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The South.

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The South.

"Before St. Mark still glow his steeds of brass,
Their gilded collars glittering in the sun;
But is not Doria's menace come to pass?
Are they not *bridled?* Venice, lost and won,
Her thirteen hundred years of freedom done,
Sinks, like sea-weed, into whence she rose!
Better be whelm'd beneath the waves, and shun,
Even in destruction's depth, her foreign foes,
From whom submission wrings an infamous repose."

WAR MOVEMENTS.

Highly Important from Washington.

A GENERAL CONFLICT IMMINENT.

The morning papers contain telegrams from Washington and Alexandria, dated late last night, which show that the Federal forces were attempting an advance into Virginia from Alexandria, towards Manassas Junction, and by way of the Potomac river and Aquia creek. The Virginia batteries at the latter place were being bombarded by the Government steamers and the Seventy-first (N. Y.) Regiment was ordered there about midnight. The Virginians have two batteries of heavy guns at Aquia which can be at any time supported by large large bodies of troops who are collected at Dumfries and Fredericksburg, which are near the creek. At Manassas Junction all accounts represent General Lee as in command and well prepared to meet an attack. He had pushed forward his advance guard to Centreville, seven miles above the Junction and possibly as far as Fairfax C. H., a point 18 miles from Alexandria. As the Federal troops were advancing to occupy Fairfax, a conflict there seems highly probable. At Manassas Junction the country is level and open, at Fairfax hilly and thickly wooded.

Nothing is known accurately of the numbers under General Lee, but well-informed parties who passed through Manassas Junction two days ago place it as high as 30,000, with large reinforcements pouring in from Lynchburg and elsewhere. Although we shall doubtless have additional information during the day, we annex the despatches sent last night:

The Affair at Aquia Creek.

Washington, May 31.—It was stated yesterday that a number of vessels were then fitting out here for some destination not publicly disclosed. The following despatch received at the Navy Department from the telegraphic station at the navy yard, between four and five o'clock this afternoon, affords an explanation:

"The *Keystone State* reports that in passing Aquia Creek at noon, the *Freeborn* and *Anacosta* were engaging the battery at Aquia Creek with success. Shall I send the *Pocahontas* with her 10-inch gun to assist?"

The despatch is signed by Captain Dahlgren, the commander at the navy yard. Immediately on the receipt of this despatch the Navy Department ordered two men-of-war down to support Captain Ward. It may be proper to state that Aquia Creek is fifty-five miles from Washington, and is the terminus of the Richmond and Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad. Vessels can approach within musket range of the battery.

There is little if any doubt that the New York 71st regiment will proceed at midnight to Aquia creek, arrangements having been made for their transportation thither. Up to half-past 11 o'clock to-night, the government had received no further advices from that point, beyond what has generally been mentioned. The steamer *Keystone State* witnessed the fight for several hours, according to the report of an officer on board that vessel. There are two batteries. The one on the low ground had been damaged. It was supposed from the movements of the steamer *Anacosta* that she was struck by a ball.

The *Pawnee* left Alexandria for the Creek at 4 P. M., the *Pocahontas* taking her place in front of the city.

The Advance Towards Fairfax C. H.

Washington, May 31.—A gentleman who arrived here to-night from the camp of the federal troops in Virginia, reports that four companies of the U. S. 2d dragoons, a battery of artillery, and the New York 8th, 25th and 69th regiments were occupying the heights two miles beyond Arlington House, and their pickets extend beyond Hall's Cross Roads, 6½ miles from Washington.

A portion of this force was intending to advance on Fairfax Court-House to-night, and, if possible, occupy it before daybreak. They expected to have an engagement, as information, deemed reliable, had reached them that Confederate troops to the number of 1,900 are in position at that point. It was currently expected that there would be an attack by 4,000 Confederate troops on Alexandria during the night.

The federal forces there and in the vicinity were actively engaged preparing for the expected conflict. The attack was expected to come from the direction of Dumfries, about 28 miles below. This last report was not altogether believed, but it is certain that the federal troops are awake to any possible emergency.

A lady who lives near Manassas Junction, and who reached Washington this afternoon, states that the Confederate troops are concentrating rapidly at the Junction. They are being thrown forward from Lynchburg in large numbers, and troops in considerable numbers are making an advance and occupying prominent positions this side of that point. The Confederate troops expected an immediate attack from the Federal forces in that vicinity. The former were busily engaged in fortifying every available position at and near the Junction, with a view to making that position defensible as possible.

Movement of Troops.

Despatches sent to the New York *Day Book* from Washington, of yesterday's date, say:—

Preparations are evidently making for a forward movement of the government troops. Wagons and ambulances are in demand, and the price of artillery horses has advanced until it is impossible to procure them for less than $175 each. The troops now stationed in the Capital are all under orders, ready to march at a moment's notice. The object of these preparations is probably a sudden concentric movement upon the forces in Virginia. A party of fifty reached Baltimore from Harper's Ferry yesterday. Gen. Cadwallader is carefully watching their movements.

The Garibaldi Guard of New York are ordered to cross to the Virginia side of the Potomac at three o'clock this afternoon.

The report current in Baltimore that the tug *Yankee* has been captured is false. The *Yankee* is now at the Navy Yard. Her captain and crew, however, have left, because a mid-shipman was placed in charge. The troops at the Relay House are constantly provided with three days' rations, and are otherwise in condition for an immediate march. Their probable destination is Harper's Ferry. The District Attorney of Maryland has just had an interview with Attorney General Bates respecting the Cadwallader *habeas corpus* case. The result has not been announced.

The Postmaster General has established Fort Pickens as a new post-office.

The woods are to be cleared for three miles around Arlington, and the three months troops are to do most of the work. The cool nights and long hot days make it desirable that our troops should be in healthy positions. We have a rumor in camp that Gov. Letcher has notified General Runyon, of N. J. regiments, to leave the territory of Virginia within ten days.

——Gen. Harney recently asked of Gov. Jackson and Gen. Price, of Missouri, whether a regiment could be marched through the State to the border. The request was politely declined.

——A gentleman from Memphis who left Montgomery on the 22d ult., reports President Davis as having started on that day for Richmond, Va.

——Brigadier General Ben McCullogh is at Little Rock, Ark.

From Mexico.

The New Orleans *Picayune* of Sunday last, by an arrival from Vera Cruz, has dates from the City of Mexico to the 7th of May. The *Picayune* says:—

The first thing which struck our attention was an editorial in the *Trait d' Union*, of the last date, which contains some significant references to political affairs in this country. If the spirit therein displayed should prevail in the Government, it will be very unexpected to the Lincoln Administration, who have been counting on Mexican sympathy. It will be hard for Mr. Seward to be snubbed by Mexico.

The *Trait d' Union* mentions the simultaneous arrival of three new diplomatists, commissioned to the Government, namely, by England, Belgium, and Mr. Corwin, from Washington City. We translate what it says of this last named gentleman and his mission:

"In what capacity does this representative, appointed by Mr. Lincoln, come here? Evidently in the capacity of Minister of the United States, that is to say, of the Confederacy, such as it was before the separation of the States of the South. Can he, ought he to be received in that capacity? This is the first question to be resolved.

"We must be very careful on that point. The first step on such grounds may be very dangerous. Mr. Corwin would not be simply recognized as the representative of only the States of the North; and the Mexican Government cannot recognize him as representing the States of the South.

"If Mr. Lincoln's envoy limits his pretensions so as to be only the representative of the North, he strikes a blow at the dignity of his own Government, and admits thereby that the Administration whose commission he holds is making at this moment an unjust and unlawful war on the South—and that it is not possible for him to do.

"If Mexico should receive him as representing at once the States of the North and the South, it would thereby discredit the legitimate authority of the Confederate States and the Government at Montgomery—and this is not more possible for them.

"Mr. Corwin comes, as is said, to conclude a treaty. That question may be handled later. The only question for the present is, that of his reception, and frankly, the case seems to us a very embarrassing one. Perhaps it will be submitted to Congress. We shall see how they will get out of it.

"It must not be forgotten that the Republican party—the same which Mr. Corwin represents—refused to ratify the treaty of McLane, which was so favorable at the time of the Liberal cause, on the main ground that the treaty had been made by a government *whose authority did not extend over the whole nation*. This argument may now be returned against the Republicans; for the authority of Mr. Lincoln is certainly very far from reaching over the whole of the country which once formed the confederation of the United States.

"This reasoning is strengthened by other considerations not less potent. The necessity which Mexico has for living on good terms with the Confederate States, its neighbor; the danger to its frontiers of making for itself so formidable an enemy; its need of commercial relations with the Confederate States, and many other irresistible reasons, upon which we shall take more than one occasion to dilate."

A letter from Vera Cruz, of the 11th, stated that Mata, Minister of Finance, had resigned, and Inarez was losing prestige. Dates from Tampico were to the 16th of May. A letter says:

The conducta which reached this port on th 26th ult., brought $1,240,000, the greatest part of which was shipped per British steamer.

The French Press on the American Troubles.

[*From the Paris Pays of May* 14.]

Before the "United States of America" existed there were sovereign States which must have necessarily acted in the sovereign capacity, seeing that they subsequently became associated; otherwise, Northern America would not form a confederation of independent States, but a single and indivisible State.

This is what neither *The Siecle* nor *The Opinione Nationale* will comprehend. According to *their* notions, the States composing this Confederation have no more significance than the Departments of France or the Shires of England. This is the error into which Mr. Lincoln has fallen.—This was the absurd theory he maintained in his speech at Indianapolis, if we mistake not, and since his inauguration at the capitol he has applied himself to putting it into practice; we have seen up to this time how much it has been relished at the South.

The journals which defend this theory are daily striving to prove to their readers that the conduct of the seceding States is culpable, and that their inhabitants are rebels; and as the most of them cannot, even themselves, sustain such assertions, they are forced to depend upon what is doled out to them on the subject. Now, what is really contrary to the letter and spirit of the American Constitution is the unification of the United States of North America under an omnipotent unitary Government. Each State has its Senate and House of Representatives elected by the people. The Governor himself, who is the Executive of the State, is elected by the people of each State, and not named by the central power at Washington, which possesses no other than delegated powers, relating to intercourse with foreign Governments, and diplomatic and commercial affairs. The Federal Government has not the right to intermeddle with the affairs of the States, when the Constitution has not been violated by their acts. Again, each State has its own Treasury for which it has to account to no one else, and its officials paid with its own money, entirely beyond the control of the Federal Government.

Each State, too, has its own militia, dependent for orders only on the Governor, who is its Commander-in-Chief, and may refuse to send a Federal contingent if he sees fit, and that without the central Government having power to compel him. What more, then, is required in a State to make it self-inherent, independent, and sovereign?—Why, Hungary herself asks no more than the reassertion of her self-inherent existence. Our Washington correspondence of March the 1st, entered into the minute details of the question which is now separating into two camps, the Republics of the United States. Now this question, let us repeat, for the benefit of *The Siecle*, is no other than to know whether a State has the right to go out of the Union: or, in other words, whether self-existent as it originally was it has retained its self-inherent existence. The Constitution and the history of the Republics of North America respond in the affirmative.

Effect of the War in Massachusetts.

A Worcester correspondent of the N. Y. *Day Book* gives the following information of the depression in business in Massachusetts. He says:

In the north part of this country there is no *business*. The great pail and chair districts are almost desolated. The large pail manufactory of the Murdocks in Winchendon is shut up, the proprietors failed, and the workmen out of employment. This is a severe blow to the town, but Ashburnham is in about the same condition. One little village in Templeton, of 400 inhabitants, has lost within three weeks over $100,000, completely ruining the place for the time being. This sad state of affairs in the northern part of the country is but a sample of the state of our industrial interests everywhere. The Brookfields are the great boot and shoe towns of the country, and their business is down. T. & E. Batchelder have failed, and their works were the largest in town. Those shops where any work is done are doing but very little, and the profits are found on the wrong side of the ledger. The straw shops in Upton have also nearly stopped work; but as their season is nearly over, they will not be seriously affected this summer, if they can sell their present supply.

The Ohio Election.

The full returns from the 8th District of Ohio show the election of Harrison, Conservative Republican, over Harlan, Radical Republican.

How the Blockade Affects the Mexicans on the Rio Grande.

A correspondent of the New Orleans *Delta*, writing from Matamoras, Mexico, on the 28th instant, says:

A question of some gravity has arisen for discussion with us, in connection with your troubles, and that is: Whether the blockade Mr. Lincoln has declared against the Southern coast will have any effect on the freedom of the Rio Grande.—This river, which divides Mexico from the United States, or from the Confederate States, is free to Mexico; and the imports of a large section of Mexican territory are received that way. We are scarce of flour and groceries. Are we to starve because your and Lincoln's cruisers swarm upon the Gulf? Suppose goods and groceries are laden at New York for Matamoras, are they to be stopped because they are liable to be sold to Texas after they arrive in our markets?

If such is to be the case, Mexico will have to protest against it; and if it is not, the Texans can obtain all the arms and munitions they desire, not to speak of provisions, by ordering them through our stores from New York. In the time of the war between Russia and England and France, great complaint was made by the latter powers that Russia carried on a highly prosperous trade with the world, notwithstanding the vigorous blockade of the Baltic, by shipping her goods through Prussia. Nothing could be done in the premises, and, as the cases are parallel, I do not see how the Yankees are to get around the precedent. If they do not do so, we need feel no apprehension of hard times in this quarter.

The Blockade.

The New York papers discover that in blockading the South, they have blockaded their own city. The *Day Book* says:

We have over *twenty-three millions* of capital employed in shipping, while the South has but four millions. Of freights which employs this shipping, the South furnishes $24,500,000, while the North and West together, furnish $3,500,000. Thus the South furnishes six-sevenths of all the freight of the country, while it owns less than one-sixth of the tonnage. The North owns 80 per cent. of the tonnage, and supplies less than 7 per cent. of the freights. Let any man, who has not lost his brains, look at these figures, and he will very quickly see that it is ourselves we are injuring more than the South. And what is to become of this commercial emporium of the North, if we drive off, permanently, or deprive our ships of these southern freights? The official Treasury returns of 1850 give the amount of money employed in ship-building for that year as $14,304,779 in the North, while the South employed but $1,924,371. The North has 10,300 hands engaged in ship-building, while the South has but 1,867. To supply these ship-builders with materials, 27,000 persons are engaged in getting out lumber, which is estimated at $31,897,000 in value per annum. Then, to all these sums we are to add many millions of capital, and hundreds of thousands of hands kept busy in the traffic of provisions, clothing, &c., to keep up all this immense interest. Now, the policy of the Administration, which strikes down our commerce, strikes down also all this vast source of employment and wealth to the Northern masses. And if the war and the blockade go on to the bitter end, this destruction of Northern interests is final and eternal. There is no other spot on earth that can supply to us the sources of wealth we have had in the South. Every day of the blockade not only destroys our capital and robs our people of employment, but it compels the South to do without us, and forces her to do for herself what we have grown rich in doing for her. Whatever else the blockade may do, if it should last but one year, it will be sure to produce a *commercial* dissolution of the Union, which no merely political Union can ever reconstruct.

War Excitement in New Orleans.

The New Orleans *True Delta* of the 25th has the following paragraph:

The intelligence from Virginia, announcing the invasion of her sacred soil by the armed minions of Lincoln created great excitement last evening. Reading of the death of Ellsworth, of Chicago Zouave notoriety, the people only wished that Gen. Butler had been there to share the same fate! That live Yankee-doodle will no doubt be attended to at an early opportunity. One effect of the news was to create an earnest desire on the part of the military companies now in the city to get off to the scene of hostilities right away. Their blood was fired at the bare idea of invading the great old mother of States. Drilling in the respective headquarters of the companies and on the streets was the passion of the night.

New York.

The *Day Book* of yesterday says:—A merchant of this city, whose opinion is entitled to credit, both from his experience and his sagacity, says that "it is useless to deny that a complete financial wreck of the whole North is inevitable unless something is done when Congress meets to bring about an honorable peace."

It is a sad business to walk out in the streets. One can hardly persuade himself that he is not in bedlam. Such faces? Some blazing with fiendish passions, others, sad, sorrowful and despairing; but not one pleasant and joyous countenance in the whole city. There is something in every man's face which seems to say—"a nation is dying!"

Uniform of the Confederate Army.

The uniform of the Confederate States Army is a short tunic coat of cadet gray cloth, double-breasted, with two rows of brass buttons, two inches apart at the waist, and widening towards the shoulders; pantaloons sky blue, made full in the legs. The buttons are plain gilt, convex form, and three-quarters of an inch in diameter. The different arms of the service are distinguished by the color of the trimmings—blue for infantry, red for artillery, and yellow for cavalry. The artillery buttons are stamped with the letter A, but the infantry and cavalry buttons will bear only the number of the regiment. The general and staff officers' dress will be dark blue cloth; the medical department black cloth, with gold and velvet trimmings. Badges of distinction will be marked upon the sleeves and collars—brigadier-general, three large stars on the collar; colonel, two stars; lieutenant colonel, one star; major, small star and horizontal bar; captain, three small stars; first lieutenant, two small stars, and second lieutenant, one small star. The buttons for a general and staff officers are to have a raised eagle in the centre, surrounded by thirteen stars.

Newport News Point.

The origination of the name of this Point, lately made notorious by the advance of Gen. Butler's force, is thus explained:—

The early colony on James River was at one time reduced to a straitened condition, and some of its members started down the James River, with the intention of proceeding to England. They reached the bend in the river, which is at present an object of interest, and paused for some days. When they were about to set sail, they saw a ship coming up the Roads, bearing the British ensign. They delayed till it should arrive. It proved to be Lord Newport's ship, with his Lordship on board, who brought the intelligence that the ship which the colony had long before despatched to England for supplies, and which was many months overdue, was near at hand, bringing much needed relief. Meantime, his Lordship distributed provisions among the colonists, who, from these circumstances, named the place "Newport's News," on account of the good tidings which his Lordship brought to them.

Driven Insane by Insults Offered to her Husband.—The wife of Henry A. Bills, of Walstead, Conn., died at the Hartford Insane Retreat a few days ago—the result of an attack of insanity produced by the execrations and threats uttered against her husband in the community where he lived, because of his sympathy with the southern rebellion.

News by Telegraph.

Washington, May 31.—The Secretary of the Treasury has under consideration the proper course to be pursued with a view to paying the volunteers who have not yet received any money from the government, apart from the provision made by the States. Several vessels went to Fortress Monroe to-day, carrying hundreds of thousands of cartridges and other war requisites. The supply in that direction is now ample. One-half of the amount of bonds awarded on Saturday have already been prepared, and will at once be issued to the successful bidders. Several vessels improperly captured by the blockading forces have been ordered to be released. The government will act promptly in all future similar cases. The Second Maine Regiment arrived here this afternoon. The New York Seventh Regiment left here this evening at six o'clock, for home, in the evening train. The Ninth Regiment of the same State occupy their camp. The military preparations made last night were owing to an apprehended conflict on the Virginia side, a telegram having been received by Gen. Scott to induce such belief, but which was afterwards contradicted.

Washington, May 31.—Gen. James Watson Webb, of New York, has been appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Brazil. The revenue laws require vessels entering a port with informal papers to be seized; but inasmuch as those coming from the South, where the custom houses are in possession of insurrectionary parties, cannot obtain the proper clearances, the Secretary of the Treasury, with a view of remedying the embarrassment and trouble under these circumstances, has decided that in cases where it appears there was no fault on the part of the commanders, the latter shall not be compelled to go into court; but on the correct representation of the collectors where the vessels arrive, the fines and fees which the law imposes shall be remitted. A new collector having been appointed for Alexandria, that city has been re-opened to the commerce of the country, and therefore vessels will be admitted as heretofore. The President has found it necessary, owing to pressing public business, to deny himself to many visitors. The War Department is kept open all night to be informed by telegraph or otherwise of whatever may demand prompt attention.

St Louis, May 31.—In the McDonald habeas corpus case, Gen. Harney made a return that McDonald had been removed to Illinois. That he had never had the body of the prisoner under his control, and consequently was unable to produce him. General Harney further stated that by orders from Washington he had been removed from the command of the department. It is understood that Gen. Lyon will succeed Gen. Harney.

Louisville, May 31st.—The army worm is approaching Louisville in vast numbers, threatening to destroy all cereals in this vicinity. Immense quantities of freight are going to Nashville by the railroad. It is rumored that transportation of goods South will be stopped on Monday next. It is rumored that the Nashville road has been stopped and that the Tennesseans will advance into Kentucky and take possession of the road.

Louisville, May 31.—The Memphis *Bulletin* announces the arrival of Gen. Beauregard there, to take command of the western division of the Confederate Army. The Nashville Railroad agent is obliged to refuse all freight till next week, on account of the insufficient number of cars to take it southward.

St. John, N. B., May 30th.—Prince Alfred arrived last night, and was received by the Governor and civic authorities. There was also a torch-light procession of firemen and a display of fireworks. He leaves to-morrow for Fredericton, and it is expected will proceed to Quebec by the inland route.

Chicago, May 30th.—The Bank Commissioners have made a call for additional securities on fifty-two banks, having a circulation of $5,000,000 secured by $1,200,000 of Northern, $5,000,000 of Order State, and $800,000 of Seceded State Stocks. The call gives the Banks till the 1st of June to make up the deficit.

Boston, May 31.—The steamer *Cambridge* left here this afternoon for Fortress Monroe with lumber, tools and provisions. Also a picked company of sappers and miners, under a requisition from Gen. Butler. Brig. Gen. Pierce and staff go in her. Also a commission from the Governor to examine the condition of the 3d and 4th Massachusetts regiments.

Leavenworth, May 31.—The U. S. troops from the Texas frontier have arrived at Fort Leavenworth in good health. They left nothing at the posts evacuated excepting forage. Lt. Col. Emery has resigned.

Carlisle, May 13.—The Philadelphia city troop, with 400 regular cavalry, left here this morning for Shippensburg. It is supposed they will proceed thence to Chambersburg.

Elmira, N. Y., May 31.—Two more regiments have been ordered to Washington.

Federal Troops in the Field.

The Herald estimates that the force of Federal troops now in service at the different points, which may be considered seats of war, amounts to fully 95,000, and this does not include the men in the various camps whose location is not yet decided upon. This force is stationed and commanded as follows:

Location.	Commander.	No. Men.
South side of Potomac	Brig. Gen. McDowell	21,000
Washington, &c.	Brig. Gen. Mansfield	22,000
Fortress Monroe	Maj. Gen. Butler	9,000
Pennsylvania, West	Maj. Gen. Keim	16,000
Cincinnati & West. Va.	Maj. Gen. McClelland	13,000
Cairo and vicinity	Brig. Gen. Prentice	6,000
Baltimore, &c.	Brig. Gen. Cadwallader	5,000
Philadelphia, &c.	Maj. Gen. Patterson	3,000
Total		95,000

Mr. Russell—More Prizes.

The New Orleans *Picayune* of last Sunday contains the following:—

Mr. Russell, of the London *Times*, who had been the guest of the British Consul, Mr. Mure, for some days past, has gone to the plantation of Governor Roman.

A dispatch dated ten minutes past ten, to-day, states that the C. S. privateer *Calhoun* was coming in, with three prizes—a brig and two schooners.

The Object of the War.

The Washington correspondent of the New York *Times*, boldly says:

The impression gains ground that there can be no end to the present war, no compromise, no peace, which leaves the cause of it in existence.—The irrepressible conflict having taken this sanguinary character, can no more be staid while Slavery exists. It has been resolved by the whole people of the North that the Union must be preserved. The Government responds to this popular outburst of patriotism, and reechoes it in official instructions to our Foreign Ministers. This is the one great point determined, and it is now becoming evident that it cannot be made final and sure without a complete overthrow of the institution of Slavery.

Canada Supplying the South with Steamers.—A correspondent of the *World*, writing from Montreal, gives the following startling intelligence: "The iron steamer *Peerless* was also reported as having been bought by the United States government. This is also incorrect, as the government have never authorized any such purchase. She is a British vessel, and was sold by the Bank of Upper Canada to a Mr. Wright, of New York, and has sailed for Quebec, and will shortly be at sea. Strong suspicions are entertained that she is intended for the Southern rebels, and will require looking after. The Peerless may be all right, but there is everything connected with her to excite suspicions. Her destination is said to be St. John's N. B. Strange that a ship building port like St. Johns should all at once become the purchaser of foreign steamships at good prices. Either the trade of St. Johns has become suddenly expanded, or these purchases are made with no good intentions.

The Habeas Corpus.

The N. Y. *Journal of Commerce* in denouncing the gross usurpation of the military power thus rebukes the *Tribune* and kindred journals:

The importance of the writ was never more manifest than at this moment, when the Executive Department of the Government of the United States, in the attempt to suppress a rebellion, is tempted to take upon itself the exercise of judicial functions. The grand object of the writ is, to prevent the exercise of judicial authority by injudicious men; to guarantee the citizen that no military force shall hold him in duress unless by due process of law.

The remark of one of the New York papers that the writ was "originally intended to secure the liberty of loyal men," and that "it would be a gross perversion of its powers to employ it as the protecting shield of rebels," is a specimen of the very tyrany which the writ of habeus corpus is designed to overcome. The writ was originally and always intended as a defence of the subject against the tyrany of the government; and nowhere is such defence more needed than under a government like our own. The article in the *Tribune*, to which we refer, is the grossest perversion of right and of free principles that ever disgraced the pages of a New York paper. Says the *Tribune*,—"of all the tyrannies that afflict mankind, that of the Judiciary is the most insidious, the most intolerable, the most dangerous."!!

In other words, the *Tribune* is for establishing Lynch law everywhere; and when any large community have arisen in their might and pronounced against any particular men as traitors and rebels, and have seized and are about to hang them, then, no matter whether the community be Northern or Southern—whether the offense be against public sentiment North or South—lynch law overrides the writ of *habeas corpus*, and the judge is a tyrant who dares to issue it. This, we say, is the doctrine now taught in the *Tribune*.

It is marvellous that within the past two weeks the leading Administration papers have been filled with endeavors to justify the most illegal and unconstitutional proceedings, forgetting that they thus more than justify the entire course of the Southern rebellion!

Sketch of General McClellan.

We find in the New York *Times* the following sketch of Gen. McClellan, who commands the Western division of the U. S. Army:—

Next in rank to Lieut. Gen. Scott stands Major General George B. McClellan. He is hardly thirty-five years of age, having been born in Philadelphia on December 3d, 1826. At the age of sixteen he entered the Military Academy at West Point, graduating with the class of 1846, with the rank of Brevet Second Lieutenant of Engineers. Until the Mexican War, however, he had no opportunity of distinguishing himself, and then "for gallant and meritorious conduct in the battles of Contreras and Cherubusco," as the orders expressed it, he was Breveted First Lieutenant. "For gallant and meritorious conduct in the battle of Molino del Rey," on Sept. 8, 1847, he was offered a Brevet Captaincy, which he declined. He was advanced to this rank, however, subsequently, "for gallant and meritorious conduct in the battle of Chapultepec," and received the command of a company of Sappers, Miners and Pontoneers, in May, 1848.

At the close of the Mexican war he returned to West Point, where he remained on duty with the sappers and miners until 1851. During the time he introduced the bayonet exercise into the army, and translated and adapted a manual which has since become a text-book for the service. During the summer and fall of 1851 he superintended the construction of Fort Delaware, and in the succeeding spring was assigned to duty under Major R. B. Marcy, in the expedition for the exploration of the Red River. Thence he was ordered direct to Texas as senior engineer, on the Staff of Gen. Persifer F. Smith, and was engaged for some months in surveying the rivers and harbors of that State. In 1853 he was ordered to the Pacific coast in command of the Western Division of the Survey of the North Pacific Railroad route. He returned to the East in 1854, on duty connected with the Pacific survey, and was also engaged in secret service to the West Indies. The next year he received a commission in the First Regiment of Cavalry, and was appointed a member of the Commission which went to the seat of war in the Crimea and in Northern Russia. Col. Richard Delafield, one of his colleagues, is now an officer in the rebel army, and Major Alfred Mordecai, the third member of the Commission, a short time ago resigned the Superintendency of the Troy Arsenal. Major McClellan's report on the "Organization of European Armies and the Operations of the War," a quarto volume, embodying the result of his observations in the Crimea, greatly enhanced his reputation as a scientific soldier.

In January, 1857, weary of inaction, he resigned his position in the army to become Vice-President and Engineer of the Illinois Central Railroad, which post he held for three years, when he was offered and accepted the Presidency of the Ohio and Mississippi Railroad, of which he was also General Superintendent. When our domestic troubles assumed formidable dimensions, Major McClellan's services were at once called into requisition. Gov. Curtin, of Pennsylvania, tried to secure the benefit of his experience in organizing the volunteers from that State, but the tender of the Major-Generalship of the Ohio forces reached him first, and he at once accepted it. On May 14, he received a commission as Major General in the United States army, and now has command of the Department of Ohio, which comprises all of the States of Illinois, Indiana and Ohio, and that part of Virginia lying north of the Great Kanawha River and west of the Green Briar River and the Maryland line, with so much of Pennsylvania as lies west of a line drawn from the Maryland line to the northeast corner of McKean County.

It must not be taken for granted that he would succeed to the Command-in-Chief of the army, should that position unfortunately become vacant, because he is next in rank to Gen. Scott. This office is filled by special appointment, seniority having weight only incidentally.

The Mails.

The N. Y. *Journal of Commerce* says:

After the Confederate postal system has gone into operation, the U. S. mails will be withdrawn from all those States except Western Virginia and Tennessee. When this shall be done a puzzling question will arise as to the treatment of letters bearing the Confederate stamp, whether U. S. postage stamps will be required to take them to their destination in the Federal States, or whether they will be brought in the U. S. mail from the Confederate borders, without prepayment, and the regular U. S. postage charged to persons receiving them. Some way will, no doubt, be contrived to keep up postal communication between the belligerent sections, although at a greatly increased cost.

Gen. Scott's Age.—A correspondent (who omits to give his name) referring to our statement that Gen. Scott is "about 75 years of age," says he he "had it from his [Gen. Scott's] own lips about six month since, that he was then 82 years old." If this is correct, the statements current respecting the date of Gen. Scott's birth must be erroneous. In a biographical dictionary now before us, entitled "Men of the Time," Gen. Scott is represented to have been "born June 13, 1786, near Petersburgh, Va." This would make him 75 years old on the 13th of June, 1861.—*Journal of Commerce.*

——The patriotic Albanians have been taken in to the extent of about $3,000, by a nice young man who proposed to secure one thousand copies of Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress, to be presented to Colonel Townsend's regiment. The young saint is supposed to have *progressed* out of town at the double quick time of the *rogue's march*.

——Wm. Y. Fendall, son of the eminent lawyer of that name in Washington, was arrested at New Orleans last Saturday on the supposition that he was a U. S. bearer of despatches, but was after examination released.

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