DAILY DISPATCH.

VOL. XIX.---NO. 116. RICHMOND, VA., TUESDAY, MAY 21, 1861. PRICE ONE CENT.

Richmond Dispatch.

BY COWARDIN & HAMMERSLEY.

THE DAILY DISPATCH is served to subscribers at SIX AND A QUARTER CENTS PER WEEK, payable to the Carrier weekly. Price for mailing, $5 a year, or $2 50 for six months, in advance.

THE SEMI-WEEKLY DISPATCH is issued every Tuesday and Friday at $2, in advance.

THE WEEKLY DISPATCH is issued every Friday, and mailed to subscribers at $1 per annum.

ELECTION NOTICES.

IN RICHMOND HUSTINGS COURT, MAY 18TH, 1861.—The Court appoint Joseph Brummel, Anson Richards, John J. Wilson, and N. B. Hill, Commissioners for Jefferson Ward to superintend the General Election for Mayor and members of the Legislature, to be held on the 23d DAY OF MAY, 1861, said election to be held at the First Market-House, and to be conducted by Reuben T. Saal.

They appoint James H. Grant, George Whitfield Bob H. R. Hewlson, Thomas W. McGance, and Thomas R. Price, Commissioners for Madison Ward, to superintend said election, the same to be held at the City Hall, and to be conducted by Thomas D. Dudley.

And they appoint Thomas Barham, Thomas M. Wood, Thomas Bowler, Charles H. Powell, and John Matthews, Commissioners for Monroe Ward, to superintend said election, the same to be held at the Engine House, Engine shop, on Broad street, between 1st and Foushee streets, and to be conducted by Andrew Jiakins.

And it is ordered that a copy of this order be published daily in the Richmond *Dispatch* until the day of election. A Copy—Teste:

my 18—td R. O. HOWARD, Cl'k.

THE PEOPLE'S TICKET!

At the election for members of the LEGISLATURE on THURSDAY, 23d inst., will be

FOR SENATE:
THOMAS P. AUGUST.

FOR HOUSE OF DELEGATES:
DAVID J. SAUNDERS,
WINDHAM ROBERTSON,
THOS. H. WYNNE.

As some of these gentlemen have any contracts with the Government, and will consequently be unfitted to act and speak with an eye single to the interest of our State, it is very desirable that there be no other candidates for the PUBLIC GOOD.

may 20—d*

BUSINESS MEETINGS.

OFFICE MERCHANTS' INSURANCE CO., RICHMOND, May 14th, 1861.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Stockholders of this Company will be held at their office, corner of 12th and Main streets, on MONDAY, the 27th inst., at 3 o'clock M.

J. H. MONTAGUE, Sec'y.

may 20—td

NOTICE.—The annual meeting of the Stockholders of the RICHMOND, FREDERICKSBURG AND POTOMAC RAILROAD COMPANY will be held at their office, in the city of Richmond, on WEDNESDAY, the 29th inst., at 12 o'clock M.

C. W. MACMURDO, Treasurer.

my 20—td

NOTICE.—The annual meeting of the Stockholders of the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad Company will take place at their office, in this city, on TUESDAY, the 28th instant, at 11 o'clock A. M.

M. W. TARRINGTON, Treasurer.

my 18—ds

PROFESSIONAL CARDS.

NO YANKEE HUMBUG!!

BRASS LETTERS FOR MILITARY CAPS made to order.

Companies furnished very cheap by E. M. LEWIS, the only SOUTHERN BRAND CUTTER AT THE CITY AT CHAS. H. LANGLEY'S tin store, 13th street, between Main and Cary, Richmond, Va.

my 9—1m*

CHAS. H. DIMMOCK,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
Office, No. 3 Law Building, Franklin street, Richmond, Va. jun 26—sm*

THE PUBLIC is hereby informed that Drs. A. E. PETICOLAS and St. Geo. PEACHY have associated themselves with the practising SURGERY and MEDICINE, in all its branches, in this city. The offices are under the Ballard House. Dr. PETICOLAS' residence is at the Carlton House. Dr. PEACHY'S, on Grace, between 5th and 6th sts.

A. E. PETICOLAS, M. D.,
ST. GEO. PEACHY, M. D.

Richmond, Va., April —, 1861. ap 26—1m

GEORGE C. EGGLESTON,
ATTORNEY AT LAW.

Will practice regularly in all the COURTS of LOUDOUN and Quadjoining counties.

COLLECTIONS promptly made.

Address Amelia Court-house.

ap 18—lawdm*

LAWRENCE S. MARYE,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,

Offices in the Courts of the city of Richmond and the counties of Henrico, Hanover and Caroline.

Also Notary Public and Commissioner of the United States Court of Claims.

The partnership between Mr. CRASTAIN WHITE and himself being dissolved, his office is now on 14th st., opposite Exchange Hotel. fe 15—1y

SUMMER RESORTS

ALLEGHANY SPRINGS,
MONTGOMERY CO., VA.

This celebrated WATERING-PLACE will be open for the reception of visitors on the 1st day of June.

Situated three and a half miles from the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad, they are easy of access, and afford the best security for families.

Each department is superviced by the proprietor, who will attend personally to the wants of his guests.

The waters of these Springs stand unrivaled for the cure of dyspepsia.

BOOTH, CALHOUN & CO.

may 15—1m

ROCKBRIDGE ALUM SPRINGS.

This delightful and quiet RETREAT will be open to visitors on the 15th of June. Is two miles from Millboro' Depot.

Board, washing and lodging, $30 per month—children and servants half price.

An ample supply of ICE was secured.

my 13—1m FRAZIER & RANDOLPH.

ROCKBRIDGE BATHS,
VIRGINIA.

The undersigned has returned to take charge of the ALLEGHANY PLACE, and intends to spare no pains and expense to render it as Liberal a support as was extended to him under his former management—the establishment will be open for visitors on the 20th of May, inst.

The character of these Baths is well established, and their curative qualities extend throughout the list of diseases. Delicate females and children have, without exception, received great benefit in all diseases incident to their sex.—There is no one can afford as secure, comfortable, and convenient a refuge for families leaving the seaboard for the interior of Virginia.

There will be a DAILY MAIL from Baltimore, Richmond, and points about equally distant—the only one 10 miles of staging from Goshen, Virginia Central Railroad, through a rough and beautiful country.

The following reduced rates are adopted in order that all may be accommodated, and they are so moderate that all can afford to pay them:

Fifty per diem..... $1 50
" " week..... 9 00
" " month..... 30 00

REFERENCES—Chief Justice Taney, Hon. ex-Gov. Wise, Gov. John Letcher, Col. E. H. Smith Va.

WM. JORDAN & CO.

may 18—1m*

MONTGOMERY WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS,
IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY, VA.

This delightful Watering Place will open for the reception of visitors on the 20th day of May. These springs are more easy of access than any in Virginia, being immediately on the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad, in the most healthy portion of the State, and surrounded by the most beautiful mountain scenery. The medicinal qualities of the waters are fully established, having been instrumental in the cure of many diseases peculiar to the Southern country. This is not only a delightful summer resort, but, by these qualities, a most desirable one for ladies and children. Telegraph communication with all important points in the Confederate States.

LOUIS F. J. AMISS, Proprietor.
JAMES E. KENT, President. may 8—1m

THE WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS,
GREENBRIER COUNTY, VA.

This celebrated WATERING PLACE will be opened for the reception of visitors on the 15th of May.

TERMS OF BOARD.—For thirty days or less, $2 50 per day; for any period after the expiration of thirty days, $2 per day—white servants' servants; colored servants and children under 10 and over 2 years, half price.

J. HUMPHREYS, Pres't.

N. B.—An abundant supply of ICE has been secured. my 7—1e

IMPROVE YOUR EYESIGHT.

FRANKLIN & CO., OPTICIANS,

Offer to the public their improved CRYSTAL PEBBLE SPECTACLES, for preserving and restoring the impaired vision to its prime vigor. Also, a very fine assortment of MICROSCOPES, TELESCOPES, MARINE and OPERA GLASSES, and the finest collection of STEREOSCOPES and STEREOSCOPIC PICTURES.

CRYSTAL GLASSES set in old frames.

No. 148 MAIN STREET, Richmond, Va.

ap 27—d1y

ATTENTION, ANGLERS:—FRESH SUPPLY OF FISHING TACKLE.—I am now opening the most complete assortment of FISHING TACKLE ever offered in Richmond. Amongst my assortment may be found all the variety of HOOKS, such as Virginia, Limerick, Aberdeen, Kirby, Sockdolagers, &c., besides a full assortment of HOOKS on Gut and Loop, also, Gut and Gimp extra, Rigged Lines, with Floats and Hooks complete, Sea brass, Floats and Sinkers extra; Cotton, Linen and Flax lines; Silk Lines, in great variety, and of superior quality; Trout Flies and Reels; Walking-Cane Fishing Rods, &c.

Also, just received, a fine assortment of COLT'S celebrated FIVE-SHOOTERS, all sizes.

JAMES WALSH,
Maker and Importer of Guns, Rifles, &c.

ap 15—1m

RICHMOND-MADE PIANOS FOR SALE BELOW NORTHERN PRICES.—The subscriber has on hand three new, very superior 7 octave Pianos, which he warrants to be equal, if not superior, to any instrument of the same quality from Northern manufactories.

He also offers his services to the public as TUNER and REPAIRER OF PIANOS, at reasonable rates.

CONRAD FREIMANN,
South side Broad st., between 3d and 4d.

REFERENCES.—M. P. Lefebvre, Esq., Prof. R. W. Tellow, Prof. W. F. Graham, &c. ap 14—3m

Richmond Dispatch.

TUESDAY MORNING.....MAY 21, 1861.

FROM MONTGOMERY.

[SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE OF THE DISPATCH.]

MONTGOMERY, Friday, May 17.

Congress, it is believed, will adjourn on to-morrow—if not, certainly on some day of next week, to convene, when required by the public interests, in Richmond. Heretofore, the supervision of all matters connected with patents has been confided to the Department of Justice, presided over by the able and amiable Benjamin, but the great number of applications, although confined under the law to citizens of this Confederacy, has shown to Congress the necessity for the prompt organization of a Bureau of Patents. And on yesterday, in public session, Mr. Brooke, chairman of the committee on the subject, reported a bill to establish a Patent Office, and to provide for the "granting and issuance of patents for new and useful discoveries, improvements and designs." The bill contains a great number of sections, occupying 38 or 39 pages of Government foolscap printing.—A number of its features are very similar in all respects to the Patent Office law of the United States. Several sections of it met with opposition, and the one making an appropriation to be expended in the collection of agricultural statistics and for agricultural purposes, was very properly stricken out, else we should soon have had a collection and distribution of the same worthless seeds, roots, and Patent Office reports with which this Department of the "old wreck," at an enormous cost, flooded the country; although none of the former, with the exception of the common turnip seed, ever grew, whilst the latter rare works, in consideration of their wisdom, delight and use, have been most generally honored with a companionship among the rats and spiders that infest dark, obscure closets. Before the reading of the bill was finished, Congress went into secret session.

The President in the meantime transmitted some additional estimates of the Secretary of War. The recent expenditures of this department have been very large, amounting within the last few days to nearly two millions. Some dissatisfaction has also been expressed with its manner of conducting business. Charges of delay in issuing commissions to applicants, and complaints of negligence and inefficiency, have been preferred. I have also heard the Secretary blamed for the serious indiscretion he committed in declaring, about the time of the attack on Fort Sumter, that in 60 days the Confederate flag would be floating proudly from the dome of the Capitol at Washington—bravado calculated to produce great excitement and hostility at the North.

The Postmaster General has wisely determined to retain in his service all the Route Agents, Postmasters and other officials connected with the mails, until a complete organization of the new service is effected and all its parts made perfect; after which, the removals, if any, will be few, and only made in obedience to public interests. The differences between the postal laws of the United States and those of this Government are small, consisting chiefly in an increase of the rates of postage and repeal of the letter registration system. The franking privilege has also been abolished, with exceptions in favor of the Postmaster General, his chief clerk, heads of Bureaus in his department, and deputy postmasters, who are allowed to frank on official business.

The increase in the rates of postage has been adopted in order to make the department self-sustaining, instead of a tax of millions upon the country, like its predecessor at Washington.

A design for postage stamps, about which there has been some anxiety, has been selected, and a contract partially made for a supply. The new stamp will be quite pretty—a trifle larger than the old, with an elegant steel engraving of Washington in the centre, and will be furnished the country early in June.

The self-sacrificing Secretary of the Treasury, like another Cerberus, is guarding the money bags, which, to save from still less deposition, he has determined to prohibit the creation of assistant officers to those of First Auditor and Comptroller.

In the United States Government there are six Auditors and two Comptrollers, 1st and 2d. Here there will be but one of each, and only one set of books to be kept by the Registers for the entire department, so as to prevent an increase of clerical force. This is the system recommended by Alexander Hamilton, and adopted by the Government in 1798, by the appointment of only one Auditor; but subsequently increased to six. At present, however, of the early and purer days of our once mighty Republic, it has received the reverence and sanction of the conscientious Secretary.

The steamer Lady Davis, purchased by the Navy Department from the Governor of South Carolina, was to-day paid for by the Government. She cost $32,000.

The people here are amazed and mortified at the course of the recreant traitors in a portion of Northwestern Virginia. It is sincerely hoped that the toad spotted wretch, Carlile, the leader in the conspiracy, will be held swiftly accountable for the cowardly treason he is committing against the sovereign Commonwealth of Virginia. MONTGOMERY.

Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.

To the Women of the South.

LEAKESVILLE, N. C., May 16, 1861.

May I suggest, through the columns of the *Dispatch*, to Southern women, in view of the events, which God in his great mercy avert, to study Florence Nightingale's "Notes on Nursing!" The warmest enthusiasm, or even the most devoted love, will not make a good and efficient nurse, without strong common sense and practical knowledge. And who so fitted to teach on this subject as the woman who had charge of the hospitals in the Crimea, and who possesses a wonderfully strong, shrewd and practical mind?

Southern women, let us hoard every luxury, or even necessary, that may possibly be required during the war. If not needed, we can enjoy them with our beloved ones when they return. Let us now nurse the sick, dress wounds, attend hospitals, be learning all we can. And, above all, let us cultivate that trust in God which will keep us calm and strong through all that comes; endeavoring by all sweet, womanly means to lead our brothers and friends to do the same—reminding them that forty thousand fell of the armies of Israel, even when on the right side, ere the victory was gained; and that our only hope of His favor and protection, without whom the armies of Xerxes were "worse than vanity," and with whom "one can chase a thousand," is in a life of righteousness.

A NORTH CAROLINA WOMAN.

Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.

The Texan Rangers—Remarkable Shooting.

CHARLESTON, May 18, 1861.

I see, in your valuable paper, a notice of the arrival in Richmond of the advanced guard of Texan Rangers. Allow me to inform your Southern readers what kind of troopers they are. A friend of mine, an officer of high rank in the army of the Confederate States, has just returned from Montgomery, and says that while there, some twenty of these Rangers exhibited the following feat: A loaded revolver pistol was thrown upon the ground, the Ranger puts his horse up to full speed, and as he passes prints it up without slackening speed, throws himself "a la Camanche" on the side of the horse opposite to his enemy, being invisible to him, and under the horse's neck, fires each barrel of his pistol successively in the direction of the enemy.

Will they not make the dandy troops of Broadway, the Wilson shoulder-hitters, etc., open their eyes? A SUBSCRIBER.

DRUMMING OUT.—The incidents which we give below exhibit, to some extent, the difference between the ruffianly fanatics at the North, and the more civilized, yet equally effective, mode of treatment at the South. The first is from a New York paper, of Thursday last:

Yesterday, at Washington, eighteen men were drummed out of the Fifth New York (German) Regiment for refusing to take the oath for three months' service. And at Albany, two men were drummed out of the barracks for refusing to take the oath of allegiance, their heads shaved and strings tied round about their ears, two white feathers projecting on each side, the band playing the "Rogue's March."

The Montgomery Advertiser, of Friday last, says:

Some little excitement was created yesterday by an unusual commotion among some members of Ben. Baker's company, now encamped at the Fair Grounds. It seems that one of the men refused to be mustered into the service, and was, therefore, charged with cowardice. Soon after, a party of his comrades, meeting him in the street, tore the stripes from his pants, and deprived him of other badges of his membership in the company. The poor fellow, we are informed, shed tears at his disgrace and at his expulsion from the camp.

W. H. Russell, of the London Times, has deemed it prudent to disavow connection or complicity with a satellite of a New York illustrated paper, who has been traveling South as his shadow.

Two good powder mills are in operation in Pickens District, S. C.

ACTS PASSED BY THE CONFEDERATE CONGRESS.

MONTGOMERY, May 17, 1861.

The following acts have been passed into laws, and the secrecy removed therefrom:

An act to authorize a loan and the issue of treasury notes, and to prescribe the punishishment for forging the same, and for forging certificates of stock and bonds:

SEC. 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That the Secretary of the Treasury may, with the assent of the President of the Confederate States, issue fifty millions of dollars in bonds, payable at the expiration of twenty years from their date, and bearing a rate of interest not exceeding eight per cent. per annum, until they become payable; the said interest to be payable annually. The said bonds, after public advertisement in three newspapers within the Confederate States for six weeks, to be sold for specie, military stores, or for the proceeds of sales of raw produce or manufactured articles, to be paid in the form of specie, or with foreign bills of exchange, in such manner and under such regulations as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury, with the assent of the President. But it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury to report, at its next ensuing session, to the Congress of the Confederate States, a precise statement of his transactions under this law. Nor shall the said bonds be issued in fractional parts of the hundred, or be exchanged by the said Secretary for treasury notes, or the notes of any bank, corporation, or individual, but only in the manner herein prescribed: *Provided*, that nothing herein contained shall be so construed as to prevent the Secretary of the Treasury from receiving foreign bills of exchange in payment of these bonds.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That in lieu of bonds to an amount not exceeding twenty millions of dollars, the Secretary of the Treasury, with the assent of the President, may issue Treasury notes to the same amount without interest, and in denominations of not less than five dollars, the said notes to be receivable in payment of all debts or taxes due to the Confederate States except the export duty on cotton, or in exchange for the bonds herein authorized to be issued. The said notes shall be payable at the end of two years from the date of their issue, in specie. The holders of said notes may at any time demand in exchange for them bonds of the Confederate States, payable at the end of ten years, and bearing an interest of eight dollars per annum, to be paid semi-annually.—The Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized to issue the said bonds, but not in fractional parts of the hundred. But if, after the expiration of two years, when the Treasury Notes shall be due, the Secretary of the Treasury shall advertise that he will do the same, then the privilege of funding shall cease after six months from the date of the advertisement, unless there shall be a failure to pay the same on their presentation.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That in lieu of the notes authorized by this act, which may be redeemed, other notes may be issued with the period of two years, as aforesaid: *Provided*, however, that the amount of such notes outstanding, together with the stock in which the Treasury notes may have been funded under the provisions of this act, shall not exceed the amount of twenty millions of dollars. But the Secretary of the Treasury may, upon application of a holder of a bond thus funded, redeem it by giving in exchange Treasury notes issued under the provisions of this act, to such extent as that the entire amount of notes then issued, together with the amount of the bonds in which they may have been funded, shall not exceed twenty millions of dollars.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That the faith of the Confederate States is hereby pledged to provide and establish sufficient revenues for the regular payment of the interest and for the redemption of the said stock and Treasury notes. And the principal sum borrowed under the provisions of this act, and the interest thereon, as the same shall, from time to time, become due and payable, shall be paid out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act shall be declared to contain all the provisions, limitations and penalties of the act entitled "An act to authorize the issue of Treasury notes, and to prescribe the punishment for forging the same, and for forging certificates of stocks, bonds or coupons," and approved March 9th, 1861, which shall be considered parts of this act, save the first, second, and tenth sections, and save so much as relates to interest upon Treasury notes.

SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That for the purpose of issuing ten millions of dollars within the present calendar year, and of providing for the ultimate redemption of the debt herein authorized to be contracted, the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby directed to collect information in regard to the value of the property, the revenue system, and the amount collected during the last fiscal year in each of the Confederate States, and to report the same to Congress at its session, so as to enable it to lay a fair, equal and convenient system of internal taxation for the purpose of securing the payment of the interest and the principal of the debt hereby authorized to be created, in such manner as may fully discharge the obligation herein contracted by the pledge of the faith of the Confederate States to pay the principal and interest of the said debt when due.

SEC. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That any State may pay into the Treasury, in anticipation of the tax aforesaid, any sum not less than one hundred thousand dollars in specie, or its equivalent, and if the same be paid on or before the 1st day of July next, the said State shall be allowed to set off the same with ten per cent. additional from the quota to be assessed upon the said State.

An Act to amend an Act, entitled "An Act to tax the pay of the members of the Congress of the Confederate States of America."—Approved March 11, 1861.

SEC. 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That the above entitled act, approved March 11, 1861, be so amended and construed as to provide that, in computing the mileage to which members are entitled, the distance shall be estimated by the usual route of travel from the residence of the member to the place where Congress may assemble.

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted*, That this act shall take effect and be of force from its passage.

An Act in relation to the Confederate loan.

Whereas, Under and by virtue of the act to raise money for the support of the Government, and to provide for the expenses of the Confederate States of America, approved Feb. 28, 1861, the Secretary of the Treasury did proceed to offer five millions of said loan, conformably to the provisions of said act; and, whereas, in many portions of the Confederate States, the currency was and is composed of Banks that have suspended specie payment, not of necessity, but as a measure of public policy; and, whereas, certain of said Banks did agree to redeem in coin, or its equivalent, such of their notes as should be paid in by subscribers to such loan; and, whereas, the Secretary of the Treasury, in view of the expenses of the times, and with a desire to give all the people of all parts of the Confederate States the opportunity of subscribing to said loan, did authorize the Loan Commissioners to receive the notes of the Banks hereinbefore referred to, and to avoid inconvenience and the risk of transit has authorized the said Loan Commissioners to deposit the moneys received by them in said Banks; now, therefore,

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That all the acts and doings of the Secretary of the Treasury, of his subordinate officers, and of the Loan Commissioners, consistent with the facts recited in the foregoing preamble, are hereby confirmed and made valid, any law, usage or custom to the contrary notwithstanding; and the said Secretary, his subordinate officers, and the Loan Commissioners, are hereby authorized to continue so to act in regard to the said loan until the whole amount authorized by said act shall have been fully subscribed for, and their duties regarding the same shall have been determined; and the said Secretary is authorized to make and continue the deposits of moneys received, or to be received, on account of said loan, in any of the said Banks; and the Treasurer of the Confederate States is authorized to draw checks or warrants on said Banks on account of said deposits, payable either in coin or its equivalent, or in current Bank notes, as the Secretary of the Treasury may direct.

EDWIN DELEON.—When the news of the election of Lincoln first reached Egypt, (as early as the 3d of January last,) Mr. Edwin DeLeon, Consul-General of Egypt, at once wrote the Department at Washington, and *unconditionally* sending in his resignation, to take effect on the 4th of March. Being among the first diplomatic officers abroad to resign, it has, perhaps, been suppressed through policy; but he has ever been too consistent a *Southern man* to hold office under a Republican, even before the secession of his own State was known.

Mr. DeLeon has filled his position abroad for eight years, with such credit to himself and to his country, that Congress has twice passed complimentary resolutions on his conduct in the Greek and Jaffa outrages.

The cause of Mr. DeLeon's delay in Egypt is the death of Mr. Moore, the Vice-Consul, who was his personal friend, and who left his private affairs in his hands to be arranged; he, therefore delayed his return for the benefit of his friend's family. He has, however, left, and is daily expected home, and will no doubt promptly offer his services to the Southern Confederacy.—*Charleston Courier.*

ENGLISH VIEWS OF THE AMERICAN WAR.

[From the London Times, 3d.]

President Lincoln's call to arms shows at once the strength and weakness of his Government. He is not the ruler of a people bound by tradition or a sense of duty to obedience. He has not, like an European Sovereign, the power of enforcing his requisitions either by his own authority or by the assistance of a loyal Legislature. He is simply the first magistrate of a number of varying and jealous communities, each having its own organization, its separate interests and prejudices, and being fully capable of making these prevail against the demands of the Central Government. A week did not elapse from the proclamation of war to the second disruption of the Union. Mr. Lincoln at the middle of April was still the head of a Confederation of 27 States; by this time these are probably reduced to 21. The energy—we may almost say the ferocity—with which this war has been entered into on each side, indicates a conflict in which the *Government at Washington will soon lose its control over events.* The first effect of its action is to rouse the two sections of the Union into excitement, which, according to all accounts, has not had a parallel since the early days of the French Revolution. The long suppressed animosity between the North and the South has burst into a flame. To direct the course of this civil conflagration would seem beyond the power of Lincoln on the one side, or Davis on the other. Every Southerner has been suddenly filled with the spirit of the slave-owner, while the vast communities of the North and West seem animated with all the zeal of the Abolitionists. It certainly passes understanding that the New Yorkers, who, a few months ago, would have excluded a negro from an omnibus, and were disposed to think the anti slavery party very little better than the blacks it favored, should thus on a sudden rush to the extreme of animosity against the Southerners, with whose claims they formerly sympathized, whose trade they mainly carried on, and whose plantations, if common fame does not belie the negro, are unfrequently helped to stock by importations from Africa. But to doubt the fervor of the New York population is impossible, and it is equaled by the excitement at Philadelphia, Cincinnati, and other great cities. President Lincoln has given the signal; but the battle will be fought by independent States, we might almost say independent associations, regiments, and companies, arrayed against each other.

The warlike character of the United States' population has, no doubt, a large part in those results. From his earliest youth the American has been accustomed to military display and to hear of military adventure.—While yet a child he is familiar with the pistol and rifle; in the towns there are drilling and marching, and drumming and fifing almost daily, in which he at once takes an interest, and soon come to bear a part. His fancy is inflamed by stories of the Revolution and of 1812—a little mythical it may be, but not the less inspiriting. All this time, however, he feels that the fates are adverse to him. He is forced to play at war, while his fathers and the great men he reads about had the good fortune to wage it. If he takes to business, he may forget these martial instincts for a time, but there are all over the States numbers of young men in whom the love of adventure can never be suppressed. Even in the dull atmosphere of an innate restlessness often tempts the American to sell out and migrate to some distant part of the Union, where the white man's culture merges into the wilderness. It may be, too, that the convulsions in Europe, the battles, sieges, romantic expeditions, the downfall of tyrannies, and the exaltation of heroic names, may have stirred the blood of the New World. However that may be, no sooner does the trumpet sound than the American people rush into the conflict with a fire and alacrity which we can scarcely ascribe to political causes. As far as we can discern, the Northerners have not stayed a moment to inquire what is the object of the war; they care not what is feasible or important, or advantageous. To conquer the Southern States, and to hold them by conquest, is the intention which we must logically deduce from the President's proclamation; but the North thinks of nothing but punishing traitors and pulling down the Palmetto flag; in other words, it wants to fight, and probably any plan for waging out the South by a long blockade, without fighting, would be received with general dissatisfaction.

On the other hand, the South is no less eager for the fray. The Virginians, proud and impetuous, and chafing under the reproaches of the Secessionists, have met the Proclamation of Mr. Lincoln, not only by immediate secession, but by acts of warfare which seem not unpremeditated. No sooner had the Ordinance of Secession passed than Harper's Ferry, the scene of John Brown's luckless exploit, was attacked by a strong force of Virginians. For the credit of the Federal officer in command, we may say that he did not surrender or go over to the enemy. The place is on the banks of the Potomac, and the other side of the river is in Maryland. The garrison destroyed the Arsenal, arms and munitions of war, and escaped across the river, continuing their retreat, it appears, till they gained the more friendly region of Pennsylvania. But a more important event, if true, is the closing of Norfolk harbor by the Virginians, and the possible capture of the United States ships of war, which are at the celebrated naval station. Among the vessels detained is the frigate Merrimac, among the finest in the Federal Navy. The fact of the channel being effectually closed, is, however, denied. No wonder that the news of these great events was received with great rejoicings at the South. Virginia, from her extent, her population, her position, commanding the capital and the Chesapeake, her historical reputation, and her great influence with those States to the West, which were colonized by her, will be an accession of the greatest importance to the Southern Confederacy. The Virginians, there can be no doubt, have entered into the struggle with extraordinary ardor. They know that their country will be the seat of war, that on them the first storm of Northern animosity must fall, that only a river divides them from the city of Washington, where the troops of some dozen Northern States will be shortly collected, burning with desire to attack them; that every effort will be made by the Government to save the Navy-Yard at Norfolk; in short, that their lives, their property and their existence as an independent Commonwealth depend on their courage and resolution during the next few weeks. They will, it appears, be at once supported by the North Carolinians, who, though they cannot formally secede till after a Convention meets, have declared war against the United States and seized the Federal forts. On the other hand, we think it is quite possible that the Western part of Virginia will decline to cast in its lot with the rest. The region of which Wheeling is the principal city has very few slaves, and the people are almost as much Free-soilers in opinion as the people of the Northern States. It may well be that a county will think itself justified in setting up the same claim as a State, and will secede when the general policy does not coincide with its own notions of duty or interest.

Mr. Ewart's question last night was not inopportune, for the papers just received give the Proclamation of President Davis, authorizing the issue of letters of marque. The South has few ships; the people of the slave States are not sailors, and allow their trade to be carried on in Northern bottoms; so that the North has every advantage in waging a war, so far as blockade and the transport of troops by sea are concerned. President Davis now ventures on the extremest act of hostility to which a ruler can resort. Privateering has been abolished by the European Powers since 1856; but it will be remembered that when, after the Congress of Paris, in 1856, England proposed to the United States to join in this condemnation, Secretary Marcy rejected the proposal on the ground that privateering was justifiable in itself, and absolutely necessary for a nation which did not keep up great naval armaments. In the present case, however, the Government at Washington threatens to treat privateers as pirates, on the ground that the authority they sail under has no legal existence. Should this be carried out, and a Southern privateer be hanged, we must look for bloody reprisal on the part of the Confederate States. The passions of all classes are now aroused, and no one can say to what length the fury of civil war will carry them.

THE MINNIE BULLET.—The following, from the Charleston Mercury, confirms a statement in Monday's Dispatch:

A friend, who is in constant practice with the rifle—and is not very particular whether he uses one of Happoldt's, (Charleston make,) an ordinary State rifle, or a Minnie musket—informs us that the conical ball can be successfully used in any of the common rifles usually found in the South and Southwest.

If any of our readers will mould some of the conical slugs, and experiment at three times the usual distance, the result will satisfy them of the increased range and accuracy.

COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON.—The British ship Sir Allen McNab, Capt. Chapman, forty days from Liverpool, consigned to Messrs. Gibbs & Co., arrived yesterday forenoon, in tow of the steamer Gordon. Upon nearing Fort Sumter the Captain brought out his light artillery and saluted the Confederate flag now waving over the fort. Immediately the commanding officer returned the compliment with a royal salute. Of course there was nothing political in the salute on either side. Our friend, the Captain, was glad to get into port, and the gallant commander at Sumter only took this way of letting the new comer know that freight on cotton was penny-half-penny for Uplands, and two pence half-penny for Sea Island.—*Charleston Mercury, 18th.*

SOUTHERN POSTAL AFFAIRS.

BY THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA.

A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, by the provisions of an Act, approved March 15th, 1861, and amended by the first section of an Act approved May 9th, 1861, the Postmaster-General of the Confederate States "is authorized, on and after a day to be named by him for that purpose, to take the entire charge and direction of the postal service in the Confederate States," and all conveyance of mails within their limits, from and after such day, except by authority of the Postmaster-General thereof, is thereby prohibited:

Now, therefore, I, John H. Reagan, Postmaster-General of the Confederate States of America, do issue this my proclamation, notifying all Postmasters, Contractors, and Special and Route Agents, in the service of the Post-Office Department, and engaged in the transmission and delivery of the mails, or otherwise in any manner connected with the service within the limits of the Confederate States of America, that on and after the first day of June next, I shall assume the entire control and direction of the postal service therein: And I hereby direct all Postmasters, Route Agents and Special Agents within these States, and now acting under the authority and direction of the Postmaster-General of the United States, to continue in the discharge of their respective duties under the authority vested in me by the Congress of the Confederate States, in strict conformity with such existing laws and regulations as are not inconsistent with the Laws and Constitution of the Confederate States of America, and such further instructions as may hereafter be issued by my direction: and the said Postmasters, Route Agents and Special Agents are also required to forward to this Department, without delay, their names, with the names of the offices of which they are Postmasters, (giving the State and County,) to be directed to the "Chief of the Appointment Bureau, Post Office Department, Montgomery, Alabama," in order that new commissions may be issued under the authority of this Government. And all Postmasters are hereby required to render to the Post-Office Department at Washington, D. C., their final accounts and their vouchers for postal receipts and expenditures, up to the 31st day of this month, taking care to forward with said accounts all postage stamps and stamped envelopes, remaining on hand, belonging to the Post-Office Department of the United States, in order that they may receive the proper credits therefor, in the adjustment of their accounts; and they are further required to retain in their possession, to meet the orders of the Postmaster General of the United States, for the payment of mail service within the Confederate States, all revenue which shall have accrued from the postal service prior to the said first day of June next.

All Contractors, Mail Messengers, and Special Contractors for conveying the mails within the Confederate States, under existing contracts with the Government of the United States, are hereby authorized to continue to perform such service under my direction, from and after the day last above-named, subject to such modifications and changes as may be found necessary, under the powers vested in the Postmaster-General by the terms of said contracts, and the provisions of the second section of an act approved May 9, 1861, conformable thereto. And the said Contractors, Special Contractors and Mail Messengers, are required to forward without delay the number of their route or routes, the nature of the service thereon, the schedules of arrivals and departures, the names of the officers supplied, and the amount of annual compensation for present service, together with their address, directed to the "Chief of the Contract Bureau, Post Office Department, Montgomery, Ala."

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

Given under my hand, and the seal of the Post-Office Department of the Confederate States of America, at Montgomery, Alabama, the 13th day of May, in the year 1861.

JOHN H. REAGAN,
Postmaster General.

MR. JANNEY AND THE BERKELEY MEETING.—A meeting of citizens of disloyal proclivities was lately held in Berkeley county, at which, among other traitorous proceedings, a resolution was adopted nominating Mr. John Janney as a candidate for Congress. The committee appointed to notify that gentleman received the following stinging rebuke for themselves and their coadjutors:

LEESBURG, May 15, 1861.

GENTLEMEN: I have this moment received your letter of the 14th inst., informing me that at a public meeting of the citizens of Berkeley county, held in Martinsburg on the 13th inst., my name was announced as a candidate for Congress, and you express the hope that I will respond favorably to the nomination, and make my acceptance of it as public as possible, previous to the election, to be held on the 23d inst.

If the political condition of our country were now as it was two years ago, reasons of a private and personal character would oblige me to decline your nomination; but waiving all considerations of this kind, there are now existing the gravest cases of a public character, which, in my judgment, make it my imperative duty to decline its acceptance without a moment's hesitation.

On the 23d instant, the people of Virginia are to cast their votes for the ratification or rejection of the Ordinance of Secession, adopted by the Convention on the 17th of April, and by the result, it is now, and has long been, my fixed purpose to abide. My own opinions of past events have been as decided and as firm as those of most men, and they have on all proper occasions been freely expressed, but I have now to deal with the practical issues which lie before us. The destiny of Virginia is my destiny, and with her I shall sink or swim.

Very respectfully, your fellow-citizen,

JOHN JANNEY.

Messrs. Cramer, Herring, Dorsey, Miller, Curtis, Conrad and others.

A MISERABLE FIZZLE.—The Wheeling meeting is over. The great "*Western Virginia* Convention" turned out to be anything else than that. It was opened with prayer by an Englishman, who, of course, has no love for Virginia. Gen. Jackson made the first speech, and took strong ground against making any movement now for the division of the State. John S. Carlile followed on the other side—But Mr. Willey, of Monongalia, killed the snake by backing up Gen. Jackson. No man of any reputation, who expects to remain long in Virginia, as we predicted last week, took ground in favor of revolution. John S. Burdett, Carlile and Tarr, are the chiefs among the revolutionists. Men of State reputation will not hazard their good names in such a cause.

There are about eighty counties in Western Virginia. Of these only twenty-seven—one-third—are claimed to have been represented; and of the twenty-seven, Marion, Wetzel, Barbour, Wirt, Lewis, Jackson, Roane, Gilmer, Upshur, and various others, will give majorities *against division* and *for secession*, and therefore were misrepresented. Then there are Frederick, Hampshire, Berkeley, and perhaps other counties, included in the twenty-seven, all of which will give four to one for secession, and would give ten to one against division, and therefore were most grossly and outrageously misrepresented. George Senseney, the only delegate from Frederick, acknowledged that he had not been appointed by any public meeting, and said that he had "come up through the dangers which environed a Union man in his part of the State"—thus confessing that they are few and far between in that part of Western Virginia. In fact, there were not fifteen counties (one-tenth of the number in the State,) represented in the Wheeling Convention which will give a majority against Secession, and not ten that would give a maj