

The Shreveport Weekly News.

PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY MORNING, AT \$2.50 PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE.

VOL. 1.

SHREVEPORT, LA., MONDAY, MAY 13, 1861.

NO. 4.

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Editor and Proprietor.

Office, corner of Texas and Spring streets, over Boer's store.

Entrance on Spring street.

OUR TERMS:

Specimen copies forwarded to any address, but subscriptions are not received unless the money accompanies the name.

The News will be sent two years for Four Dollars.

SELECTED POETRY.

To Arms.

The war drum is beating—prepare for the fight!
The stern big Northman exults in his might;
Gird on your bright weapons—for freedom are nigh,
And this be your watchword—"WE CONQUER OR DIE!"

The trumpet is sounding from mountain to shore,
Your swords and your lances must slumber no more,
Fling forth to the sunlight your banner on high,
Inscribed with the watchword—"we conquer or die!"

March on to the battle-field, there to do or dare,
With shoulder to shoulder all danger to share;
And let your proud watchword ring up to the sky,
Till the blue arch re-echoes—"we conquer or die!"

Press forward undaunted, nor think of retreat,
The enemy's host on the threshold meet;
Strike firm, till the women before you shall fly,
Appalled by the watchword—"we conquer or die!"

So forth in the pathway your forefathers trod;
We too, fight for freedom—our captain is God!
Their blood in our veins, with their honor we vie;
Their cry, was the watchword—"we conquer or die!"

We strike for the South—mountain valley and plain—
For the South we will conquer again and again;
Her day of salvation and triumph is nigh,
Ours, then, be the watchword—"we conquer or die!"

Mary Ann.

Two lovers stood upon the shore
Of Massachusetts bay;
Bidding a sad farewell, before
Seth tore himself away.
"Farewell, farewell, my Mary Ann!"
"My Mary Ann!" said he,
And then they took a little snack
And he went out to sea.

Let each one strive with all his might
To be a decent man,
And love his neighbor as himself,
Upon the golden plan.
And if his neighbor chance to be
A pretty female woman,
Why, love her all the more—you see,
That's only acting human.

TELEGRAPHIC.

Richmond, April 20.—The State Convention has elected the following gentlemen as delegates to the Southern Congress at Montgomery: Hon. R. M. T. Hunter, Hon. Wm. C. Rives, ex-U. S. Judge Brockenbrough, Hon. Walter R. Staples and Judge Campbell.

Alexandria, April 20.—A special express to the Gazette says that the long bridge over the Potomac, at Washington, is guarded on the north side by a large force of Federal troops, and on the south side by the Virginians.

It is reported that the federal troops are now in occupation of Arlington Heights; also, that a United States steamer is to be off Alexandria, and that all fish caught at the lower landing on the Potomac are sent to Washington.

The chartered transport Baltic passed down the stream yesterday. Several more arrests of persons have been made.

Families continue to leave Washington in large numbers, fearing the approaching danger.

Among the persons compelled to quit is Daniel Ratcliff, a prominent lawyer.

Gen. Scott is said to be very infirm. New York, May 1.—The steamer Chesapeake has returned from Fort Monroe, after landing 350 barrels of provisions.

Washington, May 1.—Col. Ripley has been appointed to the head of the ordnance bureau, vice Craig, ordered to other duty. Lieut. Oglesby has been dismissed, failing to render his account satisfactorily.

Boston, May 1.—Hon. Chas. Francis Adams, U. S. Minister to the Court of St. James, sails to-morrow for the seat of his mission.

The Vermont banks have tendered \$500,000 for the use of the State.

New York, May 1.—The foreign news reports that Prince Napoleon would demand satisfaction of the Duc d'Aumoult, for his recent pamphlet, Frederic, Md., May 1.—Gov. Hicks

has sent to the legislature a memorial from citizens of Washington and Frederick counties, protesting against Virginia soldiers invading the soil of Maryland, and searching private dwellings. He disclaims giving the Virginians any such right, and requests the Legislature to act thereon.

Trenton N. J., May 1.—Gov. Ogden recommends a loan of \$2,000,000.

Boston, May 1.—The Niagara sailed to-day, but took out no specie. The Arabia has arrived.

Annapolis, May 1.—Thomas A. Scott, of Pennsylvania, has taken charge of the military route. Order being restored transports leave twice a day for Perryville.

Montgomery, May 1.—Nothing of general interest. Congress mostly in secret session. The first battalion of the third Alabama regiment left this morning for Virginia. Two companies of dragoons are ready to start for Pensacola.

New York, May 1.—It is reported that the regular trains from Washington northward will commence to-day; also, that Governor Letcher is about to issue a proclamation forbidding the passage of Southern troops through Virginia. A letter from Fort Monroe, says there is no danger of an attack; there are two thousand men there. No batteries will be allowed to be erected within range.

Baltimore, May 1.—After the crowd left the Custom House, George Lemon cut down the American flag, and was arrested by the deputy sheriff.

Baltimore, May 1.—Three spontaneous meetings were held here last night; resolutions adopted in favor of sustaining the government, and approving Gen. Scott's determination to maintain the National flag.

The star spangled banner was unfurled over the custom-house and postoffice, by order of the new officials, amid great enthusiasm.

Chicago, May 1.—The President of the National Typographical Union assents to its postponement.

Omaha, May 1.—Nebraska is a unit for the Union.

Gen. Black, on arrival of his successor, returns to Pennsylvania to assume important command.

Fort Kearney, May 1.—The pony express, with San Francisco dates to the 20th, has arrived. The Golden Gate sailed on the 20th with \$826,000 in treasure. The gold excitement is prevailing from reported discoveries in the mountains southeast of Los Angeles.

Annapolis, May 1.—Fortifications commanding the country for two miles around have been thrown up. Something important is going on. Orders were given yesterday to arrest all newspaper correspondents.

The California Assembly on the 10th passed the proposed amendment to the Constitution of the United States, 61 against 9.

Washington, May 1.—The report of an armistice is untrue.

Nearly every portion of the District is telegraphically connected.

Paris letters received to-day say the French government is fully posted on American affairs, and no sympathy is felt for the Confederate States.

New York, May 1.—Gen. Scott will soon change his headquarters to Philadelphia.

Forty thousand troops are to be concentrated at Washington.

Gen. Bonham is reported in command of the Virginia troops.

Affairs at Pensacola.

We condense the following news from the Pensacola correspondent of the Mobile Advertiser, who writes under date of 20th and 21st ult.:

The U. S. sloop of war that left anchorage yesterday afternoon has not returned. We have not been able to learn her name.

A large U. S. transport steamer arrived this morning, supposed by Capt. Jack Piny—the best posted old seadog in these diggins—to be the Illinois; she has two chimneys, one in front of the other. Her decks are crowded with men.

It must be the Atlantic that arrived last Tuesday. She sailed from New York with eighty horses and two light batteries, if an not mistaken; horses and light artillery are now on the island, landed from her, whatever may be her name. I would like to report such things correctly, if possible.

Another telegram was received this morning from Surgeon Sanford, of the stership Supply, from his brother at Lynchburg, informing him of Virginia's secession, and the disturbances at Baltimore, imploring him to resign. I presume it will reach him without delay.

Much excitement was created in the Confederate army to-day, while the batteries were announcing the secession of Virginia. Fort Fickens, which lies directly opposite, was in a ferment. The drums beat to arms, and soon every gunner was at his post, and every soldier in line. The workmen dropped their sand bags, shovels and spades, and for long ways round frightened, agitated men were seen with night and main rushing for safety within the walls of Fickens. The fleet shared the general commotion, beat to quarters and got ready for action. I suppose, and long after the sound of the last gun had died away, their decks were lined with wonder-struck sailors.

The Virginia salute was as startling on the one side as the other, and many are the anecdotes told of officer and soldier. Some were killing in quarters, some halting, others fishing but all were in a few minutes ready for the fight they had so often wished for. Imagine their feelings when told it was only a salute.

The United States evidently design a naval depot on Santa Rosa Island. It is their stronghold in the South, and will defend it to the last man. When the war is commenced none has the least idea, but if General Bragg opens fire in two weeks, I'm no prophet. Prepared or not, he will answer the first shot. His military secrets are his own.

PENSACOLA, Sunday Night, April 21. Last night the metal buoys that marked the entrance to the harbor were sunk, stolen or dragged off.

The captain of a little boat informs me that about 3 o'clock this morning telegraphic signals were many and quick around the fleet. The Virginia salute haunts their slumbers.

As a small boat sailed close along the harbor side of Santa Rosa this morning, a passenger, acquainted with localities, discovered that much tall timber had been felled within a day or two, as if a road from beach to beach was intended. Of course this is speculation; but as the federalists now have horses and wagons they may be removing the timber for batteries or fuel.

The Yankee skippers are frightened at their very shadows, since President Davis' private proclamation. There are several in port loading.

The schooner D. N. Richards came here under charter, but as more money could be made by keeping her here than loading, she was retained. Her captain is now keen to leave, but dreads the roving crafts that will shortly swarm the coast. His case is a hard one—no business having his home North.

The steamer Wyandotte has been flying up and down the Gulf shore for six hours. What she means we have no knowledge.

As I write, the Confederacy steamer Cushman is coming out of Santa Rosa Sound, with a yacht in tow, and heading for the Navy Yard. The Cushman is a coast-guard steamer.

Two companies of Louisiana troops are quartered in the city—the Louisiana Guards, Capt. Sam Todd, and Crescent Rifles, Capt. Pisk, under the command of Major Bradford. They are quartered at the oil factory.

There has been no addition to the fleet to-day, nor have the vessels mentioned as having sailed, returned to their anchorage.

The federal troops are busy as bees, erecting sand bag defenses outside Fort Fickens.

No signs of flight yet; Col. Brown's Republicans closely keep their holes. Come out, come out!

Virginia Students in the Van.—The Richmond Whig, of Saturday last, says:

We learn that the Orange and Alexandria train on Wednesday conveyed to the Manassas Gap Junction, from Gordonsville, the 9000 State troops, to act against Harper's Ferry. Upon reaching the junction, they were transferred to the Manassas road, and conveyed to Strasburg, from thence they had a hard march of sixteen miles to Winchester, where they again took the cars for the Ferry. The troops were composed of three hundred students from the University, the volunteer companies of Charlottesville, numbering two hundred men, the companies from Staunton and points, making up the number.

The following particulars were forwarded to the New Orleans Picayune by one of its Washington correspondents, who writes under date of 17th April:

The troops from Massachusetts are now on their way to the capital, and will probably be the first to reach the city. A portion of them will come by rail, and the balance by water.—It is believed that a thousand or so will be sent to Fortress Monroe, and the balance retained in the city for the present. The Seventh Regiment of New York, and the Pennsylvania regiments are expected here by Saturday.

While the troops remain here, as many as can be will be located in the Government buildings, including the lower portion of the Capitol.

The advices from the South are such that Gen. Scott and the President are anxious, and have as formidable a force as possible in the city, in order to be prepared fully for any assault that may be made upon it.

By Monday, therefore, it is contemplated that at least fifteen to twenty thousand troops will be at the capital, and if those are not deemed sufficient for its safety, the number will be increased to forty or fifty thousand men.

In addition to other forces, Sherman's battery of light artillery, and four companies of mounted rifles from Kansas are now on their way here and will arrive this week. Horses will be provided for them here.

Advices from Ohio represent that fifty thousand men are at the service of the Government if their services are required. Some of the Ohio troops are expected to-morrow or Friday.

The volunteers are being quickly organized, and large additions were made to the force to-day.

Seizure of Powder.—The military authorities of this city, by order of Gov. Letcher, yesterday seized 60,000 pounds of powder, belonging to the Hazard powder company, and deposited it in the two Magazines here.

A Smart Woman.—A nice, respected lady, not a thousand miles away had long noticed, to her dismay, that her "worse half" was growing foolishly suspicious and jealous of her. Some evenings since, as he was leaving, she told him he need not hurry back—she would not be lonely—she wished her ducky to enjoy himself, &c., &c. Benedict smelt inevitable "nice" under the hypocrisy, and resolved to be avenged. About 8 o'clock, "an individual" about his size might have been seen cautiously creeping along the door, and noisily Benedict peeped in. Just as he expected, there were a pair of boots—a coat on the back of a chair, and a hat on the table. Benedict shivered like an aspen leaf as he stooped, pulled off his boots, and drew a pistol from his coat pocket, with a resolution flacking from his eye, he made tracks for the bedroom. There he was, kneeling at the bed-side, coat and vest off, and his head on the pillow. Miserable villain, his time had come.

"Say your prayers, William your time is short!" and a flash and report told that the bullet had sped on its fatal mission.

"Help! murder! oh, is that you?" and madame peeped her little head up from the foot of the bed. Benedict seized the body, and it was a miscellaneous collection of the old coats, vests, pillows, handkerchiefs, and the like, made up for the occasion!

"I say dear, what does all this mean?" exclaimed the husband, with a blank, sheepish look.

"Well, dear," replied the wife, "I did get lonely, after all, and just amused myself by dressing up that puppet, and making believe you were at home. I'm sure I didn't think you would suspect."

"There then," said the chagrined husband, "say no more about it. I thought it was a rubber; dead enough, I'm so glad it didn't hit you!" Benedict repeated, "Now Haysom" &c., and went to bed, resolved not to watch any more at present.

Says the N. O. Picayune: A preliminary meeting, attended by the most respectable of the British residents, was held last night at No. 1 Union street, with Mr. W. R. Shannon in the chair. After the delivery of patriotic addresses, enthusiastically applauded by the large throng in the room, a set of by-laws were adopted, the more noticeable ones being the following:

"The company shall consist exclusively of British subjects.

"Each member shall provide himself with a suitable equipment of arms and uniform, at his own expense.

"The duties of the company shall be limited to assisting in the defence of the city of New Orleans from any Northern invasion, servile insurrection or local disturbances, endangering the interests or personal safety of good and law-abiding inhabitants thereof.

Immediately after the adoption of these resolutions, the enlistment commenced, and in a moment over fifty names were signed on the roll. In less than a week this company will be fully organized, and number more than a hundred members. If wealth, respectability, talent, bravery and military knowledge combined are the requisites to organize a first rate military corps, we have no doubt but this company will rank among the crack ones of the State.

A second meeting will be held, for the purpose of electing officers, choosing the uniform, and adopting the title of the company, and then the home militia will have one more corps to be justly proud of.

It is said that ten Irish regiments in the Abolition States have tendered their services to President Davis. How much truth there is in this we know not.

The Virginia Ordinance of Secession.

AN ORDINANCE to repeal the ratification of the Constitution of the United States of America, by the State of Virginia, and to resume all the powers granted under said Constitution.

The people of Virginia, in their ratification of the Constitution of the United States of America, adopted by them in Convention, on the 25th day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight, having declared that the powers granted under the said Constitution were derived from the people of the United States, and might be resumed whenever the same should be perverted to their injury and oppression, and the Federal Government having perverted said powers, not only to the injury of the people of Virginia, but to the oppression of the Southern slaveholding States.

Now, therefore, we, the people of Virginia, do declare and ordain that the Ordinance adopted by the people of this State, in Convention, on the twenty-fifth day of June, in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight, whereby the Constitution of the United States of America was ratified—and all acts of the General Assembly of this State ratifying or adopting amendments to said Constitution—are hereby repealed and abrogated; that the Union between the State of Virginia and the other States under the Constitution aforesaid is dissolved, and that the State of Virginia is in full possession and exercise of all the rights of sovereignty which belong and appertain to a free and independent State. And they do further declare that the said Constitution of the United States of America is no longer binding on any of the citizens of this State.

This Ordinance shall take effect and be an act of this day when ratified by a majority of the votes of the people of this State, cast at a poll to be taken thereon on the fourth Thursday in May next, in pursuance of a schedule hereafter to be enacted.

Done in Convention, in the city of Richmond, on the seventeenth day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-one, and in the eighty-third year of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

A true copy, JNO. L. HERBANK, Secretary of Convention.

Gen. Buckner says Kentucky is determined to maintain neutrality, and would not allow Confederate troops to cross her soil to invade the North, nor countenance organizations of her citizens for that purpose.

Latest from Norfolk. PREPARATIONS FOR DEFENCE OF THE CITY.

The Norfolk correspondent of the Petersburg Express, writes on the 23rd:

On Hospital Point the sand batteries are nearly completed, and seven guns are already in position. The work is so far advanced that five additional guns can be mounted to-day, which, with the iron battery, materials for which are now on the spot, will complete the defence at this point.

On the opposite side of the river from the Hospital, the old United States will be anchored in a position perfectly commanding the channel. She will be taken to the Navy Yard to-day, and receive a sufficient amount of guns of the heaviest calibre. Between these two powerful defences, placed less than a half a mile apart, it is believed no fleet can possibly force its way, even though it succeeded in passing the heavy batteries now being erected on Craney Island and at Fort Norfolk.

Proper precautions have been taken too, to guard against an attack from the rear, and people here feel now that their city is safe.

The local journals of the same date have the following:

Arrival of Georgia Troops.—Yesterday three companies, comprising a body of 150 troops arrived in Portsmouth on the Seaboard and Roanoke railroad, and were immediately accommodated with quarters in the Naval Hospital, where they are most agreeably bestowed.

Slaves at Work.—A large number of slaves are busily working upon the batteries and other means of defending the harbor.

Free Colored Men.—A list of thirty-two worthy free negroes of this city, who have offered their services in the work of defence, or in any other capacity required, has been sent to the captain of the Woodis Riflemen.

Movement of Troops.—We learn from a gentleman from Hampton that 1000 troops left Old Point yesterday, and that three ships and two war steamers, with a large number of troops on board, were off Old Point.

A Splendid Battery.—The battery at the Naval Hospital would strike the military eye as an elegant affair. A large number of 9-inch Dahlgren

guns are among the "baby wakers," and they would rake the channel for two miles down. Captain McIntosh and Lieutenants G. W. Harrison and Wm. Sharp, all lately of the United States Navy, are in charge of this noble battery.

Working.—The work of erecting batteries along the river progresses finely. A large number of hands are engaged on the breastworks, and already our harbor is well defended. All praise to our brave and patriotic working men.

The Mobile Advertiser, speaking of the Lincolnites on Santa Rosa Island, says:

It is going to be the very mischief to run the Lincolnites off Santa Rosa Island, if they don't want to go. We may and will make Fort Fickens hot for them, but they have plenty of men, and can get as many more as Lincoln can send them. When Fickens is rendered untenable, they can entrench themselves beyond the reach of our batteries, if they like, and so keep up their camp as long as they please, or until we leave the mainland to attack them in their stronghold. We cannot starve them out without a naval force superior to that at their command. So we shall have to keep a strong force on land to watch this nest of impudent fellows right under our noses. The knocking to pieces of Fort Fickens will not be getting rid of them if they are of a mind to stay on the island. There is plenty of sand there for batteries, and our reports show that the enemy is using it to fortify his lines.

[From the London Telegraph]

BLOCKADE OF THE SOUTHERN PORTS.—With regard to the blockade question, we have to state that it cannot be solved by any government in America, but must be left to the maritime powers of Europe—which, acting upon the law of self-preservation, must, of course, forbid all attempts to exclude their commerce from the ports of the South; the ruin of which, though it might gratify the passions, would not serve the interest of the North. Such a policy of coercion, therefore, would be both shortsighted and ineffectual. The new tariff, for which Mr. Lincoln is not responsible, though he will not be unwilling to accept its consequences, is an unwise measure on the part of those who frame it.

President Lincoln has the interest of the Union to protect, and Lord Palmerston is bound to defend those of Great Britain; but the former cannot be allowed to blockade our flag out of the Southern ports, or the latter be stimulated to any partisan advocacy of Northern ambition.

Anybody Scared!

We are (according to the Tribune) going to be routed. Big Indian me has said so, and it must be so; let us prepare to elude ourselves in sackcloth and sit in ashes, i. e. if we allow people to throw sand in our eyes. All of our cities are to be destroyed, and we are to be cut down from the face of the earth, not a man is to be left. "There shall be wars, and rumors of wars, in those days." Attention, oh ye poor rebels, and give an attentive hearing to what shall be unfolded. List, oh list! and when every thing requisite will be prepared, your doom is sealed. The ominous words of the Tribune are as follows:

"So soon as everything requisite will be prepared and supplied, there will doubtless be a force of 200,000 men sent to the relief of Fort Pickens, and it will march through—not around—Baltimore, Richmond, Raleigh, Charleston, Savannah, Montgomery and New Orleans, being joined at the last named city by a like force, which will have made its way down the Mississippi."

Liberty—Jefferson—Hamilton.—The first shout of the American freedom is "liberty!" It is a tidalmanic word. There are seven stars on the blue field of our Confederate flag! Jefferson was the father of democracy, the synonym of true Republicanism, and the first President of the Confederate States bears, as his given name, that of the great apostle of Liberty and Republicanism. Hamilton was the chief of the old Whig school, Washington's aid in revolutionary struggles, and Washington's friend. Seven stars deck the flag of the Confederate States. Jefferson Davis is our President, and Alexander Hamilton Stephens is our Vice President. There is a pertinent omen in all this.

Free Navigation.

We find in the Picayune an ably written article on this important question. It treats the subject in a pithy style. We of the South, not a very long time since, did all in our power to enlighten our neighbors regarding this point; matters were elucidated so that a child could understand that "there was to be free navigation of the Mississippi." The thick-headed Black Republicans though, insisted that we did not say or mean this.—How is it? Have we done as we said we would, or not? We have.—

But, strange to say, free navigation is not known. The party, that took so much upon themselves to have no incumbrances in the way of free navigation, are the very first to check it. Well did they play their part, the treacherous hounds; and thus it is that they intend to currup us into their smores, if they can; in this they have, thus far, succeeded pretty well, but we think an insight into their mode of maneuvering is apparent, and instead of listening to their pretended ravings about their dissatisfaction of what we may do, we will turn the deaf ear to them, and pursue our course without allowing them to have any previous knowledge of our intentions.

The Picayune says very truly that: "The Cairo armament is a menace to the Confederate States, and an outrage upon the border States; and it ought not to be permitted to remain. If we judge rightly of the temper of Missouri, Kentucky, Arkansas and Tennessee, it will not long be permitted to be a barrier to the free navigation of the Mississippi."

Such acts emanating from the federal government are insults heaped upon us of the Confederate States. We have been acting on the defensive long enough, and we think it time to resent these proceedings. If we are going to have a war, let us have it. The enemy having obstructed the navigation, it is for us to request that they desist in so doing, and if they refuse, we should compel them to retrace their steps. This is no time for idle gossip—much hard work is to be done, and that, we judge, very soon.

Capture of Fort Smith

Fort Smith April 28.—Fort Smith in possession of the State troops. About 12 o'clock last night a volunteer force, under the Command of Col. Selon Borland, landed at the wharf on the steamboats Tahlequah and Frederick Norrebe. The command numbered nearly three hundred men. About an hour before their arrival, Capt. Stengis decamped with his command, consisting of two cavalry companies. He took away the horses belonging to his command and such supplies as he could transport. He is falling back to Fort Ouachita.

The post was formally surrendered by Capt. A. Montgomery to Gen. E. Hargravin, Adjutant General of the State. He placed Col. Borland in charge. Capt. Montgomery and Maj. Gullin were taken prisoners.

They were discharged on parole. There were about seven hundred State troops here to day. They were passed in review in the garrison parade ground. The flag of the Confederate States of America was raised on the boat at 12 o'clock amid the firing of cannon and the cheers of the people. After the review, three cheers were given for the Arkansas citizens soldierly, three cheers for Gov. H. M. Rector. The stock of property taken possession of is estimated to be of the value of three hundred dollars.

Says the Quitman (Texas) Clipper, "Mr. Wallace Riggle informs us the Wheat crop on the Prairies is seriously injured by the rust, mold, and Hail storm which passed over our County on last Tuesday evening."

We understand that the wheat in our section, is a failure, being destroyed by rust. Many of our planters have turned their cattle into the wheat fields.