

ARREST OF LADIES AT WASHINGTON.

It was briefly announced Saturday by telegraph that the prosecution of the Washington Government, not satisfied with arresting all who dared to attack, censure, or even criticize the prosecution of the war, had sought a new employment in making prisoners of ladies suspected of treasonable sympathies.

The house of Mrs. Philip Phillips, wife of ex-member of Congress from Alabama, was taken possession of by order of General Porter. Mr. Phillips is now absent in the South, and said to be an active Secessionist. Mrs. Phillips and her two beautiful and accomplished daughters, have resided here some time, and have not hesitated to announce their full sympathy with the rebels.

I learn that they have often boldly acknowledged that they were in correspondence with Beauregard and other rebel Generals. The officers searched the house, and finding evidences to warrant it, surrounded it. The order was given for a guard to be placed around it, and the inmates to be held as prisoners. All persons who called were accosted to know what their business was, and who and what their status, if they brought letters or messages.

Mrs. Senator Gwin was arrested two days ago in her own house in this city, where she has been confined ever since, a proper military guard having been placed in the house to prevent any communication between her and rebel spies, who, it is supposed, have been in the habit of frequenting the house.

Mrs. Greenhow, a widow lady, well known in this city, was also arrested by the provost guard of Brig. General Porter. Her Secessionist proclivities have long been the subject of popular conversation. Doubtless the charge against her is of being in treasonable correspondence with the country's enemy, now in arms.

Altogether, about six persons who have called upon Mrs. Greenhow, Mrs. Gwin and the wife and daughters of Mr. Philip Phillips, have been arrested and held. They are Southerners. A large number of people besides these have called as acquaintances. None of them were allowed to enter the house without being informed that they would not be allowed to pass out without an order from the Secretary of War or Provost Marshal. Consequently all visitors not arrested declined entering.

Benbow, of the Herald, is delighted at the arrest of these "high life Secessionists," &c., and remarks editorially:

From a personal reconnaissance made of the enemy's forces at Munson's Hill, it was discovered that it consisted of seven hundred cavalry, one thousand infantry and three pieces of field cannon.

From a hill not far from here, a good view of Munson's Hill can be obtained. Yesterday, to observers with good field glasses, great activity was noticeable there, a large force of infantry and cavalry being visible, as if they were parading for our inspection. In the afternoon they had a drill, which, but for the damp, foggy weather, would have been an interesting sight. As it was, their marching, counter-marching, &c., could be distinctly seen.

IMPORTANT MOVEMENTS ABOUT WASHINGTON.

We have late Southern papers - Baltimore dates to Saturday last - but the pressure of other important matter excludes our usual summary of Northern news.

The intelligence from Washington is stirring and important; and we make room for a full and complete account of the movements in that vicinity. Our forces are within sight of Washington, and the Confederate colors can be seen by the enemy floating in the breeze.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 29. - Matters near the Union line on the Virginia side of the Potomac remain pretty much as they were yesterday. The enemy still continue to show themselves near our pickets, and occasionally fire at them. The enemy are pressing upon our lines in force, and are seizing upon every hill or wood that will command any portion of our camp. They evidently meditate some bold stroke.

The enemy have not only re-established their old line of pickets, as before the battle of Bull Run, but have actually encroached upon the territory formerly held by us, nearly one half mile nearer our line of fortifications. They now occupy several important strategical points, upon which they are throwing up fortifications. The line of the enemy's pickets covering our front on the Virginia side of the Potomac, commences on the Orange & Alexandria Railroad, running thence in an irregular course, taking advantage of all the natural lines of defense, across the Little River turnpike, between Cloud's Mills and Benton's Tavern, to Bancroft's Mills, at the junction of Hunting Creek and the Columbia turnpike.

At this place the enemy have constructed a breastwork commanding the turnpike in the direction of the Bailey's Cross Roads. Proceeding from this point, over tilled fields and through heavy woods, the line of Confederate pickets continues to Munson's Hill, one and a quarter miles from Bailey's Cross Roads, on the Leesburg turnpike. On this hill the enemy are constructing works. They have now a temporary battery of rifled cannon at the southern base of the hill, from which, for the past few days, they have kept up a desultory fire on our troops at Bailey's Cross Roads. Proceeding in a northwesterly direction from Munson's Hill, about one and a half miles, we reach a small mountain, the summit of which commands the country for four miles around, overlooking the famous Union works at Arlington.

This mountain, three days ago, was within the easy grasp of our troops, but since that time has been seized by the Confederates, and upon it they are constructing large fortifications. This point is of immense strategical value to the Confederates, in obstructing the march of our troops into the interior of the State, should such a measure be adopted. From this mountain the enemy's line of pickets stretch along in a northwesterly direction to the farm of Basil Hall, and from there, in a westerly direction, to a point opposite the Chain Bridge. Along the route referred to the enemy have several depots of supplies and reinforcements, at least three new fortifications, and probably double that number of concealed and under construction.

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They are throwing up entrenchments on the slope of the hill - apparently all around it - and a large force was at work yesterday.

A tall pole has been erected on the highest point, and on that pole a Secession flag is flying at least forty feet above the tops of the highest trees. The three stripes are plainly seen. A smaller flag is visible to the left. No doubt these flags can be seen from the dome of the Capitol in Washington with a good glass, as Munson's Hill is distinctly visible with the naked eye from that point.

PROGRESS OF THE LOAN.

We learn from Mr. De Bow, the Superintendent of the Cotton and Produce Loan, that the subscriptions already amount to an equivalent not less than thirty millions of dollars.

It is not possible to make any exact calculation of the subscriptions, owing to the circumstances that many of their crops, or portions thereof, have been pledged by subscribers, without mentioning their extent. The estimate, however named above, is considered rather below the mark than otherwise.

Mr. De Bow is at present sending out a number of commissioners to put on foot an extensive and thorough canvass of the loan in Virginia; the solicitation hitherto of subscriptions in this State having been very limited, and, on that account only, not as successful as might have been expected.

Neither the Southern public nor the good people of North Carolina have any reason to be disturbed by the news from Fort Hatteras. This small and freshly constructed fortification of logs and sand, bearing twenty guns, without ammunition, and manned by a few hundred undisciplined men of the neighborhood, has been taken by a fleet of the most powerful war steamers in the world, carrying one hundred of the heaviest cannon known in modern warfare, and transporting a land force of four thousand disciplined troops.

This exploit was worthy of Bismarck of Bethel, who once bore the proud titles of VICARY and SMALL CHANGE. He will make the most of it in his dispatch to Lincoln; the Yankee people will magnify Fort Hatteras into a Sebastopol, and the affair will be set in the scales against Springfield, Manassas and Bull Run combined. But it will not even be the nine days' wonder. The epic of Butler will never be finished; for his small pipe of triumph will be drowned and forgotten in the roar of the guns on the Potomac, the clamor of victory and the cry of defeat.

The news is certainly not agreeable to hear. It is to be regretted that the enemy have gained this trifle of us. But the material consequences of the event are not serious. The insignificant fort or battery was situated on an island commanding the entrance of one out of the many sounds of North Carolina. It was intended to assist our privateers, and does not command the neighboring country. Butler will be unable to repeat in North Carolina even his chicken stealing and piano-burning forays from Newport News. Fort Hatteras does not interfere with Beaufort, nor will it much trouble our privateers. It is said to be so situated that it cannot be easily reached from the land; and, like Pickens, may possibly remain in the hands of those who hold it till the end of the war if they find the munitions and the sand banks sufficiently valuable to compensate for the occupation of a large body of their best troops, supported by supplies transported over sea. We shall be compelled to place some regiments in the neighborhood to observe them, and in that it all the cost to us.

It is said that we should not have had to abortive this adventure of Butler, had not the coast of North Carolina been full of Yankee emigrants there, as everywhere else - the best allies of our enemies.

Richmond Examiner.

ADVANCES TO THE STATE OF FLORIDA.

Just before the adjournment of Congress, it passed, as we learn, an important bill for the re-imbursment of the State of Florida for military advances. The bill appropriates three hundred thousand dollars for this purpose.

It is understood that Florida had made large advances in the military service of the Confederacy, especially with regard to her sea-coast defenses. The re-imbursment to her in advance of other of the Confederate States was urged from the fact that her State Treasury was empty, and that she had no present means to carry on her military operations.

The bill requires security to protect the appropriation, in the deposit on the part of the State of Florida, with the Secretary of the Treasury, of State bonds equal in amount to the appropriation, to be held until her account for military advances shall be adjusted in order with those of the other Confederate States.

CONFEDERATE TREASURY NOTES.

We regret to learn that parties have already engaged in counterfeiting the notes of the Confederate Government issue. The Bank of the City of Petersburg detected, on Thursday last, a counterfeit of the denomination of five dollars. The Express says of the spurious note:

In the counterfeit bill, the following stipulations are left out of the body of the note, but are above and below on the border: "Receivable in payment of all dues except export duties," and "Fandable in Confederate States Stocks, bearing eight per cent interest." The counterfeit has no vignette, while the genuine bill has a centre vignette, comprised of a female with a pole and liberty cap, and eagle on the left of the female, and on the left end of the bill the figure of a sailor. The number and filling up in the counterfeit are very indifferent. The notes should be well scanned before received, as doubtless the whole of the denominations issued by the Confederate Government have been counterfeited, and are now in circulation. The counterfeiters are signed "S. Samson, Register," the "for" being omitted, and "A. L. Rossell, Treasurer," the "for" also omitted here. They purport to have been lithographed by J. Mahouvier, New Orleans. The genuine were lithographed by Hoyer & Ludwig, Richmond.

The work of the lithographer in the counterfeit bill is decidedly better than that of the genuine, and it is well calculated to circulate freely outside of banking institutions. We are anxious to caution the public in regard to the reception of this issue, as, under the present condition of things, this circulation must, to a great extent, supersede the regular bank circulation throughout the Confederate States.

Richmond Examiner.

NEITHER THE SOUTHERN PUBLIC NOR THE GOOD PEOPLE OF NORTH CAROLINA HAVE ANY REASON TO BE DISTURBED BY THE NEWS FROM FORT HATTERAS.

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Blunkets, Socks, &c. - These in this county who propose to contribute any thing for the comfort of the volunteers, such as Blunkets, Comforts, Socks, &c. are requested to deliver the same at McCollins & Foster's Store in Salisbury, by the 15th of Sept. instapt. All will then be sent to Raleigh, and thence distributed - first, of the things from Rowan; and after they are supplied, the residue, if any, will be sent to those in greatest need.

The Petersburg Express publishes a report from Baltimore, which states that the Confederate army attempted last Sunday to carry Astington Heights, but were repulsed. The Express does not believe the report. There is no confirmation of it from Manassas though it was reported several days ago that an advance movement of our army at that place would soon be made.

TROOPS COMING.

Clingman's Regiment were to leave Asheville, N. C., on yesterday, Wednesday. They will hardly reach the head of the Railroad in less time than three days. We think they will arrive here Saturday evening next. They have been very hurriedly forwarded, and may need some assistance from our Town what passing; and we mention it in order that our citizens and town authorities may be ready to afford them all the accommodation in our power.

COMPANIES FORMING.

W. H. Clement, at Mocksville, and Dr. R. P. Bessent, at this place, are now forming a company of mounted Rangers; for service in Western Virginia we are informed; but probably for service wherever most needed. They have every preparation except men and horses. Each man joining this Company will furnish his own horse, the Government paying 40 cents per day while in service, and the value of him if lost in its employ.

Wm. A. Houck, of this county, is forming a Company of Infantry. Their services are needed now on the Eastern borders of our State, and we are glad to learn that he lacks on a few more men to complete his company.

John Bradshaw is also forming a Company in Davidson county. Too great haste cannot be made in forming these companies. Time is now very precious. Promptness may save us much anxiety, suffering, and many valuable lives.

We hear of many other Companies in other counties, which, in a short time, will be ready to receive their arms.

THE MINNIE BALL.

It is now said to be certain that our State cannot arm the Companies which are forming in almost every county for the defense of our territory. Consequently a large portion of the militia, if called out, must go into the field with their squires' rifles and bird guns. It is even probable that a portion of the regular State Troops will have to be armed with these weapons. In this case the Minnie Ball will be found far superior to the round shot, whether shot gun or rifle; and as almost any smith can easily make the moulds, we hope they will go to work at it right away. Some of them may not have seen the moulds for a Minnie ball, but if that is necessary to enable them to make them, we think there can be no difficulty in finding a pair in almost any County. If we should have to use our common fire arms against an enemy provided with the improved weapons now in use, the disadvantages will be greatly removed by furnishing our men with the Minnie ball. We shall be pleased to announce the names of any who are able to furnish the moulds.

20th and 26th REGIMENTS. - The 20th Regiment of volunteers commanded by Col. Vance, left their encampment near this place Monday morning last for the sea-coast. We think it probable that the 25th, commanded by Col. O'Quinn, was also ordered to the coast. - Standard.