THE DAILY EXCHANGE.

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SEE FOURTH PAGE.

LATEST NEWS.

TELEGRAMS.

FROM CALIFORNIA BY PONY EXPRESS.

FORT KEARNEY, MAY 27.- The Pony Express passed here at 12 o'clock on Friday night, the 24th, but by some mistake the budget of news was taken out between here and Fort Laramie, reaching us by coach yesterday.

GENERAL NEWS.

The rates of insurance on treasure eastward have been increased to 10 per cent.

There has been but little of incident in California this week, except the Union meetings which continue to be held almost nightly in the principal towns and cities. The speeches and resolutions invariably favor a vigorous war policy on the part of the Administration until every foot of the Union acknowledges the "Stars and Stripes."

The speck of war in Santa Clara county, to which the only question involved was the title to six leagues of land, has disappeared through a compromise, in which the settlers agree to submit their cause to the Supreme Court, and abide the result. Several lawyers have agreed to plead their cause without charge.

An effort is being made in San Francisco to organize a company of volunteers to tender their services to the Federal Government, on the supposition that the Pacific Mail Steamship Company will give them a free passage to the East. A similar organization has been commenced in Sacramento, the members holding themselves in readiness to obey the first call of the President.

The Republican State Central Committee have issued a call for a Convention, composed of delegates of Union men irrespective of party, to meet at Sacramento on the 18th of June.

The Republicans do not design giving up their organization, but adopted the Union test simply and purely without reference to other issues. A resolution has been offered in the Assembly instructing our Senators, and our representatives to offer California as a mediator in the present difficulties, and in favor of a Convention to revise the Constitution of the United States.

An exciting canvass for local officers in San Francisco is progressing. The municipal election takes place on the 22d inst. The only tickets in the field are known as the People's Union ticket and the Republican Union ticket. The latter comprises partisan Republicans, while the former is irrespective of national politics, embracing men of all political parties who are sound on the Union question. The peoples ticket will probably triumph.

From Washington.

WASHINGTON, May 28.—On inquiry of several New York guests at Willard's Hotel it is ascertained that Mr. Vallenburgh parted with them at noon on a visit to Alexandria. Therefore the distant report of arrest as a spy cannot be true.

The belief that the President has been amused to tender Col. Fremont a Major Generalship, elicits much gratification.

Ex-Governor Banks is here by invitation of the Secretary of War.

The City Councils of Washington have passed a resolution of respect to Col. Ellsworth.

As there seems to be some sensitiveness in business circles about the recent seizure of telegraphic despatches in all the principal Northern towns and cities, and a general apprehension that private business transactions may be exposed, it may not be improper to assure the public that there is no danger of any such expose.

The War Department has instituted a Commission composed of highly responsible gentlemen, whose business it is made to examine all the despatches under strict injunctions of secrecy, and after having selected those of a treasonable character, to reseal and return those relating to mere business transactions.

All the despatches seized at the various telegraph offices will be brought on to Washington, and be thus examined. The business of this Commission assumes somewhat that of the dead letter office in the Post Office Department, and will be conducted with the same secrecy and rigid regard to private rights and interests.

The President to-day made the following appointments:—Postmasters—New York: John S. Allen, Williamsburg; Richard H. Winter, Whitehall; Wm. H. Vosburgh, West Troy; Mr. Knox, Waterloo; Edward H. Schelley, Rome; William H. Southwick, Palmyra; Daniel S. Parker, Kaukakee, Illinois; James McDermott, Washington, Pennsylvania; A. F. Russell, Danville; Wm. Lindsey, Woonsocket Falls; and Charles E. Chickering, Pawtucket, Rhode Island; Charles L. Parker, Astoria.

The Border State Convention.

FRANKFORT, Ky., May 27.—The Border State Convention met to-day.

Hon. John J. Crittenden was appointed chairman, and Orlando Brown appointed secretary.

Del gates from Missouri and Kentucky were present.

The Convention adjourned till to-morrow, to await the arrival of delegates on their way hither.

Destructive Fire at Cleveland, Ohio.

CLEVELAND, May 27.—E. G Gaylard's dry goods store was burned this morning. Total loss of stock and building valued at $60,000; insured for $20,000. A M Fry's five story store was crushed by a falling wall. Loss quite heavy, but amount not yet ascertained.

American Medical Association.

CHICAGO, May 27.—The annual meeting of the American Medical Association, which was to have been held in this city on the first Tuesday in June, is postponed one year, by order of the Committee of Arrangements.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

THE HABEAS CORPUS CASE.

Gen. Cadwalader Refuses to Recognize the Attachment.

The attachment issued on Monday last, by Chief Justice Taney, against Gen. George Cadwalader, for refusing to obey the writ of *habeas corpus* in the case of John Merryman, Esq, was made returnable yesterday, at twelve o'clock. At an early hour of the day, the United States Circuit Court building was besieged by an immense crowd.

Immediately upon the Court room being opened, about half-past eleven o'clock, the crowd rushed in, and in a short time the room was completely filled.

About twelve o'clock the venerable Chief Justice made his appearance. Upon taking his seat, the Chief Justice stated that he desired to make an explanation before the hearing of the case, to the effect that Judge Giles, who was present yesterday, was absent to-day, owing to the fact that he was attending a meeting of his church, which he considered of interest to himself and perhaps important to the community. He (the Justice) had invited Judge Giles to be present, because he had desired his counsel and advice in so important a case, but he did not sit in the case as an officer of the court, and desired this explanation to be made.

The Chief Justice then asked the Marshal if he had the return. The Marshal handed to him the following papers, which the clerk was directed to read aloud:

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, } DISTRICT OF MARYLAND, TO WIT: }

To the Marshal of the Maryland District, Greeting:

We command you that you attach the body of General George Cadwalader and him have before the Hon Roger B. Taney, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, on Tuesday, the 28th May, 1861, at 12 o'clock M., at the Circuit Court Room in the City of Baltimore, to answer for his contempt by him committed, in refusing to produce the body of John Merryman, of Baltimore county, according to the command of the writ of *habeas corpus* returnable, and returned before the said Chief Justice, this 27th day of May, 1861. Hereof you are not to fail, and have you then and there this writ.

Witness, the Honorable Roger B. Taney, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the first Monday in December, in this year of our Lord, 1861.

Issued 27th May 1861. THOS. SPICER, Clerk.

I hereby certify to the Honorable Roger B. Taney, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, that by virtue of the within writ of attachment to me directed on the 27th of May, 1861, I proceeded on the 28th day of May, 1861, to Fort McHenry, for the purpose of serving the said writ—I sent in my name at the outer gate, the messenger returning with the reply "that there was no answer to my card." I therefore could not serve the writ as I was commanded. *I was not permitted to enter the gate*

SO answers WASHINGTON BONIFANT,
United States Marshal for the District of Maryland.

Chief Justice Taney then turned to Deputy Marshal Vance and said: "Then the writ is not answered?"

Deputy Marshal Vance—There was no answer, sir, except that "there was no reply to my card." *I was not permitted to enter the outer gate.*

Chief Justice Taney—Well, you should state that. The fact does not appear in your return.

Mr. Vance amended the return in compliance with the suggestion by adding the words at the end of the return printed in italics, and handing the paper to the Chief Justice, the latter proceeded to read from a manuscript the subjoined remarks, previously saying: Gentlemen, I shall feel it my duty to enforce the process of the Court.

I ordered the attachment yesterday, because upon the face of the return the detention of the prisoner was unlawful upon two grounds.

1. The President, under the Constitution and laws of the United States, cannot suspend the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus*, nor authorize any military officer to do so.

2. A military officer has no right to arrest and detain a person, not subject to the rules and articles of war, for an offence against the laws of the United States, except in and of the judicial authority and subject to its control—and if the party is arrested by the military, it is the duty of the officer to deliver him over immediately to the civil authority, to be dealt with according to law.

I forebore yesterday to state orally the provisions of the Constitution of the United States, which make these principles the fundamental law of the Union, because an oral statement might be misunderstood in some portions of it, and I shall therefore put my opinion in writing and file it in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, in the course of this week.

After reading the above, the Chief Justice orally remarked:

In relation to the present return, it is proper to say that of course the Marshal has legally the power to summon out the *posse comitatus* to seize and bring into court the party named in the attachment; but it is apparent he will be resisted in the discharge of that duty by a force notoriously superior to the *posse*, and this being the case, such a proceeding can result in no good, and is useless. I will not, therefore, require the Marshal to perform this duty. If, however, General Cadwalader were before me, I should impose on him the punishment which it is within my province to inflict, that of fine and imprisonment. I shall merely say to-day, that I shall reduce to writing the reasons under which I have acted, and which have led me to the conclusions expressed in my opinion, and shall report them with these proceedings to the President, and call upon him to perform his Constitutional duty—to enforce the laws, by compelling obedience to the civil process.

In a short time, the large crowd which had assembled dispersed. The greatest indignation was universally expressed at the action of Gen. Cadwalader.

A DRUNKEN SOLDIER.—Yesterday afternoon about six o'clock a soldier, named James O'Neal, belonging to the Patterson Park camp, was on East Falls avenue, very drunk and acting very disorderly. Policemen Fool and Bouldin went to him and told him that he must cease his disorder, when O'Neal drew his bayonet and attempted to stab the police officer. With some trouble he was secured and taken to the Central Police station. Justice Hiss committed him to jail in default of fine and costs for being drunk and disorderly.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE MARYLAND STATE BIBLE SOCIETY.—The twenty-seventh anniversary of the Maryland State Bible Society, was held last evening in the Associated Reformed Church, Fayette street. The meeting was opened with singing and prayer, when the annual report was read by Reverdy Johnson, Jr., Esq. The report opens with a reference to the condition of our national affairs, and the depressing effect upon the operations of this society in common with every enterprise. About one-half of the year has been passed under these adverse circumstances. Statistics were read, showing the financial condition of the Society, which, taking everything in consideration, is not at all discouraging.

The death of Judge J. B. Eccleston, of Kent county, one of the directors of the society, was feelingly alluded to in the report.

Rev. Isaac P. Cook stated that it had been announced that the annual address would be delivered by Rev. Dr. McCron, but as that gentleman was ill, Rev. Dr. Henkle, of Tennessee, would supply his place. Rev. Joseph P. Smith, D. D., of Danville, Kentucky, formerly of this city, also made some remarks. The attendance was small, and after the address of the above named gentleman, the meeting was closed with religious exercises.

A CHILD ACCIDENTALLY KILLED.—About twelve o'clock on Monday night, a case of accidental shooting took place at the house of Mr. Wm. H. Brown, No. 42 Eager street, which resulted in the death of his daughter, a girl eight years of age. Mr. Brown, during the day, had heard that his house was going to be attacked during the night, and his brother, George Brown, procured a horse pistol, which he loaded heavily, and at the hour named laid down on the floor, with the determination to sleep there during the night. By some accident the pistol was discharged, and the contents entered the abdomen of the girl, who was lying under the table asleep. Death followed in a few minutes. Coroner Hall held an inquest on the body, when a verdict of accidental shooting was rendered.

ARRIVAL OF TROOPS.—About half-past 1 o'clock yesterday afternoon, three cars of the Philadelphia Railroad, *en route* for Washington, two regiments of infantry. They were the 8th and 9th New York Regiments, the first of which was composed entirely of Germans. The 8th was commanded by Col. Blunker, and the 9th by Col. J. W. Stiles. In both the 8th there were but three hundred arms, about half of which were Sharp's Rifles. The 9th was entirely American, and was the best body of New York troops which has passed through our city. They marched from the President street depot round by Lombard street, to Camden street station, where they took the cars for Washington.

SHOULD BE RESPECTED.—The President and Directors of the City Passenger Railway Association have directed a card to be placed in each of the cars, politely requesting gentlemen not to smoke on any part of the cars. This is a very necessary order, and should be strictly enforced. Frequently the Seward committee have cars are crowded with men smoking cigars. The summer months the front doors of the cars, as a necessity, are kept open, and when they are in motion a pleasant current of air passes through them. When the platform is filled with smokers, volumes of smoke take the place of the fresh air, to the great inconvenience of the lady passengers. The company should strictly enforce this order.

A FRAY AMONG DRUNKEN SOLDIERS.—About midnight on Monday night the notes part of the city was in the Conaway was much excited by the occurrence of a fight in one of the houses of that locality. It appears that a number of soldiers who were in the city from one of the camps had gathered in the house, and were drinking and chaffing, when a fight took place between themselves. The frame front of the house being closed, the police could not enter, and the fight was kept up for some minutes. Shortly after several of the soldiers came out with pieces of fence rails and proceeded to camp.

A DESPERATE FELLOW.—Yesterday a man named Henry Kelver was arrested on the charge of attacking the house of Frederick Peringer, No. 77 Hill street, breaking in the door and assaulting her in a violent manner. When arrested, he acted in a very disorderly manner, and threatened the life of a number of persons. Justice Duncan committed him to jail for trial.

BASE BALL.—This afternoon a match game of base ball will be played between the Excelsior and Waverly Clubs, on the grounds of the latter on Madison avenue, near Boundary avenue. This match is exciting much interest, and will no doubt be witnessed by a large number of the friends of the respective clubs. The game will commence at 3 o'clock P. M.

ROBBERY.—The grocery and provision store of Mr. John S. Stansbury, situated on Pensylvania avenue, was entered on Monday night about 12 o'clock, and robbed of twenty-five fine hams.—Nothing else was missed. The thief gained admission through a second-story window.

THEFT OF A WATCH.—A man named Joseph Sirgle was arrested yesterday morning on the charge of stealing a watch, the property of James Crozier. Mr. Crozier did not desire to prosecute the case (Sirgle being an old man) and Justice Hiss committed Sirgle to jail for sixty days as a vagrant.

VISIT OF OFFICIALS.—The members of both branches of the City Council will this afternoon visit Druid Hill Park, by invitation of the Park Commissioners. The party will start about half-past two o'clock.

LAW INTELLIGENCE.

CITY CIRCUIT COURT—JUDGE KREBS.

Simon Greenfield, Levi A. Schloss, Solomon Preiss, B. Nathans vs. Marcus Adler, Frederick Rosenthal and Eleanor Adler. Injunction issued to restrain defendants, their agents or servants from selling, removing, disposing of, or withholding from receiver the stock of millinery and dry goods lately in store No. 210 Broadway, until further order of this Court.

SUPERIOR COURT—JUDGE MARTIN.

There was nothing done in this Court yesterday.——Assignments for to day 172 to 206.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS—JUDGE MARSHALL.

The following business occupied this Court yesterday.——Wm. McLain vs. A. Heinz. Appeal from McAllister. Judgment affirmed.——Matilda Seligman vs. State. Appeal from Hiss. Judgment affirmed.——Peter Buckliman vs. State. Appeal from Griffin. Judgment reversed.——David Whitsun vs. John B. Milbrom. Appeal from Hayward. Judgment affirmed.—Assignments to-day from 1 to 28.

CRIMINAL COURT.—JUDGE BOND.

No business of importance was transacted in this court yesterday.

BALTIMORE COUNTY COURT—JUDGE PRICE.

TOWSONTOWN, May 28, 1861.—The ejectment case of Ann Nesbitt, *et. al. vs.* John O. Price—before reported—occupied the court to-day. The most important testimony elicited was that of Mrs. Lydia Kemmey, who testified that the will of Miss Owings was made, signed and witnessed by her in due form of law, and not after her death, as sworn to by a previous witness. Several other witnesses recognized the alleged forged signature to the will as that of the deceased's hand writing. Not concluded. Messrs. Meredith and Gittings for plaintiffs, and David Paul Brown, I. Nevitt Steele, Richard Grason and T. W. Lanahan for the defendant.——James McManus, Elisha Bardnot and John Robinson, jointly indicted for assaulting Richard Burgan, pleaded guilty. The parties not wishing to prosecute the case, the court released them on payment of costs.——Adjourned.

Special Correspondence of Daily Exchange.

ALEXANDRIA, VA., May 28, 1861.

The "occupation" of this city by the troops of the Federal Government on the morning of the 24th inst., has totally changed the aspect of the place. I think I state but the simple truth when I write that there might have been in Alexandria previous to the entrance of the troops, three hundred persons all told, who desired a continuance of the union of Virginia with the Federal Government. I am confident that there are not now fifty.

Nor can it be alleged that the troops came hither to enforce the laws. The United States laws had never been interfered with in Alexandria. The Collector was discharging his functions under the laws of the United States without let or hindrance. The post-office was receiving and sending the mails and accounting for the revenues to the Post-Office Department in Washington. No writ of a Court authorized by the Federal Constitution had been resisted, and so far as any active and usual exercise of the United States authority is concerned, it was as complete and thorough as it was the first day of Mr. Buchanan's Administration. Whatever was the case at other points in the South, at the point first invaded, the custom and postal laws of the United States was as fully operative, and the property of the United States as fully in possession of the officers of the Federal Government, as in Boston or Eastport.

The circumstances which attended the seizure of the town I have seen nowhere fully stated. I gather from sources entirely reliable that about 3 o'clock on the morning of the seizure, a flag of truce was sent from the steamer Pawnee, lying off the port, to Col. Terrett, in command of the military forces of Alexandria and its neighborhood, with a message demanding the surrender of the town at 9 o'clock. Before the flag of truce had returned the sentinels posted at the wharves gave the alarm that the federal troops were advancing, and the inhabitants, at the hour I write, would at once dissipate from the mind of every lover of freedom of speech, freedom of the press and the chartered rights of American freemen—any such erroneous impression. The people—I write from what I hourly hear and see—feel that the town occupies a position which has exposed it to a large share of the hardships of war. They feel sorely the perils which beset them, but there are indeed, few who would be willing to alleviate the hardships or diminish the perils, by any act inconsistent with their own rights as freemen.

WAR MOVEMENTS.

IMPORTANT ARMY MOVEMENTS.

Occupation of Newport-News Point at the Mouth of James River—Ohio Troops Entering Western Virginia.

WASHINGTON, May 28.—Col Butler and Hon Messrs. Ashley of Ohio, and Dana of Indiana, arrived here to-day from Fortress Monroe, on the government transport City of Richmond. All was quiet at the Fortress, but some important military movements were in progress.

Yesterday five transport vessels, with 2,500 troops, convoyed by the steamer Harriet Lane, went up Hampton Roads toward the mouth of James river and took possession of Newport-News point, and there entrenched themselves. The position is one of importance, as it commands the mouth of the James river. It is located about six miles from Hampton. The last transport was fired at by the Sewell's point rifled cannon, but the range was too great to be effective.

The steamer Yankee brought to Washington today three prizes, at least one of them being loaded with tobacco.

Information has been received here that over two thousand Ohio troops from Camp Dennison yesterday took possession of the Northwestern Virginia Railroad, which runs from Parkersburg to Grafton, for a distance of 80 miles, and proceeded to the latter direction. A large number of troops also crossed the Ohio at Bel-Air, three miles from Wheeling, for the same destination. This is indicative of events at Harper's Ferry.

Passengers from Alexandria to night state that nothing of especial importance has occurred there to-day. The outpoints, however, were being extended further into Virginia.

Frederick Hecker's Illinois Regiment will, it is thought, be accepted by the government. The probability is, that the Brigade of Carl Shurz, Minister to Spain, who is now here, will be sent to Fortress Monroe.

Conversations in diplomatic circles, recently reported, to the effect that the Confederate Commissioners had an interview with Lord John Russell and M. Thouvenel and had been told that they could not be recognized, are manifestly overrated. There has been no arrival here later than the one which brought advices that the Commissioners of the Confederate States had not yet been received in London, and had not yet applied to be admitted in Paris. Of the same character is the report that the Seward proposition to accede to the Paris declaration abolishing privateering has been rejected. It is understood that these instructions were sent to Mr. Adams and Mr. Dayton.

The 1st German Rifle and the 9th Regiments of New York arrived here to-day. They elicited general admiration.

Allen A. Burton, of Kentucky, has been appointed Minister Resident to New Grenada, in the place of General Jones, of Iowa.

The New York 71st Regiment this morning went over to Alexandria.

[SECOND DESPATCH.]

MAY 28—P. M.—Markoe was released on bail till to-morrow. Van Valkenburgh has not only been in the confidence but in the support of the government for more than a month past. He and his friends laughed at the vague rumor concerning him. It is true that some weeks ago he was arrested by the secessionists in Alexandria while on business there, and this, probably, is the foundation for the present story.

Western Military Movements.

ST. LOUIS, May 28.—The occupation of Birds Point, opposite Cairo, on the Missouri shore, being decided on the 4th regiment under command of Col. Schuttner, has been selected, and will probably embark this morning on the Government steamer Lyons. The encampment in the suburbs of the city was broken up yesterday and the troops quartered in the Arsenal and Jefferson barracks. The American Zouaves, a regiment to be commanded by Col. Morgan L. Smith, is forming here. It is understood that Gen. Harney has authorized the immediate formation of a regiment of Union Home Guards at Hannibal, St. Josephs, Kansas City and Springfield. Ten companies are to be mustered into the United States service and furnished with arms. All the State troops have left Jefferson City except two companies, who remain as body guards to the Governor.

The *habeas corpus* case of Capt. McDonald is still being argued before Judge Treat.

The Blockade Recognized--Later from Pensacola.

ST. LOUIS, May 28.—The Pensacola correspondent of the Mobile *Advertiser* says that Lord Lyons has written to the British Consul at Pensacola, recognizing the blockade in the name of the British Government, and warning English vessels of its effect.

No movements indicative of the commencement of hostilities had taken place at Fort Pickens.

Troops En Route for Washington.

NEW YORK, May 28.—The Garibaldi Guard, one thousand strong, left here this evening by rail for Washington.

A Vessel Captured by a Privateer and Released.

BOSTON, May 27.—The brig Elisha Doane, of Boston, Captain Loring, arrived to-day from Satilla river, Georgia. She reports that she was captured by a privateer schooner and taken to Brunswick, where after eight days detention, Gov. Brown ordered her release.

Matters in Alexandria.

Great complaints are made of the conduct of a few of the Zouaves in Alexandria, and of outrages they are said to have committed a rape there; two others to have resisted officers; two to have broken into the store of Mr. McBurney and robbed him of groceries and liquors; others to have plundered the drug store of Mr. Hurt. It is rumored to-day that two of them are to be shot for their improper conduct. The conduct of the Michigan troops have been the theme of the admiration of the people of Alexandria.

On Friday night at 9 P. M. the Prince William Cavalry burned the toll bridge over the Occoquan river (16 miles from Alexandria) to the water's edge—injuring the Messrs. Janey, its owners, to the extent of $8,000.

The panic is not over in Alexandria yet, owing to the shameful conduct of a few of the Zouaves.

Mr. Snowden, of the *Gazette*, remains with his press, &c. though the *Gazette* is not now issued. Richard Smith got off much of his *Sentinel* printing office, on Thursday, to Warrenton.

Not a single active secessionist remains in Alexandria at this time. The town is under martial law; a pass from Capt. Whittlesey, of the Michigan regiment, Provost Marshal, being required to enable any one to leave it.

The trains of the Orange and Alexandria Rail road only run down as far as the Manassas Junction, now.

Yesterday morning, four secessionists were captured by the national pickets in Alexandria, and subsequently Col. Wilcox ordered the arrest of several other persons in the vicinity, our outposts having been fired upon by disunionists.

Yesterday Col. Wilcox issued a proclamation appointing Captain Whittlesey, of the First Michigan Regiment, Provost Marshal of Alexandria, with power to grant passes, &c., and assuring all peaceable citizens of protection to themselves and property. Company C, of the Michigan Regiment, are detailed for police duty in the city.

The pickets of the U. S. troops extend out of Alexandria for a mile on the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, and to Hunting Creek bridge on the south; also to the first toll-gate west of Alexandria on the Leesburg pike turnpike, and to the top of Shooter's Hill on the middle turnpike, more by. On the Washington end of the line occupied by the U. S. troops now in Alexandria county, Va., the pickets extended from Hunter's Chapel, on the Columbia turnpike, to Bailey's Cross Roads; thence to Taylor's tavern, two miles further out, and from Taylor's, around the county circle, to where the Loudoun and Hampshire Railroad crosses Riley's branch; thence by Ball's Cross Roads back to Hunter's Chapel. Thus these pickets surround Arlington Heights.—*Washington Star of Tuesday evening.*

Railroad Running Out of Alexandria.

The railroads running into Alexandria are the Orange and Alexandria road, which connects with Richmond, Lynchburg, and so on through the entire South; the Manassas Gap road, the Alexandria, Loudoun and Hampshire road, and the Washington road. Manassas Gap is the line by which the troops are leading to Harper's Ferry, Acquia Creek and Richmond. The following table shows the distances from Alexandria to some of the principal stations:

Springfield	9	Orange Court House	80
Fairfax Court House	14	Madison	84
Union Mills	23	Gordonsville	88
Manassas Gap	27	Culpepper Court House	109
Bristol	31	North Garden	132
Catlett's	38	Covesville	125
Warrington Junction	41	Rockfish	133
Bealton	47	Lovingston	140
Rappahannock	51	Arrington	145
Brandy	56	New Glasgow	162
Culpepper Court House	62	Amherst Court House	158
Mitchell's	69	McIvers	164
Rapidan	74	Lynchburg	171

Movement upon Western Virginia.

An important movement is now being executed upon Western Virginia. The commander of the column, and the number of the troops cannot, with propriety, be stated. It is not, however, upon Harper's Ferry, which will probably come into federal possession by flank movements of other columns, moving upon other points.—*N. Y. Trib.*

Concentration of Virginia Troops at Manassas Junction.

Information, said to be the most reliable, received at the War Department from a Union man, just from Richmond, says two hundred cavalry are at Fairfax Court House, one hundred and fifty infantry at Fairfax station, and from five to seven thousand troops at Manassas Junction, and three thousand more expected there. The troops at Manassas Gap expect an attack from our forces at Alexandria and on the Heights, with a view to cut off their communication between Richmond and Harper's Ferry. The troops at Manassas are said to be good troops. They say they would attack Alexandria, but for fear of losing their own position. They embrace one regiment from South Carolina, one from North Carolina, and one from Georgia.

The messenger says General Davis and General Beauregard are expected to-day at Richmond. Troops are constantly passing through in the night from Richmond towards Manassas, and without music.—*Cor. N. Y. Herald.*

Between Thirty and Forty Gunboats to be Built.

Proposals will be issued by the Navy Department for the building of steam propeller gunboats for the use of the navy. The boats will be about five hundred tons burthen. There will be between thirty and forty, and it is the purpose of the government to distribute them among all the principal shipbuilding establishments north of Washington.

Troops Moving into Virginia from Wheeling.

The movement of troops into Virginia from Wheeling is fully confirmed. A gentleman who arrived last evening informs us that one regiment and three companies left Wheeling by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad at 6 o'clock on Monday morning, destination unknown.

The Plan.

I am at last enabled to send you a comprehensive announcement of the governmental policy concerning offensive movements. It is the intention of the President to crush out treasonable rebellion, if possible, before the 4th of July, 1861. He has determined and ordered that if it be practicable—simultaneous attacks be made upon Norfolk, Richmond, Harper's Ferry and Pensacola, and that a flotilla be sent down the Mississippi river. There is to be no trifling. Good citizens will be protected, but traitors will be hung and their property will be confiscated.—*Wash. Cor. N. Y. Times.*

IMPORTANT FROM EUROPE.

ARRIVAL OF THE STEAMER ETNA.

TEXT OF THE QUEEN'S PROCLAMATION

A QUASI RECOGNITION OF THE SOUTHERN CONFEDERACY.

EXTRACTS FROM THE ENGLISH PRESS.

The steamship Etna arrived at New York on Monday afternoon, bringing the English mails to the 15th inst.

By this arrival we have the full text of the Queen's proclamation in reference to the war in this country. The meagre and unsatisfactory abstract of this important document, which reached us by telegraph, failed to give a clear idea of its statements. We publish the proclamation entire.

The Etna brought 294 passengers and $1,500,000 in specie.

The screw-frigate Mersey, 40 guns, left Portsmouth on the 12th, for the North American and West India station.

The London *Herald* says that £450,000 have been offered for the Great Eastern, by a broker supposed to be acting for the United States or the French Government, but it is further reported that the Directors have declined the offer, requiring a higher price. Should the Great Eastern make the passage to New York in seven days, as is expected, her present market value will be greatly enhanced.

Mr. Wade, Chinese Secretary, and Mr. Loch, Private Secretary to Lord Elgin, are gazetted as Companions of the Bath.

The *Independence Belge* states that France and England have agreed to propose to Austria and Turkey the following arrangement: Austria to cede Venetia to Italy, and to receive, in addition to a pecuniary indemnity of 200,000,000, a territorial compensation, including the Danubian Principalities, the Herzegovina and Turkish Croatia—the Sultan also receiving an indemnity of 200,000,000 from Italy.—The *Independence* adds that the British Government appeared desirous to withdraw from the arrangement.

The theory of M. Veuillot's pamphlet, entitled *Waterloo*, is that Waterloo was a victory gained by the Protestant over the Catholic nations; that Louis Napoleon's expedition to Rome was the revenge of the Catholic nations; and that at the present moment the Protestants are meditating a second and more terrible Waterloo, which shall result in the suppression of the temporal power.

French commercial accounts report an extraordinary diminution in the exports from France to the United States, and remittances in specie were expected to be the consequence.

THE NEW ENGLISH MINISTER TO ENGLAND.

Chas. Francis Adams, our new Minister to England, had a public reception from the Chamber of Commerce of Liverpool, on his arrival in that city.

THE DOMINICAN QUESTION.

In the House of Lords on the 14th instant, Lord Wodehouse, in reply to Lord Brougham, stated that Spain, at the request of the inhabitants, had accepted the annexation of the eastern portion of St. Domingo, but the Spanish government had assured her Majesty's government that slavery should not be re-established in that portion of the island.

THE CRIMEAN WAR—THE BLOCKADE.

The London *Times* has this piece of news about the Great Eastern:

The Great Ship Company propose to raise £35,000 in debentures having twelve months to run, at 10 per cent, to pay off the existing claims. The security will be a first mortgage on the vessel and the money is not raised within a few weeks the ship will be sold to meet the demands now standing over.

IMPORTANT FROM CHINA—NANKIN TOTALLY DESTROYED.

HONG KONG, April 13.—By the return of a private steamer to Shanghai from Hangkow, we learn that Admiral Hope, with the fleet, was close to Hangkow on the 11th ult. The foreigners who visited Hangkow were courteously received by the Chinese authorities. It does not appear that the insurgents have yet got possession of Kinkiang, but the places they have taken exhibit a sad state of destruction. We learn the following particulars of the journey to Hangkow and the places visited: *Nankin is totally destroyed*, as is also Chingkiang, the first of the open ports; both are a mass of ruins.

SLAUGHTER OF TWO THOUSAND PERSONS IN AFRICA.

One of the native missionaries, who witnessed the "grand custom" of the King of Dahomey, says that more than 2,000 male human beings were slaughtered, and about as many women and young children, besides enormous numbers of dogs, cats, key-buzzards and other fowl. In a commercial point of view it has been productive of evil. The *West African Herald* says: We learn that besides the terrible sacrifice of human life caused by the Dahoman "grand custom," it has also had the effect of, in a great measure, putting a stop to trade in that part of the country. All the principal people have been compelled to repair to the capital (Abomey) and remain there to witness this custom. In Wydah, we understand, there were, when our informant left that town, few people but women and slaves. The palm nuts were rotting on the trees; commerce and agriculture were languishing grievously.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

London, May 16—The Bank of England rate has been raised to six per cent

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET—*Liverpool, May* 16.—First Report.—Rather better demand. Sales, probably about 7,000 bales, or more. Imports 32,400 bales. Previously this week, 7,558 bales.

London, May 16—noon.—Consols steady and inactive, at 91⅞@92. Shares flat, and prices lower. Canadian and American shares unchanged

LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE—*London, May* 16.—Opening Prices—Consols, money 91⅞@⅞; Consols, account, 91⅞@92 New Threes, 89⅞.

Paris, May 15—3 20 P. M.—The Bourse opened very firm, but was flat at the close. Rentes were finally quoted at 69.55, or five cents lower than yesterday

PRESBYTERIAN GENERAL ASSEMBLY, O. S.

The Loyalty Debate Renewed—A Test Vote.

TENTH DAY.

Prayer by Rev. Mr. Baker.

Rev. Mr. Waller moved that the report of the Committee on Mileage be recommitted to the committee for the purpose of meeting an exigency in the case of two Nebraska delegates.

The Committee on Systematic Benevolence reported a great remissness on the part of numerous Presbyteries. Out of 170 Presbyteries, only 41 have reported, against 34 last year. Some Presbyteries however report increased liberality.

Only 1,413 Churches have contributed to the Domestic Mission.

The various other subjects which are objects of contribution there is a complaint of general short coming.

The report was accepted.

Another paper was submitted by the Systematic Benevolence Committee of the previous year, recommending annual contributions in aid of the Boards of Domestic and Foreign Missions, Educational Board, Relief of Ministers, &c. The Chairman of the Committee urged greater attention to the subject of receiving aid from the Sunday School children. It is a source of supply whose interests never fail in panics and worldly disturbances.

This report was also accepted.

The hour for the order of the day having arrived, the question came up on Dr. Wines' substitute for Dr. Spring's resolution.

DR. SPRING MODIFIES HIS RESOLUTIONS.

The Rev. Dr. Spring, of New York, rose and stated that, in order to secure something like unanimity in the body, he had thought it best to offer the following modifications as a substitute for his second resolution:

Resolved, 2 That this General Assembly, in the spirit of that Christian patriotism which the Scriptures enjoin and which has always characterized this Church, do hereby acknowledge and declare our obligation to promote and perpetuate, so far as in us lies, the integrity of these United States, and to pray for them, uphold, and encourage the Federal Government in the exercise of all its functions under our noble Constitution.

Dr. Bergen read a paper as a peace offering, recommending that the Fourth of July be set apart as a day of humiliation and prayer to God to avert the calamities now pending over our country.

Dr. McPhail also read a paper. He was followed by others.

Judge Ryerson, of New Jersey, then rose and offered the following:

JUDGE RYERSON'S PROPOSITION.

Resolved, That a Special committee of nine be appointed, with the Rev. Dr. Spring as chairman, to whom be referred the resolutions and amendments in relation to the state of the country; said committee to meet at 12 o'clock, and report at 4 o'clock this afternoon, and that further consideration of the subject be postponed until that time.

Rev. Dr. Monfort, of Illinois, then offered the following:

DR. MONFORT'S PAPER.

This proposition consists of a preamble and resolutions stating that our beloved Constitution has been assailed; that the President has called upon us as loyal citizens to execute the law; that obedience has followed on the part of loyal citizens; and that whereas the Presbyterian Church would be recreant to its character if it failed to declare its unshaken loyalty; therefore

Resolved, That the Assembly renew its loyalty; its profound sympathy in the efforts to maintain the Constitution and the integrity of the Union, and that we will not cease to pray that God may guide and strengthen our soldiers, renew a law-abiding spirit in all who are disaffected, and speedily restore union and peace to our beloved country.

Resolved, That these resolutions be forwarded to the President of the United States.

MR. WALLER'S SPEECH.

Rev. Mr. Waller, of Pennsylvania, having the floor, continued his remarks of Saturday.

He humorously referred to the papers of papers submitted as calculated to bewilder, and was pleased that all breathed the spirit of patriotism. He was for the original resolutions of Dr. Spring still. He was glad of the different views which had been presented, but thought that there is danger in hesitation, and whatever is calculated to hamper the decision of the House, he could not sympathise with those who would counsel no deliverance on the subject.

The speaker was willing that all who could not vote on the resolutions without danger to themselves should be excused from voting. He did not believe the American revolution a justification of every rebellion.

The hour of noon having arrived, the Assembly adjourned, to attend the Sanson street prayer meeting.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The afternoon's session was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Striker.

The order of the day being the election of officers to the different Boards, Messrs. Hopkins and Lawrence were appointed tellers.

After all the ballots had been cast, the tellers retired to count the votes.

The committee on the Board of Education then reported that it was resolved by the Assembly that a number of reports be printed for the use and information of the Assembly.

Judge Ewing moved that no further appropriation by the Board of Education be made without being placed on the docket.

The Committee on Seminaries made a report presenting no material information. It was accepted and adopted.

Judge Ryerson renewed the motion made by him in the morning, with the exception that the committee shall report this morning, at 9 o'clock. In speaking on his resolution he remarked that he had mentioned Dr. Spring's name as chairman of the committee out of respect to him. He continued by saying that there were some dozen different propositions already within the house. From his conversation with gentlemen of the Assembly from all sections of the country, he felt satisfied that if a judicious committee were appointed, as he proposed in the morning, they would bring in a report acceptable to nearly every member in the Assembly.

It was mentioned by a member that Dr. Spring had been taken suddenly ill after leaving the Assembly in the morning.

Judge Ryerson then called the previous question on his resolution.

The Moderator decided that the previous question would be Dr. Spring's resolution.

The Judge then withdrew his motion.

A motion was made to lay the resolution of Judge Ryerson on the table

The vote was taken by voice, but the Moderator being unable to decide, a division was called and the resolution was tabled by a vote of 102 yeas, by 95 nays.

The Rev. Dr. Backus, of New York, said he was a strong Northern man in sentiments. He would stand by his government in her times of peril. In doing this, the institutions and interests of Southern men were in no way assailed. Many men in the South have, by their misguided zeal, severed the most sacred ties. Others are still loyal and will remain so. In conclusion, he remarked that he thought that a reconstruction could be effected between the brethren of both sections. He hoped that peace and prosperity might reign again at an early day.

Dr. Yeoman regretted that the resolution