

Capt. Palmer's corps of Topographical Engineers had returned from a reconnaissance of several points on the Potomac. He landed at several places on the Virginia side of the Potomac, attended by two officers and twenty marines. They proceeded a considerable distance. At White House Point he saw about sixty secessionists who made their appearance there a few days before. At Aquia creek two small batteries with five or six hundred men were distinctly seen by the party.

There were still a number of spies in Washington, many of them women.

The Secretary of the Treasury will probably recommend a loan of 250,000,000 dollars.

Ship builders offer to construct gun boats to operate on the Mississippi river within forty days, to be constructed at Cincinnati, St. Louis and probably at Louisville, if the latter city remains loyal.

Collector Colton, at Louisville, had notified the Treasury Department that the shipment of provisions to the rebels, over the Louisville and Nashville railroad, had been stopped at the terminus of the junction.

The Rhode Island regiment were to leave in the direction of Harper's Ferry.

Prosper Allen had arrived at the capital with a mammoth balloon for reconnoitering.

#### VIRGINIA.

General Patterson was advancing to co-operate with General McClellan. A column of General McDowell's command would probably advance within 24 hours to the other side of the Potomac, towards Manassas junction. It was doubtful whether the Harper's Ferry rebels would have time to join their forces at Manassas junction. If not they would be surrounded. If they did so, there would probably be a brief and decisive battle preliminary to the United States occupation of the place.

It was ascertained from an eye witness that at the late fight at Fairfax, ten of the enemy were killed, and probably two or three more.

Reliable information puts the loss of the enemy in the affair at Aquia creek at twenty killed.

The plan of operations at Harper's Ferry is gradually being developed. The first move will probably be to dislodge the rebel forces and their batteries at the Point of Rocks.—The force now at Frederick, some eleven thousand strong, are to attempt their dislodgement. They have quite a number of twenty-four pound cannon, which, from the Maryland side, can operate most effectually amongst batteries of rebels, which are in a very exposed position.

The steamer Adelaide had arrived from Fortress Monroe. The Quaker City had captured another valuable prize. The Harriet Lane had also secured a sloop. A steamer from Norfolk, with a flag of truce had brought to Old Point, one hundred and fifty women and children—refugees. They say that many more were coming. An important military movement was understood to be on the point of execution when the steamer left.

The cavalry company captured at Alexandria had taken the oath of allegiance to the Government and were released.

There seems no doubt but that Beauregard was preparing for an advance on Alexandria.

The Harriet Lane, on the 5th, exchanged about fifty shots with the Pix Point battery, nearly opposite the Newport Mews, on the James river. She received two shots and had five men wounded severely. She was about three quarters of a mile from the battery, having river embasuries which disclosed heavy pieces; two of the Harriet Lane's shells burst immediately over them.

Those who witnessed the firing from Newport Mews with good glasses, believe that shells from the Harriet Lane took effect within the works, and carts were seen to move off—it is conjectured, with the dead. The battery had twelve guns. The Harriet Lane's purpose was merely to feel their fire and determine the character of the work. She received a shot through the bulwarks from a rifled gun.

Several regiments of the three month's troops in Virginia were to be removed and replaced by three year's volunteers.

A citizen of Baltimore reports that he saw and conversed with Gen. Beauregard at Manassas Junction on the 2d.

Several companies of regulars belonging to the 3d Infantry left on the 7th for Harper's Ferry, via Chambersburg. Additional troops had been ordered to Chambersburg, which

was understood as an indication that the lines of the Federal army were rapidly closing, and that the forces under General McClellan, in western Virginia would act in concert with the Pennsylvania troops for the reduction of Harper's Ferry.

Thirty-six guns are now mounted on the embankment near Arlington Heights.

An attack is shortly expected from the rebels at Manassas Junction.

A column of General Patterson's army was approaching Harper's Ferry by the way of Hagerstown, and a column of General McClellan's was moving from the west. Help could not get to General Johnston from Manassas Junction, for General McDowell would engage the whole attention of the rebels posted there, nor could he be reinforced from Richmond and Norfolk, for General Butler would be a dangerous foe to leave even inactive in their rear and he would not likely remain quiet.

There were armed steamers enough in the Potomac to threaten other approaches to the capital of the old dominion. A column of four thousand men would probably march from Washington towards Harper's Ferry. The whole commanded by Col. Stone, of the 14th Infantry. The column would probably have no more serious task than that of intercepting the fugitives driven by other commands from Harper's Ferry. Other regiments were under marching orders.

It was rumored that Henry A. Wise was in a rapid decline.

The troops moving on Manassas will be thirty-five thousand strong, and Gen. Patterson would have an equal number when he crossed the Potomac. There was an apprehension that the rebels might move down the railroad and the Potomac, and aided by another revolt in Baltimore and the disunionists in Maryland, attack Washington on the Maryland side, while Davis advances from Manassas.

It was said there were some six hundred fugitives at Fortress Monroe. There are now twelve thousand United States troops there.

There is a rebel camp established, four thousand strong, a few miles on the Washington side of Aquia creek.

A bearer of despatches from the British consul at Richmond had been refused a pass by Gov. Letcher. He succeeded, however, in getting to Washington.

It is reported that Gov. Wise will command the north-western division of Virginia volunteers.

The rebels in the vicinity of Aquia creek are supplied with provisions by a Maryland traitor named Johnson; the same who burned the light ship.

A letter from Manassas junction to the Richmond Whig, says the labor in fortifying that place by men unaccustomed to labor, had quadrupled the sick list, and it was feared that one fifth of the force would soon be sick. There was no hospital there, and it was difficult to get water to drink: it was dealt out with rations.

All the leading men at the Wheeling convention had agreed not to attempt making a new State out of Western Virginia, but to act for the Old Dominion as a whole setting up a provisional government. The first act of the convention would be to dispose of Gov. Letcher and his rebellious associates. It would then appoint good and true men in their places. The provisional Governor would probably be Gen. Jackson, of Parkersburg.—The convention would then declare Eastern Virginia in insurrection against the general Government, for which aid to put down the rebellion would be invoked. The legislature, chosen on the 23d inst., the members of which were, by its request, to meet with the convention, would be pronounced the legally elected legislature of the State, and would be empowered to proceed at once to the transaction of business. The Governor will send in his message to the two Houses, and two senators and a leading republican for the other would be chosen. In this plan of operations with Messrs. Carlisle, Willey, Pierpont and Jackson united, it was thought that the convention would be one of the grandest popular assemblages ever called together.

#### MARYLAND.

The Tribune's Washington correspondent reports that nearly half of the people in and about Frederick were disunionists, and that their cause had gained ground since the legislature came together. The Union men were in fear of Johnston's force, whose pickets

thrown out from Point of Rocks, came within eight miles of Frederick, to which place the whole army could be transported in a few hours. Once there, it would be within five hours of Baltimore. The sympathies of many in Maryland were shown by the fact that they had armed and fed the rebel troops; Virginia having furnished but few supplies. If these facts were true it was high time Government posted a strong body of troops at Frederick. From another source it is reported that six hundred of a rebel regiment of seven hundred encamped opposite Williamsport, had deserted. General Johnston was very unpopular, in consequence of his forcible seizure of provisions and horses and wagons. It was increased by a proscription under which all males between the age of 18 and 50 years, in the country within forty or fifty miles of Harper's Ferry, were to be mustered into service.

A special dispatch to the Post says that Marshal Beaufort, of Baltimore, had begun a thorough work against the rebels of Maryland. Large quantities of powder and other contraband goods, also a considerable amount of specie, evidently intended for the rebels, had been seized and put in a safe place. Government had approved of the Marshal's acts.

#### MISSOURI.

A. H. W. Cook, of Cole Camp, Benton County, had been commissioned by General Lyon, to organize as many persons as he may please, into a Union Home Guard in Benton and other counties. He is to act in all respects under the command of the United States.

Mr. Taylor, Mayor of St. Louis, had withdrawn his tender of resignation and will continue in office.

The Secretary of War had informed the Zouave regiment of St. Louis that they would be accepted. The corps would be immediately mustered into service. The Democrat says that the secessionists in south east Missouri were becoming troublesome to Union men and had commenced driving the latter out. Companies were being formed under the military bill in St. Francis county, by J. B. Clandy and others, and it is said the secessionists would make all able bodied men enlist or drive them out of the State.

Capt. Emmet McDonald was examined in the Federal court before Judge Treat, on the 8th, and discharged from custody on the ground that Col. McArthur's return to the writ of habeas corpus was insufficient. The case was briefly argued by Mr. Davis, of St. Louis, in behalf of the prisoner, and Mr. Weldon, district attorney, for the government.

The Captain arrived in St. Louis on the 10th. His friends attempted to get up a demonstration; but the Captain declined it. He seemed to shun observation. It appeared to be the general impression that Governor Yates, of Illinois, would appoint Hon. John A. McClernand to fill the vacancy in the United States Senate, caused by the death of Judge Douglas.

Missouri is detached from the Department of the West, and attached to that commanded by General McClellan.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

Gen. Prentiss, having learned that some Kentucky secessionists had established a camp at Elliot's mills, Ky., ten miles from Cairo, sent two companies to that place, but when they arrived, the enemy had fled. Col. Wickliff, who represents Kentucky, in a semi-official character, visited Gen. Prentiss, on the 6th, for the purpose of protesting against this invasion of Kentucky soil. Gen. Prentiss showed several letters from the western part of the State, asking protection from ruffianism, and declared it his intention to send troops in whatever direction and upon such soil as his Government should order.

Israel Blanchard, another secession sympathizer, living near Carbondale, had been arrested and sent to Springfield for treason.

The Chamber of Commerce had resolved to present a suitable medal to each and all of Major Anderson's and Lieut. Slemmer's command at Forts Sumter and Pickens.

A large quantity of arms had been secretly brought from Tennessee to Kentucky by secessionists.

A destructive crevasse on the Louisiana side of the Mississippi, near Natchez, two hundred and fifty feet wide, and ten feet deep is reported.

Two regiments from Wisconsin had been ordered to Washington. The President would probably accept four more from that State.

A New Orleans dispatch to the Montgom-

ery Confederacy, says that neutral vessels were permitted to pass to sea until the 10th, after which the blockade would be strictly adhered to.

A Bank convention, held at Atlanta, Ga., on the 5th, recommended the Southern banks and railroad collectors, to receive the treasury notes of the Confederacy as currency and to States, cities and corporations having coupons payable in New York, to appoint a place of payment South. The vote in Nashville stands for separation and representation 3643 against 249. The election in other districts in the county give 2398 for and 88 against. Memphis gives 5608 for separation, 4 for non-representation and 5 for union. The interior, as far as heard from, was nearly unanimous. The State was largely secession.

General Cadwallader had been superseded by General Cooper, at Baltimore.

The North American referring to the allegations against James E. Harvey asserts that when an opportunity for vindication was offered, the accused would be found as free from any criminal intent as any loyal citizen. Though across the Atlantic, he had friends in the country who would not suffer him to be sacrificed, and those who had given currency to the calumnies would be held to the strictest proof.

A regiment of cavalry had been accepted from the interior of New York.

A Washington dispatch of the 8th, says there is military authority for stating that the 1st regiment of cavalry and 2d regiment of dragoons, U. S. A., had been ordered from the Department of the West to the capital.

The Richmond Whig announced that no passports would be issued to persons leaving the State, and no one would be admitted into the State, except for reasons of peculiar force; so that the Tennessee volunteers in Virginia were authorized to vote on the ordinance of secession of Tennessee, though stationed in Virginia.

It is understood that the rebels had sent secret agents to Brazil to form an alliance with that power. Two Brazilians belonging to the New York 7th regiment had been found on board a rebel schooner at Alexandria. The captain refusing to hoist the Federal flag, a member of the 9th regiment shot him in the hand.

#### FOREIGN.

The New York Herald says letters received from John C. Fremont, dated London, states that he had purchased ten thousand Enfield rifles and several batteries of rifled cannon for the Government, which he was waiting for to bring with him. He was only delayed until a portion of the rifles were finished. He also stated that the commissioners of the Confederate States had instructions to procure several steamers in England for the service of the Montgomery government, but there was difficulty about getting money. They had succeeded, however, in purchasing two steamers for which they paid £76,000. These vessels were to sail for Southern ports under the British flag and registered as property of British owners, carrying nothing contraband of war, but probably in ballast. How they will be received by the blockading squadron remains to be seen.

A Paris letter says it is rumored that a duel was on the tapis between our Minister to Belgium, Mr. Sanford, and a Virginian, growing out of some remarks of the former relative to the latter, on the steamer on which they were passengers.

The Commercial says that they were able to state on the highest authority that the latest dispatches from our agents in Europe were in the highest degree satisfactory.—Prussia had assured our Government that no rebellion against so mild and beneficent a Government would receive any sanction whatever. Austria gives equally warm assurances and determination to give no countenance to the rebels. France is cordially with us in word and deed—if we need. Dispatches from Mr. Adams say the British Government was now as well disposed towards us as we desire. The Ministry had given Mr. Adams a most friendly and cordial hearing, and rebellion will hereafter find no sympathy at the Court of St. James.

It having been reported that a quantity of arms was stored in Havana, under the British flag for the Confederates, a letter had been received from the United States' consul, which says the matter had previously engaged his attention. The letter states that it is impossible to land the two hundred thousand rifles as stated. The Governor of the island would not permit an illicit importation of such an amount of arms. A Spanish house had orders from Belgium for seventy thousand rifles for speculation, but the house has since failed, and the order would not probably be filled. The consul is under the impression that ten thousand rejected Spanish muskets have been sent to Southern ports.

The City of Washington had brought more Whitworth rifled cannon for the government from loyal citizens in Europe.