter.

The Washington dispatches to the New York *Tribune* state that there is good reason to believe that the publication by CASSIUS M. CLAY of a letter on the subject of our foreign relations not only fails to be approved by the Administration, but is in insubordination to the law of 1856, which expressly forbids any such public communication from a diplomatic or consular officer.

The New York *Journal of Commerce* calls Mr. CLAY "a loquacious Ambassador," and thus comments upon his letter to the London *Times* upon American affairs:

It has not been customary for first class powers to send out Ambassadors to foreign countries charged with the duty of writing for the public newspapers, and of correcting, through that channel, the erroneous impressions which may have obtained currency respecting our domestic affairs. Hitherto it has been deemed sufficient for the representatives of the country at foreign courts, to place the relations of the United States with other powers upon a dignified footing, through the legitimate medium of their communications, written or verbal, to the government to which they are accredited; and it has seldom occurred that they have felt compelled to resort to the newspapers for the vindication of their Government, or to enlist justice or sympathy in its behalf.

The present Administration has the fortune to have secured the services of a jealous and earnest, if not a discreet champion, in the person of the newly appointed Minister to Russia, the valiant Cassius M. Clay, of Kentucky. That gentleman lately arrived in England on his way to the field of his official labors, and finding the tone of public sentiment there not quite in conformity with his own views of the American question, forthwith writes a letter to the London *Times*, to instruct the English nation in their duty and their interests. To say nothing of the lack of propriety and dignity in thus forcing his opinions, unsolicited and probably undesired, upon the people of a country through which he was passing, on the way to another to which he was officially accredited, the letter of Mr. Clay was in bad taste, and is likely to do damage the cause it was doubtless intended to advance.

It does not appear to have occurred to Mr. Clay that in the first place he was insulting the British public by thus thrusting in his opinions in their faces, while staying in their country for a few days on his passage to Russia; and, secondly, in granting the propriety of place and occasion, the "British honor," "British interests," and the question whether "England can afford to offend the great nation which will still be the 'United States of America,' even should we lose part of the South," are delicate subjects for an American Diplomat to handle in the columns of an English newspaper, when no provocation or occasion has been given for such a departure from the usage of the Representatives of our country abroad. Had Mr. Clay been the Ambassador of the United States to England instead of Russia, it would have been manifestly improper thus to thrust the great questions of the character discussed in his letter to the *Times*, before the British people; and we can not see how the case is materially changed by the fact that his mission is to Russia instead, unless it be to give to the transaction an air of impudence when otherwise it would have been one of impropriety.

We need no better proof of the indiscretion of the act to which we refer, than the comments of the English papers thereon. They regard it as an impertinent interference with questions belonging to the British Government and people, and it can scarcely be doubted that the effects of the course pursued by Mr. Clay, however well intended, must be to damage rather than promote the cause of our Government abroad. Had he been a private citizen, invested with no official importance, his undertaking might pass for a specimen of the vanity which sometimes characterizes the actions of Americans in Europe; but the importance attached to his connection with the Administration, whose confidence in him has so recently been manifested by his selection for an important mission, will be likely to give undue prominence to his opinions, which he has so unwisely sought to thrust upon the people of England.

Under the head of "Unprovoked Imputations," an English paper, the Manchester *Guardian*, thus criticizes the pronunciamento of Mr. CASH. CLAY:

The American mail, of which we publish an abstract in another column, adds few facts of importance to our previous knowledge of the civil struggle. Such as it is, the intelligence goes to show a tendency on the part of the Southern States to recover the resolute spirit which was impaired by two or three previous arrivals to have been prepared for the North for the fray. The Legislature of Tennessee has passed the ordinance of secession, and it was reported that Arkansas had done the same. The Governor of North Carolina has sent a warlike message to the Legislature, and the Governor of Virginia has issued a proclamation stimulating his fellow citizens of that State to resist "invasion," and granting authority for the levy of any such volunteers as may be necessary. Those who have been ready to think that Mr. Lincoln's easy triumph was assured by the mere fact that the wealthy and populous communities of the North came to his assistance will be induced by these facts to revise their conclusion and think that the end is not yet visible.

Perhaps it will be satisfactory to the friends of the Union to know that these apprehensions have no place in the mind of the intrepid statesman whom President Lincoln has sent to represent his Government at St. Petersburg. Mr. C. M. Clay has taken advantage of his temporary sojourn in London, on his way to the Russian capital, to enlighten the British nation respecting the true complexion and prospects of the struggle, which he has left behind him, and which he is of opinion can not be very generally understood. We are obliged to Mr. Clay for his good intentions, and we have no doubt that his superior knowledge and greater impartiality, but has left his elevation to contribute to us a severe scolding; in which the expressions of undisguised contempt for our judgments are blended with threats of the consequences which we shall expose ourselves by "offending" the writer's party.

We are told by Mr. Clay that "of course" they can subdue the revolted States, and reconstruct the Union without the change of a single letter in the Constitution. We are glad to hear it, and we have no doubt we should be glad to be able to believe it. Unfortunately Mr. Clay, who knows how it is to be done, has not better apparently than his friends at Washington, is now on his way to St. Petersburg, where he will not be in a position to contribute to the success in which he revels. One thing we think we can promise him, and we do not consider his apprehensions in this respect; that the idea that his Government will put an end to the rebellion and restore the authority of the Commonwealth in a single year, "if they are let *alone*" it is curious Mr. Clay should parade an unconcealed conviction that they may feel a favorable circumstance of which we should be glad to know that they might feel most secure.

And this brings us to the most important point of all. Where did this strange Minister Plenipotentiary learn that there was any reason to suppose that the English, of all nations on the earth, might be induced to interfere for the purpose of increasing the difficulties of the United States? What is it we have done, or are thought to be going to do, which should cause us to be addressed in this tone of rebuke and warning? *A more unprovoked imputation than that which runs through the whole of Mr. Clay's epistle, it has rarely been our fortune to meet with.* In the solemn address of the Queen on opening Parliament, in the speeches not only of our Ministers, but of the prominent men of all parties, in the discussion of the subject by the press and in society, there has been almost unexampled evidence of a feeling of sympathy and respect for the Union, combined as often as the expression of such a sentiment was at all becoming, with strong reprobation of its lawless and unscrupulous assailants. Yet it seems we require to be told by a diplomatist *in transitu*—taking a bird's eye view of the country as he flies across it on the way to the Russian capital—on which side our "honor" ought to place us, on which side our present interest, and lastly, on which side we shall range ourselves if we prudently consult our fears! As to our honor, we imagine most Englishmen will be content to answer for that, with many thanks to Mr. Clay, we prefer to take care of it ourselves. It may be well for the North that we have a sufficiently strong sense of the side on which it lies, to prevent us from endeavoring to profit, according to a plan well known to the Government of Washington by the dangers and distractions of a powerful rival. For, with respect to "interest," which is Mr. Clay's second point, we really do not see that it furnishes us with an overpowering motive for desiring the subjection of the cotton growing States to the capitalists and manufacturers of the North. "No tariff," says Mr. Clay, "will materially affect the fact that the Northern States are the best consumers of English commerce." We think our export trade to America will tell Mr. Clay a different story. He will interrupt his flight for another day or two, in order to consult them. At any rate, if our trade can not be, and is not in course of being totally destroyed by hostile tariffs, it is not for the want of meretorious tyranny on the part of the political class which is putting forth all its power to restore the Union. But if neither our sense of moral obligation, nor our gratitude for such trade as is allowed us, suffice to bind us to Mr. Lincoln, we are to beware of the vengeance which any wavering will infallibly bring down upon us hereafter at the hands of the great State which we shall have offended. Even the depth of difficulty and humiliation to which the American Republic has fallen, can not prevent him from vaunting the stupendous resources which she wields in a *paulo post future* sense, for the destruction of her enemies and the gratification of all who fail to do her homage. Alas for such boasts! We have sufficiently little fear of suffering by their realization to be able to witness with sincere regret the ridicule which is cast on them by the occurences of the hour.

The Funeral of Stephen A. Douglas.

The Chicago *Post*, of Saturday, gives the following account of the ceremonials attending the burial of Judge DOUGLAS:

The funeral of Stephen A. Douglas yesterday, was the most solemn and imposing pageant ever witnessed in Chicago. From eight to ten thousand persons formed in procession and marched on foot to the grave, a distance of four miles from the point of departure. And more than four times as many more proceeded thither in carriages, railway cars and street cars. Long before the hour for the procession to move, the grove was filled with people, and the avenues leading to it were thronged with carriages and pedestrians proceeding in the same direction. All along the route of the procession, the streets were lined on both sides with ladies and gentlemen in carriages, and on foot, who did not unite in the procession.

The thousands of silent spectators, the mourning emblems that draped entire blocks and whole streets of houses, the many national ensigns drooping in folds of crape, the wailing strains of the funeral dirge, the slow and measured tread of the vast throng that accompanied the dead, and above all, the deep solemnity and unaffected grief which seemed to pervade all, formed a spectacle of mourning such as our city has never before witnessed.

About half past ten, the carriages, appropriately trimmed with the symbols of mourning, drew up in front of the north door of the Tremont House. Mrs. Douglas, her father, mother, and two sons, passed into the first, between lines of citizens with uncovered heads; the Bishop in full canonicals, relatives and physicians occupying the remainder. Shortly afterward the procession commenced moving, in the order as given in yesterday's paper.

In the central portions of the city, every business house was closed. Indeed, among all classes and occupations, the day was observed with profound respect.

The procession was composed largely of gentlemen from other sections of the State, and many from other States. Large delegations from Springfield, Quincy, Freeport, Princeton, Joliet, and many other places in Illinois; from Milwaukee, Kenosha, Janesville, Madison, and other towns in Wisconsin; and from several towns in Indiana were in attendence.

The military part of the procession was the largest and finest ever seen in Chicago. It embraced four companies of the Zouave regiment (just returned from Springfield), the Chicago Light Guard, Hoffman Rangers, Sturges Rifles, Capt. Phillips' and Capt. Gleeson's companies, Irish Brigade, Capt. Loomis' company, Capt. Wallis' company, (Col. Hecker's regiment,) and several others whose names we did not learn. In all there were about two regiments. The music was furnished by the Great Western brass band, playing a solemn funeral dirge.

The funeral car was appropriately canopied with the colors of the republic, and surmounted by a golden eagle, all heavily draped in mourning. It was drawn by six white horses, each led by a groom, all appropriately caparisoned.

All the civic societies, corporations and crafts were represented by large delegations in the procession. From abroad, we observed Senator Grimes and Ex-Senator A. C. Dodge, of Iowa.

AT THE PLACE OF BURIAL.

At seven o'clock yesterday morning, the University Cadets, a military organization composed of the students in the University of Chicago, to whom were assigned the duties of a guard of honor to receive the procession, mounted guard around the grave. Their lines encompassed an area of about three acres.

The funeral procession reached the ground about 2 o'clock. The military entering some distance in advance, filed to the right and left and formed a hollow square around the entire area. The procession slowly entered and filled up the space within the square. The "Guard of Honor," comprising the committee of thirty citizens and the Light Guard, formed a smaller circle around the grave, within which were placed the immediate friends of the family, the clergy, the pall-bearers and the committee of arrangements were admitted.

The remains were taken from the car and placed in the box stationed to receive them over the grave. This done, the Rt. Rev. Bishop Duggan, clad in the robes of his office, advanced, and with uncovered head pronounced the funeral oration.

At the close of the Bishop's oration, the remains were deposited in the grave, and the immense assemblage slowly retired.

During the passage of the procession all the bells in the city were tolled and minute guns were fired by the Illinois Central Light Artillery Company, at the shops of the road—the gun used being the one recently manufactured by the machinists in the employ of that railway company.

Present to Ward Beecher.

Henry Ward Beecher was presented, during his visit here, with a huge ring and staple, to which the negro, now cooking for the Michiganders, was found attached. Gen. W. T. Dennis and Judge John W. Wright of Indiana, brought away this ugly evidence and instrument of torture and oppression. John C. Underwood of Virginia, took it to the platform, and made this speech: "Take it to that great school house of liberty, your own church of Brooklyn. Show the enlightened, devoted, Christian people of your charge, by this sign, the great redemption which the sons of the Puritans are now working out for the sons of the fine cavaliers of Virginia. Let the sons of the Puritans who from Northern hill top to hill top, over your great plains and valleys, like the cross of the heroes, and the signal of the Highlander, inspiring the brave defenders of liberty to do and dare for our common country, our time-honored Constitution and our beneficent Union. With fervent prayers to our Heavenly Father for the speedy coming of that day when Virginia shall be in deed and in truth, be the land of the free and the home of the brave. As a citizen of Virginia, I surrender this trophy to your hands."

Mr. Beecher's response is expected from his pulpit next Sunday.—*Washington Correspondence N. Y. Tribune.*

The Attack on Washington.

A friend of Jefferson Davis writes that his purpose, not long since, was to postpone the intended attack upon Washington until July, thinking that by that time, the three months' men would become tired of camp-life and homesick, and their three months' and the three years' men in the interim would be entirely raw troops and the latter being still undisciplined. But Jeff. Davis overlooked three considerations—that a good chance to fight takes the homesickness out of a Northerner; that the three months men would be called into service before the three months were up, and would be drilling meantime; and that Washington from a military point of view, and in a forward movement, would affect the position of Washington from a military point of view, and in a forward movement, would affect the position of the Federal Capital.—*Correspondence of the New York Tribune.*

☞ Gen Patterson has prepared an address for distribution among the troops at Chambersburg. After alluding to the aggressive acts of the rebels, he says: "You must bear in mind you are to go for the good of the whole country, and that, while it is our duty to punish sedition, you must protect the loyal, and, should the occasion offer, at once suppress servile insurrection."

The War and its Object.

It is proper that the American people should comprehend the meaning of the rebellion in its ultimate as well as present phases. It will not do to drift through the strong excitements of the times without gazing anxiously to the future. The attitude of the belligerents now is the result of principles and ideas which may have been strengthened in their active effects by adventitious causes, but which existed before the formation of the Government, and, indeed, in the history of all civilized nations. The monarchical principle and the republican principle are now really face to face, struggling for mastery. There is more than satire in the newspaper caricatures of Jefferson Davis putting a crown upon his head. A constitution which is based upon the idea of the disintegration of the nation which adopts it is necessarily a stepping stone to a stronger and, we believe, more despotic system. It is well ascertained—so well that public men who doubt it are regarded as simply ignorant—that there is more freedom in a an open grant of large powers of a great confederated nation than there is in specious checks and pen and ink restrictions, which are to make him the mere reflex of the will of the different States of the confederacy. Too little power is always a pretext for assuming too much. A constitution which deprives a vigorous ruler of necessary strength is certain to tempt him, at first for the benefit of the public, but inevitably for his own benefit. The fact of violating a constitutional provision, even for the wisest purpose, is calamity to a nation.

These are elementary principles of government which can not be too seriously observed by people who desire freedom. Yet the chief aim of the Confederate States constitution is to hamper the Executive, to subordinate to the utmost degree the General to the local governments. We repeat, then, that such a constitution is a stepping-stone to stronger systems, nor can it be doubted that this is intentional. Men who have exhibited so remarkable aptitude at conspiracy under institutions so free as those of the United States would hardly hesitate to entrap their people into monarchy, and in cold blood prepare the way for despotism. A causeless rebellion is the achievement of wicked ambition. Forced loans, a practical censorship of the press, a terrible crushing out of individual independence of thought and action, are all indices of the ruling idea of the men who have plunged thirty millions of freemen into civil war to gratify their own love of power. The rebellion, then, presents the despotic as opposed to the free principle—the aggrandizement of usurping the prerogatives which belong to the people.

We are not sure that this struggle, as a matter of principle, is divided by the sectional line. The accident of slavery has given the despotic element in the South more consistency and power, and, through popular passion, has aggregated to it different shades of sentiment, which are honestly bent upon the preservation of property and personal freedom. But there has, even at the North, been a great many people who have doubted the efficiency of the Constitution to hold the States in a national unity, and who will want other nations and systems for the exemplification of true governmental strength.

The peculiar aspect of the slavery question, however, has, from the formation of the Government, had the effect of rendering great masses of the nation conservative of the existing state of things, and we have now realized the sentiments in a struggle, which, in some form or other, was inevitable to the nation. This is, undoubtedly, a fortunate circumstance. We may, recognizing the design of creating power and believing American liberty a favored institution of God, pronounce it a providential circumstance for the final preservation of the Constitution; for while this is so, the situation is full of perils for the future. The wealth and numbers of the North are guarantees of final victory. But what shall follow victory? There's the rub. It is a form of government which is on trial,—not whether North or South is the strongest. In the present condition of public sentiment, the stream of patriotism is pure as when it burst from the hearts of the Revolutionary fathers; but it must not be disguised that the elements which sap liberty are at work in the country. Immense bodies of soldiery are in the field—fact in itself of the gravest political consequence. Section is arrayed against section, and those sections have different industrial institutions. A war of conquest and subjugation is imminent, certainly natural, for with sections thus arrayed, yet so unequal in material strength, the temptation to conquer and subjugate will become greater as the military feeling is increased with the acquisition by citizens of the habits and feelings of soldiers. This is the evil of all evils. No greater calamity can befall the country. So long as the animating popular principle is the preservation of the Union under the Constitution, we are safe, and liberty is saved; but when conquest shall become the motive, instead of the integrity of the Constitution, we shall go the way of all nations whose examples were warnings to our fathers. We repeat, the moderate use of power at the advantage we wish to inculcate—vigor in all warlike operations, victory at every cost, but after victory, moderation, for we have a nation to preserve, a people to re-unite, from the Great Lakes to the Mexican Gulf. So far, our people are right in this regard. Above all, no far our rulers at Washington been more right than have not right themselves, but very careful in selecting men for high position without regard to party, who will be moderate, patriotic and conservative in the use of the power which victory shall give to them. We think there is a design in this on the part of the administration, and feel that it is duty to strengthen them in it. But the people must understand it, feel it, act upon it. If the war last a century, it must be transmitted from father to son, from army to army, from ruler to ruler, as the great object of this war is the preservation of the freedom of the people, and not the destruction of any section. We must cling to the idea of government and Union with the Constitution, but never without it.

The Whitworth Gun.

A Whitworth gun recently presented to the United States Government by "loyal American citizens in Europe" (according to an inscription on the carriage) was exhibited on Monday in the City Hall Park. One other gun of the same make and calibre, from the same unknown givers, and four more—forming a complete battery of six pieces—are expected by the next steamer.

The most striking external peculiarity of the gun is its great length contrasted with its small diameter. Although its entire diameter, including the breech, is but 5½ inches, its length is 9 feet. These proportions give to the Whitworth gun the appearance of an exaggerated musket barrel. The increase in length over ordinary cannon of the same size, insures, aside from other peculiarities of this gun, greater extent and accuracy of range. As its inside surface is made of wrought iron, its total weight is but 1,000 pounds. The gun is rifled with six grooves, about a quarter of an inch in depth, performing two complete evolutions in their passage from breech to muzzle. This is half a turn more than is given in most rifled cannon, and is claimed to be an advantage.

Another remarkable excellence in the Whitworth gun is that it is breech-loading—in that respect, it is said, triumphantly refuting the objections of loss of explosive powder, danger, &c., which have been urged by practical artillerists against most of the breech-loading species. Nothing could be simpler or more efficient than this part of the Whitworth gun. The breech end, about ten inches in length, is shaped like a cap screwed upon the barrel proper, and when the gun is to be loaded, this cap is easily unscrewed by a lever at one side by a turn of one side by a dozen turns. The shot and cartridge are then inserted and the cap screwed on—the whole operation requiring not more than five seconds. The cap is a little bead. The missile is also a novelty. It is cast iron, 9¼ inches long, 3 inches in its largest diameter, and shaped much like a banana, with one end rounded and the other cut square off. Six flutings about 5 inches long on the thickest portion, fit exactly into the six grooves of the gun, and the shot will slide through if the muzzle is slightly elevated. The missile weighs 12½ pounds although the bore is but of a six pounder. Windage is prevented by the use of a papier mache wad, which expands with the explosion and fills up the grooves, through behind the shot, and by a thick sheet of tin or by the cartridge, which answers the purpose. The sample of the shot exhibited yesterday was labelled "a secession pill." Shell of the same pattern can be used with equal facility. The extreme range of the gun is said to be 5½ miles, with 2½ lbs. of powder. The cost of the gun, of the above description, including carriage and equipments complete, is $4,000. The gun exhibited on Monday is the identical one which competed with the Armstrong gun at a practical trial mutually agreed upon by the inventors, in England—the results of which trial are claimed to have established the superiority of the Whitworth weapon. The Armstrong gun seems, however, to retain its popularity in England; while it may not be in praise of Whitworth's invention, that it's preference to Armstrong's by the American donors in preference to the Armstrong's or all the other rifled guns patented in Europe. The capabilities of the Whitworth gun will be carefully and impartially tested, soon, in the neighborhood of this city, and the American public can then judge of it by its deeds.

Yankee wits are at work, just now, to fashion some kind of cannon and projectile which shall excel in every particular, than either Whitworth's or Armstrong's contrivance, and Government will no doubt give the inventive genius of the nation fair play before making extensive contracts for ordnance of foreign manufacture.—*N. Y. Jour. of Commerce.*

☞ WE announce, as a fact, that a large quantity of arms was secretly brought from Tennessee into Kentucky by the secessionists on Wednesday.—*Louisville Journal.*