

The Primitive Republican.

F. G. BALDWIN,

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COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI, THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 1852.

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THE REPUBLICAN.

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MASONIC.

COLUMBUS LODGE, No. 5.

S. S. Franklin, W. M. | N. E. Goodwin, Sec'y.

Meets at Columbus, on the 1st Friday of each month.

LOWNEDES LODGE, No. 114.

A. W. Lusk, W. M. | O. T. Keeler, Sec'y.

Meets at Columbus, on the 3rd Friday of each month.

DANBY LODGE, No. 144.

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Meets at Crawfordsville, on the 2nd Saturday of each month.

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G. O. O. F.

ROYAL ARCH LODGE, No. 20.

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Meets at Columbus, every Saturday night.

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J. T. Jaston, N. G. P. | P. Osterman, Sec'y.

Meets at Columbus every Monday night.

FRATERNAL LODGE, No. 38.

M. R. Green, N. G. | W. Downing, Sec'y.

Meets at Barton, every Friday night.

TOMBIGBE ENCAMPMENT, No. 6.

J. K. Pierce, C. P. | J. P. Phillips, Sec'y.

Meets at Columbus, on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in each month.

S. O. T.

COLUMBUS DIVISION, No. 9, SONS OF TEMPERANCE.

Meets at the meetings of this Division, are held at Temperance Hall at Columbus, every Tuesday evening at 7 o'clock.

DR. J. BROWN RIGG,

Physician and Surgeon, office opposite the Court House.

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THE KOSSUTH MEETING.

Although the sky looked threatening last evening, and rain frequently fell, the fame of Kossuth for impressive eloquence, and the sympathy generally felt in the cause of Hungary, induced a large number of our citizens to assemble in Lafayette Square in accordance with a call for a mass meeting to receive the distinguished stranger.

The meeting was called to order by B. F. Flanders, who named the following officers:

President—A. D. CROSSMAN.

Vice Presidents—Jas. H. Caldwell, Jos. Genois, Hon. Chas. Gayarre, Hon. Emil LaSarre, Alex. Graille, Seth Barton, M. M. Cohen, J. B. Dolhonde, R. B. Sykes, C. F. Yancy, Louis L. Beau, E. Buthe, Alfred Hennen, A. Derbes, Wm. P. Converse, Dr. Labatut, Judge Overton, Souzeau, F. Bouigny, Gen. J. B. Flauche, C. Roselius, Gen. John L. Lewis, Bernard Marigny, Col. Paley, T. O. Mackey, F. Siwerssen, P. G. Collins, N. Vignie, E. W. Sewell, J. J. Lubgen, J. A. Watkins, Buck, P. Wellman.

Secretaries—Alex. Walker, J. M. Burke, Louis Heyliger, L. Turgeaud.

Immediately after the meeting was organized Kossuth appeared on the stand, and was received with cheers; but the desire to see him appeared stronger than any other feeling. He was addressed by the Hon. E. W. Moise as follows:—

N. O. Picanne.

Governor—As the organ of the city authorities I welcome you to New Orleans. The voice of this community has been expressed through its General Council, and it bids you welcome to Louisiana and its commercial capital. Warmly as the people of New Orleans sympathize in your individual fortunes, it is not for this that you have been invited here. Deeply as they feel for the patriot and exile, it is not because you are the one or the other that you have been made the city's guest. There is a motive beyond personal admiration; there is a sentiment higher than commiseration with the sufferer. They regard you as the champion of a great cause—a leader, defeated, but unsubdued, in a desperate struggle for freedom. It is because you are the advocate of human rights; because you are a soldier in the fight of liberty; because you have counseled and led the oppressed against the oppressor; because you were the representative of Hungary in a noble effort to overthrow a bad government and a false king, that we give you the cordial welcome of free hearts.

We have not been indifferent spectators of European affairs, nor indifferent readers of European history. The contrivances of tyrants and corrupt governments have been futile against the progress, slow but sure, of truth. The light of reason, if it flickers but for a moment around the mystery of thrones and dynasties, is yet enough to expose some of the evils of irresponsible authority; and in modern society, a truth once found is never lost. It fastens itself upon the popular understanding, until, in the end, it becomes a sort of intellectual instinct for the promotion of human happiness, like the physical instinct upon which depends the preservation of our being.

So strongly are certain of these political truths imbedded in the American mind, that we are almost as much attached to them as we are to our own language; and in this lie the tenacity and strength of our republican institutions. But beyond the advantages which result to ourselves from a character thus created and thus developed, its first generous offspring is a warm sympathy for every injured people, and a corresponding detestation of all despotic rule. And believe me, sir, that in no part of this continent was there a more profound interest felt for your people than among the population of this city. We watched your struggle, not with the coolness of a distant and indifferent people, but with the earnest sympathy of true brothers. We felt that each victory gained by Hungary was the triumph of America. A people which would not consider it thus would never honor great men, because it would not deserve to have them.

It was this truly republican sentiment upon which some enemies of mine played a disgraceful trick, with the design of preventing a warm, cordial welcome to the poor exile whom you, in your congenial sympathy for the noble cause of his country, invited to enjoy the public honors of your city's hospitality.

Give me the privilege to close that matter before the great tribunal which I have the honor to address. I claim that privilege because I am wronged.

When in Washington City, I had the honor to see Mr. Henry Clay. The distinguished gentleman, I understand, holds a high place in the affection of the people of this community, and nobody on earth can more heartily join in your sentiments than I myself. I fear nobody but the Almighty God—therefore this tongue of mine will never be sullied by flattery to a mortal man. It is therefore not with the purpose to gain your or his favor, but because it is true that I say, that I spoke with full heart in your affections and your regards for Henry Clay. God preserve his life. We have met. The memory of our meeting remains deeply engraved on my mind. It was a melancholy one, on account of the condition of his health. When about to part—he standing erect with the youthful energy of his mind, neither broken by sickness nor the burden of age, laid his hands upon my head and gave me the blessing (as he said with a melancholy smile) of the blessings of a dying man; and we parted both with affection, I trust, and I besides with deep respect.

In the course of our interesting interview he entered with wondrous energy upon politics, and advanced some views with which I do not agree; but so great and sincere are the respects I bear to him, that I would not for all the world have spoken a single word capable of causing him the least excitement which might have added some injury to his condition of health. I did not therefore answer him—the more because I considered our interview a private one—as it was, indeed, I believe every one having a claim to the character of a gentleman, would have acted on that occasion just as I did.

But somebody of those few present on that occasion, I indeed don't know who, but

it was not Mr. Clay—of this I am sure, considered matters not with the same delicacy I have done, and made a public report in some newspapers about our private interview; and therefore I stood before the public of the great republic in the light as if I were not able to answer a view opposed to me, and had avowed silent acquiescence to a plea of bad cause.

Now, gentlemen, the cause which I plead is not my private cause. It is the cause of my brave, unhappy country, and of many millions of oppressed nations besides; nay, of all the nations, comprised within the bounds of christian civilization, and therefore of your great Republic itself also. To be an advocate of such a great and sacred cause is a position connected with the high and sacred duty not to abandon it so long as we are convinced of its righteousness, justice and truth. Mr. Clay himself is too distinguished, too just a man to claim the privilege of infallibility—a quality reserved to the Almighty himself, and not given to any mortal man on earth. He has in his brilliant career often opinions different from his own, but he would not be so great as he is had he felt offended by it. Nay, I remember that when America lost another of its great statesmen, very often opposed to the views of Mr. Clay, it was he, Mr. Clay himself, who paid the noblest tribute to the character and patriotism of his deceased opponent. That I saw myself obliged in honor, duty and conscience to answer publicly, with some modest, respectful remarks, that which was publicly opposed to, and if passed silently could harm my great and sacred cause. I did so in Louisville, Kentucky—I am sure every man would have done the same; but so much I dare say, nobody could have done it with more delicacy, more loyalty, and with more personal regard.

Allow me to quote, word for word, what I have said on that topic in my speech at Louisville:—

"It is here I take the opportunity briefly to refer to an assertion of an American statesman who holds a high place in your affections and in my respect. He advanced the theory, that should you now take the course which I humbly craved, the despots of Europe would be proved by your example to interfere with your institutions and turn upon you in the hour of your weakness and exhaustion because you have set an example of interference."

"I indeed, am at a loss to understand that. It is interference I claim? No, precisely the contrary, if you now declare that your very existence being founded on that principle of the eternal laws of nature's God—that every nation has the independent right to regulate its domestic concerns, to fix its institutions and its government—you cannot contemplate with indifference that the absolutist powers form a league of mutual support against this principle of mankind's common law—you therefore protest against the violation of this principle of foreign interference. I indeed cannot understand by what logic such a protest could be taken up by the despotic powers as a pretext for interfering in your domestic concerns. My logic is entirely different—it runs thus: If your country remains an indifferent spectator of the violation of the laws of nations by foreign interference, then it has established a precedent—it has consented that the principle of interference become interpolated into the book of international law; and you will see the time when the league of despots commanding the whole force of oppressed Europe will remind you that—

"Russia has interfered in Hungary, because she considered the example set up by Hungary dangerous to Russia. America has silently recognized the right of that interference. France has interfered in Rome, because the example of the Roman democracy was dangerous to Rome. America has silently agreed. The absolutist government, in protection of their divine right, have leagued in a saint alliance, with the openly avowed purpose to aid one another by mutual interference against the spirit of freedom and the anarchy of republicanism. America has not protested against it; therefore the principle of foreign interference against every dangerous example has, by common consent of every power on earth—consented that the principle of interference become an established international law."

"And reminding you thus, they will speak to you in the very words of that distinguished statesman to whom I respectfully allude:—

"You have quit your ground upon which your national existence is founded. You have consented to the alteration of the laws of nations—the existence of your republic is dangerous to us; therefore, that your anarchy (that is, republic) doctrines are destructive of, and that monarchical principles are essential to the peace and security and happiness of our subjects, will obliterate the bed which has nourished such noxious weeds, we will crush you down as the proserpine of doctrines too destructive to the peace and good order of the world."

"I have quoted the very words, very unexpectedly given over to public notice, and I say to the great Republic of the United States—and I say it particularly to the Southern States, 'maintain the principle of State rights and self-government—else, if that principle is crushed every where, the danger of centralization and of foreign interference will come home to yourself. And yet, all my exhausting endeavors of nearly four months—more than four hundred speeches reported by hundreds of newspapers; in more than a hundred thousand copies—resolutions passed by nearly a thousand public meetings, and by several State Legislatures and the debates of the United States Senate—all this together could not secure me from being charged with loving what I hate, and hating what I love, and with claiming that every thing which made myself a homeless exile, my country a valley of desolation, and nameless woe—in a word, charging me with wishing that which is the only impediment to the restoration of my native land to life, independence, freedom and prosperity."

"It is sorrowful, very sorrowful indeed!

"But again, my enemies advise you not to support me. Why? perhaps because I am wrong. Oh, no; but because some abolitionists support my cause. Well, what have I to do with abolitionism or anti-abolitionism? Nothing in the world. That is not my matter; I am no citizen of the United States; I have neither the right nor the will to interfere with your domestic concerns; I shall for my nation, the right to regulate its own institutions; I therefore

modest and respectful remarks, somebody, hiding himself in the dark clouds of anonymity, that he may not be made responsible before public opinion for his foul misrepresentation, writes to New Orleans by telegraph that I 'insulted' Mr. Clay, and charged him with 'a breach of confidence and a want of gentlemanly courtesy.'

And up is taken the foul misrepresentation, and every possible spring put in activity, to excite a hostile feeling against the poor persecuted exile, whom your citizens kindly invited to become your guest, and who, upon this invitation, came down more than six hundred miles, not without considerable expense and loss of precious time, to acknowledge the honor which you bestowed upon him by inviting him to be your city's guest."

Well, gentlemen, if those who did not hesitate, upon the trick of a telegraphic despatch, to charge me with having committed a desecrating act, if they had published my Louisville speech, or at least the concerning part of it—if those inhospitable resolutions had been connected with a quotation of my words, I would not complain. I would say:—

"Well, as the fact is stated, the master is reported to the people—the people is put into the condition to judge by itself—the people is just—I rely upon its verdict with confidence and humility."

But no—that was not done; my speech I made at Louisville on the 6th of March—to day is the 30th, and yet those who have so disloyally charged, nay, insulted an unfortunate exile, have never given any notice of the real fact—they relied upon the circumstance that their readers would not read the papers belonging to an opposite party—where impartial justice was done to me; no, they misused the confidence of their political friends; they left them under the impression of their false report, and did not tell the truth, because truth would have done me some good."

It is this against which I have to complain and appeal to justice of your sentiments. But no, I do not complain. I have too high an opinion of the citizens of New Orleans to believe that it is I who will have to suffer from this foul play—and if so, well, let them rejoice in their triumph—I would rather be driven away with shame from your city than triumph by such means."

I have one thing more to complain of. Let me tell you, gentlemen, that when I was about to leave England for the U. States some gentlemen prognosticated to me that I would be opposed by the Southern States. My answer was: 'No, that is impossible.—The Southern States are warmly attached to principles of their State rights—to the principle that every nation has the right to regulate its own institutions and to dispose of its own domestic concerns. It is this principle which I plead, and plead not only for my country but plead it for the common law of all nations; because that principle is jeoparded—the absolutist powers of Europe have avowed a purpose to crush that principle of State rights everywhere, and to establish by force and violence, in its stead, the arbitrary principle that every centralized government and every foreign power has the right to interfere against the State rights of whatever people.'

It is this principle of interference against which I plead, and which I will combat all my life. I stand upon the very ground which is the pre-eminent platform of the Southern States. If I lose my cause I will have lost their cause. It is therefore, I repeat, in England already: 'No, the Southern States cannot oppose my principles; their own interest is connected with them. The Eastern and Northern States may support me; but Southern States must support me if they are not willing to abandon the ground upon which they stand.'

And yet, 'curious,' though I have warm political friends in the South, still it is indeed true, I meet also more opposition in the South than I have met in other parts of the United States. How is this to be explained? I will tell you, gentlemen, with your kind permission, and here is my second complaint:—

My enemies, unable to upset my arguments, resort again to falsification of facts and misrepresentation of principles. They represent me to you as a man advocating just that principle to which I am mortally opposed. They charge me with being an intermeddler, while, I am soul and body the principle of non-interference. And besides some material aid, I require that that principle of non-interference secured, very soon to see my down-trodden country independent and free—because we do not ask others to fight our battles—we will fight them by our own hands, and all that we desire is not to have any interference, but 'fair play.'

It is therefore, I raise my voice out of the bottom of my nation's distress, and Europe's oppressed millions join in my voice, exclaiming: 'Is there no power on earth willing to maintain the laws of nations, when all the despots of Europe are warring with the great Republic of the United States—and I say it particularly to the Southern States, 'maintain the principle of State rights and self-government—else, if that principle is crushed every where, the danger of centralization and of foreign interference will come home to yourself. And yet, all my exhausting endeavors of nearly four months—more than four hundred speeches reported by hundreds of newspapers; in more than a hundred thousand copies—resolutions passed by nearly a thousand public meetings, and by several State Legislatures and the debates of the United States Senate—all this together could not secure me from being charged with loving what I hate, and hating what I love, and with claiming that every thing which made myself a homeless exile, my country a valley of desolation, and nameless woe—in a word, charging me with wishing that which is the only impediment to the restoration of my native land to life, independence, freedom and prosperity.'

It is sorrowful, very sorrowful indeed!

But again, my enemies advise you not to support me. Why? perhaps because I am wrong. Oh, no; but because some abolitionists support my cause. Well, what have I to do with abolitionism or anti-abolitionism? Nothing in the world. That is not my matter; I am no citizen of the United States; I have neither the right nor the will to interfere with your domestic concerns; I shall for my nation, the right to regulate its own institutions; I therefore

must respect, and indeed I do respect, the same right in others. Now, is that principle right or wrong? Is it your principle, or is it not? If it be yours, and if it be right, how could you abandon it only because it is supported by those to whom you are in some inferior questions opposed? Can there be no common ground to such as are in some respects opposed to each other?

Is not every man in the United States a republican, to whatever party he may belong? See we not often Mr. Clemens, of Alabama, voting with Mr. Seward, from New York, as the last week, for instance, on the land grant question. If the Governor of Russia should interfere with your republican institutions (as he sure he will, if Europe be once crushed)—if the despotic powers would try to establish a monarchy in Mexico, (as surely they will try even nearer than in Mexico,) will you not oppose them, only because also the Abolitionists will oppose them? Will you not support republicanism only because the Abolitionists also are republicans? Oh, my God! avert the doom from humanity that even free nations—nay, the only truly free nations on earth, commit national suicide out of blind party spirit.

And again, I am told that if you maintain the principle of non-interference, and a national protest against the principle of interference, and your protest will be disregarded, then you will be entangled in difficulties even in war.

But, no; quite on the contrary—your protest will not entangle you in any difficulties—involvement in no war—but if you do not protest, then you will be certainly led into difficulties and have a war.

A protest maintaining the great principle that every nation has a right to regulate its own institutions, and choose its own form of government, and that no foreign power has a right to interfere with this right. Such a protest obliges you to do nothing, but leaves you free to do all, or so much as you deem convenient to do. It points out only a direction to your foreign policy but does not impose how far you should go in that policy—and you have a thousand ways to add a practical weight to your protest without resorting to war—so, for instance, you can recognize every government de facto, established by a declaration of independence—which toward Hungary you neglected to do, and thus contributed much to our downfall. You may by such a recognition empower the free governments of nations asserting their independence to carry on a lawful commerce with you, and even to issue for enterprising men letters of marque—so you may establish the principle of true neutrality, which (mark well, gentlemen) now you have not. The Czar of Russia, the unlawful Emperor of Austria—the usurper of France—every despot in a word—has the right to arm her vessels, to enlist volunteers to propose armed expeditions against their own people, but the unfortunate Polish nation—the outraged French nation, you do not permit to do the same. If I would fit out an armed expedition, you would send me to prison for ten years. Is that neutrality? No, it is a submission to the despots—it is a charter granted to them against republican aspirations of down-trodden millions; it is almost an alliance with kings against nations. Once you were neutral; at the time of war between Spain and its former colonies. You opened your ports to both parties, offered your commerce to both parties—that was neutrality; but now you are not neutral. Then, again, you can add a weight to your national protest, by declaring that you desire your commerce with foreign nations to be protected, whether they be in a state of revolution or not; thus you empower your citizens to follow their natural inclination to join nations struggling for republican institutions, which they are now forbidden to do. You see, therefore, gentlemen, that you have several means to add a practical weight to your national interest, and to insure the success of the approaching European revolution, without either creating that revolution which you can by no interference prevent, or without entangling yourself in any difficulties, least of all, in a war. You will not only prevent war on your own part, but will contribute to the speedy revolution of the European struggle, and to the speedy establishment of a lasting peace, connected with a free commercial intercourse, so necessary to your prosperity.

On the contrary, if you do not protest now for the maintenance of the principle of State Rights against interference, then only two cases are presented—either we will succeed in our European struggle—though you have forsaken us—or we will succumb.

If the European nations succeed, then they must remember that in the struggle for your independence, you have received such an aid from Europe, without which you scarcely could have succeeded to establish your independence: still you have abandoned Europe in that hour of its struggle for those principles upon your own free rests—they will remember that you have not even thrust the weight of your protest into the scale, where the laws of nations were weighed, and Europe will isolate itself from you in the days of its happiness because you have isolated yourself from Europe in the days of its adversity. Whereas, on the contrary, if we in our struggle, succumb by want of your operative sympathy, then you will not only become entangled in difficulties, but by no means will be able to avert a war.

The despots victorious over Europe will be foreed by the instincts of self-preservation to check your powerful development because you would become dangerous to them—first, they will exclude your commerce from Europe; they must do it because you are republicans, propagating by your very intercourse republican principles; secondly, because you are the most dangerous competitors of Russia in competing goods in the European markets—whereas Europe free offers an immense product to your commerce. Hungary, comparatively small Hungary, alone offers a market of \$18,000,000 to your cotton, where you now sell not a single pipe.

Victorious despotism excludes you from the European markets, and only think for a single year, your commerce stopped, what an incalculable mischief to your country, brought home to every family, to every shop, every bank. Then you will see omnipotent despotism establishing a monarchy in your neighborhood—in Mexico and in Central and South America—out of Cuba, made a barrier against the mouth of the Mississippi—out of the Sandwich Islands made a barrier

against your commerce with Asia; and you will see your discussions fostered by foreign intrigue—your domestic tranquillity troubled by foreign corruption; and then checked—your prosperity distressed in your commerce—surrounded by monarchies, weakened by party discussions; you will see foreign interference stepping in with the declaration that you have silently consented to the principle of interference. Your example is dangerous to monarchies, they therefore interfere against your dangerous example. It is thus because you will have a war, and a terrible war—because you will have to fight single-handed and alone against a whole world united against you by overwhelming despotism.

It is possible that the United States—is it possible that the South, so warmly attached to the principle of State Rights and of self-government, should remain indifferent to these interests, nay, even opposed to them—only because some enemies of mine have falsified facts and misrepresented my principles? No, it is impossible—impossible chiefly in New Orleans, that glorious battle-field of American independence, consolidated by democratic energy.

Gentlemen, I have nothing to do with your domestic party questions, but I am permitted to know that in New Orleans as well as elsewhere, two great political parties exist.

The Democratic party in general pronounced in favor of my principles long before my coming to the United States.

As to the Whig party of Louisiana, it a few days ago pronounced in favor of Mr. Fillmore as a candidate for the next Presidency, therefore, for the principles of his Excellency, President Fillmore.

Now, what are these principles? Mr. Fillmore has declared them in his last message to Congress, saying:—

"The United States are forbidden to remain indifferent whenever the strong arm of a foreign power is invoked to repress the spirit of freedom in any country."

The principles of Mr. Fillmore besides are declared by managing the department of foreign policy through Mr. Webster, who wrote the immortal letter to Mr. Hulsemann, who pronounced so high minded, noble principles on the occasion of the congressional banquet I was honored with, and on the last meeting of the Horticultural Society in N. York.

Now, that being the condition of both great political parties in New Orleans, it would be strange indeed to see New Orleans, the first city refusing to support my cause, either politically or at least by private material aid, given from your wealth, as an alarm to the cause of national independence, freedom and the maintenance of that principle of State Rights, the fate of which is to be decided on our next battle-field.

That national aid, at least, would not entangle you in war, I believe.

Gentlemen, we stand on Lafayette Square. What memories connected with that name! In leaving this place, please to remember that name and look back to history, and I am sure you will not forsake the poor exile whom you have honored by an invitation to your heart and home, and who, in thanking you heartily, begs leave to say: Nothing for me, gentlemen; but give O give your sympathy to the cause I plead.

Kossuth was listened to with attention, and cheered at the close of his address.—The meeting then adjourned.

SUICIDE.—Mr. Benjamin Rice, of Talladega, committed suicide on Tuesday last in Jefferson county, in this State, by cutting his throat with a knife. He was in this city a few days ago, much intoxicated; and we learn, left here in the Rome stage, proceeded to Elyton, and from thence as far as Mr. Paynter's, on the stage road, about fifteen miles above Elyton, where he stopped. Mr. P. perceived that he seemed wild, and after staying all night, the next morning, he found he was more so, and fearful that he would become deranged, got a person to proceed with him to Elyton, and after going a few miles, he suddenly drew a knife from his pocket and committed self-destruction. We learn that he was a married man, and was possessed of considerable property.

Accounts to February 3rd have been received by the Canada from Buenos Ayres, via England. They confirm in every particular the report of the downfall of Rosas.

Rosas was wounded slightly in the last battle. His cavalry was literally ridden down by the Holstein cavalry in the service of the Brazilians. The cavalry of Rosas was routed at an early hour, but his infantry made a desperate stand. Rosas disguised as a marine, and accompanied by his daughter, safely reached the English steamer 'Leontine.'

Gen. Mansell, who was in command under Rosas, in the city of Buenos Ayres, offered to capitulate. The foreign diplomatists were trying to arrange matters.

The Brazilian and Uruguayan army numbered 28,000 men, 5,000 horses, and forty pieces of artillery.