St. Mary's Beacon.

DEVOTED TO LITERATURE, NEWS, AGRICULTURE AND GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

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SELECTED MISCELLANY.

MILITARY DESPOTISM!

Let not the people of Maryland be deceived by the artificial demonstrations gotten up by the sympathisers with the infamous administration of Abraham Lincoln. The efforts of these men are like the contortions of a dead body under the influence of the galvanic battery. Let not the timid be alarmed by the threats of desperate men. The great law of natural causes will decide the destiny of Maryland at the proper time, in spite of all opposition from without the State and all boastful clamor within. It does not follow because *"order reigns in Warsaw"* that therefore Warsaw is conquered or conquerable. A Despot's bayonet may threaten a brave man's throat but cannot alter his purpose or intimidate his spirit. Poland and Ireland, unarmed and defenseless, may submit to inexorable fate for the time being, but they are not the less determined to assert their independence when the opportunity offers; and so it is with Maryland. She is still united to the Northern Confederacy, because her people have been silenced for three months by official tyranny and treachery at home, and because she is now incapable of free speech and free action whilst threatened with the vengeance of the Northern hordes who have invaded and taken possession of her soil. She cannot and will not permit her great destiny, and that of her children for unborn generations, to be decided under the influence of a panic purposely created by the military despot at Washington and his subservient allies here. She will bide her time and exercise her sovereign power hereafter in accordance with the well known sentiment of her people. When that time comes, the honest farmers of Maryland will refuse to be separated from their brothers of Virginia, and Baltimore city will revolt at the attempt to make her the miserable and despised suburb of Philadelphia and N. York, when it is in her power to become the Commercial Emporium and Queen city of the great Southern Confederacy. We therefore say to the Southern Rights men of Maryland, be patient and cheerful, for your leaders are full of heart and courage, and the God of Justice is on your side. Your final triumph is as certain as the rising of the Sun, and your enemies know it, for "conscience makes cowards of them all."

Maryland is for the time-being subjected to all the abominations of unmitigated military despotism. Her Legislature has been driven away from her Ancient Capital by barbarian invaders, so that the Governor of the State felt it to be his duty by proclamation to require the Legislature to assemble in this city—without permission of the State or of the Rail Road Companies the United States Government has taken military possession of our Rail Roads, subjecting passengers and freight to illegal detention and insolent supervision by Lincoln's Northern soldiers—the great writ *habeas corpus* handed down to us from the earliest ages of English liberty, as the very palladium of the personal freedom of the citizen, has not only been disregarded but openly and contemptuously set at defiance by Lincoln's commanding officer at Fort McHenry; a lad under age was enlisted in violation of law, whereupon the Judge of the United States District Court for Baltimore city at the instance of the boy's friends issued a writ of Habeas Corpus requiring the commander of Fort McHenry to produce the boy before the Court for examination according to the laws of the land and that officer dares to spit upon the court's writ, although Maryland has not severed her connection with the Northern States and recognizes the Constitution of the Federal Government. So, that insolent Government occupies the soil and property of Maryland, sets her law at defiance and treats her as a subjugated province. Her people are unarmed, because the programme of Henry Winter Davis, promulgated four months ago, has been faithfully carried out by the State authorities. Resistance therefore for the present is impossible; but hope, nay, certainty, of disenthrallment in the future, is as absolute as ever. All the powers of the earth can never permanently separate Maryland from Virginia. The laws of nature and the stern realities of interest have decided that question beyond appeal.

What in the meantime does Abraham Lincoln contemplate? Is it the defence of the Federal capital? That was the hypocritical pretense by which he lately rallied the North to the support of his odious Administration. Emboldened by the success of this great imposture, he now openly proclaims his determination to coerce the South into absolute submission by force of arms, that is to say, to subjugate her to the dominion of a Northern majority under the pretext of preserving a Union which she detests, because it has been perverted into an engine of oppression, insult and degradation. Therefore he has called out forty thousand Northern troops in addition to the seventy-five thousand previously enroled, and he asked the Northern Governors to make their enlistments for three years, and that, too, in violation of the plain mandates of the Constitution, which reserves all such powers to Congress alone. This act of military usurpation signifies a determination to wage a ruthless and persistent war of aggression against fourteen Southern States (for Maryland must be counted in) and eight millions of high-hearted Southern freemen who will never, never, never submit to be dragooned into a condition of vassalage. The Northern organs of Lincoln's Administration, with the spirit of the very devils of hell, threaten the ravishing of our women, the destruction of our cities and the slaughter of our men—one of those monsters in human shape says to the brutal population of Massachusetts that the women of Baltimore have ever been celebrated for their beauty, that Maryland and Virginia teem with wealth, and that therefore *"booty and beauty"* must be the rallying cry!!! That such monstrous sentiments can be expressed in a civilized community without rebuke should prepare Maryland and the whole South for that united and terrific resistance which will not fail to drive the ravishing robbers back to their dens, and plant the conquering standard of Southern rights and Southern chivalry upon the banks of the Hudson river. The South now stands upon the defensive—she asks no more than the recognition of her independence, she asks for peace—she desires peace and friendly relations with the Northern Confederacy—President Davis says so expressly in his late message to the Southern Congress—but if Lincoln should persevere in his resolution to wage a war of invasion and subjugation, he will as certainly be driven into the mountains of Pennsylvania and New York as that the sun rises in the East. The South has seven hundred thousand stand of arms, and four thousand cannon, with every abundance of munitions of war—she has five hundred thousand of the bravest fighting men that the sun ever shone upon, exclusive of another half million who are competent to bear arms for home service—she has two fifths of all of the officers of the U. S. Army, and by far the most talented and experienced of them all—she has an annual income of three hundred million of dollars from her cotton, tobacco, rice, hemp, &c., and she has four millions of slaves to cultivate these great sources of her wealth and power. Abraham Lincoln may blockade her ports, but he dare not deprive England of her cotton; for England has five millions of people who eat their daily bread by the manufacture of cotton. To starve those five millions is to resurrect the terrible phantom of Chartism and involve England in immediate civil and political revolution, with disaffected Ireland on one side and invading France on the other. Besides which the solvency of England depends upon the prompt and regular payment of the interest on her national debt of twelve hundred millions; and that depends upon her manufacturing, shipping and commercial prosperity; and they depend upon "King Cotton!" It therefore absolutely follows that the South will continue to export her two hundred millions of cotton annually, for Lincoln will not make an issue with England, upon which her own salvation depends. Thus the South will have the sinews of war. On the other hand, the hoarded wealth of the Northern cities, their four or five hundred millions of dollars, must be utterly exhausted in two years, if Lincoln attempts to keep a hundred and fifty thousand men in the field—and then what has the North to fall back upon? Wheat, corn and pork! which never yet, in the history of nations, brought wealth into the public coffers. Wheat, corn and pork will comfortably feed a home population, and the surplus may be exported to foreign nations when they are occasionally short of provisions, but they are not great reliable commercial staples like cotton, yielding as it does to the South, a fixed yearly revenue of two hundred millions of dollars! European capitalists will lend the Southern Confederacy any amount of money upon the credit of cotton, they will be shy to trust the Northern Confederacy to any great amount upon the credit of pork and potatoes! The South therefore is prepared for a longer war, which must bring to the North hopeless insolvency and consequent agrarianism. The total extinction in the Northern mind of all idea of State sovereignty and constitutional right, and the infidel and immoral perversion of all social sentiments, have prepared the Northern people for the inevitable anarchy and military despotism which must follow as the last result of the dissolution of the old Union. The Northern mind of all political parties has long since abandoned the doctrines of States rights and lost itself in the mire of consolidation and numerical mobocracy. Its connection hitherto with Southern Statesmanship, and the ideas and habits of Southern society has saved it from total shipwreck. Henceforth, left to itself, it must sink, into hopeless demagogueism and give itself up to *"woman's rights," "freelove," "Abolitionism," "Fourrierism," "Fanny Wrightism," Mormanism"* and every other hell-bornism which denies religion, destroys morality, and breaks up the foundations of society.

Let Maryland beware how she links the fortunes of her children forever to the terrible destiny of a people upon whom the retribution of God is about to descend.—*Frederick Citizen.*

North or South.

We clip from the Baltimore *Exchange*, of the 21st instant, the following sensible and well-timed article; and, as, in our judgment, it presents the true issue now before the people of this State, in a proper and practical shape, we commend its perusal to our readers:

As candidates are now being nominated for Congress in the several districts who are designated as "Unionists," it is high time that some of them should state precisely what they hope to accomplish, and explain the line of policy they intend to pursue. This is not the hour for cunning reticence or windy rhetoric. The arts to which politicians ordinary resort, to win a few votes more or less will find no toleration now. The Republic is tottering to its fall; the country is on the verge of ruin; a hundred dire calamities are impending over the people, and men's hearts are failing them for fear. Sentimental rhapsodies cannot save the Union, and platitudes will not bring us peace. We have had enough of these already. While men have been glorifying the Constitution, and enumerating the blessings for which we have been indebted to the continuance of the old Confederacy, the Constitution and the Confederacy have passed away. And now, they who have done nothing in this great crisis to uphold the one or maintain the other—who have placed Maryland in a situation which her friends regard with contempt and her adversaries with insolent scorn—these men now come forward with vague promises and pompous phrases and offer to rescue her from humiliation. What have they done thus far to entitle them to the confidence of her people? But what is of more importance still, how do they expect to restore the unity of the nation, or, failing in that, where do they desire or intend to place this State for the future? These are vital questions to us, and they demand unequivocal answers. Up to this moment the "Unionists" have vouchsafed us no explicit and direct replies upon these points. They continue to cry "peace, peace—when then there is no peace." They are defining "allegiance" and discussion the nature of "loyalty." They are demonstrating the illegality of secession, and pointing out the advantages of neutrality. They grow maudlin over reminiscences of the past, and melancholy over the prospects of the future. But meanwhile, whither are we tending? The Union is already dissolved; a new, powerful and unconquerable Confederacy exists south of the Potomac; and the fate of Maryland, which stands dubiously between the hostile nations, is about to be decided.—With these facts we are called upon to deal. Shall we under such circumstances entrust our interests, our rights, and our honor to the hands of those who are timidly and hesitatingly stumbling forward they know not whither, or shall we call to our aid those who have some clear conceptions of the difficulties of our situation, and who have some definite policy to propose and do not strink from incurring responsibility, and if need be danger? We are even now subjugated, and unless we set manfully about the work of our own redemption, the temporary domination which presses so heavily upon us will fasten itself upon us for all coming time in utter disregard of our wishes or interests. If we are powerless let us not at least be any longer blind to the character of the events which are transpiring around us or to the direction in which they are hurrying us. Let us, if we still hope to have a voice in determining our own destinies, insist upon knowing what are the views and purposes of those who would direct our course. We ask therefore now, as we have done repeatedly heretofore, that the "Unionists" shall deal fairly and frankly with the people. We desire to understand whether they still hope to preserve or reconstruct the Union, and if so how they propose to set about it. Do they believe after all they have seen in the past six months, and especially since the feeling lately manifested in the North, that its people or the Administration can be induced to offer, at our solicitation, any terms of compromise whatsoever to the South which would restore the old connection between the two sections? Do they imagine the South would now accept any of the measures of conciliation which it once vainly asked for, and that it would undo all that it has lately done and dissolve the Government it has organized? Do they suppose that the armies and navies of the North can restore harmonious relations between the free and slave States and again compel the people of both sections to unite as brethren and citizens of a common country? Surely it is absolutely incumbent on the "Unionists" to speak out upon these points; and if they have no reasonable expectation of preserving the Union, they are bound to be equally explicit in regard to the action which Maryland should take in contemplation of the dissolution of the Confederacy. Do they desire Maryland, in such case, to abide with the Northern States? There are honest men who think her duty and her interest should prompt her to do so, but no man is honest who, in this emergency entertains these convictions and fears, or hesitates to express them. We have the right to know the sentiments of every individual who undertakes to influence the future fortunes of this State and its people. We do not want to be juggled into one Confederacy more than into the other; and it is because we see that it is the hope of many "Unionists" to trick us into a lasting alliance with the North that we thus continually challenge a declaration of their opinions and objects. We know that a portion of that party, under the delusive cry of "Union," "Union," would lead us unconsciously into the new Northern Confederacy which is to be, and we warn all to beware of these false counsellors,

> "That palter with us in a double sense;
> That keep the word of promise to our ear,
> And break it to our hope."

Let the people insist upon having a full and candid explanation of his opinions from every man who asks their confidence, or they may find, when it is too late, that they have lost the power to control or influence their own destinies. Maryland must not drift to any destination towards which the strongest current of the hour may incline her. Her fate should be calmly and resolutely determined by her people. Their right to do this is unquestionable, and we trust they will persistently claim it; and, if need be, courageously fight for it, even though they should have to wrestle with naked hands with the bayonets which would pin down their State as a conquered province upon the map of any Confederacy. If they would not wave or lose this right, at them be careful not to follow the lead of any man or party without knowing precisely where the path they are invited to enter on will take them.

Postal Service at the South.

The Hon. John H. Reagan Postmaster General of the Southern Confederacy, has issued a proclamation suspending and prohibiting the operations of the Post Office Department of the United States, within the limits of the Confederate States, after the thirty-first day of the present month.

All postmasters, route agents, and special agents now acting under the authority of the United States are directed, on and after the first day of June, to continue in the discharge of their duties, subject to the laws and regulations of the new Confederacy, to which they are required to apply for new commissions. They are also instructed to render their final accounts up to the 31st day of this month to the Post Office Department at Washington, and to return at the same time all postage stamps and stamped envelopes belonging to the United States, and to retain in their possession all the revenue which shall have accrued from the postal service previous to the first of June, to meet the orders of the Postmaster General of the United States for the payment of mail service within the Confederate States.

Postmasters are forbidden to collect postage on mail matter sent to or received from the United States, until a postal treaty shall be made by this Government with the Southern Confederacy, and, until postage stamps and stamped envelopes are furnished, all mail matter is required to be paid for in money.

Five cents will be charged for every single sealed letter conveyed over a distance of less than five hundred miles within the limits of the Confederacy, and for any distance exceeding that point, double that rate. Newspapers published within the Confederate States and sent from the office to subscribers residing in the said States, are charged as follows: Weeklies ten cents per quarter, semi-weeklies double that amount, tri-weeklies treble that amount, papers published six times a week sixty cents, and dailies seventy cents. Periodicals published oftener than biennially are charged as newspapers. Books bound or unbound, not weighing over four pounds, are charged at two cents an ounce for any distance. Double the rates above specified are to be charged upon all newspapers published beyond the limits of the Confederate States.

Interesting Statistics.

The Memphis (Tenn.) *Avalanche* publishes a letter compiled from Executive Document No. 62 of the first session of the Thirtieth Congress, which shows the number of volunteers from each State engaged in the war with Mexico in 1845-7, and also the list of wounded, died and killed in battle. The patriotism of the South has been much impugned by many Northern men, who have, on the other hand, been boisterous in their praises of the loyalty and devotion to the Union ever exhibited by the North. The following table will show the distinction between the men of the two great divisions, when love of country and loyalty to the Government meant something more than vaporing, empty words—when it meant the risk and sacrifice of life and fortune:

VOLUNTEERS FROM FREE STATES.

	No.	Killed.	Wounded.	Died.
Masstts'	1.047	2	..	28
New York	2,665	54	77	71
N. Jersey	424	2	..	9
Penn.	2.464	39	59	198
Ohio	4,694	31	2	217
Michigan	972	..	..	8
Indiana	4,440	49	..	218
Illinois	5,973	107	97	361
Iowa	229	..	..	8
Total.	22.908	284	235	1,108

VOLUNTEERS FROM SLAVE STATES.

	No	Killed.	Wounded.	Died.
Arkansas	1,323	22	3	152
Florida	232	1	1	7
Texas	7,313	48	10	117
Louisiana	7,728	15	6	192
Tennessee	5,410	57	13	186
Kentucky	4,800	105	48	176
Virginia	1,303	6	..	60
N. Carolina	736	1	..	171
S. Carolina	1,045	58	115	284
Georgia	2.047	4	5	116
Alabama	3,011	..	..	103
Mississippi	2.329	60	45	256
Missouri	6,733	28	2	228
Total.	44,300	405	258	1,990

The States of Florida, Texas, Louisiana, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi, now forming the Southern Confederacy, contributed 23,795 men, or 887 more than the nine free States, although in population the latter exceeded the former three to one.

Wisconsin, then a free Territory, contributed 146 volunteers, of which none were killed or wounded, and nine died, while the District of Columbia (slaveholding) contributed 1,330, of whom nine were wounded, thirteen killed, and fifty-two died.

It will be noticed that the South Carolina Volunteers suffered vastly greater loss in proportion of numbers, and the Massachusetts Volunteers very much less, in the same proportion, than any other State or Territory.

The Free States of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Connecticut and Rhode Island did not contribute any volunteers during the war. Delaware was the only slaveholding State which did not.

Power of the Bombshell.

The following note accompanied fragments of bomshell sent to the editor of the Boston *Transcript*, as taken from the Citadel of Messina, after its bombardment and capture by the forces of Victor Emmanuel:

Two pieces of bombshells, which I brought from the Citidal, after the bombardment had ceased. The larger piece I found in the centre fort, and know nothing remarkable connected with its history. The smaller piece I found in the fortress known by the name of Don Blasco. The company attached to this point, were driven to their quarters—a large arched apartment in the basement—by the fire of their enemy.

The shell, of which this small piece is a part, came in at the corner of a window, tearing away the casement and a portion of the wall, passed across the room and entered the opposite will, which was of brick and mortar to the depth of thirty-three inches, where it exploded, tearing away the whole of the wall upon one side of the point of entrance, and leaving a half section of the hole it cut, still remaining, smooth in the wall, into which I inserted my cane and took the measure given above with a tape measure.

This shell also caused the death of five men, as one of the company informed me, and taking me across the apartment, to a bench, he directed my attention to the blood where the men were laid. He assured me that no other lives were lost at the citadel during the bombardment. Looking at the mass of brick and mortar which this shell scattered about, it seemed remarkable that out of a whole company in the apartment at the moment only five should have been killed.

The damage done to the citadel, by twelve mortars, and fifty-one rifled cannon, in five hours and a quarter, is perfectly incredible. Had they kept up such work for eight and forty hours the whole institution would, I think, have been demolished, and the threat of Cialdini—"to blow them all into another world"—fulfilled.

SENATOR BAYARD OF DELAWARE.—Senator Bayard publishes a lengthy address to the people of Delaware, vindicating himself from false charges against him. He declares that his visit to New Orleans was solely on social and business purposes which was contemplated more than a year ago, without anticipation of the exciting events which were occurring during his visit. He made no political arrangements at Montgomery, and returned home as speedily as possible, in consequence of exciting events. He alludes to the threatening mob at Philadelphia, and the courteous and judicious action of the Mayor and his police in protecting him: also to the many dangerous inuendoes concocted by his enemies at Wilmington, threatening his person. He is particularly severe on the newspapers of Philadelphia, for the indirect support they gave to mob violence.

In conclusion he says, he knows his duties as a citizen of Delaware and of the United States, and is concious of no violation of them. His term of office as Senator does not expire until March, 1863, but when satisfied that civil war, to which he is opposed, cannot be averted, and finds that the public sentiment of Delaware prefers such a result to a peaceful separation, he will resign. It will require but a few days after the assembling of Congress for him to determine whether the last hope of peace has fled, and he can then act. He will not betray the confidence of the people, or misrepresent their will; but the right of private opinion, and its expression, is a private right beyond public control. He has no faith in the government of the sword, or mob, and will resist the establishment of either.

THE PROSPECT.—The ordinary revenues of the Government are not now, and will not be, while the present state of affairs continue, sufficient to defray the expenses of collecting it.

The ordinary expenditures of the Government now reach about $65,000,000 a year.

The extraordinary expenditures arising from the unholy and suicidal war waged against the South cannot be less than at the rate of $250,000,000 or $300,000,000 a year.

To pay this $30,000,000 or $35,000,000 a month, equal to the whole expenses of the Government a few years ago, the Government is dependent on loans, or the voluntary contributions of the citizens of the States adhering to it.

If the Border States stay with the North, their people must submit to be directly or indirectly taxed to the amount of five or six millions of dollars a year to pay these expenses.—*Louisville Courier.*

ARMS IN THE SOUTH.—Many people seem to be under the impression that the Southern States are but poorly and insufficiently armed. This is an erroneous notion. Since the inception of the Confederate States movement, 290 000 stand of arms have been seized at the various arsenals, &c. The arms previously purchased by the several States amounted to 417,000, marking a grand total of 707,000 stand of arms, besides 200 000 revolvers which are said to be on hand at various points. The arms owned by the States of Tennessee, Arkansas, Kentucky, Texas, Maryland and Virginia would increase the number to at least 1,000,000. Besides this there are thought to be two millions of private arms, which would answer practical purpose in case of invasion by an enemy.

☞ The Frankfort Yeoman in noticing the telegraphic reports that a regiment had been raised in Kentucky for the Federal Government says:

"If such a regiment of men has been raised in Kentucky, as above stated, we venture the assertion that it is composed of the filth and off-scourings of Cincinnati, and not of Kentuckians. We can imagine the appearance of that regiment with something of the same sensations as amused Falstaff when reviewing his forces. We doubt if there is a whole shirt in the regiment—certainly not a clean one.

The New York *Evening Post* seems at a loss to account for the fact, and urges as a matter of grave complaint, that Maryland does not seem to be Union loving at heart; "but that the Union sentiment, only predominates where there is a strong government force."