The South.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 27, 1861.

A WELL-REGULATED MILITIA BEING NECESSARY TO THE SECURITY OF A FREE STATE, THE RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS SHALL NOT BE INFRINGED.—*Constitution U. S., Amendments, article 2.*

No Soldier shall in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the Owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.—*Const. U. S., Amendments, art. 3.*

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, *shall not be violated*, and no Warrant shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.—*Constitution U. S., Amendments, art. 4.*

"To secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers "from the consent of the governed."—*Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1776.*

It is idle to say that the power of taxation (or, by parity of reasoning, any other power) rests on consent, provided there be a right claimed for the government to compel that consent by force.—*Say. Political Economy, Chapter on Taxation.*

"That in *all cases, and at all times*, the military "ought to be under strict subordination to, and "control of the civil power."—*Declaration of Rights of the People of Maryland.—Art. 27.*

Can anybody show a different principle in the Constitution of the United States?

"That no man ought to be *taken, or imprisoned*, "or dissezed of his freehold, liberties or privi-"leges, or outlawed, or exiled, or in any manner "destroyed, or deprived of life, liberty, or pro-"perty, but by the judgment of his peers, or by "the law of the land."—*Declaration of Rights of the People of Maryland, Art. 21.*

Notice to Correspondents.

In consequence of the multitude of anonymous communications received every day, it is found necessary to remind correspondents, that in no case can any notice be taken of any communication, unless accompanied by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as an evidence of good faith.

THE SOUTH is published every afternoon, after the arrival of the mails, and consequently contains all the latest news by mail and telegraph, up to the hour of publication, and fully twelve hours in advance of the morning papers.

FOR SALE by all the principal newsmen in this city and throughout the South. Persons desiring Agencies for the sale or distribution of the Paper in any particular Town or neighborhood, will apply to the Publisher.

ORDERS for the Paper will be received at the Office of Publication, No. 74 Baltimore street. If sent by mail, must be accompanied by the cash.

THE usual discount in favor of Newsmen and Agents. Postmasters and others forming Clubs of Ten will be furnished with one Copy *gratis*, or *ten* copies will be sent to one address, upon receipt of the subscription price for *nine*, for the time ordered.

MARTIAL LAW.

Our city was greatly astounded on waking from the sleep of the night, by learning that at three o'clock A. M., the Marshal of Police, George P. Kane, had been arrested by a large force of soldiers and hurried off to Fort McHenry. The details of this raid will be found in another column. It is understood [illegible] was not grounded on any legal process, but was the sheer law of force. Scarcely had surmise exhausted itself in conjecturing the possible charges against this officer, when the crowded thoroughfares of Baltimore and South streets were more deeply excited at 8 o'clock, by the placards posted about 9 o'clock, announcing that Martial Law was to declared, and that Colonel J. R. Kenly had been designated as Provost Marshal. With the sternest indignation and surprise every one asked his acquaintances—What can this mean? What is the provocation to this demolition of all legal and constitutional liberty? No one could make any plausible response. Meanwhile the exciting news spread through the city, carrying astonishment to every hearer. The throng on the streets thickened, and an angry solicitude marked every countenance, waiting the publication of the expected proclamation. In the midst of this fever of excitement a fresh placard was posted, signed by T. Gifford, the deputy marshal, as follows:

BALTIMORE, 27th June, 1861.

To the different Stations:

The police force will continue in the discharge of their duty as heretofore. No military force is intended to take the place of the present force, without necessity calls for it.

It was immediately circulated that only the Police Commissioners had been removed from power, and that the Provost Marshal would be their substitute, occupying their apartments and administering martial law, "until there is occa-"sion" for some other instrumentality, by the agency of the city policemen.

It is to be hoped that no one will be found fault with for indignation and surprise at this high-handed outrage. In the first place, seventy years of tuition has ingrained in our people the sanctity of civil institutions; they have been taught that every word in their Bill of Rights had a real signification, and was meant to convey principles which should be cherished even with the life-blood of the citizen—that these principles had been handed down to them by their ancestors, as the necessary safeguards of public liberty and of domestic and social security — "That *in all cases and at all "times*, the military ought to be under *strict subor-"dination to* and control of the civil power." contained a legacy of right and immunity transmitted to succeeding generations by the purest and bravest patriots Maryland has ever known. It is idle to refer this educated people to the European history which eliminated this principle and placed it in our Magna Charta as the freeman's defence. To see this consecrated maxim trodden in the dust under *any* circumstances would fairly justify the deepest dismay and anger. But under present circumstances, no mind can find any warrant for this bold obliteration of all constitutional restrictions—our Magistracy is accessible and willing to issue warrants "upon probable cause, supported "by oath or affirmation, and particularly descri-"bing the place to be searched, and the persons or "things to be seized" according to the requirements of the Bill of Rights. The Criminal Court in its prosecuting Attorney, its Sheriff and Judge, have ready hands and minds to fulfil in behalf of the government any legal recourse against guilty or suspected parties. The city is entirely disarmed, the Police Commissioners and their subordinates have been faithfully executing their trust so that this city may challenge comparison with any in the world for its order and personal security. There is nothing of any description or kind in the means or disposition of this population to excite apprehension or fear in any quarter, but their well-perceived Southern sympathies and recognition that "blood is thicker than water." But these sympathies are associated with the intelligent perception that they have no mode of mingling in the war which is to dismember this nation, and accordingly they observe the same conduct that this whole country did when the Turk was at war with the Greek; a practical neutrality, with the best wishes for the side which they deem oppressed.

But there is a solution to this procedure. Fear has no power of reasoning. It is manifest that this Martial Law betokens the imminency of a great battle, and the apprehension that disaster may hurl back the Federal soldiery and expose them on retreat to the resentment of a population whose constitutional rights have heretofore been so grossly trampled by the immurement of citizens and the suspension of the *writ of Habeas Corpus*. But it is unaccountable that it is not perceived that Martial Law adds nothing to the protection—it cannot further disarm men now disarmed; what could be done if the Police Commissioners were in power, by unarmed men, can as well be done though the Provost Marshal were their substitute. In either case a mob would assail a retreating soldiery; and the likelihood is, that the domestic legitimate authorities could and would use a controlling influence, whilst the other authority would but irritate and increase the peril.

Citizens of Baltimore, we solicit you to bear the present with unyielding dignity. Furnish no occasion for military violence to sprinkle your hearthstones with blood. Submit as patriots have had to do before, when unarmed and invested by military hordes. The Bastile was opened and its key sent to the immortal Washington by Lafayette. The donor heard with fortitude the gratings of the bolts at Olmutz, and was only made the deeper to cherish the maxims of constitutional liberty in the privations of his Austrian dungeon. Yet he came forth, free of his bonds. So will your citizens. It is idle to suppose that but for a brief time can the principles and practises of hated tyrannies be transplanted to an Anglo-Saxon soil.

Since writing the above, it would seem from the orders which we publish elsewhere, that the Law Martial has contented itself with erasing from the Code only so much of the law as relates to the appointment of Commissioners of Police and Marshals. These officers are superseded by General Banks and the Provost Marshal engrosses their powers and duties. In short, these sections of the law which relate to these officers have been *repealed* by the legislative powers of that functionary, who should "at all times and in all places be in "strict subordination to and control of the civil "power."—The future will have its history no less than the present time.

WHAT IS MARTIAL LAW?

That our readers may understand what martial law is, we publish the following extracts from the opinion of two distinguished Judges, in reference to the nature and constitutional character of "Martial Law:"

"If by martial law is to be understood that "dreadful system, the *law of arms*, which in for-"mer times was exercised by the King of England "and his Lieutenants: when *his word was the law*, "and *his will the power*, by which it was *exercised*, "have no hesitation in saying that such a monster "could not exist in a land of liberty and freedom. "The political atmosphere of America would de-"stroy it in embryo. It was against such a tyran-"nical monster that we triumphed in our Revolu-"tionary conflict. Our fathers sealed the conquest "by their blood, and their posterity will never "permit it to tarnish our soil by its unhallowed "feet, or harrow up the feelings of our gallant "sons, by its ghastly appearance. All our civil "institutions forbid it and the manly hearts of our "countrymen are steeled against it. But if by "this military code is to be understood *the rules "and regulations for the government of our men in "arms* when marshalled in defense of our coun-"try's right and honor, then I am bound to say "there is nothing unconstitutional in such a sys-"tem." *From the Opinion of Judge Law in 2 "Law Repository—Law and Equity," vol. 1.*

"If it be said that the laws of war, being the "laws of the United States, authorize the procla-"mation of *martial law*, I answer that in peace or "in war, no law can be enacted but by the legis-"lative power. In England, from whence the "American jurist derives his principles in this "respect, 'martial law cannot be used without "the authority of Parliament.'—5 *Comyns*, 229. "The authority of the monarch himself is insuf-"ficient. In the case of Grant *vs.* Sir C. Gould, "Hon. Blackstone, 69, it was said that martial "law can only be exercised in England, *so far as "it is authorized by the Military Act and the Articles "of War*, all of which are established by Parlia-"ment, and the Court declared it totally inaccurate "to state any other martial law, as having any "place whatever in the realm of England.—*P.* 159.

"The proclamation of *martial law*, therefore, "can have no other effect than that of placing "under *military authority, all the citizens subject to "militia service*." It is in that sense alone, that the "vague expression of *martial law* ought to be un-"derstood among us. To give it any larger ex-"tent would be trampling upon the Constitution "and the laws of our country."—*P.* 167. *From the Opinion of Johnson vs. Duncan et al., Lynches, vol. 1, Cond. Repts. Sup. Ct. Louisiana.*

Resistance to State Authority.

The Act passed by the Legislature with regard to the military of the State will, it appears, be resisted by those who loudly cry out for "The Constitution and the Enforcement of the Laws." The Middletown and Frederick Home Guards of Frederick county, have resolved to resist the execution of the law *at all hazards and to the death*, and positively refuse to give up their arms as required.

Col. Baker's California Regiment.

The Philadelphia papers contain advertisements for recruits for Col. Baker's *California* regiment from Pennsylvania. The Virginia and Kentucky regiments are raised in the same way. Somebody gets a commission and the pay of Colonel as coming from such and such a State, and then raises a regiment wherever he can find men.

From Fortress Monroe.

The steamer *Adelaide*, Capt. Cannon, came up this morning from Old Point but her advices possess little interest. Nothing in a military way had taken place since the departure of the *Georgeanna*. The steamer *Quaker City* yesterday seized in Hampton Roads the bark *Sally Magee*, bound from Rio de Janeiro to Baltimore with a cargo of 3,000 bags of coffee. The *S. M.* came up to the Roads without any knowledge of the blockade. The vessel, although built in Baltimore, belonged to Richmond. A prize master was placed on board, and she was sent to New York.

[*Correspondence of the Associated Press.*]

FORTRESS MONROE, June 26.

Lynch, the refugee from Norfolk, picked up by the *Quaker City*, confirms previous information of about 2,000 troops at Norfolk, 2,500 this side of the city and 1,500 at Portsmouth, all busily engaged on fortifications. He knows nothing about the condition of affairs at Craney Island and Sewell's Point.

Fruit and vegetables are cheap at Norfolk, but flour is scarce, and all articles usually imported bring high prices.

Two howitzers arrived this morning for Col. Duryea's regiment. The council of officers called in reference to the post of sutler, sustain Mr. Moody, but their influence is likely to be overridden at Washington. There are no military movements of importance to report. Adjutant General Haines goes to Washington this evening.

DEATH OF A CELEBRATED OPERA SINGER.—Intelligence was received in Philadelphia last evening, of the death of Signor Amodio, the celebrated Italian baritone. He died at sea, on a voyage from Venezuela to this country, of yellow fever, after forty-eight hours' sickness.

Suspension of the Civil Power and substitution of Martial Law in Baltimore.

We give below the details of the events which have transpired during the last twelve hours, and have rendered this the most exciting day in the history of our city. The long hatching conspiracy against the City of Baltimore has at length ripened into action, and every vestige of civil liberty has been swept away, and a military despotism established. The Marshal of Police having been imprisoned, and the authority of the Police Commissioners overthrown, the latter have, after mature deliberation, suspended the Police force. Their reasons for so doing are given in full from their official record.

Arrest of Marshal Geo. P. Kane.

Our community was thrown into intense excitement at an early hour this morning by the circulation of a report that Marshal Kane had been seized by the military, and conveyed to Fort McHenry. The confirmation of the report added to the excitement, and during the morning the Marshal's office and the rooms of the Police Commissioners were visited by large numbers of the friends of the Marshal, eagerly enquiring into the particulars. Although this act has long been anticipated from the threats thrown out, still its realization has created much feeling and absorbed almost the entire attention of our citizens, who are clustered at every corner, discussing the matter. The circumstances of the arrest are, that this morning about 2½ o'clock, a company of soldiers composed of a portion of the Maryland Volunteers from camp Carroll, and a portion of the Pennsylvania Regiment stationed on Federal Hill, were marched as quietly as possible from the Federal Hill camp to No. 136 St. Paul street, the residence of the Marshal. Every approach to the dwelling being guarded by troops.

The Marshal was summoned to appear. He came down, hastily and partially dressed, and opened the door when he was seized and hurried into a carriage standing in front of the house, without being informed upon what charge the arrest was made and without being permitted to communicate with his wife or any of his family. The military then formed around the carriage, one of the officers taking a seat therein, and thus he was removed to Fort McHenry as rapidly as possible. His wife and family were of course greatly alarmed at his sudden arrest, fearing that violence would be offered, and it was some hours before they were aware of the disposition that had been made of him.

As a measure of precaution against an attempt to rescue the Marshal, the military as they marched through the city seized all the police they met, and compelled them to accompany them. As they approached his dwelling, Mr. John B. Egerton, one of his neighbors, alarmed by their noise, came down to the door of his dwelling. They took him also in charge, until they had secured the person of Col. Kane. When the military reached Federal Hill the officer in command informed the police they had seized, that they could now return to their duty.

Martial Law Proclaimed.

The excitement produced by the arrest of Marshal Kane was, if possible, increased, by the posting upon the newspaper bulletins, about 9 A. M., a notice that General N. P. Banks was about to declare Martial Law, and that he had appointed as Provost Marshal Colonel John R. Kenly, of the Maryland Volunteers. At a quarter before eleven o'clock, Colonel Kenly waited upon the Police Commisioners and submitted to them the following paper, announcing that they were thereby superseded in the functions of their office, as he should at once assume entire control of the Police force.

HEADQUARTERS, DEP'T. OF ANNAPOLIS, June 24th, 1861.

To Col. Kenly,
Command'g 1st Regiment Md. Volunteers:

SIR:—By virtue of instructions received from the Department of War, at Washington, dated June 24, 1861, I do hereby appoint you Provost Marshal in and for the City of Baltimore. You will enter upon your duties forthwith at the Head quarters of the Police for the city, and notifying His Honor the Mayor, of your appointment, by reading to him this order and the proclamation enclosed herewith. You will proceed at once with the assistance of subordinate officers of the police department, to cause to be executed the police law provided by the Legislature of Maryland "for the Government of the City of Baltimore."

I am very respectfully yours, &c.
[Signed] N. P. BANKS, Major General,
Commanding Department of Annapolis.

The Commissioners declined to recognize the power of General Banks to supersede them in this manner, and stated that they should file a written protest against such a procedure, but also remarked that, while they denied the legality of his (Col. Kenly's) action, they should make no resistance to his taking possession of the Marshal's office. Summoning the Mayor as a member of the Board, a conference was held, while Col. Kenly, in the meantime, proceeded to the office of the Marshal, where he announced to Deputy Marshal Gifford that he had come to take charge of the force then under his charge, and taking possession of the office, summoned the several Captains of Police to report themselves forthwith at headquarters. He then issued and delivered to them copies of the following order:

SPECIAL ORDERS No. 1.

OFFICE PROVOST MARSHAL,
Baltimore, June 27, 1861.

To the Officers and Men of the Police Force of Baltimore:

By order of Major General Banks, commanding the Department of Annapolis, I assume and take command of the Police Force of the city of Baltimore, to superintend, and, with the aid of the subordinate officers of the Police Department, to execute and cause to be executed, the police law provided by the Legislature of Maryland "for the government of the city of Baltimore."

By order, COL. J. R. KENLY,
Commanding 1st Md. Regiment,
Provost Marshal of Baltimore.

Deputy Marshal Gifford having applied to the Police Commissioners to direct what course he should pursue, they instructed him to continue on duty until the matter was disposed of by the Board, and he accordingly issued the following order to the Captains of the several Police Stations:

BALTIMORE, 27th June, 1861.

To the different Stations:

The police force will continue in the discharge of their duty as heretofore. No military force is intended to take the place of the present force, without necessity calls for it.

[Signed] THOMAS GIFFORD,
Deputy Marshal.

Official Proceedings of the Police Commissioners.

The following is a copy of the record of the official proceedings of the Board of Police Commissioners which took place this morning:

Col. John R. Kenly, accompanied by his Adjutant, appeared before the Board, and read to them an order from Major General Banks, United States Army, appointing him Provost Marshal of the city, and directing him to take control of all the subordinate officers and men of the police force. He also read to the Board and left with them a copy of a proclamation issued by General Banks, which is as follows:

HEADQUARTERS DEP'T OF ANNAPOLIS,
June 27th, 1861.

By virtue of authority vested in me, and in obedience to orders, as Commanding General of the Military Department of Annapolis, I have arrested, and do now detain in custody, Mr. George P. Kane, Chief of Police of the city of Baltimore.—I deem it proper at this the moment of arrest to make formal and public declaration of the motives by which I have been governed in this proceeding.

It is not my purpose, neither is it in consonance with my instructions, to interfere in any manner with the legitimate government of the people of Baltimore or Maryland. I desire to support the public authorities in all appropriate duties; in preserving peace, protecting property and the rights of persons, in obeying and upholding every municipal regulation and statute, consistent with the laws of the United States and of Maryland.

But unlawful combinations of men, organized for resistance to such laws, that provide hidden desposits of arms and ammunition, encourage contraband traffic with men at war with the government, and while enjoying its protection and privileges, stealthily wait opportunity to combine their means and forces with those in rebellion against its authority, are not among the recognized or legal rights of any class of men, and cannot be permitted under any form of government whatever. Such combinations are well known to exist in this department.

The mass of citizens of Baltimore and of Maryland, loyal to the constitution and the Union, are neither parties to nor responsible for them. But the Chief of Police is not only believed to be cognizant of these facts, but, in contravention of his duty, and in violation of law, he is, by direction or indirection, both witness and protector to the transactions and the parties engaged therein. Under such circumstances, the government cannot regard him otherwise than at the head of an armed force, hostile to its authority and acting in concert with its avowed enemies.

For this reason superseding his official authority and that of the Commissioners of Police, I have arrested and now do detain him in pursuance of my instructions, I have appointed for the time being Col. Kenly, of the first regiment of Maryland volunteers, *Provost Marshal*, in and for the city of Baltimore, "to superintend and cause to be executed the police laws provided by the Legislature of Maryland," with the aid assistance of the subordinate officers of the Police Department. And he will be respected accordingly.

Whenever a loyal citizen shall be otherwise named for the performance of this duty, who will execute these laws impartially and in good faith to the government of the United States, the military force of this department will render to him that instant and willing obedience which is due from every good citizen to his government.

NATH. P. BANKS,
Maj. Gen. Com'g Department of Annapolis.

Col. Kenly made a verbal request that the Board shall summon all the Captains of Police to meet him at the office of the Marshal. The President, in the name of the Board, informed Col. Kenly that the Board did not recognize the legality of the proceedings of Gen. Banks in the premises, and asked him to put in writing the request just made by him. He declined to do so, and withdrew the said request. He then announced his intention of proceeding immediately to the possession of the office of the Marshal.

By request of the Board, the President and the Mayor went to the Marshal's office, and instructed the Deputy Marshal to offer no obstruction to the action of Col. Kenly, and to take no steps until he should be advised of the views of the Board.

The whole subject having been maturely considered, the following Preamble and Resolutions were unanimously adopted, viz:

Whereas the laws of the State of Maryland give the whole and exclusive control of the Police Force of the city to the Board of Police, organized and appointed by the General Assembly; and not only are the said Board bound to exercise the powers in, and to discharge the duties imposed upon them, but all other persons are positively prohibited, under heavy penalties, from interfering with them in so doing; and

Whereas, there is no power given to the Board to transfer the control over any portion of the Police Force to any person or persons whomsoever, other than the officers of Police appointed by them, in pursuance of the express provisions of the Law, and acting under their orders; and

Whereas, by the orders of Major General Banks an officer of the U. S. Army, commanding in this city, the Marshal of Police has been arrested—the Board of Police superseded, and an officer of the Army has been appointed Provost Marshal, and directed to assume the command and control of the Police Force of the city; therefore, be it

Resolved, That this Board do solemnly protest against the orders and proceedings above referred to of Major General Banks, as an arbitrary exercise of military power, not warranted by any provision of the Constitution or Laws of the United States, or of the State of Maryland, but in derogation of all of them.

Resolved, That whilst the Board, yielding to the [illegible] in order to prevent increase the present excitement, or obstruct the execution of such measures as Major General Banks may deem proper to take on his own responsibility, for the preservation of the peace of the city, and of public order, they cannot, consistently with their views of official duty and of the obligations of their oaths of office, recognize the right of any of the officers and men of the Police force, as such, to receive orders or directions from any other authority than from this Board.

Resolved, That in the opinion of the Board, the forcible suspension of their functions, suspends at the same time the active operation of the Police Law, and puts the officers and men off duty for the present, leaving them subject, however, to the rules and regulations of the service as to their personal conduct and deportment, and to the orders which this Board may see fit hereafter to issue, when the present illegal suspension of their functions shall be removed.

CHARLES HOWARD, President.
WM. H. GATCHELL,
CHAS. D. HINES,
JOHN W. DAVIS,
GEO. WM. BROWN, Mayor and
Ex-officio member of the Board.

Disbanding of the Police Force.

At two o'clock, after the close of the conference of the Police Commissioners and Mayor, a notice was issued by them to the Police Captains of the several stations, announcing that they had determined upon the disbanding of the force, and directing them to carry out the provisions of that resolve. The men were accordingly summoned to the station house, and notified that their services as police officers were suspended for the present.

The Excitement on Baltimore Street.

Throughout the day there has been a large concourse of citizens lingering about the corner of Baltimore and South streets, eagerly awaiting announcements as to the proceedings of Provost Marshal Kenly. At intervals a rush would be made by the excited crowd, first in one direction and then another, as the discussions of the "Union" men and the non-submissionists would result in loud dispute, but the promptness and efficiency of the police proved equal to the emergency, and prevented any collision up to the time of their being disbanded.

News from the Blockading Squadron in the Gulf.

The government transport *Chesapeake* and the *Parkersburg* arrived at New York on Wednesday morning, the former from Fort Jefferson at the Tortugas, and the latter from the mouth of the Mississippi, by way of Key West. The *Parkersburg*, having broken her shaft, came in tow of the *Chesapeake*. The telegraph has put us in possession of the main points of the news brought by the steamers, but we find the following additional in the *Post*:—Capt. Hoffman, of the *Parkersburg*, reports the troops at Fort Pickens all well, with plenty of provisions.

The U. S. steam frigate *Niagara* arrived off Mobile June 6th, to blockade that port, and on the same day took a schooner as a prize. The schooner had been anchored close under the land, wrecking an English ship which had been ashore since last spring. At noon of the 5th instant the steamer *Mount Vernon* took three of the frigate's boats, and having run in for the land as far as was deemed prudent, the boats were let go, and pulled for the schooner which was about one hundred yards off.

The officers of the *Niagara's* boats saw the crew of the schooner attempting to raise the anchor, but a marine being ordered to discharge his musket across her bows, stopped them from making any further effort to get away. The vessel was taken quite by surprise, and it is probable that her officers had hardly thought it worth while to keep a look-out in the heat of the day. The schooner's name is the *Aid*, of Mobile, formerly of Long Island. The captain and crew were allowed to depart, the former pleading to save his vessel, but the lieutenant commanding the expedition told him that he would give him an order to take charge of the United States revenue cutter now at Mobile, and that if he (the captain) would bring her out they would then make an exchange of vessels.

The boat's crew then raised the anchor of the captured vessel, and towed her out some distance, when they set sail and anchored at 5 P. M., the Stars and Stripes flying from the peak, under the guns of the *Niagara*.

The frigate *Powhatan* was blockading the South west Pass. A great many ships leave by this channel, and were to be allowed to do so until June 15, after which date no vessels were to be allowed to pass in or out.

On the 15th instant the flagship *Mississippi* left Pensacola, but grounded going out of the harbor. The steamers *Mount Vernon* and *Crusader* went to her assistance, and after taking out her heavy guns and coal, she floated on the 16th. She received no injury, but returned for coal and water, and sailed again on the 19th from Pensacola.

War Movements.

The intelligence from the West this morning is interesting, and is indicative of sharp work in that quarter shortly. Nothing of moment has occurred about Washington or Alexandria.

The Washington *Star* of last evening puts down the total number of troops which have arrived there at 48,845, exclusive of recruits, numbering about 2,000, and several independent companies, so that the aggregate is over 50,000, without counting regulars, marines and District of Columbia troops, the latter about 4,000 strong. Thus the total aggregate of troops already on this line amounts to between fifty-six and fifty-seven thousand.

We annex the *Associated Press* despatches of things about Washington and Alexandria.

WASHINGTON, June 26.—It has been ascertained at the State Department that Bayard Clark's regiment of cavalry from New York is unconditionally accepted. All speculations about a disposition on the part of the President, or the Cabinet, or Gen. Scott, or anybody else, to favor a compromise or delay, have no foundation in truth. That the President's message at the opening of the extra session of Congress will recommend any compromise having for its object the reconciliation of those now in arms against the Federal Government, no one at all acquainted with the views of the Administration believes. On the contrary, it will doubtless be found that the course already initiated will be firmly maintained in consonance with the inaugural address, and on this, as on all other subjects, the administration is "one, undivided and indivisible."

The degree of LL. D. having been conferred on the President by Columbia College, New York, Dr. Lieber has come hither to present the diploma. Lord Lyons, accompanied by the Secretary of State, officially visited the President to-day to deliver to him the royal letter announcing the death of Queen Victoria's mother, the Duchess of Kent.

The following dispatch has been received by the agent of the *Associated Press*:

To the Associated Press:—The man is yet to be seen in Washington who has seen or heard of the compromise alleged to have been proposed by Jefferson Davis to the administration.

F. W. SEWARD.

WASHINGTON, June 26th.—*To the Associated Press*:—Gen. McClellan has telegraphed to the government that he has read in the newspapers an account of a compact which he is said to have made with General Buckner in regard to the *status* of Kentucky. He denies, contradicts and repudiates the whole statement to the great satisfaction of the commanding general and the administration, whose only knowledge of the pretended compact was from the newspaper statements which Gen. McClellan thus denounces.

F. W. S.

ALEXANDRIA, June 26.—A test of rifled cannon took place this afternoon at Fort Ellsworth, on Shuter's Hill, and gave the utmost satisfaction. At this point the formidable field works which have been in course of construction for several weeks are approaching completion. All the guns have been mounted and the fort regularly garrisoned, including a force of regulars. Thirty 10-pounder guns were fired to-day. Guns have also been placed outside the fort, commanding the roads. Col. Heintzelman has never entertained any apprehensions of an attack in this immediate locality, though every precaution has been taken to guard against such an event. Troops are now so admirably posted for a defense, and the field work so extensive, that all fears of that character are generally dismissed. A reconnoitering party discovered several thousand troops gathering near Vienna this morning. Intelligence from Camp Tyler this evening represents all the Confederate troops as leaving Manassas [illegible] from Fall's Church, and that it will soon be occupied by Federal troops.

There is good authority for stating that letters have been received by citizens here, announcing a fight between the Black Horse Guards and the Alexandria riflemen and a federal force, the character and number of which is not stated.

The letters say that it resulted in the killing of 13, wounding of 20, and the capture of three of the federal troops. These letters are represented as having come from members of the Alexandria Riflemen to their parents in this city, but outside of these reports, there is not, after the most diligent inquiry, a particle of evidence to credit them. Military men are entirely ignorant of any such occurrence, but they are generally credited by secession citizens here.

From the West.

WILLIAMSPORT, June 25.—Forty Confederate cavalry crossed the Potomac this morning immediately after the withdrawal of the Federal night pickets along the line of the river, at Alexander Shaffer's ferry. They destroyed his ferry boat and skiff, and recrossed into Virginia.—Shaffer's Ferry is about half way between Falling Waters and Dam No. 4. When the report reached this place two companies of cavalry were promptly sent there, but the enemy had made good their safe retreat. Two more companies were sent up the river in the direction of Clearspring, also in search of the supposed enemy, but returned without finding him.

A battery has been erected here according to a plan of Lieutenant Babcock, of the United States engineers.

It has transpired in official circles here that Gen. Cadwallader desired, a week ago, to occupy Harper's Ferry with an advance brigade, and that Gen. Patterson flatly refused permission. Great surprise is manifested at this refusal.

A messenger was sent by your correspondent yesterday to Falling Waters, who reports that Col. Jackson's force has been increased by the concentration of troops within the week to between 4,000 and 5,000.

Startling intelligence reached here to-night by the same person, who went again across the river to-day, that Gen. Johnston in person, with his rear guard, numbering 10,000 men in round numbers, with twenty pieces of heavy artillery, besides the light batteries mentioned yesterday, are encamped to-night at Couchman's farm, four miles this side of Martinsburg. They began their march from Winchester on Tuesday night.

The 6th, 21st and 22d Pennsylvania regiments broke up camp on the Greencastle turnpike, two miles above this point, and marched directly southward, at 6 o'clock this evening, towards Sharpsburg.

A gentleman just from Hagerstown states that the 2d and 3d Pennsylvania regiments and Capt. Perkins' battery of flying artillery have just marched from that neighborhood in the same direction. From the quiet and secrecy observed in these night marches, it is evident that Gen. Patterson either expects to strike a heavy blow or receive one.

It is certain that General Johnston will not attempt to cross at Williamsport in the face of the heavy battery erected there. It is equally certain that General Patterson will not cross there again.

The reinforcements ordered to Colonel Wallace's assistance by Gov. Curtin have reached Cumberland, and Colonel Wallace speaks of assuming the offensive at once. He is anxious to revisit Romney.

General McClellan is hourly expected at Cumberland. A vast force is following him from the West. The messenger says that Col. Wallace estimates it at 20,000, but it probably does not exceed 15,000. This, it is expected, will drive the whole Confederate force from the Potomac, if vigorously seconded by Patterson's column, and the 14,000 now lying about here.

It is evident that General Johnston designed to draw General Patterson into the neck, but he has failed thus far to accomplish it. Should General Patterson cross at all it will be lower down. His movement southward is to draw General Johnston away from General McClellan's advancing column, until the forces of the latter shall have arrived in such numbers as to enable him to assume the offensive effectively.

GRAFTON, *June 26th.*

The fleet of steamers which left Bellaire a few days ago conveying the Ohio 17th and 19th regiments, as we all supposed to Kanawha, stopped at Parkersburg, and the two regiments, together with five other Ohio and Indiana regiments, making in all about six thousand men, were shipped over the Northwestern Virginia Railroad to Clarksburg and Grafton. Five hundred cavalry horses were also shipped in the same direction over the same route the latter part of last week, exclusive of the dragoons and artillery which accompanied Major General McClellan. The fleet was evidently destined for the Kanawha country but the evacuation of Harper's Ferry and other events rendered a change of programme desirable.

There was a great excitement about the Baltimore and Ohio railroad depot yesterday afternoon, consequent upon the departure of troops from Camp Carlisle. Four companies left for Grafton, leaving none in the camp but the Plummer Guards. An immense lot of provisions, tents and all sorts of army equipments, was shipped, and everything looked decidedly warlike.

At last advices from the nucleus of General Wise's brigade, it was at Gauley Bridge, Kanawha county, and consisted of about 4,000 men. Jno. H. Richardson, Esq., a volunteer officer of great experience, has been commissioned as Colonel of the 1st regiment of Infantry in the brigade.—Hugh W. Fry, Jr., who has served with Colonel R., has also received the appointment of Major in the same regiment.

CINCINNATI, June 26.—Special dispatches from Grafton say that Col. McCook, of the German regiment, moved to Phillippi yesterday morning. Sergeant Dunham, of the 9th Indiana regiment, the best scout in the service, and an old comrade of Kit Carson, returned to camp, having been three days inside the enemy's lines.

He reports their number at 6,000, including 500 cavalry, and two regiments of infantry are from South Carolina. The troops have plenty of guns, but they are of a miscellaneous character. They have also five 6-pounders, two of which are in a masked battery. Gov. Wise was expected there with three regiments, when an attack would be made upon Phillippi.

General Pierpont to-day appointed Col. Kelly, Brigadier General of the Western Virginia forces.

From Harper's Ferry.

We find in the Louisville *Courier* some letters from a correspondent serving in the Confederate ranks near Harper's Ferry, which, though not of a late date, furnish some interesting information. He states that the Georgia Regiments there are commanded by Colonels Gartrell and Barton, both formerly members of Congress from that State. In a letter dated the 15th, he thus describes the evacuation of the Ferry:

On Thursday (the 13th instant,) just as the troops were in a fair way for the enjoyment of the holiday from military duty, consequent upon the fast day, an order was circulated among the different regiments for immediate preparations for march. This was the first intimation we had of Gen. Johnston's purpose to evacuate Harper's Ferry. Instantly the whole place was in a stir. Hundreds of baggage wagons were laden, burly, big-bellied bread trends were stuffed with provision stores, ammunition was carefully deposited in safe trains, and from every side there arose the swelling strains of music as the troops took up the line of march.

A large number of men left by railway for Winchester, and others, for lack of transportation, marched stoot. During the day there was an indescribable scene of excitement. Broadway, in its palmiest day, never witnessed such a jam as this little town. The business houses were closed—families were attempting to move their effects, and every street and avenue was crowded with loaded wagons. Officers were dashing hither and thither, and soldiers were on the qui vive for movement. Loads of provision, that it was found impossible to transport, were dumped in the river. There was a general rush by the boys for sugar and bread. It was indeed in more senses than one a *fast* day. In the first place we had no regular meal, and every movement was made at the most accelerated rate of speed.

During the afternoon the pickets of the enemy were distinctly observable on the Maryland Heights, and Captain Desha and Lieut. Rogers took a crack at them with their rifles, which caused the tories to disappear rather suddenly.

Just after dark, Capt. Desha's company was ordered to accompany Maj. Whiting, the Chief Engineer, across the Potomac, and make preparations for blowing up the bridge. This was an undertaking of no inconsiderable hazard. The enemy was known to be in the immediate vicinity, and it was thought not unlikely that they might attempt to force a passage of the bridge. I have slept in many places and under many disadvantages, but never before above a foaming, turbulent river, and just above a terrible mine that in an instant could flash the structure into myriad fragments. The night, however, passed quietly, and in the early gray of the morning we were visited by Maj. Whiting. The immense bridge, over three-quarters of a mile in length, was thoroughly saturated, the torch lit, and just as we reached the Virginia shore the magnificent structure was hurled into mid air, falling a shapeless mass of ruins into the rapid stream. The burning debris, with the clouds of lurid flame, presented a picture worthy an artist's study. In an hour or two the massive and extensive armory buildings were ignited, and the conflagration that ensued was of the most terrific and impressive character. In order to prevent the flames extending to private property, the troops were detailed to act as firemen, under Capt. Fauntleroy, of the Confederate Navy, and right manfully did they discharge their arduous duty. Not a penny's worth of that which did not belong to the Government was destroyed.

Suicide of the Treasurer of the New York Central Railroad Company.

There was much excitement in Wall street, this noon, at the report that Mr. George W. Wilson, the Treasurer of the New York Central Railroad, had committed suicide by throwing himself from the third story window of his house in Albany.—The report has since been confirmed, and the particulars have been telegraphed to his friends in this city. Mr. Wilson was married about a week ago, and had just returned from a trip to Niagara. One of his friends, who saw him yesterday, says that he exhibited positive symptoms of mental derangement, brought on, it is supposed, by the embarrassed state of his own private affairs.

On account of the speculative operations of prominent citizens of Albany, which produced the suspensions of four banks in that city, the inferences as to the causes of the suicide of Mr. Wilson are unfavorable to his financial integrity. Whether these inferences are correct or not time will develop. It is believed at the transfer office in this city that, so far as Mr. Wilson's connection with the New York Central Railroad is concerned financially, everything is correct. He is spoken of as a pure high minded man, and the news of his sudden death has been received with the most profound regret. The shares of the company in Wall street have fallen considerably since the announcement of Mr. Wilson's death.—*N. Y. Post.*

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