

We notice in the Hawaiian that several meetings have lately been held by the Native Agricultural Society, Judge Ii presiding, for the purpose of agitating the cotton culture among the farmers on the various islands, that committees have been appointed to procure information and seed, subscriptions opened, and this important subject fairly and practically taken in hand.

We have no late work on the cotton culture, but with a view to benefit those who as yet know nothing at all about how to proceed in preparing the soil and planting the seed, we have culled the following extracts from the American Patent Office Reports, which will undoubtedly serve as a guide, subject to such modifications as the changes of climate, soil and implements of husbandry may suggest. In another number we will set forth what farther information we may ourselves receive.

Dr. Phillips, of Mississippi, writes: "If any land has been in cotton, I generally open out water-furrows, deep, with a sharp plow, and then throw two furrows of manure on each side, with one or two horse turning-ploughs. This land remains until a day or two before I wish to plant, when I have the bank broken out, thus having fresh earth to plant upon, and yet firm earth for the seed to be planted in. There will be a narrow ridge of earth not covered by the fresh earth, and I invariably run an iron tooth harrow along the ridge so as to break clods, and rake off pieces of stalk, and to leave the ridge fresh; if once running the harrow will not do, I run it twice.

The opener then follows and opens out a furrow, say one-half inch deep enough, and narrow, if this furrow could be as straight as a line, and half an inch wide, I would esteem it better, if upon level land. The seed is scattered thinly and regularly, then covered with a board or block; I would prefer a roller. As to distance, this depends upon quality, age, and locality of land, rich and fresh land requiring greater distance, and I am inclined to think that the same quantity of land now at 21 to 33", will tend more to longer joints than does cotton about 21 to 33", and particularly Western lands, these lands tending to short joints, and greater yield to height of cotton. I do not plant any land that requires rows to be over five and a half feet, even to row 15 to 20 feet of cotton per acre. There is sometimes, I am sure, much loss by too sparse planting. I desire to have the plants meet in the rows by the first of August, and should it after this date lap in row, the crop will be materially injured. I find the new varieties, as sugar-land and cluster, to require less distance between rows than does the cotton. When I planted my crop with Mexican-Petit Gulf-I gave 5 to 4 1/2 feet by 2 to 3 feet on my best land.

For four years I have grown sugar-land, and 4 1/2 feet by 18 to 24 inches, preferring about 18 inches. Upon second quality of land I reduce distance to 1 foot less, by 18 inches. Upon third quality of land, I reduce distance to 1 foot less, by 15 inches. Upon the best of the department, when I prepared to break up more time and labor than is usual, being careful to break up deep, throw out into beds all the land, leaving no unploughed ridges; the ridges I endeavor to pulverize well, and do not run ploughs unless land will pulverize thinking ploughing may be done too early and land injured by being ploughed too soon. My object in ploughing, say 3 furrows, early, is to permit the foundation of ridges to settle somewhat, as seed germinates fever and grows off better than upon light earth. I break out the residue as late as planting time, so that the plant will start before or with the grass and weeds, never more than a bushel. When I planted my crop with Mexican-Petit Gulf-I gave 5 to 4 1/2 feet by 2 to 3 feet on my best land.

When a good seed is secured, I am careful to select the best of the seed, and to plant it in a shallow hole, and to cover it with a little earth upon the top, and to press them into the earth with the foot. I would prefer a seed-planter, but could not make the one I tried drop regular. Five to ten seeds in a place are ample. I have dropped only one, and two, and three; when I did this myself, I failed not in a stand. When a good seed is secured, I am careful to select the best of the seed, and to plant it in a shallow hole, and to cover it with a little earth upon the top, and to press them into the earth with the foot. I would prefer a seed-planter, but could not make the one I tried drop regular. Five to ten seeds in a place are ample. I have dropped only one, and two, and three; when I did this myself, I failed not in a stand.

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erately thin; cover the seed with a light harrow. In the first ploughing of the young cotton, commence in the centre or middle of the row with a turning-plough, and turn to the centre, forming a bed between the drills, and then the young cotton is scraped; second ploughing with the turning-plough, commence near the drill, raising the bed as much as the cotton will permit; third ploughing, run one furrow on each side of the drill, still raising the bed, and finish the row with shovels; then harrow and sweep the residue of the season alternately, as may be necessary.

"The object of bedding up the land in January or February is, that it may settle down by planting-time to an ordinary firmness, so that chilling winds, cold dews, and the rays of the sun will not penetrate so deep under the roots of the plants and kill them, as is frequently the case, when the earth is light and fresh at the time of planting.

"Cotton should not be ploughed after the 20th of June, if it can be avoided, as it shoots out many small fibrous roots; and to plough deep and cut its roots after it commences forming and maturing, will cause it to drop its forms, check its growth, and seriously damage the plant."

"We understand that what we said in our editorial article of last week, touching the Honolulu harbor improvements, has been misconstrued by some, as throwing discredit on the Bureau of Public Improvements, and tending to give an incorrect impression of the value and utility of that particular work. Our object was not to find fault with the Department, nor to underrate the necessity of that improvement, nor yet to make light of the immense advantages that have accrued from it, either to commerce or to the Government itself. In fact none has urged the undertaking, or taken more pride in its advancement than ourselves; and we have ever thought that it was the most judicious and best laid out enterprise the Government ever undertook. But our object was simply to show how and for what purpose the public debt had been incurred, and that, if it had not been for this magnificent improvement, the Government would not have been in debt at this day; and we showed that, exclusive of this item, the ordinary Government expenses would fall within the average yearly revenue of the Government, without borrowing any more funds. To us then it is evident that the temporary increase in the expenditure, over the ordinary sum employed for public improvements, was the cause of the temporary increase in the receipts, springing from loans and not from an augmentation of the regular channels of revenue. Dispute the premises, argue the details as we may, the conclusion is nevertheless inevitable that the one is a set-off and a cause of the other. We argued the principle and not the details of the transaction. Having established the relation between the debt and the improvement, it was not necessary to our object that we should produce an account current to the fraction of a dollar between the Government and its investment, but simply to show in round numbers the amount expended upon it during the last five years—not only what has actually been paid in purchase of materials and wages to workmen, but also in interest on borrowed money. That this investment has not already, and will not continue to make good a handsome return to the Government, we are the last one to assert, and we confidently expect that in a few years more it will fully pay for itself; but, as we say above, the question was not about what it had added or would add to the Government realizations, but whether, having already conducted it beyond the present wants of commerce, it would be prudent to continue it still further and thereby continue and possibly increase the public debt. We took the liberty to think that it would not be prudent. In fact, the Government has already discontinued the work for several months, and we hope it will delay its resumption for some time to come and take breath, as it were, for the purpose of reducing or extinguishing the debt now incurred by all such reasonable retrenchments in the various Departments, as may be effected during a time of commercial reaction, without material injury to the efficiency of the Government or the permanent interests of society.

So far, then, from impeaching the Bureau of Public Improvements, we sincerely desire that by a little reticence now, the Government would soon be able to expand the operations of that Department to many other things which have hitherto been subordinated to that one pressing object, the improvement of Honolulu harbor.

Masonic. On Monday last, being St. John the Baptist's day, one of the patrons of Freemasonry, the members of the Order assembled in the Hall of Hawaiian Lodge No. 21, corner of Queen and Kaahumanu streets, where an eloquent and masterly address was delivered by the Rev. Brother C. V. Anthony; and in the evening his Majesty, as W. Master of Le Progres de l'Oceanic Lodge No. 124, gave a Masonic banquet at Washington Place, where covers were laid for sixty persons. As we entertain the hope of being able, in a few days, to publish the address of Mr. Anthony, we will only here remark that it was one of those gems of oratory, that betray like a highly cultivated intellect and a pure heart, while its earnest, melodious utterance gave life to its chaste figures and severe logic.

The banquet was without doubt the most splendid entertainment ever given in Honolulu. The table was a chef d'oeuvre of its kind for the perfection and profusion of all that eye or tooth or tongue could desire. His Majesty presided in person, with the W. M. of Hawaiian Lodge, B. F. Durham, Esq., on his right, and his Excellency the Commissioner of the United States, Col. Dryer, on his left. The banquet lasted till 12 o'clock at night, when the guests departed in unity and harmony.

Honolulu Free School. On Thursday last the above school had its annual examination, previous to vacation, and it is to us a pleasure to report the steady progress of its scholars. That school will compare favorably with any other of the Government free schools, and the steadily increasing number of its scholars is an indirect but grateful evidence of the efficiency and assiduity of its teacher, Mr. G. B. C. Ingraham.

We are glad to learn that the Board of Education appreciates the services of that school, and has concluded to enlarge the building by the addition of an upper story, and while doing so, we hope it will equally appreciate the increased labor of the teacher. By the fruits we judge of the tree, and, as we have said before, we repeat again, we see no reason why the teacher of the Honolulu Free School should not receive nearly, if not quite, as good a salary as the teacher of the Royal School.

Departure of Lady Franklin. On Tuesday last, this distinguished Lady left Honolulu in the bark Comet, for San Francisco. During her stay here she visited several of the islands and noticed everything worth seeing. She displayed a singularly remarkable energy and vivacity for one of her years, and on whom sorrow's hand had lain so heavily. While we have reason to think that she was much pleased with everybody and everything she saw in this country, we beg thus publicly to record the pleasant, kindly, sympathizing emotions which she awakened wherever she went. We have heard of several instances of her noble, unostentatious charity, but, as they were not noted to jingle in the mouth of the public, or to be talked on like spangles to her skirt, it would neither be courteous to her, nor well-bred in us, to prate about them.

The first biennial meeting of the subscribers to the Queen's Hospital FUND was held at the Court House on Saturday morning, June 22, on which occasion the Reports of the Treasurer, Secretary and Physician were read. In accordance with the provisions of the charter, five new Trustees were elected for the ensuing four years, viz: S. C. Damon, C. R. Bishop, J. W. Austin, S. Savidge and H. Von Holt; and the following Trustees were appointed by the Minister of the Interior, Wm. Webster, C. C. Harris, R. G. Davis, F. Stappenhorst and J. Montgomery. The Institution thus far has been a decided success, and well merits the confidence and support of the government and the public. The reports presented at the meeting were so interesting and contained so many facts relating to the origin, rise and present condition of the Queen's Hospital, that we are tempted to publish them in full to the exclusion of other matter prepared for this issue.—P. C. Advertiser.

Secretary's Report. To His Majesty Kaehakaha IV., President of the Board of Trustees of the Queen's Hospital, and to the Subscribers of the Queen's Hospital Fund:

In accordance with the provisions of the Charter, the Secretary of the Board of Trustees of the Queen's Hospital would respectfully present the first biennial report of matters connected with the Institution. For many years there had been a general desire among those who felt any interest in the well being and prosperity of these islands, that there should be a Hospital, where the sick and indigent Hawaiians might receive medical care for the alleviation of their sufferings. The poor and sick native had been left to die without any friendly hand stretched out for his relief. The Legislature of the country had proposed many plans for the establishment of a Hospital, but means had been wanting to carry out its beneficent designs. It was in May, 1850, that the Sovereign of these Islands, impelled by a generous desire to alleviate the sufferings of the poor subjects of his realm, went forth into our community to solicit aid for the erection and maintenance of a Hospital. With ready hand the community answered to the call, and the result was that about \$14,000 were realized to carry out the benevolent designs of one, who for this act alone will be remembered by thousands, who hereafter are to receive a relief and alleviation from the sufferings to which humanity is subject. And the Legislature also generously appropriated the sum of \$2000 annually for the support of the Hospital, and donated to the Corporation the proceeds of land to the amount of \$5000, the avails of which have been received by the Trustees. And besides these amounts, the Institution receives the hospital and seaman's tax imposed by law, the amount of which is estimated at about \$1200 per annum.

A Charter was obtained for the Hospital, and a corporation formed, consisting of twenty trustees, one-half of whom were appointed by the Minister of the Interior, and one-half were elected by the subscribers to the fund; and the Sovereign of the Islands was made ex officio perpetual president of the Corporation. The Trustees diligently entered upon the work assigned to them, and on the 1st of August, 1850, a temporary Hospital and Dispensary was established, in order to carry into immediate effect, the object for which the funds had been so generously contributed. After mature deliberation, it was resolved to erect a stone building near the base of Punch Bowl Hill, the cost of which was not to exceed \$14,000; and the Trustees are able to state that the cost of the building has not exceeded the original estimate. Under the supervision of one of the Trustees, T. C. Heuck, Esq., himself a practical architect, plans and specifications were made, and on the 17th of July, 1860, the corner stone of the Hospital was laid by his Majesty, with appropriate ceremonies, amid a large concourse of people. The following account of the building as prepared by one of the Trustees, and printed some months since, will be of interest:

The Queen's Hospital consists of one large two-story building and two out-houses flanking the same in the rear, and has been erected at a cost of about \$14,000. The principal building has a front facade of 35 feet, with 10 feet verandah, running the full length of the building; the first floor, raised on a basement of 15 feet, is reached by a flight of 15 steps, and the broad flight of stairs running the full breadth of the principal portion, and the visitor enters a hall in the center of the building, which hall contains the principal staircase, 6 feet wide. On the left of this hall is the Reception Room, next to it the Assistant Physician's room, the latter also adjoining the Dispensary. This central hall divides the building into two equal parts, and the whole is reached by a flight of 15 steps, and the visitor enters a hall in the center of the building, which hall contains the principal staircase, 6 feet wide. On the left of this hall is the Reception Room, next to it the Assistant Physician's room, the latter also adjoining the Dispensary. This central hall divides the building into two equal parts, and the whole is reached by a flight of 15 steps, and the visitor enters a hall in the center of the building, which hall contains the principal staircase, 6 feet wide.

The whole of the inner side of the walls as also all partitions of walls throughout the building, are plastered on both sides, making a dry, healthy and substantial finish. The outside of the main building, together with verandah in front, portico on the ends and rear of the same, are finished and ornamented in modern style, and with due regard to economy. It has been planned so as to give the "landmark" of the generosity of the Royal patron and the people; that share of architectural ornament and pleasing finish, well becoming so charitable an institution and such a "proof" of the kind-heartedness of the community. In these matters, due care has been executed and finished by these gentlemen in a good and faithful manner.

The Trustees held during the past two years twenty-two meetings, at which all matters appertaining to the well-being of the Institution and its inmates have been fully discussed, and the Secretary can bear testimony to the zeal and fidelity with which the Trustees, have endeavored to carry out the purposes of the trust confided to them.

The Treasurer's report will show the amount of receipts and disbursements on account of the Hospital for the past two years; and while funds are still needed by the Trustees to enlarge its means of usefulness, they are grateful for the generous responses in material aid, which the Government and individuals have hitherto afforded.

It is to be hoped that the Hospital hereafter may be in part a self-sustaining Institution by numbering among its patients the sick and indigent seamen of other nations, who may be placed there by their respective governments. Nor is this inconsistent with the Charter of the Corporation, which was adopted by the Subscribers, for therein it is expressly stated, that the Hospital is established for the relief of indigent sick and disabled people of the Hawaiian Kingdom, and as well of such foreigners and others as may desire to avail themselves of its benefits.

The report of the Physician, Dr. Wm. Hillebrand, to whose fidelity and care much of the success that has hitherto attended the Institution is due, shows that 2746 dispensary patients who have received gratuitous advice and treatment at the Hospital; although this number does not include many who have received advice and medicine, but whose ailments were too trivial to be entered on the Books of the Institution; while during the same period 802

female syphilitic patients in a separate building on the premises; only such women as suffered from severe illness have been admitted to the principal building. During the months of January, February and March, when the measles prevailed, we had a ward specially for those sick with that disease. Two wards have been reserved for the accommodation of paying patients.

I refrain from entering here upon a statistical enumeration and classification of the diseases which were presented to my observation during the term of my incumbency. As this is a subject, interesting especially the medical profession, but which, in order to be useful, ought to comprise a longer period of time; and to be correct, involves a careful consideration and study of all the cases recorded in our books, I reserve it for some future treatise, perhaps to find place in a medical periodical. The same remark refers to the operations performed, in regard to which I will only state that a considerable number and variety have occurred, with the usual average success, which in our healthy climate is equivalent to a good one in less favored climes of Europe or the United States. One single remark though may not be considered out of place here, viz: that during the latter months a considerable falling off has been noticed in the number of applicants on account of primary syphilitic infections.

From the figures given above, it may be seen that the Queen's Hospital, about the success of which at first serious apprehensions were entertained, has been no failure. It is largely resorted to for relief by people from all parts of the Kingdom. It seldom occurs that a Dispensary patient refuses the offer to enter as a hospital patient. On the contrary, great anxiety is often manifested on their part to achieve this object.

Respectfully submitted, Wm. HILLEBRAND, M. D. Physician to Queen's Hospital.

Celebration of the 4th of July. The American residents of this city met at the office of A. J. Cartwright, Esq., on Tuesday evening last for the purpose of making arrangements for celebrating the approaching anniversary of American freedom.

The meeting was organized by the appointment of Dr. Gerrit P. Judd as Chairman, and Benj. F. Durban as Secretary. It having been unanimously determined that the day ought to be observed here with appropriate ceremonies, a Committee, consisting of Messrs. D. Foster, G. P. Judd, J. Mott Smith, C. C. Harris, H. W. Severance, W. E. Cutrell, Samuel James, Alvah K. Clark, A. J. Cartwright, and H. A. P. Carter, were appointed, to whom was referred the duty of forming a programme for the celebration, with instructions to report at their earliest convenience.

On Thursday evening an adjourned meeting was held at the same place, which was very numerously attended. The Committee reported the following programme, which was adopted.

ORDER OF EXERCISES FOR THE CELEBRATION OF THE EIGHTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE. 1. Salute of 15 guns at sunrise, from Punchbowl Battery. 2. Commemorative services at Fort Street Church, at 10 o'clock, A. M., consisting of prayer, singing of national anthems, and an address from the Rev. C. V. Anthony.

3. Raising of the American Flag at 12, M., at the residence of A. B. Bates, Esq., Nuanuu, (who has kindly given us the use of his premises for the occasion,) under a salute of 34 guns from Punchbowl Battery, with accustomed honors. 4. Reading of the Declaration of Independence. 5. Collation, at which thirteen regular toasts will be given, and appropriate responses made.

6. Salute of 18 guns from the Punchbowl Battery at sunset. The feeling manifested at this meeting cannot but be gratifying to all Americans. Several speeches were made, breathing the highest degree of patriotism, and some of our old residents came out with strong Union sentiments, uttered with an earnest enthusiasm that proved that their love of their country and its institutions has not been weakened by long absence. Mr. Bates requests us to say, that on the occasion of the Celebration, his premises are at the disposal of all American citizens.

Union Envelopes. Some very tastefully printed envelopes with the American Eagle and coat of arms in gold, blue and red, with the motto underneath of "The Union, it must be preserved," are for sale at the Bookstore of Mr. H. M. Whitney. We think that few can look upon that national emblem without feeling their breasts stirred by the noblest and loftiest emotions. The above is a fac-simile, except the colors.

Her Majesty's Visit to Hawaii. On Tuesday afternoon Her Majesty the Queen and H. R. H. the young Prince of Hawaii, accompanied by their Excellencies Mr. and Mrs. Gregg, left Honolulu on board of the steamer Kilanea, for Kona, Hawaii. We understand that His Majesty goes up by the next steamer. The steamer left under a royal salute from Punchbowl Hill.

Monument to Sir John Franklin. We learn from the Australian and New Zealand Gazette that the Legislature of Tasmania, during its last session, voted a sum of £1000 for the erection of a monument to the memory of Sir John Franklin, in connection with the improvements now being carried out on the fine site in Hobart Town, in which stood the vice-regal residence at the time the distinguished Arctic navigator was Lieutenant-Governor of the colony.

Dispatch. On Tuesday afternoon a native woman going down to the wharf, to take passage on board of the schooner Excel for Kauai, was seized by qualms—of stomach, if not of conscience—and endeavored to retrace her steps home. Having arrived opposite the Odd Fellow's Hall, she turned into the yard attached to that building, and in less than twenty minutes emerged again, accompanied by a fine-looking, healthy child.

By the arrival of the ship Speedwell, Capt. Green, in 14 days from San Francisco, we have received news from the Eastern United States, by Pony Express, to June 24, and from Europe to May 19. The Yankee had arrived over in 15 days, and would leave about the 14th inst. with the regular mail of May 21 from New York, the steamer arriving at the Speedwell left.

Mr. C. A. Poor, late of this city, died on board of the Yankee on the passage over. The most formidable preparations were going forward in the United States to prosecute the war against the seceded States with vigor. A horrid assassination of Col. Ellsworth took place at Alexandria, which has greatly exasperated the whole North.

Our last extracts went to May 23; we now continue and continue to June 24. The Richmond Examiner says that General Johnson, Commander of the Utah Expedition, has been ordered to take command of the Confederate forces at Harper's Ferry; also, that Gen. Beauregard has been ordered to Norfolk, and that Jeff. Davis will be at Richmond on Monday next.

A special dispatch dated Washington, 23d Mar., says: The army sets its face southwardly to-night. The 7th, 12th, 6th, and the Rhode Island Brigade, will fold up their tents to-night. By to-morrow morning they will be on the soil of Virginia. They will probably take up their quarters at Arlington Heights, where they will then be on the march. They took provisions in their knapsacks for a four days' campaign. The Fire Zouaves move to-night down the river nine miles, to a point opposite Alexandria. They were overjoyed when they received this glimpse of a fight.

An authorized state there are not 250,000 men under arms in the United States Government. They are all equipped, or will be by Saturday night. Passengers who arrived here to-day from Wheeling, over the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, state that from the Ohio river, to within ten miles of Harper's Ferry, the stars and stripes were flying. They took provisions in their knapsacks for a four days' campaign. The Fire Zouaves move to-night down the river nine miles, to a point opposite Alexandria. They were overjoyed when they received this glimpse of a fight.

New York, May 24.—The news of the death of Col. Ellsworth created intense excitement here. Regret at his loss is mingled with a general feeling that he must be avenged. St. Louis, May 25.—A strong feeling seems to prevail here that Gen. Marney will be obliged to use the military power against the Secessionists of Missouri, notwithstanding his treaty with Gen. Price. The Union men say that the treaty, so far, has not been regarded by the Secessionists, and that they have presented the Union men more than ever before. Gen. Harney and Gen. Lyon, Col. Blair and others, declare that this presentation must cease, or Gov. Jackson and his friends will be made acquainted with Federal bayonets.

Postmaster General Blair prepared an order to-day, discontinuing the transmission of the United States mails in Virginia and other Seceded States, and annulling all contracts for the same. Tennessee is exempted from the operation of the order, for the reason that the State has not formally seceded. Contractors will be immediately notified of this decision. The mails for the South from Washington were stopped at the crossing place of the Federal troops, and returned to the post office here. Intense excitement was created by the assassination of Col. Ellsworth. Bells are tolling, buildings are dressed in crape, and flags are flying at half mast. Ellsworth was shot in the back by one Jackson, proprietor of a hotel in Alexandria. Jackson was immediately killed by Francis D. Brownell, of Troy, a member of Ellsworth's Zouaves.

A special dispatch to New York says that the 69th Regiment captured 300 rebels on the Orange road, near Alexandria. It is said that Gen. Sanford will command the advancing troops in Virginia. Altogether, there are 13,000 troops in the advancing army. A company of horse, numbering thirty-five men, was captured at Alexandria. Sherman's battery coming upon them suddenly, they had no alternative but to surrender. The railroad was then torn up leading into the city.

New Orleans, May 21.—The news from Washington of the occupation of Alexandria has considerably increased the military enthusiasm. The Delta's Montgomery dispatch says: A letter from Yanney says that he had no success in Alexandria. Jackson was immediately killed by Francis D. Brownell, of Troy, a member of Ellsworth's Zouaves. A gentleman from Richmond says that there are 12,000 troops there, and that they are arriving on every train. Two regiments from North Carolina arrived while he was there, and two from South Carolina left on the same train he started on, but turned off to the left at Taylorsville. They probably went to Culpepper. The presence of Gen. Johnson at Harper's Ferry is confirmed. The Kentucky regiments were ordered to reinforce the Virginia at Point of Rocks yesterday. They were throwing up intrenchments on the heights. It is said the New York 7th Regiment will return home on Wednesday.

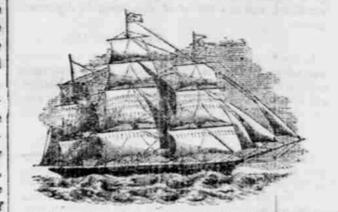
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Five thousand Virginia troops are at Grafton, 10,000 at Richmond, under Gen. Lee, and 12,000 at Fredericksburg. The Times' dispatch says the inhabitants of Alexandria are sullen and disaffected. The only ones with smiling faces are "the peculiar institution." Several large forts are now being constructed there. The Sixty-ninth have thrown up a bank a mile long and seven feet high. It is determined to order 20,000 more volunteers to Washington.

FRANKFORT, Ky., May 27. The Border State Convention met to-day. J. J. Crittenden was appointed Chairman, and Orlando Brown, Secretary. BALTIMORE, Md., 28. A gentleman arrived to-day from Norfolk who came through Richmond and Fredericksburg. He says Gen. Butler has not commenced operations as yet, but an attack was looked for daily. He could not ascertain the number of troops at Norfolk, but estimates them at 20,000. Troops are arriving daily from the South. No apprehensions are felt that Norfolk will be taken. He thinks there are 15,000 troops at Richmond. An attack was expected at Fort River, which was guarded against by batteries and artillery. It is said to be well supplied with heavy articles. He was informed that there were 10,000 troops on the hills about Fredericksburg, strengthened by numerous batteries.

New York, May 28th. The Government has satisfactory information that the Commissioners of the Confederate States to Europe, have met in England a decided and emphatic refusal to recognize their pretensions. Lord John Russell, with whatever uncertainty he may have expressed himself on other points, made no concealment in regard to this matter. The same intelligence comes from the French Government.

FOREIGN NEWS!



By the arrival of the ship Speedwell, Capt. Green, in 14 days from San Francisco, we have received news from the Eastern United States, by Pony Express, to June 24, and from Europe to May 19.

The Yankee had arrived over in 15 days, and would leave about the 14th inst. with the regular mail of May 21 from New York, the steamer arriving at the Speedwell left.

Mr. C. A. Poor, late of this city, died on board of the Yankee on the passage over. The most formidable preparations were going forward in the United States to prosecute the war against the seceded States with vigor. A horrid assassination of Col. Ellsworth took place at Alexandria, which has greatly exasperated the whole North.

Our last extracts went to May 23; we now continue and continue to June 24. The Richmond Examiner says that General Johnson, Commander of the Utah Expedition, has been ordered to take command of the Confederate forces at Harper's Ferry; also, that Gen. Beauregard has been ordered to Norfolk, and that Jeff. Davis will be at Richmond on Monday next.

A special dispatch dated Washington, 23d Mar., says: The army sets its face southwardly to-night. The 7th, 12th, 6th, and the Rhode Island Brigade, will fold up their tents to-night. By to-morrow morning they will be on the soil of Virginia. They will probably take up their quarters at Arlington Heights, where they will then be on the march. They took provisions in their knapsacks for a four days' campaign. The Fire Zouaves move to-night down the river nine miles, to a point opposite Alexandria. They were overjoyed when they received this glimpse of a fight.

An authorized state there are not 250,000 men under arms in the United States Government. They are all equipped, or will be by Saturday night. Passengers who arrived here to-day from Wheeling, over the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, state that from the Ohio river, to within ten miles of Harper's Ferry, the stars and stripes were flying. They took provisions in their knapsacks for a four days' campaign. The Fire Zouaves move to-night down the river nine miles, to a point opposite Alexandria. They were overjoyed when they received this glimpse of a fight.

New York, May 24.—The news of the death of Col. Ellsworth created intense excitement here. Regret at his loss is mingled with a general feeling that he must be avenged. St. Louis, May 25.—A strong feeling seems to prevail here that Gen. Marney will be obliged to use the military power against the Secessionists of Missouri, notwithstanding his treaty with Gen. Price. The Union men say that the treaty, so far, has not been regarded by the Secessionists, and that they have presented the Union men more than ever before. Gen. Harney and Gen. Lyon, Col. Blair and others, declare that this presentation must cease, or Gov. Jackson and his friends will be made acquainted with Federal bayonets.

Postmaster General Blair prepared an order to-day, discontinuing the transmission of the United States mails in Virginia and other Seceded States, and annulling all contracts for the same. Tennessee is exempted from the operation of the order, for the reason that the State has not formally seceded. Contractors will be immediately notified of this decision. The mails for the South from Washington were stopped at the crossing place of the Federal troops, and returned to the post office here. Intense excitement was created by the assassination of Col. Ellsworth. Bells are tolling, buildings are dressed in crape, and flags are flying at half mast. Ellsworth was shot in the back by one Jackson, proprietor of a hotel in Alexandria. Jackson was immediately killed by Francis D. Brownell, of Troy, a member of Ellsworth's Zouaves.

A special dispatch to New York says that the 69th Regiment captured 300 rebels on the Orange road, near Alexandria. It is said that Gen. Sanford will command the advancing troops in Virginia. Altogether, there are 13,000 troops in the advancing army. A company of horse, numbering thirty-five men, was captured at Alexandria. Sherman's battery coming upon them suddenly, they had no alternative but to surrender. The railroad was then torn up leading into the city.

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