



ALEXANDRIA

WEDNESDAY MORNING, MAY 1, 1861.

A letter from Upper Marlboro', Md., says:—We are all united now. Two weeks ago there was some difference of opinion among us. To-day every man is a firm friend of the South. The military spirit is up. The blood of the old Maryland Line is aroused. New companies are forming daily. Yesterday, as an evidence, a number of our wealthiest planters, nearly all married men, formed a large mounted rifle company for active and immediate service, and elected Col. Olen Bowie as their captain, a gentleman who served with distinction in Mexico, and to whom the gallant Col. Watson when dying upon the battle field of Monterey handed his sword as an appreciative token of his gallantry. The volunteer companies in and about Marlboro' have offered their services to the State.

Letters from New York city state that an actual "crusade" against the South is preached in that city—and that men of all parties, and nations join in the cry. The city presents the appearance of an immense military camp or rendezvous, extensive wooden buildings being already erected in the Park to serve as barracks for soldiers arriving from the interior by railroad and steamboats. Every day brings a fresh supply, besides the regiments forming in the cities of New York and Brooklyn. The tramp of the military and shouts of the populace are of daily occurrence, as regiments after regiments embark for the Chesapeake Bay, destined for Washington. Those who are opposed to all this—and they are but very few—have to hold their peace, and dare not utter a word of remonstrance.

In the midst of the bloody and ferocious threats of the Northern ultra journals, have they ever paused to inquire, if there is an honorable officer, wearing a sword, in all their ranks, who would render his name infamous all over the world, by issuing orders in compliance with their demands? When the French Convention decreed "no quarters" to Englishmen, and the Republican general was required to give an explanation, why he reported "English prisoners"—the head the noble reply, even at the risk of his life—"I am a French soldier—not an assassin." These Northern abolitionists would have their soldiers to be murderers, thieves, and brutes.

"In connection with George Law's letter to President Lincoln, advising the clearance of a path through Baltimore at all hazards, it is a significant fact that that gentleman presented Wilson's 'Fighting Zouaves' with a pair of revolvers each." Mr. Geo. Law, is a rich man—we don't know that any thing else can be said in his favor. In these times, if he considers that a compliment, which can please over, or varnish, the spirit which he exhibits, he is welcome to it. We leave him to the "tender mercies" of the newspapers of his own city, which are paying their respects to him, not in the way of compliment.

We could easily fill our columns with details of the military enthusiasm excited in nearly all the counties of this State—if the mustering of troops—or the promptitude and ardor of the men,—and of the patriotism of the women. Everywhere, in all quarters of the Commonwealth, the same spirit is exhibited. To enumerate, would be to exclude other matters from our columns. This general notice must suffice for the present, at least in reference to the counties which are the farthest off from us.

Lieut. Brown, U. S. N., of Louisville, Ky., just returned in the Niagara, has had quite a time of it, among the Boston Abolitionists. Refusing to take any new oath of allegiance, he was arrested for treason. His baggage was broken open, and much trouble and annoyance given him—he being also threatened by a mob. He is now at the Charlestown Navy Yard, and we presume, will find means, yet, to reach his friends unharmed. What about "terrorism"?

A letter from Richmond says: "The United States Treasury realized over \$100,000,000 from the sale of lands given by Virginia and Georgia. This is more than all we paid to France, Spain, and Mexico for territories. At the beginning the Union had no territories but those given by the South." It is, also, said that Judge Robinson goes to Washington, on business connected with Virginia's share of the territories and public property.

Gen. Robt. E. Lee, of Virginia, has no warmer personal friend than Gen. Scott.—The veteran chief of the Army of the U. S. has always done justice to the talents, ability, and ability of our general. He received his resignation with tears, not with reproaches. He knew and appreciated the worth of Lee.

The idea of England supplying herself with Cotton from India, is pronounced preposterous. India Cotton is inferior to the American; it is raised in smaller quantities; it will take long a time to transport it; and the cost of transportation will make it dearer.

The Baltimore brokers, on Monday, were buying Virginia money at 10, and North Carolina at 12 per cent discount. Gold at 1 1/2 premium. Exchange on New York is offered for sale at 2 1/2 premium.

The Fulton which sailed on Saturday from New York, carried out the new Ministers to France, Austria, Hague, and several Consuls for European ports.

The Boston Courier yet has glimpses of its old, common sense position. It says:—"Since peace must eventually follow upon war, however protracted, it seems to us the part of wisdom to count the cost of war, and to determine beforehand what possible gain could accrue to either party in such a contest. To be sure, the disposition to fight, so far as it exists on either side, would thus be gratified; but for such slaughter and misery, we can conceive of no real advantage secured to either party. The fortune of battles, we presume, would be variable, as it usually is. The military conquest of one part of the country by the other could scarcely be possible, and if effected, could no longer be any constitutional union of States. In a nation of freemen such a union can stand only on the consent of all the parties. The subjection of the one to the other would destroy the whole character of our institutions, and must change the entire form and spirit of our government. To one who chooses, therefore, to look at the probabilities of future events, in forming his judgment of the demands of the present, a general war could only seem fraught with utter ruin to the fabric of freedom raised by our fathers, and which has so long shielded and blessed their posterity. There might yet be modes provided of settling our national controversy, either by a convention which would agree upon terms—or, in the worst event, by amicable separation, agreed to by all the parties. A general war would preclude the first method; and we cannot see that it would lead to anything but the second, in the end."

The Charleston Mercury, holds the following language in its number of the 24th ult.—"The Richmond Examiner is very urgent in pressing the policy of the Southern States seizing Washington. 1. In the first place, for what do the Confederate States want Washington? If the Confederate States of America are to be a Slaveholding Confederacy, Washington will not answer for their capital. It is too near the Free States. 2. In the second place, the mixed population of Washington will render it totally unfit for the quiet abode of slaveholders. They could never carry their slaves to Washington and be free of the molestation of abolition fanatics. Being within a few hours' travel of Pennsylvania, a Free State, there could be no security that their domestics would not be run off beyond their control. 3. But, above all, no troops of the Confederate States, or of any other State, can with propriety assail Washington before Maryland has seceded from the Union and shall request their aid and intervention."

Gen. Butler, of the Massachusetts Regiment, on his way through Maryland, hearing of some reports of a servile insurrection, offered the services of his regiment to Gov. Hicks, to repress it, if necessary. Governor Hicks replied, that if there was any such movement, the State had ample means of its own, to protect itself. The correspondence was respectful and with good feeling on both sides.

The "Indians," in the Western part of the State of New York, have been persuaded to make a demonstration in favor of "Lincoln's government." In our dear friends in New York design to furnish them with tomahawks and scalping knives—as the savans of Yale formerly offered Colt's rifles to the redskins in Kansas?

The Memphis Bulletin of the 28th ult. says:—"There are about 2,500 men already at Cairo, and the Chicago Zouaves are said to be watching bridges not far off. The commander at Cairo says he has no instructions to touch anything on board any boat that passes except articles relating to war."

General Houston is out for Texas and the South. He calls upon his fellow-citizens of Texas to respond to Lincoln's order to "lay down their arms and disperse," just as they responded, at San Jacinto, to Santa Anna's order to surrender their arms and their lives into his hands.

We see in the official announcements of Postmasters, Henry S. Van Winkle, postmaster at Ayre Hill, Fairfax county. The post-office at Globe Cottage, Alexandria county, Va., Mrs. Julia Brown, postmistress, was discontinued on Tuesday last.

Every day large steamers freighted with Northern troops, and munitions of war, for Washington, pass up the Potomac, and deposit their cargoes on the wharf at the Navy Yard. They pass this place quietly, and make no show of the men on board.

The proceedings in the Maryland Legislature, so far, do not look at all like Secession. A Convention, however, will doubtless be called to take that matter into consideration.

The New Jersey small farmers and Pennsylvania market gardeners are complaining that they are without help, the hands having gone off "to the war." They cannot sow, and will not be able to reap.

The Frederick City Barracks, near Frederick City, Maryland, were taken on Monday last, and fifteen hundred stand of arms secured.

The crops in Missouri are said to present the most encouraging prospects. So in all the Border and Southern States.

Baltimore remains quiet—though there is preparation for action should there be occasion for the military.

A destructive fire occurred at Leavenworth, K. T., on the 28th destroying property to the amount of \$120,000.

They are seizing in Philadelphia, munitions of war and provisions intended for Baltimore.

It is said that Southern Illinois will not support the course of the Federal Government.

The sum of \$11,289,000 has been contributed by the North for war purposes.

We have a number of communications on hand—prose and poetry. The latter must really "go over," for the present. We have not the room—money, romance, fine words, and rhymes, must give place now to news, and stern realities. It is also, absolutely, "a military necessity," that long communications should be laid aside. Please send us only short articles, and to the point. Our correspondents who furnish us the news from the adjoining counties, are always welcome. Let them fill their pens, and write often. We refer only to our inability to publish, just now, elaborate disquisitions, or formal essays.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

"To show the very age and body of the TIMES." In the Legislature of Maryland, on Saturday, a message was received from the Executive, enclosing the correspondence between the Governor and sheriff of Frederick county, in which the latter enclosed a dispatch to him, from C. F. Wenner, dated April 24, 1861, stating that his boat, loaded with grain, bound from Berlin to Georgetown, was detained at Point of Rocks, by order of the officer in command of Harper's Ferry, and his grain is being loaded in the cars to go to Harper's Ferry. "I demand," he says, "your presence at this point, and will hold the State of Maryland responsible for protection and damages."

A New York committee, consisting of William M. Everts, Edward Pierpont, and Judge Vanderpool, visited the President on Monday, to say (in substance) that if he did not open the communication through Baltimore, the people of New York would do it. The Washington Republican says:—"The President never had any other determination than to open that route."

Perryville, a now famous place, is situated in Cecil county, Maryland, sixty-one miles southwest of Philadelphia, at the point on the east bank of the Susquehanna river where it is crossed by the great ferry of the Philadelphia and Baltimore railroad. It is from this latter circumstance that it derives all its present importance, for otherwise it is a sort of "point-no-point."

Last week the troops ran one of the engines of the track from the railroad, precipitating it down an eighteen feet bank a few miles from the Annapolis Junction. They then returned to the depot to take out the old "Elk Ridge," but not being able to run it, they compelled the officers of the road to place the men in the employ of the company to work and run the trains.

Gov. Moore has received instructions from the Confederate Government, prohibiting and disapproving of any obstruction to commerce in Southern ports; the collector of New Orleans has been notified to the same effect. Orders have also been sent to the collector at Galveston to raise the embargo at that port.

Major Lloyd J. Beall, late of the United States Army, has resigned his commission, and has gone to Montgomery to offer his services to the Confederate States. He is a native of Maryland. His father served as a Captain in Howard's Veteran Brigade in 1776.

The House of Delegates of Maryland have appointed a committee to bring in a bill providing for calling a State Convention to consider the State's position. Grayson Eichelberger has been appointed Secretary of State of Maryland.

The reinforcements thrown into Fort Mifflin are said to be as large as can be conveniently accommodated. The barracks are not large enough, and a number of tents have been erected for the men. It has been closed against visitors.

Col. Ellsworth's Zouave regiment left New York on Sunday in the steamer Baltic. Previous to their departure, two stands of colors were presented to them—one by Mrs. John J. Astor, and the other by the ladies of the Astor House.

Commander Lloyd B. Newell, of the United States navy, committed suicide at the Merchants' Hotel, in Philadelphia, on Friday, by shooting himself through the heart with a Colt's revolver. The deceased was on the retired list. He was a native of Georgia.

The Philadelphia Inquirer of Saturday says:—"We have been informed by reliable parties, that ex-President Buchanan has subscribed \$5,000 for the equipment of volunteers at Lancaster."

The Boston Post says of Rev. Captain Beecher's prayer for a war redder than blood. "Such invocation is only worthy of a devil and could be inspired only by a devilish spirit."

By order of the Mayor, one hundred barrels of flour, three casks of meat, and two hogheads of sugar, consigned to Salisbury, Md., were seized at the Baltimore depot, in Philadelphia, on Friday last.

Mr. S. H. Needham, of the Massachusetts Sixth Regiment, whose skull was fractured by a paving-stone in Baltimore, on the 15th ult., died at the Lombard street Infirmary last Saturday morning.

The pile bridge over Bush river, about a mile long, between Baltimore and Havre-de-Grace, is reported to have been burnt to the water's edge, on Thursday.

The Governor of Missouri has taken half a million of dollars, intended for the interest on the State bonds, and applied it to arming the State.

On last Friday, the stock of cotton in New Orleans was one hundred and five thousand bales.

WASHINGTON ITEMS.—On Monday afternoon the Rhode Island regiment, commanded by Governor Sprague, marched from their quarters to the Executive Mansion, to be reviewed by Mr. Lincoln. The President, surrounded by his Cabinet, General Scott, Francis P. Blair, and others, reviewed them. After the troops had passed, Gov. Sprague and other principal officers were introduced to Mr. Lincoln and his Cabinet, when the President took occasion "to confer with Gen. Scott in regard to ordering another regiment of Rhode Island troops, as requested by Gov. Sprague. The General said he was so much pleased with what he had seen, that he gave his hearty approval, as did also the Secretary of War." So the order was accordingly made.

R. W. C. A. Schwarzman, G. S. of Massachusetts, in the District of Columbia, having resigned that position, the M. W. Grand Master has appointed Mr. Joshua T. Taylor to fill the place, to whom all communications to the Grand Lodge will hereafter be addressed.

A bill has been offered in the Washington Boards of Aldermen and Common Council, providing for the issuing of small notes to facilitate the payment of taxes. Resolutions have been passed unanimously in the Board of Common Council, in relation to the national crisis, expressing devotion to the Union, and were laid on the table in the Board of Aldermen.

The reply of Mr. Lincoln to some remarks made by the spokesman of a military organization that paid him a complimentary visit on Saturday last was as follows:—"I have desired as sincerely as any man, and I sometimes think more than any other man, that our present difficulties might be settled without the shedding of blood. I will not say that all hope has yet gone; but if the alternative is presented whether the Union is to be broken in fragments and the liberties of the people lost, or blood be shed, you will probably make the choice with which I shall not be dissatisfied."

Mrs. Bayd, the wife of the man murdered in Washington, by a squad of troops, denies that her husband fired first, though he would have been justified if he had done so. The persons engaged in the killing have all been arrested.

Two soldiers in Washington, charged with insulting ladies, have been arrested and put in irons.

Telegraphic Despatches.

WASHINGTON, April 29.—There is good reason for stating that the Naval Academy is to be removed, at least temporarily, from Annapolis to Newport, Rhode Island.

It was ascertained at the State Department today that no more diplomatic and consular appointments will be made, and no consular agents given to the subject, until all the avenues leading to the capital are opened for the passage of citizens and United States troops.

PERRYVILLE, April 28.—The steamer Maryland left at 3 o'clock this afternoon, taking the Madison Guards, of Potomac; Norrisville Rifles, and company B, Fourth Pennsylvania Regiment.

The steamer Commerce arrived this evening, bringing a few passengers and a very large Washington mail.

The Commerce fired into a suspicious bark on her down trip, but failed to bring her to anchor. The bark was brought to and fired at by all right. She was out of Baltimore harbor.

A general harbor, in which 1,100 troops joined, was had at ten o'clock this morning, but a heavy storm stopped the operations.

A requisition from the general government was received today, through the hands of Gen. Patterson, for twenty-one more regiments—twenty infantry and one cavalry—making a total for Pennsylvania of thirty-eight regiments—twenty-nine thousand five hundred men. Col. McClure returned from the camp at York to-night, and reports all right there, and the men eager to march through Baltimore. The people of Chambersburg have organized a mounted patrol reaching clear to the Maryland line. They make returns every morning. Batteries of artillery are being formed at Chambersburg and other points of the interior, to protect any forward movements of the Pennsylvania volunteers.

BOSTON, April 27.—There was an enthusiastic meeting under the Washington Elm, at old Cambridge, this afternoon, where speeches were made by John G. Palfry, ex-Governor Banks and others. Gov. Banks spoke for the Great West, and said she was alive with patriotism.

At the raising of a flag in Charles Square this afternoon, Edward Everett and Benjamin F. Hallett made strong Union speeches. Edward Everett was very eloquent. He said we set up this standard, my friends, not as a mere matter of idle display, but as an expression indicative that in the mighty struggle that has been forced upon us, we are one heart, and one mind, that the government of the country must be sustained. All former differences of opinion are swept away. We forget that we have ever been partisans. We remember only that we are Americans.

The collector of this port has received orders not to grant any clearances for any port south of Delaware.

HARRISBURG, April 28.—An understanding has been entered into between the Governor of New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Indiana, by which those States shall act in conjunction to throw troops and provisions into Washington, or elsewhere South, upon the order of the War Department.

Camps will be established at West Chester, to be called Fort Wayne; at Pittsburg, to be designated Fort Wilkes; at Reading, which has not yet been named. These camps are to be used to prepare volunteers for active service in the field.

PHILADELPHIA, April 28.—Wholesale in Virginia, and at a point on the northwestern line of Maryland, are to be fixed upon for the concentration of troops.

BOSTON, April 28.—Our volunteers go into the earlier parts on Monday. On Tuesday morning 1,600 men leave this city for the South. Forty rifled cannon, contracted for by the State some time since, are expected to arrive in a few days. The first and tenth regiments, the Crescent Brigade and Fletcher Webster's regiment, are expected to leave here early in the week. A battalion of light infantry, under Major Dodd, are anxiously awaiting a call.

The citizens' committee of one hundred, appointed to collect and distribute funds to the families of volunteers, met today in the Senate chamber.—Chief Justice Bigelow, chairman. Eloquent addresses were made by Gov. Lincoln, ex-Governor Banks, ex-Gov. Lincoln, ex-Gov. Clifford, Edward Everett and others. The proceedings were very interesting, and great liberality displayed.

HARRISBURG, April 26.—A confidential agent arrived here this morning reporting 2,400 men at Harper's Ferry, and 1,000 marched to Alexandria on Thursday. The officers at Harper's Ferry believe that General Beauregard is at Richmond with 7,000 troops.

There is much quiet debate here among leading persons as to the propriety of tapping the Columbia dam of the Susquehanna river, thus cutting off the water from the Water Canal, to stop supplies of coal and provisions by that route. The feasibility of tapping the artificial lake supplying Baltimore with water is also spoken of.

PHILADELPHIA, April 28.—I learn from passengers on the City of Richmond that General Thomas J. Green, of North Carolina, was serried at Richmond on the 25th ult. He said he came to offer 30,000 men from North Carolina, fully equipped and provisioned for the defence of the South.

VIRGINIA NEWS.

A correspondent writes from Franklin Court House, under date of April 23, as follows:—"In this county, which gave Early and Saunders, Union, over Dillard and Hancock, Secessionists, more than a thousand majority, the news of the secession by the Convention, has inspired the people with the most enthusiastic joy. Our town, for the first time since its foundation, is brilliant. Illumination on the 24th of the streets is being with lights and festooned with Palmetto and Southern devices; flags are flying, bonfires are burning, guns are firing, and deafening shouts are heard for the South. We can, and you may safely set it down as certain, that old Franklin will give one thousand majority for secession; and you may count upon her, for the first step of the drum, for five hundred volunteers for active service. But few are going, as it may be gloomy now. All are gratified, and all ready for the field."

The Raleigh Register says it was a little boy at Portsmouth, Va., who saved the splendid dry-dock there from destruction, at the hands of the Federal Vandals. These had placed the powder for blowing up the dock, and secured it for exploding it. When they tried they lighted a fuse connecting with this train. Our little hero had been watching them from a place of concealment, turned over a plank over which the train had in part been laid, and thus broke the connection and saved one of the most valuable naval works in the United States or in the world.

The Richmond Dispatch says:—"Our worthy Mayor, who was quite a favorite with the New York Seventh Regiment during their visit here, which friendship was afterwards renewed in New York, has written to the commanding officer, now with his men quartered in Washington, on a prospecting tour, with blood and thunder alternatives, resigning the certificate of Honorary Membership, given him by the Regiment, and requesting him to return to destroy any monuments they might have retained of their acquaintanceship with him."

The following resolution has been adopted by the Virginia Convention:—"Resolved, that no appointment of officers of volunteers above the rank of Lieut. Colonel, shall be valid unless confirmed by the Convention, unless made during the recess of the Convention, and in such case the appointment, unless subsequently confirmed, shall be deemed vacated on the adjournment or recess of the Convention; and all such appointments heretofore made, shall be sent into the Convention for confirmation or rejection."

The Norfolk Navy Yard has proved a prize indeed, and after all, very little damage was done to it. The incendiaries were hurried in their work by the idea that immense reinforcements to the Virginia camp were arriving every half hour, which impression was produced by the constant moving of railroad trains, with a prodigious clatter through the night, an ingenious device for which the President of the Norfolk and Petersburg Railroad deserves infinite credit.

The war spirit in Richmond is not confined to the men nor to the white population. The ladies are not only preparing comforts for the soldiers but arming and practicing themselves. Companies of boys, also, from ten to fourteen years of age, fully armed and well drilled are preparing for the fray. In Petersburg three hundred free negroes offered their services either to fight under white officers, or to ditch and dig, or any kind of labor.

A Commissary of the Southern Confederate Army has been in this city for several days, negotiating for making arrangements for the transportation of a large body of troops soon to arrive. It is understood, we believe, that the first detachment will reach here about Thursday next, by the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad.— Lynchburg Virginian.

Appomattox Lodge, of Petersburg, has appropriated \$500, to be placed in the hands of their committee, to be distributed among the families of Old Fellows who may be in danger of suffering, from the absence of any of the members in the service of the State. We hope that all the Lodges of Old Fellows throughout the State will take similar action.

The Lynchburg Virginian says: We understand that there is a good prospect of getting a branch of the late U. S. Army at Harper's Ferry established near this city.—Some of the machinery of that establishment is now being removed to Richmond.—This would be a fine location for such an establishment.

Dr. Robert C. Randolph, of Clarke county, and four sons belonging to the army, were all in tanks at the taking of Harper's Ferry. The four sons are constantly there, while the Doctor is occasionally attending to neighborhood affairs, which require his attention, and is ready to join his company at any moment.

Leopold P. C. Cowper, who was one of the first men in Portsmouth, Va., who voted for Fremont, has "repaid the error" he then committed, by offering the services of himself and two adopted sons, and "another little boy" if the occasion should demand, to fight the battles of Virginia.

The lighthouse at Cape Charles and Cape Henry show no lights. A schooner is sunk in about five fathoms of water about six miles north of Wolfe Point light-ship, Chesapeake Bay. The light-boat off Wind Mill Point has been removed, and also the light-boat at Smith's Point.

Wm. G. Brown is the "Union" candidate for Congress in the Monongalia district, and Z. Kidwell, the "Secession" candidate. It seems strange, in this part of the State, to hear of former party names and contests.—Where is the successful candidate to go?

The Lynchburg Republican says: "We understand that Col. Roger A. Pryor has succeeded in filling his regiment with a thousand of Virginia's gallant men, and has also raised towards their equipment \$12,000."

The Norfolk correspondent of the Baltimore Sun, April 26, says:—"The dry goods and clothing stores all open at nine o'clock in the morning, and close at five in the evening. Some of our stores are kept closed all the time."

At a meeting held in Clarke County, the instructions to Maj. Nelson were ordered to be sent to him.—31st. Parties are to be held at Berryville on the 15th, on a staff 127 feet high.

Capture of the Star of the West—Interesting Particulars.

We were much pleased yesterday, in becoming acquainted with several of the gallant fellows of the Texan companies who had volunteered for the hazardous service of capturing the first prize ship from the Black Republican Government. We mean, of course, the Star of the West.

From them we obtained some interesting particulars in regard to the capture. The expedition was devised at Galveston, and was placed under the command of Col. Van Dorn—or very probably was commenced and carried through by Col. Van Dorn. The soldiers comprising the expedition numbered some eighty men, and belonged to the Galveston Artillery, the Island City Rifles and the Wigfall Guards, a company composed of citizens of Texas of Irish birth, from Indiana. About ten o'clock at night, the expedition started towards the Star of the West, which was lying under anchor. About that time the steamer Fashion was engaged in receiving on board the United States troops at Indiana. The General Rusk left, and in good time approached the Star of the West.

The Captain sang out, "Who's there?" and Gen. Van Dorn replied, "The Gen. Rusk, with troops." The impression on board the Star of the West was, of course, that the steamer brought the United States soldiers. The officers, however, were slightly mistaken. In a very short time after the vessels were made fast the Texan soldiers boarded the vessel of the hostile Government, and as might be expected, an unconditional surrender by the officers and men of the Star of the West had to be made. To accomplish which the vessel was put back to Galveston, and immediately after her course was directed to New Orleans, and here she arrived at a late hour on Saturday night.

On her way up, Captain Duncan, who is in charge of Fort Jackson, fired a salute of eight guns, and before her arrival Captain Styles of Algiers, fired a salute of fifteen guns. When the vessel arrived at Slough House Point, a number of citizens who gathered on the banks of the river, extemporaneously got up a salute by firing revolvers and muskets.

SEQUEL OF THE STAR OF THE WEST.—We learned last evening from a Texan soldier friend, that according to the Star of the West, the vessel was not being put into execution at the time he left the Lone Star State. It was to capture and make prisoners of war of some six hundred United States soldiers who had left the soil of Texas on board the steamer Fashion, in order to go on board the Star of the West. The Star of the West had gone away, and so the Fashion would have to look after her cargo. If they landed again on Texan soil, they would have to take the consequences.—N. O. Bulletin, 22d ult.

Important Orders. The following important orders have just been issued: HEADQUARTERS VIRGINIA FORCES, RICHMOND, VA., April 29, 1861. GENERAL ORDERS No. 5.

The General commanding desires to impress upon all officers and agents employed in the Military and Naval service of the State, the necessity of observing the strictest economy and frugality in the expenditure of public money in the use of the credit of the State. No expenditures will be made unless duly authorized; nor will they assume the responsibility of incurring any expense, or of using the credit of the State, unless the necessities of the case are so clear and imperative as not to admit of the delay of referring to the proper authority. Records and vouchers must be made and preserved for all expenditures or uses of the credit of the State, specifying and certifying in all cases to the nature and necessity of the services for which they were made. They will keep all expenditures in the subsistence department (food for men only) distinct from those of the quartermaster's department, which embraces shelter for men and horses, transportation, forage, stationery and like subjects. As soon as the exigencies of the service will permit, the officers and agents of the disbursing department of the service will be supplied with the necessary blank forms for the proper performance of their duties.

By command of Major General Lee. R. S. GARNETT, Adjutant General.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE VIRGINIA FORCES, RICHMOND, VA., April 29, 1861. GENERAL ORDERS No. 6.

Lieutenant Colonel Henry Huth Virginia Volunteers, and Major James R. Crenshaw, Virginia Volunteers, are announced respectively as acting Quartermaster General and acting Commissary General of subsistence of the forces in the field. Subordinate officers in these departments will refer to them before making their purchases and contracts, unless the circumstances of the case prevent.

By command of Major General Lee. R. S. GARNETT, Adjutant General.

Munitions of War. The Richmond Enquirer says:—"At one time there existed throughout the State a feeling of want of the munitions of war, but investigation and examination have entirely dispelled the impression. Virginia to-day is better provided with all the necessities of a great campaign than any State North of Mason and Dixon's line.—If she is not equally well supplied as the Federal Government itself. The Navy Yard at Gosport, the Magazine at Norfolk, the Arsenal at Harper's Ferry, added largely to the supply; but the section of the State, the knowledge of the authorities at Richmond, in purchasing arms and munitions of war for the companies within the county limits, has supplied, to a very great extent, the hundred thousand men which, within a few days, will be ready to defend the soil of Virginia from Federal invasion.

The thorough and complete organization of the Quartermaster and Commissary Departments which General Lee has perfected, will enable the immediate concentration of troops upon the borders of the State wherever the movements of the enemy may demand the presence of our troops. Should the folly which reigns at Washington, induce an invasion of Virginia, and a demonstration against Alexandria, General Cooke is prepared to meet them, while Colonel Jackson from Harper's Ferry, crossing the river with 10,000 men, would immediately advance on Washington, and, assisted by Maryland, would soon end the invasion of Virginia by the capture of Washington.

Gen. Lee can at any moment leave Richmond at the head of twenty thousand men, now here and in the counties between the Potomac and Alexandria. General Gwynn, at Norfolk, and General Ingalls, at Fredericksburg, have each a very large army under their command. The railroad of the State, under the Quartermaster's Department, are held in readiness for the transportation of troops from point to point. The telegraph will communicate orders, while couriers are prepared to convey commands wherever the telegraph does not extend. So great has been the enthusiasm of the people, that Gov. Letcher has been compelled to forbid any more troops rendezvousing at Richmond without special orders."

The Lynchburg Virginian says: "Ten thousand muskets were to be Richmond."

The issue of one and two dollar notes yesterday.

MEETING OF CONGRESS.

MESSAGE OF PRES. DAVIS. MONTGOMERY, April 29.—Congress met to-day at noon. The President's message was received and read. He announces the ratification of the Constitution, by all of the Confederate States, and that it only remains now to elect officers to administer it. He says the declaration of war against the Confederacy, renders it necessary for Congress to be convened to devise measures for the defence of the country. He reviews at length the relations heretofore existing between the States, and the events that have resulted in the present war.

Referring to the result of the mission of the Commissioners to Washington, he says the crooked path of diplomacy can scarcely furnish an example so wanting in courtesy, in candor and directness, as was the course of the United States Government towards our Commissioners. He incidentally refers to the prudent caution observed by the fleet off Charleston during the bombardment of Fort Sumter. He pays a high compliment to the people of South Carolina for their forbearance before their heroism during, and their magnanimity after the bombardment. He says Commissioners have been sent to England, France, Russia and Belgium, to ask our recognition as a member of the family of nations, and make treaties of amity or commerce. He recommends the appointment of other diplomatic agents.

The Confederate States, through Vice President Stephens, has concluded a convention with the State of Virginia, by which she has united her powers and fortunes with us. He has satisfactory assurance that other Southern States will soon follow her example. Most of the executive departments are now in successful operation. The Postmaster General will soon be ready to assume the direction of postal affairs. In conclusion, he congratulates the Confederacy upon the patriotic devotion exhibited by the people. Men, high in social and official position and of wealth, are serving in the ranks; the railway companies are liberal in their rates for the transportation of troops and supplies; and proffer to carry the mails on liberal terms, receiving the bonds of the Confederacy as compensation. A people thus united and resolved, cannot fail of final success. We feel that our cause is just and holy, and protest solemnly in the face of mankind, that we desire peace at any sacrifice, save that of honor and independence. We seek no conquest, no aggrandisement, no concessions from the free States; all we demand is that the Federal Government should attempt our subjugation, and we must and will resist to the death. The moment this pretension is abandoned the sword will drop from our grasp, and we shall be ready to enter into treaties of amity and commerce mutually beneficial. So long as this pretension is maintained, with a firm reliance on that Divine power which covers with its protection its just cause, we will continue the struggle for our inherent right to freedom, independence and self-government.

MARYLAND LEGISLATURE.—In the House of Delegates, on Monday, Mr. Wallis, from the majority of the Committee on Federal Relations, to whom was referred the memorial of 216 voters of Prince George's county, praying the Legislature, if in its judgment, it possesses the power, to pass an ordinance of secession without delay, reported in favor of the petition. The Legislature does not possess the power to pass such an ordinance as is prayed, and that the prayer of the said memorialists cannot therefore be granted. The report is signed by Messrs. Wallis, Lung, Dennis, Briscoe and Compton. Messrs. Gordon and Goldsborough, of the Committee on Federal Relations, offered a minority report, stating that they report unfavorably to the prayer of said memorialists. Mr. Denison moved that the minority report be substituted for the majority report. Mr. Wallis in reply, presented the direct question to the House of the constitutional power of the Legislature to pass an act of secession. He was in favor of immediately taking the sense of the House on the subject, and settling the public mind as to the sentiment and action of the Legislature. Mr. Gordon said it presented only the question of the expediency of granting the prayer of the petitioners. The vote was then taken, and the motion was rejected by ayes 13, nays 53. (This vote was regarded by many members as indicating their views upon the constitutional right to secede.) Mr. Bryan of Prince George's county, asked to be