

To the Flag.

Let Pickett plant the triple bars
Around the case-mate's den!
As Sumter's flag the seven stars
Above the flying lion
So show the banner of the stars,
White, for the rising sun!
Hoon out, ye bold Columbiads,
Cannon and Carver!
Rebels, get up to the earth
With every sort of den!
The Fort of Freedom shall guard our coats
While Justice reigns within!

Whatever fashion of a flag,
Whatever style of gun,
That honor holds or justice points,
Shall leave no field unwon!
The soul of Right! the sword of Might
Beneath these folds, be ONE!

Scene at a Gambling Saloon in California.—"A moment, if you please," quietly remarks an almost beardless desperado, covering his pile with a first hand, and fixing dangerous eyes on the dally dealer of monte whom he addressed, "you can stop there."

"Well, Sir?"

"Well, excuse me, but I think you drew two cards."

"I believe not. I'll take your pile, if you please; the keyway takes it."

"Two cards."

"Your money."

And in each case the words are accompanied by a quick but quiet motion which discloses a revolver. With the appearance of these two new disputants—polished, but of brief, but sharp and downright speech—there is a quick, but fussless stir among the spectators around the table. In a moment a clear space is formed in the midst of a small circle of flashing eyes, compressed lips and clenched hands. You may count twenty, deliberately, ere you hear a breath drawn or see the slightest movement.

"Well, Sir?"

"Well."

"Your money."

"Your cards."

"Up steps a bystander—some cool, steady veteran, expert in the game, and versed in the law of difficulties—a man of awful nerve, whose tympanum accustomed to the crack, no pistol shot an alarm."

"Gentlemen, try arbitration first."

Another quick exchange of inquiring glances between the disputants. Not a word—but the eyes of each plainly say, "agreed." Both throw themselves back in their chairs, and withdraw their hands from the table, with the air of men inviting examination, and resolute to abide the result.

The veteran calls up two brothers of the green cloth, competent to act as umpires; and three minutes, fraught with mortal danger, in deliberately counting the cards as they lie on the cloth, and naming them slowly like the tolling of a bell, or the measured pronunciation of a death sentence. Except that, there has been no noise, but the simultaneous clicking of the pistol locks. The dealer and his vis-à-vis seemingly strangely unconcerned for the event.

"You were wrong my friend," said the veteran, "no double card was drawn here. Mistakes will happen to the most careful gentlemen."

From that decision there is no appeal, his finger on the trigger after that would have cost the young fellow his life. So pistols go back to their sleeping places, hands are shaken, drinks for the company at the expense of the "bunker,"—as he who plays against the bank is called,—and the game proceeds with a better understanding.

A good Receipt for Vinegar.—Take forty gallons of rain water, one gallon of molasses, and four pounds acetic acid. It will be fit for use in a few days. Acetic acid costs 25 cents per pound. This is the receipt by which most of the cider vinegar is made, which is sold in the country stores.

Operations in the Vicinity of Fortress Monroe.—The Norfolk (Va.) Herald, of the 6th inst., has the following:

Our enemies, it seems, are beginning to spread themselves in our neighborhood. We have information from Hampton that on Monday last a sally was made from Fort Monroe, of two companies numbering about 150 men, conducted by Col. Dinwiddie who proceeded across Mill Creek bridge and took possession of Capt. Clark's premises on the Hampton side, where there is an excellent well of water. There they left about one-half of their force to "occupy and protect" this important and necessary acquisition, while the remainder returned to the fort, well satisfied with the easy success of the expedition.

The gallant and spirited citizens of Hampton were prepared to defend themselves against the Black Republican horde, if they had continued to swarm over in the direction of their town; but the retrograde movement of the mercenaries disappointed them of the opportunity for the present.

P. S.—Since writing the above, we learn further that additional operations have been entered upon by the Federal forces at Fort Monroe, embracing the seizure of the farms of Jos. Segar, Judge Clifton, and indeed all the territory constituting the peninsula between Hampton and Mill Creek. It is said, further, that they have been making surveys preparatory to the erection of outworks.

We may state here that the possession of that "excellent well of water" is a matter of great importance to the garrison of Fortress Monroe, as there is none but rain water in the Fortress.

Good News.

We have received in exchange the Shreveport News, a new paper started in Shreveport, La. From its general appearance, news intelligence, and the ability of its editors, it must succeed. It is published daily and weekly.—*Louren Gulf Key.*

A good move.—We learn that the Confederate States Government has leased the large manufacturing establishment of W. F. Tunnard, Esq., on the corner of Main and Church streets, and placed the whole concern under the personal superintendence of I. N. Collins, Esq. Mr. Collins informs us that it is the intention of the government to give employment to about one hundred and fifty mechanics in the manufacture of cannon carriages, harness, knapsacks, tents, and all manner of blacksmithing. For manufacturing purposes no place in the Southern Confederacy possesses superior advantages. Timber of the best kind and in abundance is near at hand, and is accessible at all times.—*Baton Rouge Advocate.*

Our Mails.

Jan. H. Regan, Esq., Postmaster General of the Confederate States, has sent to our postmaster notice, that after the 31st day of May, as will be seen by reference to the proclamation published elsewhere, the postal arrangements will be no longer in the hands of the Federal Government. Postage will then have to be paid in money until stamps can be procured, the stamps of the United States will then be useless.

Now is the time for us to urge the establishing of a daily mail from New Orleans. In justice to ourselves and neighbors, this point should be made the Distributing Post-office for North Louisiana, Eastern Texas, and Arkansas would be greatly benefited by the change. Let us endeavor to convince the Postmaster General of the propriety of making Shreveport the Distributing postoffice for this section, and we think it will be done.

We are pleased to notice the improvement about our market house. The building is fenced in, and neatly white washed. Our town authorities deserve credit for this. It now looks like what a market should be. The mud puddles on each side of the market in the street have been filled up. It is a decided improvement.

New Orleans Correspondence.

Special to the News.

NEW ORLEANS, 2 MAY 17, 1861.

MON CHER COLONEL:—

The work goes bravely on, so far as preparation for the conflict is concerned. Increased activity seems to prevail in all the Departments, now engaged in the manufacture of war material. The orders for the fortifying of our State coast, which was received from Montgomery some days since are being carried out with all possible dispatch. Berwick's Bay, Barataria and the Lake coast, are to be placed in a sufficient state of defense, to defy all efforts of the enemy to land should they feel so disposed. The gun carriages for this purpose are nearly completed at the Custom house. They are beautiful specimens of what our southern mechanics can do when required. "Red Stick" will furnish the shooting irons.

The Proclamation of the Postmaster General has been issued. The new Postal law will commence on the 1st of June. The mails for Lincoln will then cease. Postage on single letters will be 5 cents for 5000 miles or under, and must be paid in cash, until such time as stamps are ready. This arrangement seems to give general satisfaction to all who wish to see our new Republic established on the only firm basis—the cash one.

I send you the *St. Louis Republican*, which contains a full account of the horrible butchery there perpetrated on innocent women and children, by the miserable infidel Dutch hirelings of the Washington monarchy. It is enough to make the blood boil to read the heart-rending particulars.

A rumor was current in our streets last evening that fighting had commenced at Pickett's. What purported to be a confirmation of the report was placed on the Bulletin board of one of the papers, but in about an hour afterwards it was contradicted by a dispatch from Montgomery. President Davis had been to Pensacola to inspect the works at that point, and returned. This removed all apprehension of the truth of the report. The camp which had been formed back of the city, was removed yesterday to Pangipato on the Jackson Road, which is a more suitable location. It is thought that a regiment will leave our city this week for Fort Smith, Ark.

Two more prizes, a ship and bark have been captured off the mouth of the river yesterday by two of our privateers. Weather rather hot, and business among the things that were. I send you the latest Market Reports.

An revoir.

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New York, May 24.—British barque, *Hiawatha*, freighted with tobacco, in attempting to run the blockade, was captured and is now in charge of a prize crew from the Minnesota.

A letter from Virginia states that from fifty to sixty thousand troops are in or within hail of Richmond, Norfolk and Harper's Ferry. It also states that the Confederates had received from Europe a large supply of arms, powder and percussion caps; also, machinery for making percussion caps.

Washington, May 24.—Feverish excitement prevails. Eight regiments have been supplied with fifteen rounds of ball cartridges, and are momentarily expected to march, but up to a late hour no movement had been ordered. The 7th, 12th and 69th New York Regiments, Sherman's Battery and five Zouaves, will lead the invasion, crossing the long bridge into Virginia, occupying Arlington Heights and extending their outposts down the Potomac far enough to embrace Alexandria.

Dr. Thomas has been arrested charged with receiving letters directed to secessionists.

Indianapolis, May 24.—Gov. Deming of Ohio, was seceded last night, and in his speech said the Union must be maintained—traitors and treason must be ever-banned—f the army had to march through Virginia to Charleston to overthrow the rebels, they must go.

It is reported that the British Admiral declared that he would not respect New Grenada paper blockade.

Baltimore, May 24.—Two persons have been charged with treason for the Southern Confederacy. Testimony don't positively implicate the accused.

Two thousand troops have gone South, up to date.

General Johnson, of Utah fame, has been ordered to take command of the Southerners at Harper's Ferry. General Beauregard has been ordered to Norfolk.

Jeff Davis will reach Richmond on Monday.

The reinforcement of Williamsburg and Point of Rocks by men and ordnance, has been confirmed.

The *Times*' Washington correspondent says that the army sets its face Southward to-night.

By to-morrow, the seventh, eighth and sixtieth regiments and the Rhode Island brigade will be on the sacred soil of Virginia.

They have provisions in knapsacks for four days.

HOSTILITIES COMMENCED.

Washington May 24.—As supposed late last night several regiments, with the New Jersey and Michigan brigades, Ellsworth Zouaves and the District militia, crossed into Virginia, the Pickets, having previously been driven in by advance guards.

One regiment took the road leading to Fairfax Court House, about 20 miles from Washington, while another the Jersey stopped at the Forks about a mile from Long Bridge awaiting orders.

The advance into Virginia was also made from another point, at the mouth of the Potomac, near Georgetown. The Seventh regiment New York was among the troops, and after several hours march reached a point between the bridge and Columbia Springs, on the line of the Washington and Alexandria railroad.

The district troops returned to Washington this morning.

From six to ten thousand troops were sent into Virginia this morning. Firing was heard occasionally by the driving in of the Virginia pickets.

SECOND DISPATCH.

9 o'clock, A. M.—The N. Y. Zouaves, the 14th and 69th, and the Jersey regiments, hold Alexandria, while Arlington Heights are occupied by several regiments.

The entrance into Alexandria was attended by a circumstance which has cast the deepest gloom over the community. Col. Ellsworth, who had hauled down the secession flag was shot soon afterwards by a concealed foe. His body has been brought to the Washington Navy-yard.

The accounts from Alexandria are somewhat contradictory, but there is no doubt of the fact that the man, by name Jackson, was instantly put to death—some say by both bullet and bayonet.

When the Federal troops reached Alexandria, the soldiers fired at them and fled. Visitors to the city say the scenes were intensely exciting. Federal vessels were lying in front of the town.

It seems true that a body of Federal troops have advanced to Fairfax courthouse, to take possession of the junction of the Grange and Alexandria and the Manassas gap railroad, with the view of intercepting the advance of the Virginia troops toward Alexandria and Richmond.

Nearly three thousand troops arrived at Washington yesterday.

THIRD DISPATCH.

11 o'clock, P. M.—It is reported that as the Virginia troops retired from Alexandria, one man was killed by a rebel shot from the Federal troops. There is a prospect of capturing the fugitives.

Among the forces sent over to Virginia were two batteries and two companies of artillery.

The Post Master General orders the discontinuance of the mails, and has annulled all contracts in the seceded States except Tennessee.

The Washington mail has been stopped and the letters returned.

The correspondent of the New York Tribune says Ellsworth was shot as he was descending the stairs with the secession flag, by Jackson, the keeper of the Marshall House. He died almost instantly, dying the flag with his blood. He only said

"my God," and was a corpse. Jackson was killed by Francis D. Barnwell, of Troy.

Frankfort, May 24.—The arms of the State are to be divided equally between the State and Home Guards, the latter distribution being the most liberal in places most exposed to insurrection.

St. Louis, May 24.—Judge Treat has given his opinion in the case of McDonald, habeas corpus case, that the Federal Court has jurisdiction.

Baltimore, May 24.—In the Union Convention nearly every county is represented by unconditional Union men.

The news of the death of Col. Ellsworth was not generally known throughout the city until about 10 o'clock. The excitement was intense especially among the military, who express the greatest impatience and desire to be sent to Virginia.

From spy-glass view of Alexandria, the stars and stripes are lying at various points.

Three hundred troops from North Carolina arrived at Richmond last Monday night. They are now stationed at Old Point Comfort and will be followed by five hundred more in a day or two from the same State, making a full regiment of a thousand men.

Twelve hundred Tennessee troops arrived at Richmond on Tuesday.

The camp opposite Williamsport, Md., is being reinforced and the construction of batteries on the heights on the Maryland side are still being carried on with vigor.

New Orleans, May 24.—The news from Washington and the occupation of Alexandria have considerably increased the military enthusiasm.

The Delta's Montgomery dispatch says a letter from Yancey does not doubt the success of his mission.

The new tariff takes effect on the 31st of August.

The 31st prox. has been appointed a day of fasting and prayer.

Washington, May 24.—Ellsworth's particular personal friend, Ellsworth, deeply affected. The bells are tolling, the buildings are craped and the flags at half mast. The remains are lying in State at the Navy-yard.

The government has startling news from Baltimore. Prominent loud-mouthed Union men are secretly abetting the secessionists. They are all named and known.

Washington, May 24.—Ten thousand Federal troops are now in Virginia. The Seventh regiment occupy Arlington Heights, the sixty-ninth are breastworking them.

Forty horsemen of the Virginia cavalry were captured without blood.

It is reported that the steamer *Met Vernon* was nearly sunk before reaching Alexandria. She was injured at the navy-yard recently.

It is supposed that Harper's Ferry and Norfolk will be attacked simultaneously.

Annulment of Virginia troops of Calypso county is expected.

St. Louis, May 24.—Gen. Price ordered 2000 militia at Jefferson City to disband. There was some resistance, but it is believed they will quietly disperse.

A howitzer mortar, ball and shell and three hundred rounds of ammunition have been sent from the arsenal to Cairo.

Until a postal treaty shall be made with the Government of the United States for the exchange of mails between that Government and the Government of this Confederacy, Post-Masters will not be authorized to collect United States postage on mail matter sent to or received from those States; and until supplies of postage stamps and envelopes are procured for the pre-payment of postage within the Confederate States, all postages must be paid in money, under the provisions of the first section of an act approved March 1st, 1861.

Given under my hand and the L. S. seal of the Post-Office Department of the Confederate States of America, at Montgomery, Alabama, the 14th day of May, in the year 1861.

JOHN H. REAGAN, Post-Master General.

Dogus Industry.—The author of Photographs of Paris life, one day, on asking a young girl what her occupation was, was told by way of reply:

"I am an *avouiseuse d'ouvrage* (advancer of work)."

"And pray, what is that?"

"Why, you see, Monsieur, there are an immense number of ladies who begin all sorts of fancy work, crochet, worsted work, or knitting, and such things, on which they work in the evening when the husband goes out to the club, the opera, or any other place to which Madame does not happen to accompany him. The lady, perhaps has an engagement of her own, to which she flies, as soon as he is out of the house. The work is brought home, or I go and fetch it; the next morning, right early, I take it back. After breakfast, Madame triumphantly exhibits her work of the evening before, and Monsieur is delighted with her industry, never dreaming that Madame was amusing herself, and that other hands had effected the evident advance in the work."

A Modest Fran.—A newly married couple of Tontonic extraction, came into a store for the purpose of buying the necessary articles for house-keeping. After purchasing dishes, knives and forks, coffee mill, &c., and "set setery," a grain ergle, he asked "Vat is de price of de grade?" The red cheeked little spouse did not see the useful farming implement, and when her liege lord asked the question, she turned around with a blushing face, and exclaimed:—

"Now, Shake, don't be a fool; you knows we don't want no grade now!"

Captain Shafeldt's Proclamation.—Lincoln's Consul at Havana has, in imitation of his master issued the following proclamation:

NOTICE TO AMERICAN SHIPMASTERS. As the President of the United States has officially declared that certain States of the Union are in a condition of open rebellion against the Government; and as, in the time war, treason consists in giving aid and comfort to the enemy; therefore, I have to inform all masters of American vessels the port of Havana that this Consulate can not give protection to any vessel claiming to be American which hoists the rebel flag or any part thereof.

Signed, R. W. Shufeldt, Consul General.

U. S. Consulate General, Havana, May 7, 1861.

The Rage that Kills.—On Tuesday evening says a recent Parisian journal, as Mons. P., an army contractor, was walking on the Boulevard, he perceived his son with a young woman, very plainly dressed but of modest and respectable appearance, hanging on his arm. He advanced towards the couple, and asked his son in an angry tone how he dared to keep company with a workman?

"Father," replied the young man, "I intend to marry mademoiselle, and if I have not hitherto spoken to you of my project, it is because—"

"Because, sir, you know well that I would never consent to such an act of folly."

"I do know this father, and therefore it is that I have waited for my majority. I am of age this day; I have obtained the consent of the young person's parents, and we are to be married very soon."

"And me, sir?" cried the father, choking with rage.

"I shall be under the necessity of addressing you a respectful summons."

indispensable in France in case of a marriage by any person, however old, without consent of parents.)

"I will convert all my property into ready money, and you shall never have a penny."

"I prefer happiness to riches."

The father exasperated to the last degree, raised his cane to strike his son, but suddenly his hand dropped, and he staggered and fell into the crowd, which the noise of the discussion had collected. He was a corpulent man, of a sanguine temperament, and his anger had killed him!

Soldier Killed.—We learn incidentally that a soldier belonging to the regular army was killed last Friday night by a fellow-soldier in the Garrison; and through the same channel we hear that Corporal Jones held the same night upon the body of the deceased. We are not in possession of other facts relative to this affair. The officers at the Garrison will doubtless cheerfully co-operate with the civil authorities in probing the matter to the bottom. For some time back we have almost averaged a murder a week, and we hope to be able before long to chronicle the hanging of the murderers, and restoration of law and order. The frequency of this worst kind of lawlessness is fearfully on the increase, and if it does not go back to its lair, all good citizens will feel themselves, in order to save society from anarchy and dissolution, bound to form combinations to enact its ruthless extermination.—*Baton Rouge Advocate.*

We are continually hearing of complaints from our town subscribers. They say that some one makes it a business to steal their papers every morning. Should any of our friends see the thief while in the act of purloining the News, from the office of any subscriber, they will oblige us by reporting the same to us, so that we can be enabled to put a stop to the practice. If the papers are only borrowed, we will take much pleasure in sending a copy to the individual, without charge, if he promises to do better hereafter.

Spies in the South.—A dispatch to the N. Y. Herald says:

The Government is in possession of very important information from reliable sources; having agents in every Southern State, and are fully posted in regard to all movements.

We have no doubt there are North-ern spies in every Southern State—some of them in this city. Let us keep close watch for them.

On last Saturday evening the Shreveport Sentinels went on a target shooting excursion. This was their first public exhibition, of the perfection they have attained in military tactics, and for the short time they have been drilled, did better than some predicted. They were a goodly number, and carried well their muskets.

"O, Jacob," said a master to his apprentice boy, "it is wonderful to see what a quantity you can eat!"

"Yes, master," replied the boy, "I've been practicing since I was a child."

A maiden lady in Boston, on reading the account of the marriage of Miss Georgianna Ives, at Chicago to young Beatty, who saved her from drowning at the sinking of the steamer *Lady Elgin*, said:

"It's a very romantic affair, no doubt; but I would rather be drowned, any time, than to sit half the night with a young man, on a piece of week in my night gown!"

Our Little Navy.—We paid a visit yesterday to our ship-yards at Algiers, in response to an invitation from Capt. Breshwood, of the cutter *Washington*. The *Washington* has just been completed under the direction of Captain Breshwood, and is in tip-top condition. A number of prominent gentlemen attended a handsome collation served up by Capt. B. on the occasion. The *Washington* is a beautiful cutter, of the largest size—about two hundred tons. She has been entirely rebuilt in our ship-yards, and is now one of the most elegant and substantial little clippers that has ever floated on the bosom of the Mississippi. Her rebuilding was commenced under the superintendence of Capt. Robert H. Hudgins, and completed under that of Capt. Breshwood.

The *Washington* only needs her armament to go into active service, and promises, in conjunction with the *McClelland*, to prove of great benefit to our new government.

We saw, too, at the ship-yards at Algiers, several other ships of the Confederate States, which are being fitted up with great rapidity and completeness for the service. Among these are the *Star of the West*, captured by Colonel Van Dorn, a fine, large and high serviceable steamer; the *Melba*, formerly the *Marquis de Habana*, and the *Sumter*, formerly the *Miramon*, strong steamships, which, in the hands of our gallant naval officers, will be very valuable additions to the defensive and aggressive power and resources of the Confederate States. The fitting up of these vessels and of several privateers imparts great life and activity to our ship-yards.—*Ne*

We are compelled to omit much reading. River falling. Weather hot.

TELEGRAPHIC.

Baltimore, May 22.—The amendment to the Constitution, permitting foreigners to vote after one year's residence, has passed both Houses.

Chambersburg, Md., May 22.—It is believed the movements towards Williamsport is a feint. After the commencement of hostilities at Harper's Ferry, the Southerners will probably advance along the country road, via Pleasant Valley and Waynesboro, avoiding irritating movements on Maryland soil. The route indicated is the shortest to Pennsylvania.

The gossip of the Tribune about the movement of troops to control the election in Virginia, is unfounded. The result is a foregone conclusion. Mexico has been assured by the government that the Monroe doctrine will be enforced. Should European powers interfere with her, she will be supported.