

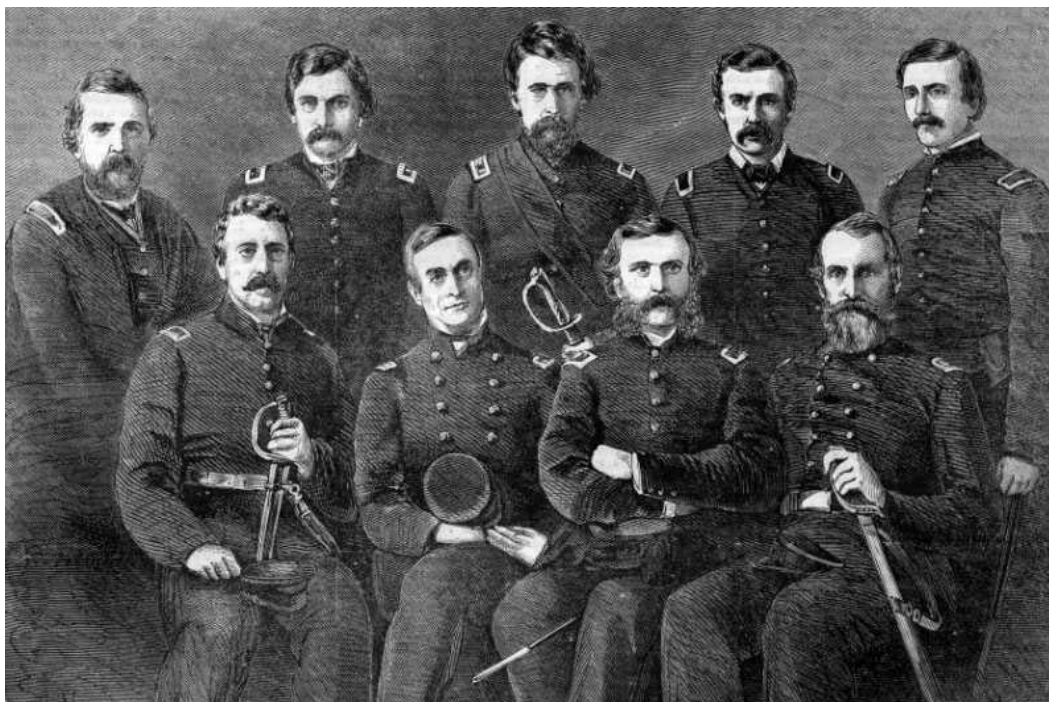
April 1st, 2005

Skedaddle

Week of March 19th to 25th, 1861

Volume 2, Issue 12

WEEKLY GLIMPSES FROM NEWSPAPERS, JOURNALS AND DIARIES, &C, OF THE TIME



The Officers of Fort Sumter

Back row: Capt. T. Seymour, 1st Lt. G.W. Snyder, 1st Lt. J.C. Davis, 2nd Lt. R.K. Meade, 1st Lt. T. Talbot; Front row: Capt. A. Doubleday, Maj. R. Anderson, Asst. Surg. S. W. Crawford, Capt. J.G. Foster
From *Harper's Weekly* of March 23, 1861

CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY (for the week)

- March 19th, 1861 Two New York vessels detained at Savannah by order of the Governor of Georgia were released. The banks in Philadelphia resumed specie payments.
- March 20th, 1861 Arkansas State Convention adjourned after passing a resolution to refer the question of secession to the people.
- March 21st, 1861 Alabama State Convention adjourned *sine die*. Louisiana State Convention ratified the Constitution of the Confederate States (101 v. 7).

- March 22nd, 1861. Dr. Fox, of the navy, visited Major Anderson in Fort Sumter as special government messenger.
- March 23rd, 1861 Georgia State Convention adjourned.
- March 25th, 1861
- Col. Lamon, U. S. government messenger, had an interview with Gov. Pickens and Gen. Beauregard.
 - Texas State Convention ratified the Constitution of the Confederate States.

**PERSONAL RECOLLECTIONS OF THE WAR.
BY A VIRGINIAN.
[FIRST PAPER.]**

Note: This is a continuation of an article the first part of which I published in the January 7, 2005 issue of Skedaddle. Written by D. H. Strother, the article was first published in Harper's New Monthly Magazine. Strother's recollections from his journal cover a significant portion of the war and, along with others, will be published in this e-journal as we progress into and through the war.

The proposition to call a Convention in Virginia is opposed by all discreet men. The people of the State are opposed to Secession, or even to the consideration of the subject. This idea of a Convention is only a scheme of certain Richmond conspirators to get the representative power of the Commonwealth under their hands into a more compact and convenient form for manipulation.

In the recent election for members of the Convention the people of Virginia have expressed their determination to remain in the Union by an overwhelming majority. Gloriously has the good old State vindicated her honorable traditions and the memory of those noble sons whose effigies fill the chief places in the National Pantheon.

We have been wrong in doubting the solidity of popular government. Solomon says: "Many are in high place and of renown, but mysteries are revealed to the meek." So it seems in our day—while our statesmen are turned drivellers, our honorables colloguing with treason, the wise and crafty mazed in a labyrinth of foolishness, the simple faith of the people is steadfast, and is alone sufficient to save us. While those learned in the law and subtle expounders of constitutions are choking us with the metaphysical doubts and twaddle, comes forth the plowman from his field, the grimy artisan from his shop, the meek, unlettered citizen, without Latin enough to translate "*E pluribus unum*," and barely English enough to decipher the vernacular "*United we stand, divided we fall*." This comprises all his knowledge of statesmanship. He never has read any Constitutions, or Bills of Rights, or Resolutions of '98, or Congressional Debates. It is well for the country, perhaps, that he has not, or they might have addled his brains as they have those of many others; yet, though his political creed is so simple, he understands it, not so clearly with his head as with his heart. He learned it from his father, who fought under Jackson in 1812; who learned it from his father, who marched with Washington in 1776. He has

taught it to his bare-legged boy, who tends the plow or blows the bellows at the forge. He has faith in it, and will stand by it when the day of trial comes. We, the people of these United States, will not be divided. I have never seen our people so serious on the occasion of an election. They seem to have had an instinctive warning of coming evil, and, distrusting their old political leaders, have spurned the party trammels and personal prejudices which have heretofore influenced them. They seem every where in the State to have chosen the best men that were offered. Virginia is safe. I thank God for this signal rebuke to those degenerate Virginians who would have sold this glorious old Commonwealth as a convenient tool to the weak and selfish schemers of the Gulf States—a tool to be worked with, ruined, and scorned.

We have vexatious news from Richmond. The tone of the Convention seems to be giving way. The pressure brought to bear against the Unionists is said to be very heavy. The oily blandishments of a wealthy and polished society are spread to catch the lighter flies; the weak and conceited are taken with wordy subtleties; the venal are bought by promises; the timid assailed with insult and menace. Hired bullies and howling mobs besiege the Convention in its sittings, and follow the Union members to their lodgings, threatening assassination and lynch law. Some have yielded with a facility which indicates that their treachery was premeditated. Simultaneously with these proceedings at Richmond I perceive the State is flooded with letters, printed documents, and oratorical emissaries, circulating the most brazen impostures, backed by the most insolent threats, intended to bring the people over to the support of the proposed action of the Convention in favor of Secession.

It is declared that if the State can not be carried out by an ordinance of the Convention it shall be by armed revolution, and woe to those who oppose it!

It is frankly asserted, moreover, that of the voting population of Virginia not more than thirty thousand are uncompromising Secessionists, against about an equal number of decided and unconditional Unionists; the souls, bodies, and estates of the remaining one hundred thousand conservative, vacillating, and undetermined citizens would belong to the victors in the contest, serving to swell their triumph and assure their power. They boastfully claim that the Secessionists have in their ranks all the active fighting element, all the available political ability, arms, organization, and a determined purpose, besides complete control of all branches of the State and municipal government. The domineering insolence of their tone seems to give assurance of triumph before it is actually achieved.

The Unionists, they say, on the other hand, are conservative, timid, unprepared, deprecatory, without organization or positive purpose. They must therefore succumb or leave the State. This is Richmond opinion; but Virginia is a State of imperial boundaries, and these James River people will find out ere long that

"There are hills beyond Pentland
And streams beyond Perth

I have just returned from a visit to Charlestown. The politicians and tavern loungers are very full of Secession talk, but, as far as I could learn, the more solid men and rural gentry are decidedly adverse to it.

In returning I called at Park Forest, the birthplace of my father. The white family was from home, but the clouds of high-bred poultry which surrounded the establishment gave an idea of the bountiful and succulent hospitality of rural life in Jefferson. All the surroundings betokened easy and plenteous living. In the kitchen I found the cook—a picture of abundance, shining with greasy contentment, all unconscious of the coming wars, and unambitious of the glorious future destined for her race.

With hospitable alacrity she brewed me the needful cup of coffee, and I pursued my solitary way. The road I took was through a wooded and secluded region traversing the Opequan pine hills, so my time was occupied with melancholy musings: "There will be war. Thirty years of political wrangling have made war inevitable. 'As the smoke and vapor of the furnace goeth before the fire, so reviling before blood.'"

There must be war. Four-score years of unchecked and unexampled prosperity has made the nation drunk—"Jeshurun waxed fat, and kicked."

There must be war. These convulsions are essential to the political as storms and tornadoes are to the physical world. We have gone a very long time without one. That of 1812 was superficial. The war with Mexico a mere joke. The restless and growing energies of our people have for eighty years been turned toward the subjugation of nature. The continent has at length succumbed. Our pioneers return disappointed and checked from the shores of the Pacific. The continuity of the nation's dream has been interrupted. There are no more El Dorados to explore, to waste and east aside like broken toys. These vast and ungovernable energies are now thrown back upon us like a distemper driven from the surface into the blood. They are about to break out in civil war. A great foreign war would answer the purpose much better. What a pity we can not get up a foreign war! Yet Uncle Sam for some years past seems to have been trying (like the hero of Donnybrook Fair) to induce somebody to tread on his coat-tail. But other

people know him better than he knows himself:

When this war comes we are to be the borderers; whether it takes the form of a regular and organized contest between governments and sections, or the more dread shape of social and anarchic butchery, this region will be the debatable ground. These fair and fertile fields will be laid waste. Bleak chimneys rising from an ash heap will mark the site of these pleasant homes. Kindred will be divided by the sword. Ancient friendships changed to bloody feuds; peace, security, and plenty give place to war, watchfulness, and famine. And yet no upright and sound-thinking man can give a human reason why this war should be. There is not an interest involved which will not suffer shipwreck by a resort to arms. There is not a moral or political principle insisted on by either party which can not be more advantageously settled by reason and forbearance—

"We are puppets, Man in his pride
and Beauty fair in her flower,

Do we move ourselves, or are we
moved by an unseen hand at a game?"

The party press of the country is helping on the quarrel famously, while our gray-beards at Washington are tapping their venerable cocoa-nuts with the hope of extracting a few drops of the milk of human kindness wherewith to assuage the flames. The newspapers are standing at either end of the furnace heaving in tar, pitch, rosin, petroleum, and bacon-sides, with most indefatigable and intelligent industry. Chateaubriand, who had seen revolutions enough to give his opinions some weight, was asked the cause of the periodical revolutions in France. He replied, "Journalism."

This is certainly an efficient and virulent agent in the revolution which is brewing here.

The New York papers speak of the Southern people as "effete;" and there seems to be an impression prevailing generally in the North that the physique of the Southern people is deteriorated by a life of luxurious and dissolute idleness. If the dapper ideologist who entertains such an idea should happen to come in contact with some hardy Southern mountaineer carrying a hundred and fifty pound buck on his shoulder—some stark and sinewy swamper with his swivel of a ducking-gun—some hard-riding Tony Lumpkin of the rural gentry, the *preux chevalier* of tournaments, cock-fights, and quarter-races, he would presently find out who was "effete."

There is probably not a population to be found who, by their habits of life, occupations, and amusements, are better fitted for soldiers than that of the Southern States. Horses and fire-arms are their playthings from childhood. Impatient of the restraints

of school-houses and work-shops they seek life and pleasure in the soil, and thus early learn the, topography of nature, the ways of the fields and forests, swamps, and mountains. Their social and political life, but little restrained by law or usage, develops a vigorous individuality. For the most part, ignorant of the luxuries and refinements of cities, they prefer bacon and whisky to venison and Champagne. Tall, athletic, rough, and full of fire and vitality, the half horse, half alligator type still predominates in the lower and middle classes of the South, while a more elegant but equally vigorous physique characterizes the polished, proud, subtle, ambitious, warlike, domineering class who will lead them.

The Southern editors, on the other hand, jealous of assumed Northern pre-eminence in silly and brazen imposture, make haste to assure their readers that the people of the late United States are now a frantic mob of Yankees and abolitionists, manufacturers of wooden nutmegs and patent apple-peelers, seedy pedagogues and brain-sick ideologists, and won't fight. Now if these adverse utterances are any thing more than the ravings of partisan passion—if the people of the sections do entertain such opinions of each other, it is high time they had a war. It will then be shown satisfactorily to both parties whether or not the hardy pioneers who have subjugated a rugged continent to the sons of the Vikings, who have driven the whales from the high seas, will fight, and whether or not the domineering lords of Southern soil and serfs are effete.

Although this people has been chiefly occupied in talking politics for eighty years or more, I can not perceive that they have made any advance toward enlightenment on the subject. Not one man in ten of those I meet seems to have the slightest idea of where his duty or allegiance lies in the present crisis. This condition of things reminds me of Italy in former times, when popes, emperors, dukes, freebooters, municipalities, miracle-mongers, and dogmatists disputed for empire and the right of fleecing the distracted masses. Our people choose sides positively enough some-times, but they seem to be decided more by passion, prejudice, or interest than by any clearly-defined principle. The masses are certainly adverse to the secession movement, yet they seem to be yielding to the revolution—yielding to arrogant assumption, terrorism, rather than a sense of right.

March 19, 1861

NEW YORK HERALD

The News.

The public will find in the HERALD of this morning the two new tariffs which are destined to play an important part in the settlement of the troubles which now surround the United States. The Southern tariff is very simple and easily understood, but the Northern tariff is full of incongruities, and we have therefore endeavored to make it clear by throwing it alphabetically in tabular form. This tariff, so arranged, is thus ready for immediate reference. It will be perceived that spirits of turpentine, Peruvian bark, and other manufactures of flax, are liable to different rates of duty, without a distinct specification. Several interpolations also appear in different parts of the official document, whether clerical errors or legal alterations, is not stated. They will lead to litigations and trouble, annoyance and expense.

One of the effects of this Morrill tariff, however, will be to settle the question of the navigation of the Mississippi river—the only one which looked threatening to the South. The Southern tariff being lower than the Northern, all goods destined for Memphis, St. Louis, Cincinnati and other ports of entry in the West, will be landed at New Orleans, giving employment to the boats and railroads on and near the Mississippi river, and reviving the old business as it flourished before the East opened its artificial connections with the West.

A despatch from Savannah intimates that goods in transit through the Confederate States for such States as are without their jurisdiction can proceed to their destination without payment of duties.

Advices from Charleston state that a despatch had been received in that city from Havre, intimating that ships from the Confederate States would be admitted into that port on the same footing as those carrying the federal flag.

The administration having come to a decision upon the claims of applicants, the following gentlemen have been appointed to represent the nation abroad:

Charles Francis Adams—Minister to England
 William L. Layton—Minister to France
 N. P. Judd—Minister to Prussia
 George P. Marsh—Minister to Sardinia
 James Watson Webb—Minister to Turkey
 Jacob T. Halderman—Minister to Sweden
 W. S. Thayer—Consul General to Alexandria.

Nothing of importance transpired in the Senate of the United States yesterday beyond the confir-

mation of appointments and the delivery of a speech by Mr. Breckinridge on the resolution of Mr. Douglas.

Advices from Fort Brown intimate the surrender of the Ringgold Barracks at Brazos Santiago to the Texan troops, and that its evacuation would take place on the 20th inst. Col. Ben McCulloch is now on his way to Richmond to purchase arms for the State of Texas. He will also endeavor to induce President Davis to form a regiment of mounted riflemen for the protection of the Texan frontier.

The tenor of advices from Washington indicate no change in the policy of the administration relative to the reception of the Southern Commissioners. Preparations for the evacuation of Fort Sumter will probably be inaugurated in a few days, but the mode in which it will take place has not yet been decided upon. The rush of place hunters still continues.

The attendance of members in both branches of our State Legislature yesterday was rather slim, and the proceedings were not in the main of great importance. In the Senate but little business was transacted. Among the few bills introduced was one to amend the Revised Statutes in relation to the assessment and collection of taxes. The bill amendatory of the act establishing regulations for the port of New York was ordered to a third reading. In the Assembly a number of petitions in favor of a railroad in Broadway were presented. Progress was reported on the Metropolitan Health bill, and also on the bill to amend the city charter. Various other reports were made, and different bills otherwise acted upon, but none of them of general interest.

The Two Tariffs, North and South.

We publish today the tariff recently adopted by the Northern Congress at Washington and the one virtually agreed upon by the Southern Congress at Montgomery, both in extenso, and they present, we think, a fair contrast between the legislative capacity of these two bodies. It is impossible to deny to the Southern tariff an exemplification of statesmanship, enlightenment, wisdom and a knowledge of governing a great and enterprising people, which are wholly wanting in the other document.

The two measures, in fact, differ as much in spirit as the eighteenth and the nineteenth centuries; they are as widely different as the legislation of the Mountain in revolutionary France, or the Puritan legislation of the old Commonwealth of England, and the legislation of these two countries at the present day, as any commercial man who understands the subject may see by comparing the one with the other.

The tariff of the Washington Congress is the most ignorant, useless, blundering and pernicious enactment that ever was concocted for the avowed purpose of bettering the interests of the country. On the contrary, the tariff of the Montgomery Congress is a sound, practical and intelligible measure, and as such it will command the admiration of the statesmen of England and France, and all the commercial nations of Europe. They will discover, from the comparison, that the art of government is with the South, and not with the North, and they will be guided by that conviction in their policy as regards the two sections.

For the last forty years a set of stockjobbers and speculators in the North, and especially in New York, New England and Pennsylvania, have been using Congress on this question of tariff and revenue for their own benefit, and for purely stockjobbing purposes, just precisely as they operate in the corner gatherings in Wall street; and they have readily found such men as Morrill, who represents some grogshop, hole and corner interest in Vermont, to do the business for them in Washington. The country has suffered many times from ill judged tariffs, got up to suit the stockjobbing and other individual interests, as, for example, from the tariff of 1828, which was settled in 1832, but not before it almost drove South Carolina into nullification and secession; and now that the negro agitation had driven intelligent and practical Southern members out of Congress, the abolitionists and stockjobbers got affairs into their own hands, and we see the result in this most iniquitous measure, the Morrill tariff.

The combined effects of these two tariffs must be to desolate the entire North, to stop its importations, cripple its commerce and turn its capital into another channel; for, although there is specie now lying idle in New York to the amount of nearly forty millions of dollars, and as much more in the other large cities, waiting for an opportunity of investment, it will be soon scattered all over the country, wherever the most available means of using it are presented, and it will be lost to the trade of this city and the other Northern states. There is nothing to be predicted of the combination of results produced by the Northern and Southern tariffs but general ruin to the commerce of the Northern confederacy. France and England, in view of these two measures, will find but little difficulty now in recognizing the independence of the Confederate States of the South. The statesmen of these nations care nothing for our eternal nigger question. Their own commercial interests abroad are all in all to them; and, indeed, upon the subject of negroes, both the American governments stand now upon an equal footing, inasmuch as the Southern, as well as the

Northern, constitution prohibits the African slave trade.

The tariff of the South opens its ports upon fair and equitable terms to the manufacturers of foreign countries, which it were folly to suppose will not be eagerly availed of; which the stupid and suicidal tariff just adopted by the Northern Congress imposes excessive and almost prohibitory duties upon the same articles. Thus the combination of abolition fanatics and stockjobbers in Washington has reduced the whole North to the verge of ruin, which nothing can avert unless the administration recognizes the necessity of at once calling an extra session of Congress to repeal the Morrill tariff, and enact such measures as may bring back the seceded States, and reconstruct the Union upon terms of conciliation, justice and right.

THE RICHMOND ENQUIRER

Views of Vice President Stephens.

Mr. A.H. Stephens, Vice President of the Southern Confederacy, reached Atlanta from Montgomery on Monday last, and was received with every demonstration of respect, admiration and confidence on the part of the people of Fulton and the adjoining counties. The Atlanta "Confederacy" says: "Expectation was on the tip-toe and the whole population were out to meet their favorite. We do not remember ever before to have seen so large an assemblage of our citizens brought together. The numerous military companies in full dress, and the fire departments with gay uniforms and brilliant torches were out in full force."

We publish a synopsis of Mr. Stephens' speech on the occasion, as given in the "Confederacy," knowing that it will be perused with interest and satisfaction by our readers.

Mr. Stephens, let it be borne in mind, occupies the second place officially in the new Confederacy; a position to which he was called by the Congress thereof, and by their constituents of all parties. The people of Georgia, and other people who know him, acknowledge the fidelity of the picture of A. H. Stephens as drawn in his memorable Congressional canvass of 1855, by an enthusiastic friend and admirer—thus:

"Stephens is small in stature, weighing only 100 pounds, sometimes more, sometimes less; but he is the best illustration of *multum in parvo* to be found anywhere. There is much contained beneath his diminutive exterior—an intellectual and moral treasure which you will rarely find in a clay-tenement either large or small. He unites the eloquence of a Randolph with the simplicity and purity of a Macon."

Skedaddle

Such, we say, is the estimation in which Mr. Stephens is held by his Southern neighbors and friends. Thus introduced and endorsed, his statement of the present and his opinion of the future of the Southern Confederacy, cannot fail to have its effect upon the border States and upon reflecting men in other portions of the old Union. But we will no longer withhold Mr. Stephens' speech from the reader:

Mr. Stephens was presented to the acres of enthusiastic admirers who stood there to do him honor, by our worthy Mayor in a few very appropriate words of welcome.

In response Mr. Stephens excused himself, from his state of weariness and fatigue, from making any very extended remarks, but said he desired to notice an allusion of the Mayor to the labors of the Congress at Montgomery. —With marked emphasis, Mr. Stephens said that in all the public bodies in which he had ever served the country, and in his experience they had not been few, he never met as many men combining the same exalted talent with as much of devoted, unselfish patriotism. Their whole aim seemed to be to see the right and pursue it. This was his opinion, but very soon we would have the opportunity of seeing what had been done and passing upon it ourselves. He ventured to say, that the history of the world did not present such another social phenomenon as the existing revolution in the Cotton States. A vast empire was divided—a government thrown off, a new system inaugurated in juxtaposition to the old, and without a drop of blood, the slightest social disorder or physical suffering. All we had to do, said the speaker, to perpetuate this happy state of things, was to be true to our own honor and fame. We were once Unionists but now we are all Secessionists, and if we continued to display to all the world the proper union of hearts and purpose, there could be no such word as fail for us. But, in most eloquent tones he declared, if dissensions springing from venal and selfish ambitions, if unreasoning and captious fault finding should discourage the true friends of Southern liberty, he could prophesy no good for us.

Mr. Stephens said that he had once venerated the old Constitution under which he had been born, and did still feel a great respect for it. But upon a dispassionate comparison of the two Constitutions, he did not hesitate to declare that the new was an improvement on the old. He went on to state that he thought the mode appropriating money when brought into the Treasury by taxation, as provided for by the Constitution of the Confederate States, a decided improvement on that of any government whatever. The labor, he said, was not so much to get money into the public chest as to protect it from misappropriation

after it was raised. By the new Constitution not a dollar could be drawn from the public Treasury, unless by a two-thirds vote of Congress. An exception to this rule was only made when the President should report to Congress that pressing public necessity and exigency called for it. Another grand difference between the old and the new Constitution was this, said Mr. Stephens, in the old Constitution the Fathers looked upon the fallacy of the equality of the races as underlying the foundations of republican liberty. Jefferson, Madison and Washington, and many others, were tender of the word slave in the organic law, and all looked forward to the time when the institution of slavery should be removed from our midst as a trouble and a stumbling block. The delusion could not be traced in any component parts of the Southern Constitution. In that instrument we solemnly discarded the pestilent heresy of fancy politicians, that all men, of all races, were equal, and we had made African inequality and subordination, and the equality of white men, the chief corner stone of the Southern Republic. With an honest administration of a government so founded, Mr., Stephens said, the world was yet to see in us the model nation of history. Restore peace, set our people quietly to work out their destiny from this point of departure, and we would go on from one step of glorious development to another. We would expand Southward and Westward, to the East and to the North (God forbid, said a gallant Secessionist,) until there would be no complaint about territory.

Mr. Stephens said before he closed he would make a prediction that some might take in the way of good news if they wished. He gave it as his opinion, that before Saturday night we would hear of the surrender of Fort Sumter. What the labors and science of General Beauregard had done in convincing Major Anderson that his position was not impregnable he would not undertake to say. But let this prediction turn out as it may, of one thing we might rest assured, that the Forts would be given up. or they would be taken away. Mr. Stephens seemed to be satisfied that we should have a peaceable separation from the North, but he said our general preparation and readiness to meet a different result might have had a great deal to do with such a consummation. He said we all desired peace—none of us felt that war and its sufferings and distractions were light things, but yet we were prepared for war. After invoking a fraternal and cordial union of all hearts in defence and support of the Honor and Freedom of our people, in most touching language, Mr. Stephens closed by proposing three cheers for the Confederate States of America.

Mr. Keitt, of South Carolina, it was whispered around, was in the throng, and soon a thousand voices

called him out. Well did this gallant and eloquent gentleman sustain the report we had all received of his power as a speaker. He rendered a tribute to our Vice President of unsurpassable eloquence, and gave us, in his own unselfish and noble devotedness to the cause of Southern Independence, an earnest of what his State would do in approval of the recent labors of the Congress at Montgomery.

The immense crowd dispersed at half past eight, cheered and elated with what they had heard of the brightening prospects of our beloved country.

A few old friends pressed in to pay their respects to the distinguished speakers, but all seemed to think that it would not be proper to fatigue them by friendly attentions. Our guests left by the nine o' train of the Georgia Railroad.

DIARY OF A YANKEE IN THE PATENT OFFICE

TUESDAY 19

Another cold day. M. 19 early this morning, but the sun took the snow off before night. There does not seem to be any news in particular afloat but Warlike rumors are in the secession papers. The Cabinet does not seem to be a unit upon all questions and it may not hold together long. Sent packages of seeds from the Agrict Room to both the Editors at Lyons, Tinsley & Van Camp. Went down to the Ave with Juliet. Called upon Miss Douglas on H Street. She commences school with Miss D. tomorrow. 11 o'clock.

March 20, 1861

NEW YORK HERALD

The News.

The news from Washington is important. An armistice has been agreed upon between the Commissioners of the Confederate States and the administration, and for a short time at least no disturbances need be feared. Affairs at Fort Pickens have assumed a peaceful aspect, and the commanders of the vessels off Pensacola have been instructed to await further orders. The idea of a peaceful separation seems now to prevail even in republican counsels, as infinitely preferable to the assertion and maintenance of federal laws among a people who are determined to resist them.

The evacuation of Fort Sumter will take place on Saturday, and Major Anderson and troops leave on the steamer Columbia for this city. Yesterday fifty of the soldiers received their pay from the government. It is stated that the Confederate States will be generally recognized by the European Powers. The leading men

at Charleston are anxious for speedy settlement of affairs, but the prevailing opinion is that it can only be accomplished outside of the Union, and that even the extinction of the republican party would not restore them to the Union as it was before secession.

The arms seized by the New York police have at last all been restored, and sent on to Savannah. The fact having been telegraphed to responsible parties in Georgia, an answer has been received over the wires announcing the release of the vessels detained by the authorities of that State in reprisal for that seizure. Full particulars will be found elsewhere.

The resolution of Mr. Douglas, in reference to the forts, arsenals, navy yards, and other public property in the seceded States, was taken up in the Senate yesterday. A debate, in which several Senators participated, ensued, but without taking any definitive action on the resolution the Senate went into executive session.

TRI-WEEKLY ALAMO EXPRESS

San Antonio, TX

Flags and Foraging

The brave men who went to take charge of Forts Clark and Duncan found it convenient to take advantage of the war times to forage upon the poor people along the route, by killing their hogs, &c.

On Tuesday last a salute of seven guns were fired and the flag of the Southern Confederacy was hoisted over the Alamo. We advise these brave flag-raisers to look sharp or the ghosts of Crocket and Travis will haunt them.

CHARLESTON MERCURY

Transit of Merchandize through the Confederate States.

By an Act of the Congress, , wares and merchandize, imported from any foreign country into the Confederate States, destined for any foreign country, may be entered and have transit through the Confederate States free of duty, subject to the such regulations as the Secretary of the Treasury from time to time shall make. Power is also given to the Secretary of the Treasury to make regulations as he may deem expedient for the safety of the revenue and for the public convenience, which regulations may be enforce in the manner prescribed by law as to other regulations in relation to the revenue. These are provisions of no little importance to our citizens.

ENFIELD RIFLES.

FORTY OF THE ABOVE CELEBRATED RIFLES, WITH BAYONETS. ALSO, MAYNARD'S RIFLES, COLT'S REVOLVERS, INFANTRY SWORDS, &c. For sale by

GRAVELEY & PRINGLE,

No. 44 East Bay, South of the Postoffice

DIARY OF A YANKEE IN THE PATENT OFFICE

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 1861.

Cool again today, but not freezing. Busy in the office for two or three days on Steam gauges. Work in the office increasing this Month. Do not take much time now to read in office hours, am interrupted much by frequent "calls." Juliet commenced school with Miss Douglass today. The Boys go (as they have for some months) to Mr [De Harts?]. Went down to the Ave with my wife to make some purchases. I called at Willards, quite a crowd there yet, saw some that I knew. Came home about 8 with the "Times," been reading all the evening. 1/2 past 10 o'clock.

March 21, 1861

NEW YORK HERALD

The News.

Our despatches from Washington this morning reiterate the assurance that both the Lincoln administration and the government at Montgomery are disposed to preserve the peace. It is stated that the Commissioners from the Confederate States have the positive assurance from the administration that no movement of troops, or reinforcement of forts in the seceded States will be permitted for the present. On the other hand, the Montgomery government will do nothing to disturb the existing condition of affairs.

The two indictments against Mr. Floyd, late Secretary of War, for conspiring to defraud the government, and for malfeasance in office, were yesterday dismissed by the Court at Washington as untenable.

In the United States Senate yesterday, Mr. Hale offered a resolution, which lies over, that the Senate adjourn without day at one o' on Saturday next. The consideration of Mr. Douglass' resolution in relation to southern forts, &c., was then resumed, and Mr. Bayard, of Delaware, made a speech on the troubles of the nation. He considered a reconstruction of the Union impossible, and there remained but one of two courses to pursue, namely, war, with a view to subjugation, or the recognition of the independence of the

Southern republic. He indicated a proposition which he should offer, investing the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, with power to accept the declaration of the seceded States, that they are an alien people, and authorizing him to conclude with them a treaty acknowledging their independence as a separate nation. At the conclusion of Mr. Bayard's remarks the Senate held an executive session, and confirmed a number of appointments.

What is the North to do for a Navy?

The Confederate States have already annexed several of the United States vessels found in Southern waters. That, however, might be borne with tolerable equanimity, and those vessels might be replaced by others; but the worst of it is that all the regions on which the United States government calculated for the production of live oak timber for the construction of ships-of-war are located within the jurisdiction of the Southern confederacy. We are therefore dependent upon the charity of an alien government for the material for a navy. The South can, and probably will, go to work to get up an effective marine; but what will the North do? This is one of the fruits of that conflict of which the republican party is at once the author and the victim.

The Evacuation of Fort Sumter.

News from Washington.

WASHINGTON, March 21, 1861.

The failure to evacuate Fort Sumter yesterday, as anticipated, is attributed in administration circles to technical reasons merely. It is now said the evacuation will take place immediately.

A crisis will soon arrive. Mr. Seward has been in favor of the evacuation of Fort Sumter. After a great amount of labor, he induced Gen. Scott to issue to the Cabinet an opinion that the fort could not be reinforced. This opinion influenced the other members of the Cabinet, with one exception, who viewed the evacuation as a military necessity. Under this influence the Cabinet were induced to submit their opinions to Mr. Lincoln, who has not yet decided whether to order Major Anderson to evacuate Fort Sumter or not. It is most likely that he will issue the order, inasmuch as the matter has gone so far. But it is useless to disguise the fact that nothing but the exertions of Mr. Seward has brought about this state of things.

Mr. Lincoln is puzzled to understand the strange inconsistency in the despatches of Major Anderson before the inauguration and after. Before it he had plenty of provisions and men; after, he was without provisions, could make no fight without more

men, and it would be impossible to get either without employing twenty thousand men for land service and a fleet of war vessels. These two statements have been much discussed, and are yet the difficult point to surmount. It would be useless to disguise the fact that it is whispered in executive circles that Major Anderson is suspected of complicity with the secessionists of South Carolina.

A statement that no reinforcements have been sent South, and that no orders have been issued to reinforce Fort Pickens, is considered reliable.

THE TROUBLES OF THE NATION—THE PEACE OF THE COUNTRY TO BE PRESERVED.

WASHINGTON, March 20, 1861.

There is a perpetual fever of excitement and a world of inquiry as to the policy of the administration towards the South. A new rumor captures the city every twenty four hours. It would be well, however, that the public understand that these rumors are started for specific purposes, sometimes to constrain the administration, but more frequently to inspire with madness the population of the border States.

The concentration of all the available naval force along the Southern coast is regarded as very significant. The Southern Commissioners, however, have the positive assurance from the administration that no movement of troops, or reinforcements of forts in the Confederate States, will be permitted for the present. The present status is to remain.

The Commissioners do not believe that the government of the United States will violate that pledge. However they keep their government at Montgomery fully advised, and the commanders of the several forts in the Confederate States are on the alert day and night, watching for the vessels that recently departed from the Northern ports.

The administration is aware of the significance of the action of the border slave states, and of the control which Virginia exerts over them. They have been assured that this veteran State is in the hands of the conservative, Union loving and constitutional right exacting men of her citizens. Nothing, it is said, will be done to embarrass their senatorial action. The inflammatory and unauthorized declarations of the Hales and Chandlers do not represent the views of the administration. Mr. Lincoln says if the laws can be executed they shall be; if they cannot, they will not be. They will not be executed to the production of war.

Among the foreign Ministers on the floor of the Senate this morning, were those from the Confederate States. They attracted considerable attention.

Commissioner Forsyth has left for New York, where he will remain a week or ten days. Himself and colleagues are firm in the opinion that the public peace will not be broken. They have assurances from Montgomery that there shall be no collision while they remain in Washington. Their policy is inactivity, awaiting the pleasure of the administration.

Powerful influences have been brought to bear on the President, within the past few days, in favor of a pacific solution of the question.

Washington, March 20, 1861.

Much curiosity is manifested respecting the action of the administration relative to affairs in the South, and various rumors prevail in this connection. But information derived from authentic sources warrant the assertion that whatever movements may be in progress they involve nothing whatever of a hostile design. On the contrary, they are in the direction of peace. It is generally agreed, however, that the military status of the Gulf forts now held by the federal government will be preserved.

The Commissioners from the Confederate States will wait leisurely for the action of the government. Great efforts are being made by distinguished gentlemen to effect a peaceful solution of the Southern complications.

The government at Montgomery have no apprehensions of a collision at Fort Pickens. It is said that the accounts published are gross exaggerations of the true condition of affairs in that quarter. The Commissioners have information that the best of feeling exists between the federal authorities and the officers in command of the Confederate troops, and that no danger of a collision is entertained.

DIARY OF A YANKEE IN THE PATENT OFFICE

THURSDAY 21

It has been a cold windy day. It snowed some last night, and we are now having about as much Winter as we have had. The indications are now that Fort Sumpter will be evacuated and perhaps the other Forts in the seceded states, and that there will be no War. But in my opinion a peaceable separation will ultimately be brought about (probably with all the Slave States) and two confederacys be formed. Went with Julia (after calling on our neighbor Mr Douglass with my wife) to the Raven Club at Prof Whitakers, heard Doct Chesney discuss the Character of Queen Elizabeth.

March 22, 1861

NEW YORK HERALD

The News.

The reports from Washington respecting the evacuation of Fort Sumter are to the effect that the troops will be removed immediately.

There were rumors in circulation in Washington yesterday of an apprehended collision at Fort Pickens, but they were universally discredited.

The State Convention of Louisiana yesterday ratified the constitution of the Confederate States.

The State Convention of Arkansas on Wednesday adjourned, after passing an ordinance of secession and co-operation resolutions. They are to be submitted to the people for ratification or rejection.

A despatch from Mobile announces the seizure, on Wednesday night, off Pensacola, of the sloop Isabella, Captain Jones, laden with supplies for the United States squadron.

In the United States Senate yesterday the consideration of Mr. Douglas' resolution in relation to the Southern forts, &c., was resumed, and Mr. Bayard concluded his remarks in favor of recognizing the independence of the Confederate States.

In our State Senate yesterday the resolutions reported to that body some time ago by the Committee on Federal Relations, in reference to the national troubles, coming up as the special order, their consideration was indefinitely postponed. Considerable business was transacted by the Senate. In response to an inquiry from a Senator as to whether any reply had been received from the Metropolitan Police Commissioners in answer to the resolutions of the Senate with regard to their sending members of the force out of the State, the presiding officer stated that no reply had been made by the Commissioners, and that there was no way of compelling them to reply unless they should be declared in contempt. The Assembly passed a number of bills of more or less interest. Governor Morgan transmitted with his recommendation of their adoption by the Legislature, the joint resolutions of the Thirty-sixth Congress, known as the Corwin proposition, for an amendment of the constitution to prohibit Congress from interfering with slavery in the States.

Mr. John Sherman, member of the United States House of Representatives from Ohio, was, on Wednesday night, on the seventy-ninth ballot, elected United States Senator, in place of Salmon P. Chase, appointed Secretary of the Treasury by President Lincoln.

More Secession - The Border Slave States.

By a telegraphic despatch in another column, it will be seen that the State Convention of Arkansas has passed a secession ordinance, to be submitted to the vote of the people. Arkansas is likely to go the way of Texas and of all the cotton States. By the news published yesterday it appeared that the secession ordinance was defeated by a vote of 39 to 35; but on reconsideration the ordinance was passed, subject to the popular vote, which will probably be for separation. The revolution of late is rapidly gaining ground in the south.

It is a great mistake to suppose that there is in any of the slaveholding States any considerable number of men who are in favor of the Union at all hazards and under all circumstances. With a very few exceptions, the only Union men to be found are conditional Unionists—men who have been prevented from seceding by mere hopes that Congress, or the new administration or the Northern States, would take some action which would lead to a reconstruction of the Union. But as soon as they found that neither the Northern States, nor Congress, nor the new administration, did anything calculated to heal the breach, but on the contrary much to widen it, many of them became secessionists; and it is very evident that ever since the promulgation of the inaugural, which proposes no remedy, but threatens coercion, the secession movement has gained ground in Virginia and all the other slave States. In North Carolina, out of a vote of upwards of 93,000 the majority against holding a secession Convention was less than six hundred. The moment Mr. Lincoln commences his coercive measures he may be prepared to hear of every remaining slave State seceding, one after another.

The telegraphic news from the Missouri State Convention, which we publish elsewhere, indicates not only what that State will do, but all the other slaveholding States, in the contingency of a collision between the federal government and the Confederate States. Through the secession ordinance was voted down for the present on Wednesday, but in yesterday session the following resolution was adopted by a vote of 89 to 6;—"That it is the opinion of this convention that the cherished desire to preserve the country from civil war and to restore fraternal feelings would be greatly promoted by the withdrawal of the federal troops from such forts within the seceded States where there is danger of a hostile collision; and we recommend that policy. "This is a very significant hint by all but a unanimous vote of the State of Missouri to Mr. Lincoln and his administration, and to all fanatics at the North who are urging him to coercion.

The border slave States are only resting on their oars. They are waiting to see what the President will do, and what the extra session of Congress, which he is expected to call, will propose to the country. If Mr. Lincoln should proceed to collect the revenue from the seceded States by force of arms, or to blockade their ports, and if the extra session of Congress should not propose the new constitution of the Confederate States for adoption, the Union cannot be reconstructed. The cotton States will not come back, and the border slave States will have to follow them in self defence. The best thing they could do just now is to adopt the ultimatum of the confederate States; for the result would be that the free States would, one by one, follow their example, and we should soon have, by this simple process, a reconstruction on a permanent basis. If the New England States should think proper to remain out in the cold and not come into the new Union, the country could manage to get on very well without them, and there would be the more harmony in the relations between the States.

CHARLESTON MERCURY

Viele's Hand-Book for Active Service.

This book should be in the hands not only of every volunteer officer, but of every soldier, who hopes ever to become an officer. It is of great importance to volunteers to have their attention merely called to the subjects selected by the author. To have them treated in the clear, full manner, as they have been, is to give to the volunteers of our day an opportunity for improvement not possessed by those of former days. The perusal of this book will be sure to increase the desire for military knowledge in all who have any occasion for such. To officers of military education this book offers much information, in convenient shape, for reference, and should be at hand for that purpose.

A visit to the east wing of the Citadel Academy

OUR CITIZENS will be much gratified by a visit to the east wing of the Citadel Academy, where ammunition and military fireworks generally are fabricated in all their various forms, under the

superintendence of that very active and efficient young officer, Capt. C.P. THOMAS, of the Citadel. It is incredible to behold the silent progress which has been going on in our midst in the preparation of war material in the last two or three months, and certainly without precedent in any country.

Fort Sumter.

The arrival of a special messenger to Major ANDERSON, last evening, produced some comment and curiosity in the city. The gentleman who was the envoy of the Administration in Washington, is Mr. G.V. FOX, of Massachusetts, formerly of the United States Navy. He was accompanied to Fort Sumter by Capt. HENRY J. HARTSTENE at 8 o' p.m. Mr. Fox only remained at Fort Sumter for half an hour, and left for Washington in the 11 p.m. train.

He announced that the object of this mission was simply to hear from Major ANDERSON the exact condition of the garrison. From the shortness of the stay of his Envoy Extraordinary, we presume that it did not take the gallant Major long to give him an inventory of his provisions, &c.

Now as the communication between Fort Sumter and Washington is open to the garrison of the former, are we to believe the object of Mr. FOX's excursion was simply to ascertain whether Major ANDERSON was in a temper to have his military prestige sacrificed upon the altar of Black Republicanism? By this we would enquire whether it is the intention of LINCOLN and his pack to leave him to eat his last ounce of bread, and then to let loose the Northern howl, which has already commenced, against him for retiring? So far as South Carolina is concerned, we believe that Major ANDERSON will be permitted to salute his flag on hauling it down, and to march out of the fort with his side arms, leaving the property intact. When we remember the disgraceful manner in which the late Administration sneaked out of the San Juan del Norte affair, and turned Commodore PAULDING over to the denunciation of the country for obedience to orders, which he could only construe as he did, and then coolly, a year afterwards, in a State paper, appropriated the whole honor of the affair, we have a right to ask what we have. They can do as they please.

Shall We Make a Fuss Over the Evacuation?

A correspondent suggests that the day Fort Sumter is to be evacuated be made a day of public rejoicing in Charleston - a general holiday, with thanksgiving and an illumination. For our part, we doubt the propriety and good taste of any such grand demonstration. The retirement of seventy men from the possession of a fortress in our harbor, which they have held three months, and leave only because of the difficulty of getting reinforcements and supplies, through the erection of batteries which we, their enemies, have been permitted to construct under their guns, is not,

we think, an occasion that will justify, before the world, the flourish of a general jubilation. We may all be glad and thankful that none of our blood has been spilt in our bay, while the coercive intentions of our foes have been foiled here by our preparations. Providence has helped us much. But it seems to us more in accordance with true dignity, the merits of the affair and the habits of Carolinians, not to exhibit the appearance of being overjoyed. A delicate illumination, with a positive prohibition of fire crackers, we should not object to. But the revolution is not yet ended, and we should not begin to halloo too much or too soon.

DIARY OF A YANKEE IN THE PATENT OFFICE

FRIDAY 22

A cold wind till near night, but a fine evening & bright moon. The Heads begin to drop in our office. Three assistant exmrs have been removed today, others will probably follow. Called with Juliet at Doct Everitts after dinner, then went on to the Ave alone and round the Hotels. They are pretty well crowded yet with anxious faces. Levee at the Prests tonight, crowds were moving that way on the Ave. Came home before 9, and read "Williams on heat" till 11, read last night till after 12 o'clock.

March 23, 1861**NEW YORK HERALD****The News.**

In the United States Senate yesterday Mr. Hale offered a resolution that the Senate proceed to an election of Sergeant-at-Arms and Doorkeepers. It was laid over. A resolution directing the payment of extra compensation to clerks of committees was discussed, and rejected. Mr. Douglas' resolution calling for information as to the designs of the administration with reference to the Southern forts was then taken up, and Mr. Bayard concluded his remarks in favor of recognizing the independence of the Confederate States. He was followed by Mr. Howe, of Wisconsin, in opposition to the resolution. Before Mr. Howe had concluded the Senate went into executive session, and confirmed several appointments.

The Montgomery Ala. Advertiser of the 19th inst. has the following respecting the Tariff bill of the Southern republic:

As there is general misapprehension in regard to the Tariff bill having passed the Congress of the Confederate States, we take this occasion to inform the public that the bill did not pass. The committee drafted the Tariff bill, which was ordered to be pub-

lished, in order that it might be examined and discussed, and its merits or demerits thoroughly understood before the final passage of a bill on this important subject. But by some means the impression got out that the bill had been adopted by the Congress, and it was at once telegraphed and sent over the country as a law of the confederacy. This, however, as we have stated, proves to be an error.

A rehearing was had yesterday morning in the case of Police Detective Williamson. Superintendent Kennedy, being placed upon the stand, testified in substance to about the same that was heretofore published. The report of the two detectives who were sent to Washington, regarding the intended assassination of the President, was called for by the counsel for Mr. Williamson, but it was withheld by Mr. Brown, on the ground that it had no bearing on the case. Thomas T. Everett was called as a witness, and testified as to the sobriety of Mr. Williamson at the time he was charged with intoxication, and as to his deportment while in Mr. Kennedy's presence.

SUGAR PLANTER

West Baton Rouge, LA.

The Pelican Rifles.

This excellent body of citizen soldiery made a fine turn out in Baton Rouge on Monday last for target exercise. In their beautiful uniforms of dark green which they have just adopted, the Rifles looked as their indomitable Captain wished them to look—like true and good soldiers, every one. Their target evinced some excellent shooting, which, considering the miserable weapons the State has allowed them to use—the condemned Mississippi rifle—showed that they had practised their best under the most disadvantageous circumstances. The first prize, a beautiful gold cross was won by private Allen W. Cameron; and the second prize, a handsome gold pencil was taken by private Benny Hickman. The leather medal won by Benny last spring stirred him up to unusual energy. The Rifles are well worthy the attention of the State in matter of arms, as they have supported themselves without the slightest outside assistance since their organization, and it would be no more just that the State give them arms to suit the indomitable energy which they have displayed since their first organizing, now nearly two years since.

HARPER'S WEEKLY

General Twiggs's Surrender to the Texans

The Galveston News of the 22d February gives details in regard to the surrender of the United States property by General Twiggs. The account refers to the proceedings at San Antonio, General Twiggs's head-quarters:

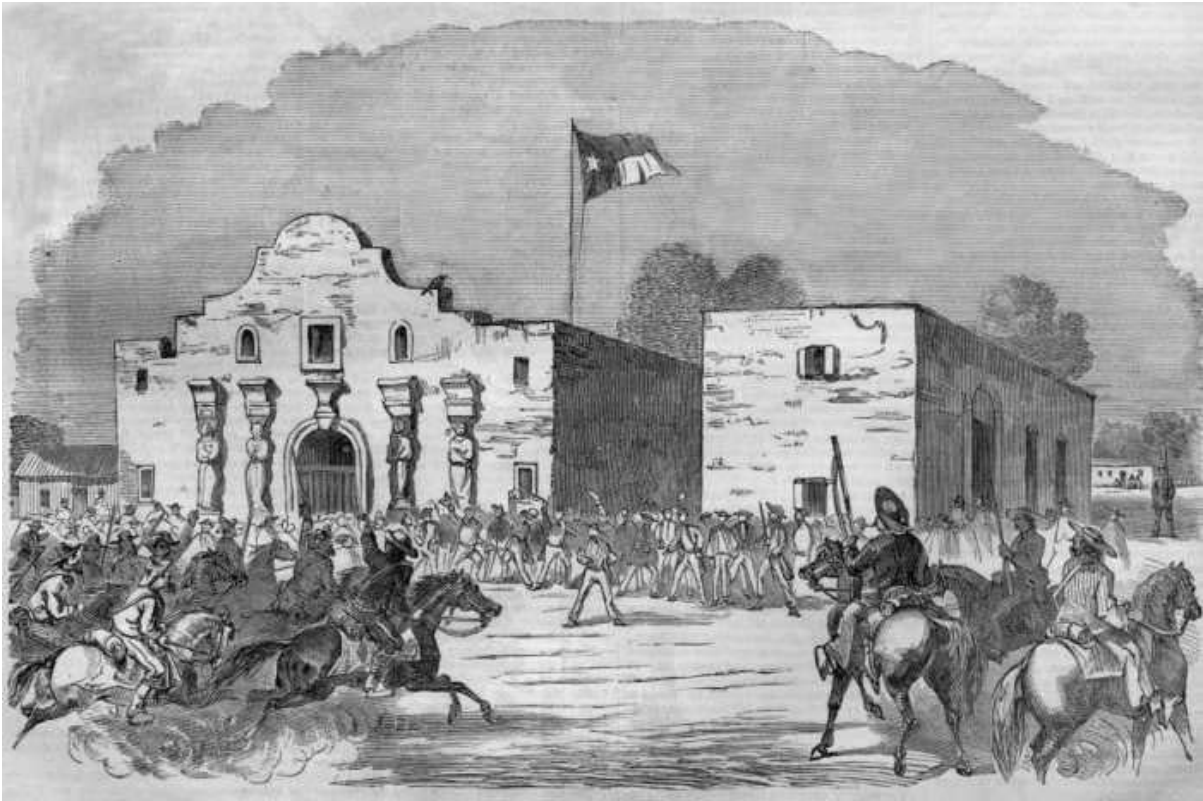
“It seems that the famous Texan Ranger, General Ben McCulloch, was intrusted by the Convention Committee [in whose hands the whole subject had been placed] with the duty of obtaining possession of the Federal forts and other military property in and near San Antonio and on that frontier—he being prepared to act in conjunction with Messrs. Devine and Maverick, Commissioners appointed to represent the State.

“General McCulloch, who was stationed at Sequin, received a dispatch from the Commissioners on the 9th, and he immediately hastened forward in consequence of its having become known that General Twiggs had been relieved by order of the Secretary of War, and was to be succeeded by Colonel Carlos A. Waite, 1st Infantry, stationed at Camp Verde, in Kerr County, about 90 miles northwest of San Antonio. Colonel Waite is a Northern man; his views on the political crisis were not known.”

What followed is thus given by the News:

“On Friday evening the San Antonio K. G. C.'s, 200 in number—a well armed and equipped body—marched out to meet the coming troops under McCulloch, from the Salado, four miles off. At 2 o'clock on Saturday 200 of them—picked men—entered San Antonio on horseback as an advance-guard. Later, 500 more marched in. Guards were at once stationed around the arsenal, over the artillery-park, and all the Government buildings.

“A letter to a gentleman, who has kindly placed it at our disposal, says: ‘After the city companies took possession of the Alamo, General Twiggs, accompanied by Major Nichols, met General McCulloch in the Main Plaza. The horsemen paraded around them, and there was a burst of cheers as the three officers met. A demand was made for the surrender of the Federal property, and the immediate evacuation of the place by the United States soldiers, without their arms. The reply was, that every soldier would be shot down before submitting to that disgrace.



The Alamo, San Antonio, Texas, Late Head-Quarters of Ex-General Twiggs.—From A Sketch by a Government Draughtsman.—*Harper's Weekly*

“At half past 12 o'clock, however, terms were agreed upon. The soldiers leave town immediately, taking their side-arms, and a sufficient supply of stores to enable them to leave the State. They are getting ready to leave. They will camp at the San Pedro Springs, awaiting the arrival of Colonel Waite. The stores, houses, and shops are closed; the streets are almost deserted, except by the Rangers and the K. G. C. The Alamo and Military Plaza present a very martial appearance. The Government property is now in charge of the citizen soldiers of the place. The volunteers are all well-armed. They are plainly dressed, some in kerseys, a fine-looking body of men, with a determined air.”

The Main Plaza is a large vacant square in the centre of the city. On one side is the Cathedral, an old dilapidated edifice, built by the Spaniards after the invasion of Mexico by Cortez. The other sides are occupied by stores and hotels. A quarter of a mile from the Plaza is the Alamo, the head-quarters of General Twiggs. This also is a very old building, once a church, and afterward transformed to a fortress. It was here that Colonel David Crockett and Colonel Bowie is—the inventor of the famous knife which bears his name—fell in the massacre by the Mexicans, under

Santa Anna, in 1836. But three persons escaped. It is now occupied by the Texan troops.

CHARLESTON MERCURY

General Beauregard - Something of His History.

In the year 1858, when rowdiness ruled supreme in New Orleans elections, General (then Major) BEAUREGARD was nominated by the order loving citizens of that place for the Mayoralty. We find in a New Orleans paper of that time the following interesting sketch of his previous career:

Major Beauregard, then, the independent candidate of the intelligence, enterprise, industry and wealth of New Orleans for the Chief Magistracy of their city, is a native of this State, born, of Creole parents, in the year 1815, and is, consequently, now in his forty third year. At the early age of sixteen he entered the United States Military Academy, where, having stood next to head in all his classes, he graduated second of his date in 1838. He was then commissioned Second Lieutenant in the Corps of United States Engineers, to which he has ever since remained attached, serving the principal portion of the twenty years in the Gulf of Mexico, constructing or repairing the different forts for the protection of the coast.

When the war with Mexico occurred in 1846, he made three successive applications to be employed in its prosecution, and at last had the great satisfaction of being ordered to Tampico, which had just fallen into the possession of our arms, where, in conjunction with Major J. G. Barnard, of the same corps, an officer of great merit, were planned and constructed the defences which at this moment have served to keep Gen. Garza force so long and successfully at bay. In 1847 he joined Gen. Scott, as a member of his staff, before Vera Cruz, in the reduction of which, like all his brother engineer officers, he took an active and most serviceable part. The honor of selecting three of the sites of the five batteries which reduced the city of the Holy Cross to capitulate on the 19th of March, devolved upon him. In the following April, before the battle of Cerro Gordo, the reconnoissance, under the orders of General Twiggs, of the mule path which turned the left of the Mexican position, was entrusted to, and performed satisfactorily by him, he, two other officers and handful of daring men, going over one mile in rear of the advanced positions of the Mexican army, afterwards unsuccessfully attacked by General Pillow. He shared prominently in the brilliant action of Cerro Gordo, and subsequently took position with the heads of columns on the advance to the Halls of the Montezumas. In September, the battle of Contreras was fought by the advancing columns of our victorious army, when Major Beauregard had the distinction of being the ranking engineer officer of his friend our late and much lamented fellow citizen, Gen. P. F. Smith. Besides the professional reconnoissance made at the battle by Major Beauregard, he led our glorious rifle regiment into a position under the very guns of the fort, whence with unerring procession of deadly aim, the enemies' gunners were shot down as fast as they showed themselves at their pieces, which contributed greatly to the success of that brief but ever memorable affair. He also, on that occasion, was one of those who captured one of two guns which the American army under Gen. Taylor, had gloriously lost at Buena Vista, and received, in the name of Gen. Smith, the surrender of Gen. Salas, now in this city. He was complimented by his General in being selected to convey the first tidings of the victory to Gen. Scott, then at San Augustin de las Cuevas. He was breveted Captain for meritorious service in that battle.

On the 11th of September, in the small village of Piedad, near the very gates of the city of Mexico, a council of general officers was convened by the commander in chief to determine upon the best point of attack on the capital of the enemy. After a long and interesting discussion, all the general officers present, with the exception of Generals Scott, Twiggs and Ri-

ley, as well as the five engineer officers present, Major Beauregard excepted, expressed themselves in favor of attacking the southern gates of the city, but Major B. argued energetically in favor of a sudden attack on the Chapultepec and the western gates of the city, which view commended itself to the acceptance and approval of the commander in chief, was adopted, and finally resulted in the glorious victories of Chapultepec and the Garitas of Belen and San Cozino. At the subsequent storming of Chapultepec, a few days afterwards, Major Beauregard was Gen. Pillow's engineer officer, and after having spent all night in repairing some American batteries, led the storming column across the ditches and over the parapets of the work being one of the first to enter, cheering his companions to follow him into the citadel, which soon after fell into their hands. During the storming of the work around the latter, while exposed to a shower of grape, canister and musketry, the Major noticing a group of Mexicans more daring than the others, who were doing their best to shoot down our men, borrowed a rifle from one of the voltigeurs near him, and turning with the utmost sang froid to one of his brother officers, Lieut. Col. Johnston, of that regiment, now of the 1st cavalry, said to him, while preparing to take aim, "What will you bet on this shot?" Col. Johnston coolly replied, "A picayune, payable in the city of Mexico." The Major fired and won his bet, which was subsequently claimed and paid as agreed in the capital of the conquered foe. After the fall of Chapultepec, Major Beauregard joined Gen. Quitman's columns, which were advancing on the city of Mexico by the Belen causeway, and having ascertained that the latter's engineer officer had been severely wounded and disabled in the attack on the work at the foot of the Hill of Chapultepec, he tendered his services in place of the wounded officer telling the General he would like to remain with him, provided he would give him orders to do so, which the General handsomely and gratefully did. He immediately took an active part in the storming of a battery halfway on the Belen causeway, where he was twice wounded, being momentarily disabled, but recovering himself he again joined the storming party, and shared in the charge on the Garita battery. He there had, notwithstanding his sufferings, to sit up all night to turn two of the enemies' batteries against the strong citadel of the city of Mexico, only about three hundred yards distant, and which had been playing all the afternoon upon those who held the Garita. At the break of day, on the 14th, the citadel and palace, which had been abandoned a short time before, were taken possession of by the forces under Gen. Quitman's command. Again Major B. Was complimented in being selected by Gen. Quitman to carry to

Gen. Scott, then at Chepultepec, the news of our successes; and the latter paid Major B. a very laudatory compliment for having so warmly and properly, as the result proved, advocated the attack on the city of Mexico by the western instead of the southern gate, which would, probably had the latter been referred, cost the American forces a much greater loss of officers and men. For his heroic and great services at Chepultepec, his brevet of Major was obtained, but for his subsequent services under Quitman on the Belen road, which deserved a higher reward, he never received any recompense.

At the close of the war, in the summer of 1846, having been absent nearly two years, he returned home to resume his accustomed professional duties. In 1852 he was offered by Mr. Fillmore's administration the superintendency of the new Custom House building here, which he then declined, but having in the subsequent year been appointed to it by his friend Franklin Pierce, he accepted, and has held it since.

In the twenty years's service to his country, he has never had in all more than about twelve months' leave of absence, the rest of the time being spent in active service. In that period he has disbursed over three millions of dollars, without given any security—engineer officers not being required by law to give any—and every cent has been scrupulously accounted for, and not the shadow of an imputation rests, or ever has rested, upon his spotless reputation.

DIARY OF A YANKEE IN THE PATENT OFFICE

SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 1861.

Warm comfortable day today with indications of rain towards night. Nothing of note occurred in the office. No Comr yet. A great many removals in the Pension Office, and a clamorous crowd ready to fill vacancies. The City is yet quite full of strangers. Despairing applicants for office are telegraphing to their friends to come & help them. Was in at Willards & Kirkwoods, bought a cravat at Berglins and the papers at [French & Richsteins?], and came home about 9 o'ck, read till 11.

March 24, 1861

NEW YORK HERALD

The News.

The news from Washington this morning is highly important. The official order for the evacuation of Fort Sumter was issued on Friday, and a special messenger was immediately despatched with it to Major Anderson. The fort is to be evacuated on the arri-

val in Charleston harbor of a United States vessel to receive them. Should the South Carolina authorities oppose the departure of the troops in the manner directed by the instructions to Major Anderson, that officer has been ordered, it is stated, to open his batteries. There is no doubt, however, but that the garrison will be permitted to depart in the manner prescribed.

Despatches received by the government from Fort Pickens represent that the garrison is short of provisions, and can hold out but a short time longer. The squadron off Pensacola are unable to reinforce the fort or land supplies. The administration will doubtless before the lapse of many days be obliged also to abandon that stronghold to the secessionists.

Later accounts from Texas state that both houses of the Legislature have taken the oath of allegiance to the new government, and that Gov. Houston and the Secretary of State have retired from their office and surrendered the archives. Gov. Houston has issued an appeal to the people denouncing the State Convention.

In the United States Senate yesterday, the Vice President having signified his intention to be absent during the remainder of the session, on motion of Mr. Hale, Mr. Foot, of Vermont, was chosen President pro tempore. Mr. Foot, returned this thanks for the honor in appropriate terms. Mr. Sherman, the newly elected Senator from Ohio, was qualified and took his seat. The resolution of Mr. Hale, to go into an election for Sergeant at Arms and doorkeepers, was then taken up. The democrats opposed this first attempt to bestow the offices of the Senate upon political partisans with warmth and spirit and, after an expenditure of considerable gasconade on both sides, succeeded in postponing the election. The Senate then went into executive session, and confirmed a number of appointments.

Important From Washington.

The Order Issued for the Evacuation of Fort Sumter.

WASHINGTON, March 23, 1861.

I am permitted to announce to the HERALD tonight, that on yesterday the President issued the order to Major Anderson to put his command in readiness to evacuate Fort Sumter, upon the arrival at that place of a United States war steamer.

Colonel Lamon, of Illinois, the confidential friend of the President, was sent bearer of despatches to Major Anderson.

The evacuation will take place upon the arrival of the steamer which has been despatched by the Secretary of the Navy.

There is no intimation whatever, on the part of the South Carolina authorities, that any attempt will be made to prevent the evacuation in such a manner as the United States government have seen fit to employ. Major Anderson will salute his flag and embark with his command.

Major Anderson is ordered to report North.

If an attempt is made by the South Carolina authorities to prevent the evacuation in the order directed by the United States government, Major Anderson is instructed to remain in the fort and open his batteries upon the city. This, however, will not be done, as there will be no opposition to the evacuation on the part of the secessionists.

DIARY OF A YANKEE IN THE PATENT OFFICE

SUNDAY 24

We have had a "march Wind" today in good earnest, with plenty of dust. I did not go to church in the morning. The Family went. I am not a great admirer of Doct Smiths Sermons. I wrote letters part of the day, one to S Patrick, one to Wm Van Camp, and one to Frank. In the evening I called with Holly at Mr Cramers and had a pleasant chat with them. Did not get home till near 10 o'clock, read awhile and went to bed about 11 o'clock.

March 25, 1861

NEW YORK HERALD

The News.

It was believed in Washington yesterday that the programme of the administration, in regard to the evacuation of Fort Sumter, had been altered since the departure of Col. Lamon. It is now reported that the evacuation is to be conditional. Col. L. is to examine the stock of provisions on hand, and if the supply is not sufficient to maintain the troops now there, he will deliver the President's order to Major Anderson to evacuate the fortress.

The government is said to be in receipt of advices stating that the independent State of Texas has sent Commissioners to New Mexico, Arizona, Sonora and Chichuahua in induce the people of those States to cast their fortune with the Southern confederacy. Their mission is said to be favorably regarded, which, if true, will tend still further to complicate the embarrasments of Mr. Lincoln's administration.

Despatches from Fort Pickens state that the garrison there is short of provisions, and can hold out but a short time longer. None but official communication is permitted at Pensacola, and the squadron can

neither reinforce the Fort nor furnish supplies. Appearances indicate that before long the government will also be compelled to abandon Fort Pickens to the secessionists.

From Texas we learn that both branches of the Legislature had taken the oath of allegiance to the new government, a few of the members under protest. Governor Houston and the Secretary of State have retired from their offices and delivered up the records. Gen. Houston had issued an appeal to the people, in which he severely denounces the action of the Convention.

By a despatch from New Orleans we learn that the commissioners from the Confederate States to Europe will leave that city for Havana on the 31st inst., where they will take passage for England in the British steamer of the 7th of April.

The steam frigate Roanoke, now at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, has been ordered to be fitted for sea with all possible dispatch. A large force of mechanics and laborers were put to work on Saturday, who continued to labor through the entire day yesterday.

The Georgia State Convention adjourned on Saturday night. Before adjournment the convention adopted a State constitution to be submitted to the people for ratification or rejection, at an election to be held in July next.

In this day's issue we give a list of the appointments made, up to the present time, by President Lincoln, as far as is publicly known. It will doubtless be found interesting to all who are in search of an office under the present administration, as they can thereby perceive what offices are taken up.

CHARLESTON MERCURY

Adams' Express Company.

There are few, indeed, who will not bear testimony to the convenience and efficiency of ADAMS' Express Company as a medium of transportation. Business men would be at a loss without it, and private individuals would be subjected to enormous expense and great trouble should its admirable arrangements be interrupted for even a fortnight. By means of its various ramifications, goods may be safely dispatched to any point on this continent—in fact, we risk nothing in adding, to any known point in the world. Next to building of railroads and the planting of telegraph poles, we believe the establishment of ADAMS' Express Company has exerted the most beneficial influences upon the growth of trade and commerce. So highly appreciated and liberally patronized has it been, that in every city of any size and importance the finest business houses are appropriated to its use. Its growth,

at first slow and sure, of late years has been surprisingly rapid. Its money transactions alone, in the course of a year, amount to fabulous sums. But its business is not solely that of transporting goods and moneys. Many persons, whose loss and inconveniences, in consequence of the faithlessness of postoffice agents and the irregularity of the mails, engendered complete distrust of the Postoffice Department at Washington, long ago adopted it as the canal of their correspondence. So much more satisfactorily was the service performed that the carrying of letters has constantly increased, and since the formation of the Southern Confederacy many persons do not make use of the postoffices at all. In short, if the decayed and decaying government at Washington has carried out its threat of stopping the mails, it would simply have increased the importance and usefulness of this indefatigable and praise deserving company. And while we are alluding to some of its many advantages, we may as well remark that there are none who are more indebted to it, or more sensible of its service, than the editors and proprietors of newspapers. Always attentive and obliging to their patrons, we are sure they are peculiarly so to the press. Not a day but they communicate valuable information, and never do they refuse to deliver a letter. It was by availing ourselves of their attention at Montgomery, that we were enabled promptly to furnish our readers with important and interesting intelligence in relation to the formation of our new, and, as we firmly believe, permanent Government. We hope their future success will be commensurate with their merits.

Admission of Northern States into the Southern Confederation.

As the new Constitution has been framed, there is nothing to prevent the admission of Northern States into the new Confederation. A vote of two thirds is all that is requisite; and, after the accession of Virginia, Maryland, North Carolina, Tennessee, Kentucky, Missouri and Arkansas, there is likely to be no great difficulty in obtaining this vote. In thus constructing the fundamental law, of course, a struggle has occurred in the secret sessions of the Montgomery Congress, in which those refusing to close the door against the reception of anti-slavery States have achieved a victory. Thus the policy of ultimately admitting the anti-slave States of the Northwest first, and afterwards Pennsylvania, New York, et cetera, is obviously the programme or prevailing idea of the Montgomery Congress. The Union is not to be reconstructed on terms of the old Constitution. It is to be reorganized on the new basis, and we are in danger, if the views of the Constitution makers are carried into

practice of being dragged back eventually into political affiliation with the States and peoples from whom we have just cut loose.

Now, some may think us hypercritical and captious in seeing anything disagreeable, or in finding fault at all, when matters appear to be progressing satisfactorily. But, a reference to the future must govern us in the present, if we would control events. It is shortsighted and pusillanimous to cover up and conceal from view stubborn facts which, however unpleasant to know, our future peace and prosperity urge us not to overlook, but to strive and remedy. It has been found that, in the construction of a great ship, the unwise insertion of one stick of worm eaten timber has involved her fate with the loss of hundreds of lives and millions of property. So a defect of grave character, like this of the new Constitution may entail upon the peoples of the Southern States the difficulties and dangers of again going through the same struggle from which we are emerging, and perhaps may ultimately wreck the hopes of republican liberty throughout the world. It is too late, and South Carolina is not the State to resist the embodiment of this imprudent provision in the Constitution. And it is almost hopeless to expect that, after the accession of the Border States, the fundamental law can, without undue commotion, be so amended as to establish the policy of a strict proslavery Confederacy. The plank is in our ship, and we have but to make the best of it. We can only endeavor, by the application of the preservatory preparations of corrective knowledge and the instillment of sound, wholesome and purifying views of statesmanship, to ward off the peril and escape the evils that may result from what has been done and cannot now be avoided.

It is therefore, not to oppose the adoption of the Constitution by South Carolina that we broach the subject but simply, and at once to oppose the idea and policy of this new kind of reconstruction or reorganization, and to build up and fortify public opinion through out the South, as far as we can, against using the discretion that will be given our Congress under the proviso of a two thirds vote. For, if sufficient time be allowed the people of the Southern States to realize, under their own government, the amount of security, prosperity and power attainable, without connection with the North, except by treaty, we have great hopes that they will out grow present proclivities, which we are fain to consider weak and unwise, and will firmly refuse admission to all Northern States, whose people differ from us so radically and in such hostile degree in regard to our domestic institutions, and whose puny faith must render all paper constitutions and parch-

ment obligations utterly nugatory and worthless for all the purposes for which laws are useful.

We will continue the subject in our next.

DIARY OF A YANKEE IN THE PATENT OFFICE

MONDAY 25

This has been a delightful day, bright & warm. Have been very busy in the office, doing the work of two Desks or the Clerical duties of the room in addi-

tion to my own from the removal of our assist. Went down to the "National." Saw Carl Shurz the famous Dutch Orator. And also met my old friend P Dorsheimer who is now State Treasurer of NY. He is after the N York Naval office. Got the NY papers & read them. Bed at 11.

The *Skedaddle* e-journal home page
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THE SMALL PRINT

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