

NEWS.

TUESDAY, APRIL 23D.

Gov. Letcher, of Virginia, has appointed Major Walter Gwyn to the office of Major General of the volunteer forces of Virginia.

Major Gwyn is a graduate of West Point, and a native of Virginia, and his appointment will, no doubt, give satisfaction.

We were unable to get any telegraphic despatches through yesterday, although we made every effort to do so.

By passengers who succeeded in getting through and reached here this morning, we learn that the fighting at Baltimore on Friday last was much more serious than had been at first reported.

It is also rumored here that the 7th Regiment, (whether New York or Massachusetts we do not know) took a circuitous route by way of Annapolis, that they were met on the State line by a strong force from Baltimore and literally cut to pieces.

We give this report for what it is worth. We rather think that there is some foundation for it.

The National Intelligencer of Saturday publishes a proclamation from Abraham Lincoln, declaring all the ports of the seceded States blockaded, and that he has deemed it proper to post a sufficient force to prevent the entrance and exit of vessels from such ports.

He also declares that any persons acting under letters of Marque and Reprisal from the Confederate States will be held amenable to the laws of the United States for the prevention and punishment of piracy.

The Branch Mint of the United States at Charlotte was formally taken possession of on Saturday last by Col. J. T. Bryce, in obedience to orders from his Excellency Governor Ellis.

There was not the slightest excitement.

The South Carolina and Georgia troops are pouring forward to the assistance of Virginia. Three Georgia Companies passed through here yesterday en route for Portsmouth.

They were the Floyd Rifles, of Macon, Hon. Thos. Hardeman Commander. The Macon Volunteers, Commanded by Captain Smith, and the Columbus Light Guards, of Columbus, Commanded by Captain Colquhoun.

We never saw a finer looking set of men. It was stated that in one of the Macon Companies there were thirteen members of the same family. Gen. Boham, of South Carolina, with his staff and regiment was to leave yesterday for Richmond.

Col. Gregg's finely disciplined regiment has volunteered. Also Gen. McGowan's brigade.

We learn from the Fayetteville Observer, of yesterday, that a force of over 900 determined men has been concentrated at Fayetteville to take possession of the Arsenal there in pursuance of the orders of Governor Ellis.

The Observer says that there are about 60 men in the Arsenal there, and trusts that the officers in command there will not cause blood to be shed in an unequal and bootless conflict.

The impression is that the Arsenal is already in the hands of the State. We are officially informed that the U. S. Arsenal at Fayetteville was on yesterday surrendered to the State authorities.

There is a large number of arms at this Arsenal, which is a very important matter to the State just about this time.

So far as we can sift out the accounts from Norfolk, it would seem that on Saturday night the naval force at Portsmouth, under the command of Commodore McAulay, was engaged in the destruction of the public property in the Gosport Navy Yard, prior to abandoning it.

The "Geoplyvania," never used but as a receiving ship, the "Merrimack," steam Frigate, "Germania," sloop of War, "Raritan," sailing Frigate, and "Delphin," brig of War, were all burned and the "Plymouth," sloop, the "Cumberland," Razee lighted heretofore by the explosion of the heavy armament, and thus escaped over the obstructions which had been sunk at the mouth of the harbor.

The small arms were all broken and thrown overboard. The guns were all spiked with wrought nails, and are being unscrewed in fifteen minutes each. One account says that fifteen hundred pieces of the very best artillery have been secured, though this seems incredible.

Nearly 3,000 barrels of powder and fixed ammunition have been taken from the Navy Yard. Six hundred and ninety bbls. have been sent to Richmond. Fortress Monroe has been largely reinforced by troops from Massachusetts. Workshops, Army, Dry Dock, and the best part of the Navy Yard, are unharmed.

The Star of the West has been captured near Indianola, Texas, with some 600 or 900 bbls. of provisions on board, and brought into New Orleans.

The Road between Baltimore and Washington is torn up, and some of the bridges repaired. Washington is to be placed under martial law. The citizens are leaving in vast numbers. There are rumors, as there has been for days, of Gen. Scott's resignation. We can neither affirm nor contradict these.

We trust that they may be true, but we doubt them very much. It is even said that Mr. Lincoln had left Washington, or was about to do so. We question this very much indeed, for to go North he would have to pass through Baltimore. There are all sorts of rumors of fighting in the neighborhood of Baltimore, as also that the Maryland troops had possession of Fort McHenry, at the mouth of the Patuxent.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24TH.

There appears to be little reason to question that a severe conflict has occurred near Annapolis, Maryland, between a New York Regiment and a body of Maryland troops, or that the New Yorkers were severely handled. It is also more likely that the Regiment so handled was the famous Seventh, Mayor Townes of Petersburg, Va., having received the following dispatch from Governor Letcher, of the same State:—

"I have received information from a reliable source at Annapolis, stating that a special messenger had reached there from Marlboro', Md., with tidings to the effect, that an engagement had taken place on Annapolis Heights between the Baltimore Militia and the New York city Seventh Regiment. The conflict was terrific, and the latter were literally cut to pieces."

This was the crack regiment of the New York military force. What amount of force was opposed to them we do not know.

Gov. Isham Harris, of Tennessee, has issued his proclamation declaring that an alarming and dangerous usurpation of power by the President of the United States has precipitated a state of war between the sovereign States of America, therefore he summons the Legislature to meet at Nashville on the 25th day of April.

A company of Flying Artillery has been formed at Raleigh, and organized by electing B. C. Manly, First Lieutenant; W. J. Saunders, Second; B. B. Gaion, Third; Thos. Bridgers, Fourth, and P. C. Sasser, Orderly Sergeant. The name of "The Ellis Flying Artillery" was adopted by acclamation as the title of the company.

The County Court of Mecklenburg County now in session, has appropriated \$50,000 or as much thereof as may be necessary for the soldiers who have been or may be called into the service of the State from Mecklenburg, until provision is made for their support by the Legislature.

There is no truth in the rumor that President Lincoln has left for Chicago. No doubt he would be glad if it were so, but if all reports be true, he cannot leave. He cannot force his way through Baltimore. He will not be allowed to pass through alive. The route by way of Annapolis and Marlboro' is also closed, even to crack troops. No doubt the Potomac below

Washington is already so fortified that reinforcements cannot pass either to or from that point by water.—One of the rumors is that General Lee has fortified the Arlington heights and other points on the Potomac opposite Washington, that he had a large force under his command, and would commence the bombardment at once.

A rumour, strangely enough, reaches us by way of Norfolk, that despatches had been there giving the important and glorious news that Fort Pickens had been taken by the Southern troops, though with immense loss. We give it for what it is worth.

It is said that Thomas Winans, of Baltimore, has tendered his whole fortune of \$7,000,000 to the support of the Southern cause.

In a speech made at Nashville on the 18th inst., Hon. John Bell advocated the immediate secession of Tennessee.

On Monday, at 1 1/2 p. m., in answer to the summons, backed by 1,027 determined men in ranks, the Fayetteville Arsenal was peacefully surrendered to the State of North Carolina. The company of soldiers were allowed to salute their flag, and march out with the honors of war. The Confederate flag now floats over the Arsenal, which is held by the State troops, under command of Major Draughton. We regret to learn that Major Anderson, late U. S. officer at Fayetteville, is now very sick and confined to his room at the Dobbin House. The Army company will be allowed to return North by any route upon, or by which, transportation can be obtained.

The highly efficient company of Horner's Nest Rifles came up this morning from Fort Caswell, and will proceed immediately by Railroad to Raleigh. They will give a good account of themselves, be sure of that, whether at Washington City or elsewhere. Of course, we do not know their final destination, but we do know that our sister States on the border will not be suffered to fight our joint battles while North Carolina stands aloof. The eyes of such of our young friends as we could get to see, brightened at the suggestion that they might shortly see Washington City.

We learn that on Monday night, at the covert or bridge where the Wilmington & Weldon Railroad crosses the main run or stream of Tossont Creek, about half a mile beyond Wilson, three of the crosses upon which the track rested, were found to be entirely removed, leaving the rails to be supported by the chairs only. The telegraph wire was also cut.—Most providentially, although the track was left partially, the Georgia volunteers were enabled to pass over safely. The string pieces were also found to be partially sawed through. Of course, the bridge was immediately made secure. It is reported that the fiend guilty of this atrocious act has been arrested.

The County Court of Wilson county being in session immediately detailed a patrol to guard the bridge.

There are bad men among us, and we cannot be too cautious or too vigilant, especially in regard to our railroads.

Without in any way attempting to interfere with or intrude upon the action of the Committee of Safety or others in authority, we would beg leave to offer some suggestions to our people throughout the State.

One of these has reference to the raising of provisions. No doubt our supplies from any point outside of the State have been cut off and we must depend upon our own resources. These must be carefully guarded, and every means used to increase the supply. Now is the time for planting. Plant Corn instead of Cotton. Make something to eat, for it will be all wanted. Hay, and fodder of all kinds will be wanted, and of course there will be no more Eastern or North River Hay. Also, pork, bacon, and beef cattle must also receive a larger amount of attention than formerly.

Yesterday afternoon Vice President Stephens, of the Confederate States, passed through here on his way to Richmond. Mr. William Smith, connected with the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad, on behalf of Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Purnell and Miss Walker, presented President Stephens with a beautiful bouquet tastefully arranged by these ladies.

Mr. Stephens on being called, made a very able address. His spare and feeble frame and fallow countenance were all forgotten when his eye lit up with the fire of the orator, and his voice, usually shrill and reedy even in debate, rang out with a tone and volume that surprised every hearer. He said that he had been used to addressing his fellow-citizens, but he had never before made a speech of this kind on the Sabbath. He had learned however, from holy writ, that the Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath, and he felt that the present cause was the cause of liberty, of right, of the true government and institutions of the country. The South trying to save the government and the Constitution, the tyrannical administration at Washington trying to overthrow and trample them under foot. Old Virginia, the mother of States and Statesmen. The land of Washington—the State that holds in her sacred precincts Mount Vernon and Monticello, where are treasured the ashes of Washington, Jefferson and so many others, she had spoken—she had responded to the call of her Southern sisters—her highest aim was to defend the Southern States, her highest aim was to defend the Southern States, her highest aim was to defend the Southern States.

We need hardly say that the excitement was intense, but deeper than it was loud. We cannot, of course, pretend to make any accurate report, or even any approach to a report of the sayings and doings of the occasion.

Mr. Stephens made his closing address from the platform of the train which remained for some time in order to afford him the opportunity. When he bade the assembled multitude adieu, the whistle sounded, the train moved off, a simultaneous burst of feeling rang out from all, in which we think even the ladies joined; and so, amid the waving of handkerchiefs in fair hands, and accompanied by the warmest wishes of all, Vice President Stephens was borne off on his mission to Richmond.

RESIGNED.—We accidentally omitted to state yesterday, that Capt. Wm. B. Whitehead, of the revenue cutter service, has forwarded his resignation to the Washington Government.

Capt. W. is an old officer, and has served the Government many years. He is a Virginian by birth, but for the last few years has resided in Wilmington.

The Goldsboro' Tribune of this morning has the following item:—

"We understand that Duncan K. McRae, Esq., who came here last night, bears a special order for one regiment of North Carolina troops, to march to the City of Washington. They are to be ready in 48 hours from the notice. This is by order of Governor Ellis.

Mr. McRae's whole soul is in the cause.—B.

In the hurry and excitement of a time like this some mistakes must be made, and some errors committed, but these things must only be discovered to be rectified, not to be quarrelled over or resented now among ourselves. These times are too serious for the indulgence of personal jealousies.

We are authorized to state that Wharton J. Green, Esq., of Warren county, is a candidate for the office of Brigadier General of Volunteers. Mr. Green studied three years at the West Point Military Academy.

WILMINGTON, N. C., April 19, 1861.

Messrs. Editors: I desire through the medium of your paper to thank the following gentlemen, Messrs. N. Nixon, Monte Nixon, James Nixon, N. F. Nixon, Reuben Everett, David Gornio and O. Alexander, for their kindness to me and mine, while wrecked in the schooner "Carolina," at Rich Inlet.

JOS. W. MOORE.

RESIGNED.—On Tuesday, Capt. Thomas T. Hunter, of the late U. S. Navy, a native of Virginia, stationed here as Light House Inspector, resigned his position in the service. Capt. H., or perhaps technically Commander Hunter, had served his whole country long and faithfully, having been in the Navy over thirty-three years, during which time he had acted frequently on Court Martials, but had never before, save as a witness. He resigned at the call of his noble old mother State, and because he could no longer conscientiously serve in the U. S. Navy, when that was to be used to coerce and not to protect. But it must still have pained a faithful and gallant officer to resign his position under a flag which while borne in a good cause he had loved so well. Oficers like Major Holmes, of North Carolina, and Capt. Hunter, of Virginia, though they will not falter, cannot prevent themselves from feeling.

RESIGNED.—A jury of inquest was held on Tuesday by Coroner R. J. Jones over the body of Mr. Bryant King, who was found drowned in the mill pond of Mr. Jas. S. Green, about 1 1/2 miles from town. Mr. King left his house on Sunday morning last, laboring under aberration of mind, and it is supposed fell into the pond. The verdict of the jury was "believed to be accidental drowning."

Mr. K. leaves a wife and several children to mourn his death.

As a proof of the complete absorption of the public mind and the concentration of all its energies and feelings upon one point we may mention a little circumstance—a mere straw, but which struck us as significant. One friend remarked to another last evening on Market Street that the weather was pleasant but rather dusty, to which the reply was that that was the first time he (the person addressed) had heard anybody mention the weather for a week. The thing struck us and others strongly at the same time. People don't talk of the weather.

The Granville Greys, a new Company numbering about 70 men, under command of Captain George Wortham, reported here to-day for service.

Also, a Volunteer Company from Columbus County under command of Captain B. Smith. They number about 65. Neither of these Companies are yet equipped, but they will be promptly equipped and embodied.

Among those who passed through yesterday with the troops was the Hon. Roger A. Pryor, of Virginia, who had been down at Charleston acting as Aid to Gen. Beauregard. As soon as his presence became known, the demand to hear from him became irresistible, and he made one of his powerful efforts, stirring the hearts of his auditors to their utmost depths. Such was the noise, that, under any state of things, it would have been impossible for us to have made anything like a report; and, upon the whole, we think anything bearing upon the military plans, aims and objects of the South should be handled delicately and reported sparingly. In this respect we may advantageously follow the example of our enemies. Captain Hardeman, of Macon, also made a speech.—B.

The feeling in Maryland is most intense. The whole people is in arms to repel invasion. It will be seen how they met the boasted New York Seventh between Annapolis and Marlboro'.

Governor Hicks, of Maryland, who had at first said he would send Maryland troops to the requisition of President Lincoln was heard to declare to a Committee of citizens and officers in Baltimore, on Saturday last, that he would suffer his right arm to be cut off before he would suffer Northern troops to pass through Maryland. This we have from a citizen of Wilmington, who heard him say so. Doubts are entertained of Gov. Hicks' sincerity, but none of the strength of the public sentiment that compelled him to take his present course.

It is currently reported here by passengers from Richmond, that everything in the Gosport Navy Yard at Portsmouth that could be, was destroyed by the federal troops on last Saturday night. The guns were spiked, and the Yard and works set on fire. The steamship Pennsylvania was blown up, and two other government vessels of too heavy draft to get out, were sunk with their ordnance on board. The troops, about 14,000, were transferred to Fortress Monroe, Old Point.

The foregoing report is no doubt authentic. It is also reported that Baltimore has been thoroughly armed, and that troops from the North have been prohibited from passing through. The Railroads have refused to allow them to pass on their trains. This, we also think, is true.

We have received no papers or letters beyond Richmond since last Friday, all mail facilities having been cut off since that day. The only facilities for getting information beyond that point is by telegraph, and even by that only very cautious messages are allowed to be transmitted.

It is further reported that Gov. Hicks has declared in favor of the Southern cause. We hope this may prove true. If so, Maryland may be looked upon as the battle ground, and the South will rally to her support.

Col. F. J. Moses, of Sumter, S. C., Commissioner from South Carolina to this State, on hearing of the action taken here, promptly came over to see what use he could be to our people or authorities, and has been aiding with counsel and advice, and in every way which he could. Our people fully and warmly appreciate Col. Moses' promptness and good-feelings as also his valuable aid.

There came down this morning by the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad a battalion of 240 men from Ireddell, Rowan and Cabarrus, for service here. They are fine looking troops and will make capital soldiers. Some, indeed the majority, are equipped, but some are not, having hastened down with simply such weapons as they could get. The feeling with which the West responds to the call of the Governor, and his vigor in making that call in his present feeble state of health, cannot be too much commended.—Daily Journal, 22d inst.

We learn that Judge Rufin, formerly Chief Justice of North Carolina, has raised in his own county (Alamance), and will equip at his own expense a company of seventy-five men, and maintain them for three months, or during the war.

A valued friend writes us from Greenville, Pitt County, N. C., the 22d inst., saying "We are brimful of the war spirit here, and are forming Military Companies in haste—some to go wherever ordered, and others to constitute a home guard."

We call attention to the Proclamation of the Adjutant General, by order of the Governor, also to the General orders, by which Major Whiting of the Confederate Army is appointed Inspector General, also Captain Childs of the same Army Assistant Adjutant General.

For the Journal.

KENANSVILLE, N. C., April 23d, 1861.

Messrs. Editors: The Justices of the Peace of Duplin county were summoned together to-day to ratify the order of the County Court last week in relation to the support of our volunteers, and defence of our State and country. They amended the order so as to raise fifty thousand dollars instead of ten thousand. Such enthusiasm I never saw.

Capt. Kenan's company is now ready, over a hundred men already in his ranks. Capt. Duncan and Capt. Gillespie's companies I understand are nearly ready. Our women are all at work on something for our troops. We will send to-morrow a large quantity of shoes and stockings to your Forts, on our own expense. Yours, &c.

Balloon Arretal.

COLUMBIA, S. C. April 22d.—Prof. Lowe arrived here late to-day, in his balloon "Carolina," from Cincinnati.

Passage of Federal Troops through Maryland Resented by the People.—Thrilling Account of the Scene.

From the Petersburg Express.

The information I sent you in a special telegraphic despatch from Alexandria on Friday night last was of a most startling and exciting character. It but served to whet the public appetite, already too keen, for further particulars and ampler details, and these I am now enabled to give you in the most authentic form, as they come from the most part, from eye-witnesses, and in one or two instances actual participants in the terrible scenes. And here let me award that tribute to valor, patriotism and undying devotion to the cause of the South, which these Baltimoreans so eminently deserve, and which they have so signally and gloriously illustrated. To their eternal honor, be it recorded that they have formed another Thermopylae, under the very shadows of the Washington and North Point monuments, where with a heroism unsurpassed in either ancient or modern times, they have proclaimed to the world, that the Black Republican myriads called forth at the bidding of Abraham Lincoln, will never reach the sons of the South.

Their names will live embalmed in the memory of all true patriots, wherever freedom's shrine has a devotee; and until time shall be no more. Virginia owes them a debt of gratitude, which she can never repay. She can, however, strengthen their arms, and give to their noble and noblest of hearts, the bravest of our age, and I cannot but think that the distinguished son of Virginia, who now controls and directs our affairs, will fall to aid these gallant Marylanders in a cause which is so wholly and emphatically the cause of the South.

Four days being within Baltimore during the past three or four days, your correspondent has been, it was quite evident that the attempt to pass troops through the Monumental City would be resisted. On Thursday it was too plainly to be seen from immense crowds gathered at all the prominent points of the city, that a storm of indignation was fast gathering, which would soon reach its boiling point, and break in undiminished force upon the heads of those who could so far forget their duty to the South, as to countenance this effort of the miserable vulgus now controlling affairs at Washington to subjugate their own fellow-citizens, and if need be engage in sanguinary conflict to accomplish their hellish designs.

The train left Baltimore Thursday afternoon, a large and excited crowd was gathered at the Camden street depot, and every word uttered spoke of the resistance which was effectually interposed early the next morning.

I have conversed with several yesterday and to-day, who were eye witnesses to the frightful scenes of Friday. The Baltimore crowd could not have been less than 20,000 people engaged, and their passions had been so terribly aroused, that they rushed to the charge with an impetuosity amounting almost to frenzy. Resistance was more so determined and engaged in such a cause, was men so lofty. As well might human power attempt to stay the mountain torrent, control the whirlwind, or bid the tempest to betake themselves to their homes.

On Friday morning the excitement had attained an almost unmanageable pitch, and several of the participants informed an eye witness that so heavily did the one all-absorbing idea of allowing these troops to pass through Baltimore prey upon their minds that they passed a sleepless night, and gladly baid the first grey streak of dawn to betake themselves to the streets, to see their neighbors and friends, and appeal to their patriotism and self-respect to aid in repelling the passage of the infamous wretches who were coming on a mission so heartless and so execrable.

At about 10.35 a. m., the Massachusetts and other troops, who were to accompany the troops from New York, reached the Pratt street depot. Here an immense crowd had collected, and it was palpably manifest that it was very far from their object to tender the troops an ovation. The arrangements of the railroad officials were to pass thirty-one cars, occupied by the volunteers, from the point above mentioned to the Camden street depot, and thence to the depot on Pratt street.

In accordance with these arrangements, the cars were despatched one after another, drawn by horses, and upon the arrival of the first car at the intersection of Gay and Pratt streets, an enormous crowd having collected before the cars, the horses were ordered to stop, and the crowd would put forth to stop the cars at that point. Here, too, pairs of the road were progressing, and a goodly number of paving stones lying about in piles, were speedily taken possession of by the excited crowd, and subsequently used for purposes of assault.

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