MAY 1861

May 1, 1861 - Resolution of Tennessee General Assembly to explore joining the Confederate States in a military league

JOINT RESOLUTION to appoint commissioners from the State of Tennessee to confer with the authorities of the Confederate States in regard to entering into a military league.

Resolved by the Gen. Assembly of the State of Tennessee, That the Governor be, and he is hereby, authorized and requested to appoint three commissioners on the part of Tennessee to enter into a military league with the authorities of the Confederate States and with the authorities of such other slave holding States as may wish to enter into it, having in view the protection and defense of the entire South against the war that is now being carried on against it.

Adopted May 1, 1861.

W. C. WHITTHORNE, Speaker of the House of Representatives.


May 1, 1861 - Major-General Gideon J. Pillow's instructions to Brigadier-General John L. T. Sneed regarding defenses at Fort Randolph

MEMPHIS, May 1, 1861.

Gen. SNEED:

In disposing of the forces in and about this city it is only necessary at present to have competent artillerists in command of the artillery at Fort Randolph. The works at that position will require, ultimately, three companies of artillery, there being three batteries constructing there. There is now a fine company in command of the field battery at present at that post. You ought, if you can, to have organized two or three additional artillery companies in the city. Smith's regiment is ordered there as a protecting force for those works and batteries; let it remain there for the present. A company of artillery have been ordered to
Fort Harris to man the guns there. It is Capt. Warner's company. You must have it provided with transportation. Before Capt. Patrick's company (a part of Col. Smith's regiment) is removed to Fort Randolph, two companies from this city must take its place. These troops should be constantly drilled and instructed, so as to fit the troops for the field. All the heavy artillery which shall reach the city from Virginia and Carolina, thirteen pieces, must be forwarded to Fort Randolph. When those works are completed, your attention should be given to the organization of companies and manning the batteries at Randolph, so as to have all the guns in working order. There is one 8 inch howitzer gun at Fort Harris which should be removed to the works at Randolph, so as to have a heavy armament at that place. For the ultimate protection of these works and this city, there should be stationed at that post four pieces of field artillery, to be stationed in the open field on the bluff, and two regiments of infantry. In meeting the wants of the service of subsistence, for which $10,000 is at present provided on the branch of the Bank of Tennessee, your quartermaster and commissary must bring his checks to you that you may indorse your approval on them. If other dispositions should be required of the forces, or organizations should be needed, I will promptly communicate with you from Nashville.

GID. J. PILLOW, Gen., Cmdg.


May 1, 1861 - Conditions in and around Murfreesboro on the eve of the secession of Tennessee, excerpt from the diary of John C. Spence

. . . There is quite a commotion over the country. Volunteers are being raised, but all independant, individual enterprises. They all important question with Tenn. has not come up. She has been once tryed and the question will have to come again. There is a heavy influence working in the mind of the people. Still, a distant hope that something may turn up that will stop blood shed. The Lincoln call causes a hesitation. Tenn. knows she is loyal; fears nothing; wishes to be at peace with all. But, the call is on all loyal states for its share of men to allay a rebellion. Who rebels! My nearest neighbor! Must spill his blood? I stop. I hesitate.

The Subject of War is not being thought. More of the people begin to look at the matter. Volunteers are now being raised by different persons. . .

Spence, Diary.

May 3, 1861 - "The Masses of the people of Tennessee-Their Love of the old Union-Demagoguism-Slaveholders and non-Slave holders:" class- and race-consciousness and pro-secession rhetoric in Clarksdale

The great body of yeomanry and laborers of Tennessee may be poor, but they are brave, honest, patriotic and true-hearted. Some who do not know them, may doubt their patriotism and valor to defend their rights when invaded, but
this is a great mistake. They love the old Union of our fathers, and would never consent to dissolve it, so long as the Constitution is not violated, and so long as it protects their rights; but they love liberty and justice more; and they will never consent to submit to abolition rule, and permit the evils to come upon them, which must result from a continuance in the Union when the Government is in the hands of our enemies, who will use all its power for their destruction. When it becomes necessary to defend our rights against the foul power of Black Republican domination, the yeomanry of the mountains and the valleys, of very portion of Tennessee, will swarm around her standard, with a resolution that will strike terror into abolition cohorts of the North. Wealth is timid, and wealthy men may cry for peace, and submit to wrong, for fear they may loose their money; but the honest laborers of Tennessee can never consent to see slavery abolished, and submit to the taxation, low wages and downright degradation that must follow. They will never consent to be reduced to an equality with the negro, or to take his place: God forbid.

Some contemptible demagogues have attempted to deceive non-slaveholders by appealing to their prejudices, and asking them what interests they have in maintaining the rights of the wealthy slave-holder. They cannot be deceived in this way. They know that the laws of Tennessee protect their lives, their families, and their property; and that all the property which the wealthy slaveholder may have, can be taxed by the State, if need be, to protect the rights an liberties of all. The rights and interests of the slave-holder and the non-slaveholder, of the rich and the poor, in the South are reciprocal, homogeneous and identical. One man in a large neighborhood may have a mill. Not one in fifty has a mill. What would be though of the public speaker who would appeal to the fifty, and ask them what interest they have in defending their neighbor's mill, if an abolition mob were trying to burn it down? Another has a store. None one in fifty has a store. Who would say the fifty should not help the one, if an invader is about to burn his Store? Another has a Blacksmith shop. Not one in fifty has a Blacksmith Shop. Shall the shop be destroyed by the common enemy, and no one protect the owner because no one near has the same peculiar kind of property? It may be that I have no horse, and you have a horse; or that I have a cow, and you have no cow. In such cases, if our rights of property are assailed by a common enemy, shall we not help each other? Or I have a wife and children, and another has neither wife, children, or house. Will he, therefore, stand by and see my house burned, my wife and children butchered, because he has none? The slave-holder has honestly invested the money, which it has cost him years of toil to make in slaves, which are guaranteed to him by the laws of the State. The common enemy of the South seeks to take this property from him. Shall all who do not own slaves stand by and permit this to be done? If so, they have no right to call upon the slave-holder, by taxation or otherwise to help protect they property or their liberties. Such a doctrine is monstrous; and he would advance it, deserves to be rode on the sharpest edge of one of Lincoln's rails. The doctrine strikes at the very foundation of society; and if carried out, would destroy all property and all protection to life, liberty and happiness. The present is a critical period with the people or the South. We
all poor and rich, have a common interest, and a common destiny. It is no time to be wrangling about old party strifes. Our common enemy, the Black Republican party, is in power, united and triumphant. If we cannot all see alike, let us have charity enough to believe that all are equally patriotic in their efforts to promote the common cause. If we can act unitedly and harmoniously, we can achieve a glorious and signal victory.

SOUTHERN WATCHMAN

Clarksville Chronicle, May 3, 1861.

May 3, 1861 - "Volunteers;" suggestion to keep Clarksville volunteer clerks' pay in escrow

Many of the young men who have volunteered, in this hour of peril, to go forth and battle for the homes, the firesides, and the liberty of the South are Clerks, who in thus doing, surrender situation on which they have been dependent for their living. They give them up, to, for the perils of war, and without the hope of any gain, save the glory, they may win; and in view of this, we wish to suggest to those, who have had these young men in their employment, that they shall let their salary go on, as heretofore, while they are in the service of their country, as soldiers, and that whenever they employ other young men in their place, it shall be with the understanding that it is to be given again to the gallant Volunteer, should he return to claim it, and have proved worthy of it. Our merchants are able to do this, and we hope they will. If they cannot afford to continue the full salary, allow half of it, any way—(to such as deport themselves as good soldiers, we mean, of course.)

We see that this has been done in New Orleans—the full salary continued, and the old situation, with increased pay, promised to be worthy, on their release from service—and we hope it will be done here. Who will lead in doing it?

Clarksville Chronicle, May 3, 1861.

May 4, 1861 - Pre-secession difficulties with arms distribution

NASHVILLE, May 4, 1861.

Gen. J. L. T. SNEED:

DEAR SIR: I was sorry I could not have seen you again before I left Memphis. I desired to call your special attention to the fact that Colonel E. Pickett had drawn 1,000 muskets, State arms, for his regiment of home guards. Home guards are not entitled to draw arms, and Col. Pickett promised me to return the arms to Col. W. R. Hunt, ordnance officer. I hope you will see that this is done without delay. The arms must be returned. Col. Walker drew the same number of muskets, and afterward tendered his regiment for active service. I hope you will see that in reorganizing his regiment that none of the muskets be lost. See Walker and urge him to hold on to all his muskets for active service men. Capt. Somerville drew 100 muskets for his company, and you will do
May 4, 1861

well to urge him to take good care of them until he is called into service. Capt. Hunt drew 100 muskets, and since my departure from Memphis changed their purpose, and [they] are now in this city on their way to Virginia. These guns will be returned by Adams Express, in charge of Col. W. R. Hunt, of your city. The only remaining company to whom I delivered arms was Capt. Martin's, now in active service in Col. Smith's regiment. I deemed it proper to give you these suggestions. I have every confidence in your sound discretion in managing all these matters. Be sure to take care of the arms until the men are placed in camp for regular training. The military fire is burning finely here, and a number of regiments are being organized for active service. I am satisfied more men will be offered than will be needed. The bill is still before the Legislature, and everything is secret. It is believed that the action of the legislature will be made public by Tuesday next. Let me hear from you.

Yours, very respectfully,

S. R. ANDERSON.


May 4, 1861 - Thoughts on the secession crisis, excerpt from the journal of Amanda McDowell, Cherry Creek community, White County

Little though have I had that I should ever live to see civil war in this, our goodly land, but so it is! The Southerners are so hot they can stand it no longer, and have already made the break. There will be many a divided family in this once happy Union. There will be father against son, and brother against brother. O, God! that such things should be in a Christian land. That men should in their blindness rush so rashly to ruin, and not only rush to ruin themselves but drag with them so many thousands of innocent and ignorant victims! There are thousand who will rush into the fury with blind enthusiasm, never stopping to question whether it be right or wrong, who, if they only understood it properly, would stay at home with their families and let those who started it fight it out.

But the ignorant mass are so easily excited than an enthusiast who can make mountains out of mole-hills and raise a bussie about nothing can so stir them up and excite that they will run headlong into almost anything that is proposed to them.

They are taking on considerably at Sparta. Have raised a secession flag and are organizing companies at a great rate. Why Christian men who live here in peace and plenty with nothing to interrupt their happiness should prefer to leave their peaceful home and all the ties which bind them to their families and rush into a fight in which they cannot possibly gain anything and inn which they may lose their lives is more than I can see. But, of course, my judgment is
not much anyway. But in my feeble opinion they will have cause to repent their rashness.

I do not think the killing of one another is going to better it any, but on the contrary, I fear it will make it worse. God grant that it may not prove so serious a matter as we are all fearing! I say fearing, but I do not fear anything in particular. I can conceive of the horrors of civil war, and I know it is dreadful, but I do not fear that it will hurt me. And for my folks I am not uneasy. I know they will not go into it until they are convinced that it is their duty, and when they are convinced that it is their duty to fight for their country, it becomes me not to interfere with them about it or grieve at their so doing, for I love my country, I think, as well as any who live in it could love it. An although I shudder to think [of] any of them either being killed or killing another yet I should consider it my duty to take it with the best grace possible and when I consider it my duty to do a thing I am generally do it. I would write a good deal now while I am in the notion, but I do not feel well... 

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Diary of Amanda McDowell


May 4, 1861 - The War and the Winchester Female College

The Mary Sharp College and the War.

We have just returned from Winchester. On our way there we met with Prof. McCall, and some students of Union University returning home in the South, and learned from them the sorrowful news, that the Union University had been disbanded, and would not resume its studies before next September. While in Winchester, we learned that the Boys' school in that place had been dismissed till more peaceful times would allow closer attention to the duties of the school room. We heard the question asked again and again, will not Mary Sharp be obliged to suspend? Will not the war destroy our great and unequalled college for the education of our daughters? We answered NO. So far from it, the war will build it up. We say so because we think so, and we think so for the following reasons.

1st. We have been witness of the fact that while other schools in Tennessee and other States have been diminished in numbers, and some of them obliged to suspend altogether, the number of pupils in the Mary Sharp has been regularly increasing even up to the present month, April, 1861. New scholars have been coming in almost every week, and there are more students on the seats to-day than there have ever been since the school was organized.
2d. We have been witness of the fact, that although a few young ladies have been taken home on account of the present excitement, there have a larger number come to take their places, and these from the Confederate States.

3d. We have been witness of the fact, that from the very first, the sympathies of the President and the Faculty of the school, as well as of the citizens of Winchester, have been with the South, with the Confederate States. Here, so far as we know, was the first volunteer company raised for the Confederacy in the State of Tennessee. We think it was the first offered and accepted by President Davis. We saw the flag presented by the young ladies of Mary Sharp. Heard the address full of noble, heart-stirring words, which accompanied its presentation—and a day or two afterwards saw that beautiful banner floating in the College yard, while the President in behalf of the young ladies bade its bearers and defenders god speed in their glorious work of defending our homes. No one heard that soul thrilling address, whose heart did not beat faster and higher for the land we live in—our own loved South—and the loud hurrah, again and again repeated at its close, told as the quivering lip and tearful eye had told, while they were listening, that those who love that flag, would never forget the lovely faces, and beaming eyes of the 300 beautiful creatures who bade them go and fight for them, and for their country.

4th. We think the war will build up the school, because we know that its patrons are mostly in the more Southern States, where the young ladies will be less safe from insurrection or invasion, than they will in Winchester. This place is in the heart of a population, which is not only now, but has been with almost entire unanimity, with the South from the first. It is well prepared to resist any attack from within or without.—The location is within the mountains and inaccessible to any Northern force, except in directions where they would have a long and fearful contest to wage before they could reach Winchester. And there could be nothing to induce an invading force to wage such a contest to attack a school of unarmed girls.

5th. It is a point where those who desire to send their daughters from the low country, can not only place them in safety from a hostile foe, but from any danger of disease. No more healthful location is to be found in this or any other country.

Here then we have a school more deservedly celebrated than any other in the whole land, North or South, located in a position unrivalled for healthfulness and safety.—Protected on three sides by the mountains and on the other by some of the most warlike and loyal citizens of the South—in the very CENTER of what soon will be the Southern Confederacy—distant alike from the Northern borders and the Southern coast; from the sea board on the East, and the Mississippi on the West—and hence removed as far as possible from the seats of actual contest. Is it not probable, nay, is it not certain that it will be selected by the Parents of daughters from all parts of the land as the home of their girls while the war shall continue. Especially as it has long been notorious
that they will here enjoy intellectual, moral, and religious advantages, such as they will hardly find in any other place in all the country.

A. C. D.

Tennessee Baptist, May 4, 1861.\textsuperscript{NOTE 1}

\textbf{NOTE 1:} As cited in: http://www.uttyl.edu/vbetts.

\textit{May 4, 1861 - "Letter from Memphis."

Memphis, Tenn., May 4th, 1861.}

\textit{Editors Chronicle:} - Since writing the hasty letter\textsuperscript{NOTE 1} touching the political aspect of the times which, more to oblige an old friend, and subscriber than because of any intrinsic merit therein, you are pleased to publish some weeks ago, stirring scenes have been enacted all over the land, and now the distinct not distant promise of the future is that our eyes will be constrained to behold, what the immortal Webster prayed that his might never behold "a land rent with civil feuds," and "drenched with paternal blood." The effect, long predicted is indeed upon us, of

"That lust of power
That oftimes assumes the fairer name of Liberty,
And flings the popular flag of \textit{Freedom} out."

Since then Sumter has fallen - a most righteous fall—the result of a scheme conceived in iniquity, and attempted to be executed by misrepresentation and fraud, and the cannon which announced its attack, has succeeded in accomplishing that which political maneuvering and party diplomacy, though diligently prosecuted through a series of years, had failed to secure unity in the South to defend what an aggravated North is arming to destroy, the liberties and rights of a free people.

Inheritors of a like precious heritage, a heritage secured by years of toil, self-denial and bloodshed, you and I, with a large majority of Montgomery's noble sons, have long been battling upon like principles for the preservation of that heritage, pure as we received it, for transmission to those who are to succeed us and because of an abiding faith in the virtue and intelligence of the people, upon which alone is based the hope of the perpetuity of republican institutions, we have continued to hear what has stirred the blood and aroused to action the resentment of others, equally patriotic, but less patient and hopeful. I see from recent members of the chronicle that recent events have affected us in like manner, and that we are still of one mind, and that mind the "resisting unto blood" the usurpation, the tyranny, and the oppression of that worse than imbecile administration, which has so shamefully abused our confidence, and would not butcher before our eyes our beloved and helpless ones, or subject them and us to slaver, infinitely more degrading and helpless than African sla-
very ever was painted by that libel upon her sex, whose foul fabrications have gone forth to the world endorsed by the hypocritical Puritanism of New England.

Disappointed, as I confess myself to have been, in the people of the North, and misled, by my faith in the intention of the masses there to do us ultimately even handed justice, to a longer toleration of their misdeeds, than many have though advisable. I yet do not look back with regret upon the course which I have felt myself constrained by convictions of duty to pursue. With a devotion, beyond the power of language to express to the Union as our fathers gave it to us, and a determination as firm as that devotion was deep seated, to exhaust every means first to restore to its original purity, and then preserve that Union, without turning to the right or left from considerations of personal advancement or interest, I have held myself to the principles, which my judgment indicated as most likely to accomplish that object. And now when called upon to nerve my arm for a blow which every freeman must prepare to strike for his fireside and his liberty the consciousness of entire irresponsibility for any of the evils that begirt us, and of that long suffering oppression which justifies so thoroughly the final rebellion, will add no shade of remorse or regret to the contemplation of the scenes through which we shall have passed, when peace shall have returned to bless the land over which a fratricidal war has been waged.

Union men once, what are we now? You have spoken for yourself through your columns, and with emphasis, and as you have spoken, so speaks Old Montgomery. God bless her! I imagine I can see coming from her every valley and descending her every hillside "the Tennessee Volunteer," whose coming, the "Confederate States," notwithstanding their denunciation and abuse, have awaited as anxiously as did England's warrior the coming of "Night or Blucher," and the announcement or anticipation of whose coming in hostile array, Northern myrmidons so much depreciate and dread. With like voice, though, with feebler, would your correspondent speak. A Tennessean by birth, education, by continuous residence from birth till now, a Tennessean whose foot has never been placed on freesoil, the son of a slave-holder, and slave-holder myself. I could not be otherwise than a Southerner if I would, and would not if I could. And as my lot for life is cast in Tennessee, I rejoice to believe that as you speak and as speaks Montgomery, so will Tennessee speak. Nay, so has she spoken already through her high minded and chivalrous Governor's [illegible] response to a federal demand. This is high minded rebellion — such rebellion, as when rebellion must come, more pleases me than your lofty spoken "peaceable secession," a doctrine or idea, permit me without offence to say, I detest, and which I pray God, when Tennesseans are called to vote as called they will [scratch union from (?)] their tickets and write instead in characters living and legible, that word consecrated by revolutionary memories—REBELLION.

More Anon.
P. S. —We are preparing actively for the reception of the "Chicken thieves," which the Express letter from Dyersburg to Washington is stationing at Cairo. Fort Wright, at Randolph, is now in "speaking order." Fort Harris, at Memphis, will be complete on Monday next, well constructed ands well manned. Mort Madison's battery of "a bowie knife and a couple of Derringers" will suffice to do the work of all who succeed in running the gauntlet of these two forts. Our city is all alive with citizen soldiers marching and counter-marching. It would [remainder illegible.]

Clarksville Chronicle, May 10, 1861.

NOTE 1: Not found.

NOTE 2: Harriet Beecher Stowe, Uncle Tom's Cabin.

NOTE 3: At the Battle of Waterloo, British Commander Lord Wellington, whose fortunes had been reversed by Napoleon's forces, anticipated the possibility of defeat unless his Prussian allies, led by Field Marshal Gebhard von Blucher, or nightfall, would arrive. Wellington was said to have looked at his watch and exclaim, "Blucher or night." Shortly thereafter Blucher appeared to save the day for the allies.

May 4, 1861 - Call up of the patrician Memphis Hickory Rifles

The Hickory Rifles.-This noble corps, principally consisting of connections of some of the most respected and influential families in this city and neighborhood, is ordered on active service and leaves us to-night. The members are all hereby summoned by their respected captain, Dr. Martin, to meet at their armory at ten o'clock this morning. The same authority also summons the company to meet at four o'clock in the afternoon, with their baggage, preparatory to marching to their camp. From their armory they will proceed to Dr. Grundy's church, corner of Main and Beal streets, to receive a flag which will be presented to them by the ladies of Memphis at five o'clock.

Memphis Daily Appeal, May 4, 1861

May 5, 1861 - Concerns about secession expressed by one Madison County yeoman farmer

. . . times are so critical the South will have to feed itself, heretofore has drawn large supplies from the North. Lincoln's forces are already stationed at Cairo to cut off arms & munitions of war destined South & provisions. They intend whiping the South, & don't intend that they; shall have any arms to fight with and starve men, women and children and the poor down trodden for whom they pretend to feel so deeply.

Robert H. Cartmell Diary.
May 5, 1861 - In praise of portly girls

A Few Words About Fat Girls.

Now of fat girls there are several varieties. There is your baby girl, a delightful little dumpling of a child, every one of whose dimples is a mine of delight, and every one of the creases in whose rosy lips inspires you with an irresistible propensity to tickle it. These are the little baby children that Rubens painted so gloriously. He made their little puffed-out cheeks celestially roseate; he curled their flaxen locks like unto the young tendrils of the vine; he tipped their little heels and elbows with rich carnations; he took away their sex and made them epicene; and when he had added little wings of green and golden plumage to their shoulders, they were no longer baby children, but angels, ministering in the apotheoses of kings and emperors, who, I sincerely trust, have reached the destination which the courtly pencil of Peter Paul ascribed to their dead majesties. Then there is your fat school girl, with long fair ringlets, profuse as a Louis Quatorse perroque, with fixed blue eyes that remind you unpleasantly of the Pantheon Bazaar and Madame Montanari's wax work shops, and with a dull, listless fixity of demeanor that makes one always wish to find out whereabouts the string is, in order to pull it, and cause the eyes to move and great doll to squeak "papa," and "mama."

Yet another variety of the fat school girl is there in the romp, or "tom boy," who has cheeks as ruddy and as hard as a Ribstone pippin; who is continually grazing the skin of her arms, and tearing the trimming off the ends of her trousers; who, if she lives in the country, is in the habit of catching young colts and riding them without saddle or bridle round paddocks; who is always getting into domestic trouble through her transactions with a big black dog fond of the water and of chivying cats; who is always laughing, has a tremendous appetite, and once fought with a boy and came off victorious. The decline of the old fashioned system of education, and the rise of seminaries and collegiate institutions, where young ladies attend lectures on the Odic force and the Therapeutic Cosmogony of Ancient Art has made the tom boy fat girl an exceedingly rare specimen of femininity; but she is still occasionally to be met with-notably in Westmoreland boarding schools, and in farm houses of the West.

I lament the progressive extinction of the merry fat girl. She usually grew up to be a jolly, comfortable matron with a tribe of sunny children, all as great romps as she had been. Her pickled walnuts were perfection. She was one of those women who always give you something to eat when you call on them, and if you are neither hungered nor athirst, insist on your carrying away a pot of preserves or a slice of bridecake with you. It was in the golden age, and England was merry England indeed, when those fat matrons who had been fat girls, flourished. They used to entertain you at "meat teas"-bounteous repasts, where there were sausages and pressed beef, soused mackerel and potato-cakes.

Memphis Daily Appeal, May 5, 1861
May 5, 1861 - Tents

Camp Equipments.

We have received a communication on this subject of which we give a portion below, and call the attention of the military board to the subject. The comments are made by one who has a practical knowledge of the subject.

["""] The tents are made of a material that is too thin; it does not turn rain, nor does it protect from the cold nor from the heat of the sun. Double the material of which the tents are made and the defect will in some measure be remedied. "Oh, no, this costs too much!" Poor economy, gentlemen, when the efficiency of your army is considered; poor economy, gentlemen, when the lives of your soldiers are put in the scale. Ask the mothers and sisters whose sons and brothers are there, what they think of the few paltry dollars it would take to make the soldier barely comfortable, for that is all he asks, for our common protection; but O, ye rulers! it is as little as you can do to provide for his comfort, without which his health is sacrificed. If you cannot do that, call on us and we will contribute our jewelry to the last ring, guard, token of affection though it be.

The tents are badly made. When the rope goes through the cloth there are no inlet holes, and, consequently the tents tear the first time they are pitched, and a few removals will render them useless. There is no such thing as closing the door way. There should be a fly, supported by two sticks, for shade in the day time, and to be let down for protection from cold air at night.

I do not blame those who have furnished these tents, for they did all they knew how to do, but I hope that they will remedy the defect now that it is pointed out to them.

The officers have no better tents than the men. There is not a table to write on in the whole encampment, and the luxury of a chair, even a camp stool, is unheard of. Let this thing be remedied, gentlemen who control, and you will be thanked by the soldiers; neglect them, and you will hear a voice that no ruler has ever heard with impunity. I return to my company, the Southern Guards, on Monday, and will keep the mothers and sisters of our young men informed of how they are treated.

T. J. F.

Memphis Daily Appeal, May 5, 1861

May 5, 1861 - Flag presentation to the Bluff City Guards

Presentation on Court Square.-WE thank our friend W. K. Poston, Esq., for copies of the address made by Mrs. Geo. Dixon yesterday on presenting a beautiful flag to the gallant company of Bluff City Guards, on the part of the mothers, wives, and sisters of members of the corps, and of the reply of Capt. Edmondson, but to our regret the crowded state of our columns render their

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TENNESSEE HISTORICAL COMMISSION
insertion impossible. The address is an eloquent incentive to noble deeds; the reply is a manly and chivalric expression of the determination of the corps so to act as to honor the flag so flatteringly presented.

Memphis Daily Appeal, May 5, 1861.

May 5, 1861 - Hickory Rifles flag presentation

Flag to the Hickory Rifles.-Captain Martin's fine company, the Hickory Rifles, all entered Dr. Grundy's church last evening to receive a flag offered them by the ladies of Memphis. The gallant fellows, all in full marching trim, made a fine, manly appearance. The beautiful flag, a perfect bijou in make and material, was presented by Miss White in an address admirably conceived and touchingly delivered; both matter and manner were greatly admired. The address was responded to in a neat and graceful reply by Chas. Pacie, Esq.

Memphis Daily Appeal, May 5, 1861

May 5, 1861 - Juvenile delinquents at Grace Church in Memphis

Rude Boys at Church.-Our crowded columns compel us to state in a paragraph the contents of a communication concerning Grace church on Hernando street; each Sunday mischievous boys annoy the congregation there by running up and down the stairs and galleries. Unless such misconduct is stopped, means will be taken to expose the culprits.

Memphis Daily Appeal, May 5, 1861

May 6, 1861 - Fear of abolitionists in White County, an excerpt from the journal of Amanda McDowell of the Cherry Creek community

The news is flying around that they are going to hang a man by the name of Barger tomorrow at Sparta. I don't put any faith in such news as that. They say he expressed Abolition principles most too freely. Wm. Willhite says that they were considerable whisperings in Sparta on Saturday about Father's being an Abolitionist whispered hints of threats, etc., but I guess there is not much the matter. They had better not tell him to his face that he is an Abolitionist, for I heard him say yesterday that if there was a thing in the world that would make him strike a man it would be for anyone to throw it up to him. He believes in reason in all things, and in being sure that he is right before he pitches into anything.

Diary of Amanda McDowell.
May 7, 1861 - Panhandling nuisance in Memphis

Street Begging.—A system that has long been a curse to northern cities has lately been inaugurated here—we mean the practice of sending little girls out into the streets to beg. As soon as one of these young swindlers—for that is what they are in reality—sees two or three gentlemen conversing together in the streets, she thrusts herself in among them and by pertinacious importunity she interrupts them until she is paid to go away. Rarely, if ever, we have good reason to believe, are these girls—or rather those who compel them to pursue their vicious occupation—really objects of charity. The poor child who is sent out on this soul-destroying business is indeed an object of compassion; but to give her the money she solicits, is to pay those who ill use her to persist in their cruelty. Instead of giving money to these children, the children should be given into custody to the nearest policeman that inquiry may reveal the actual position of those to whom they belong. Yesterday a girl twelve years old, named Mary Anne Moray, was thus placed in custody. It proved that she had a father, who is a shoemaker. Her sister took her from the station house, putting down twenty-five dollars as security for her appearance for examination this morning. In taking the money from her purse she showed not less than fifty to sixty dollars. Do the credulous now see what need there was for the five and ten cent pieces they have kept from the really poor, to give to imposters?

Memphis Daily Appeal, May 7, 1861.

May 7, 1861 - The prayer of a Southern Mother

To Southern Mothers.

Unite with me at the hour of sunset in humble prayer and supplication to the "Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named," praying that he may pour out his Holy Spirit on our sons to enable them to put on the whole panoply of God, and as soldiers of the cross to resist their enemies and His, so that if they live, they will live unto God, and if they die, they may fall asleep in Jesus, and awake in the presence of the captain of our salvation, to be forever with Him in glory. If God's banner of love waive over our sons, they must come off more than conquerors in this earthly warfare, and if they fail in the strife, through their limbs be stiffened in death and now their blood stained, dusty armor laid aside—angels will waft their spirits to their God to join His army in heaven, where, robed in Christ's spotless righteousness, they too will cast their palms of victory before Jehovah's throne, and sing the song of the redeemed, while, blessed with the like faith, we southern mothers shall echo back salvation's joyful sound, and give the honor and glory to Him who hath redeemed them with his precious blood.

A Southern Mother.

Memphis Daily Appeal, May 7, 1861.
May 7, 1861

TENNESSEE CIVIL WAR SOURCEBOOK

May 7, 1861 - Tennessee General Assembly passes resolutions in favor of secession and admission of Tennessee into the Confederacy subject to popular vote on June 8, 1861

NASHVILLE, TENN., May 7, 1861.

Hon. ROBERT TOOMBS, Secretary of State, &c.:

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that the two ordinances to which I referred in my last dispatch—the one for secession and the other providing for the admission of Tennessee into our Confederacy-have passed the legislature by a large majority in both Houses. They are subject to ratification by the people, the vote to be taken on the 8th day of June next. That they will be ratified by an overwhelming majority of the people is not doubted by the best informed men here. The injunction of secrecy has not yet been removed, and the Governor, apprehending that an immediate publication of these important steps would precipitate an attack by the Northern troops upon the exposed frontier of Tennessee, desired that I should not communicate it, even by telegraph, until I could write, urging an immediate movement on the part of our Government in behalf of the State. Some 10,000 troops are stationed at Cairo, and Governor Harris thinks it of the first importance that a considerable body of troops should be ordered to Union City, in this State, well armed and prepared for prompt action. The want of arms is the great want; 50,000 troops can take the field in a few days if arms can be supplied, but as it is not probable so large a force will be needed, it is desired that 15,000 stand of small arms shall be forwarded. The spirit of the people is fully roused; so popular a war I never saw, nor do I recall any recorded in history that called out a more prompt and uncritical spirit on the part of the people.

The Governor has appointed three commissioners on the part of Tennessee, Mr. Henry, Mr. Totten, and Mr. Barrow, who are authorized to conclude a convention with me similar to that concluded with Virginia. We are about to meet, and I must close this dispatch for that purpose. Of course you will have learned before you receive this that Arkansas has seceded with but one dissenting vote. Kentucky only wants arms to take the same step. Missouri is impatient for secession. I await your orders. I shall return home, bearing the convention agreed on with Tennessee, so soon as you direct me to do so. Please notify me by telegraph. I rejoice at the success which has so far attended my mission, and do not doubt its complete success.

I have, &c.,

HENRY W. HILLIARD.

May 7, 1861 - Confederate salute, in Montgomery, Alabama, to Tennessee's announcement of secession

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 7., WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJT. AND INSPI. GEN. 'S OFFICE, Montgomery, May 7, 1861.

In honor of the official announcement of the secession of the States of Arkansas and Tennessee, and their adherence to this Confederacy, a salute of ten guns for each will be immediately fired in front of the Government building.

By command of the Secretary of War:
S. COOPER, Adjutant and Inspector Gen.


May 7, 1861 - Correspondence from Mrs. S. C. Law, President of the Society of Southern Mothers (Memphis) to Brigadier-General John L. T. Sneed, relative to support for sick and wounded Confederate soldiers

•See May 27, 1862--Activities of the Society of Southern Mothers, Memphis

The Society of Southern Mothers at this place are prepared to render any assistance needed by the soldiers of the South who may be sick or wounded in the service. They will nurse them at their own homes, or in rooms provided by themselves for that purpose, whenever they shall receive intimation through the proper officers for that purpose of the need of such care. Their organization contemplated the effectual care of the sick and wounded in actual service by the matrons of the land for whose defense they are in arms, and we ask of the officers in command to point out the way in which our object may be attained, and to place the sick in our charge.

OR, Ser. IV, Vol. 1, p. 298.

May 7, 1861 - Tennessee forms a military league with the Confederacy

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, Nashville, May 7, 1861.

GENTLEMAN OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

By virtue of the authority of your joint resolution, adopted on the 1st day of May instant, I appointed Gustavus A. Henry, of the county of Montgomery, Archibald O. W. Totten, of the county of Madison, and Washington Barrow, of the county of Davidson, "commissioners on the part of Tennessee, to enter into a military league with the authorities of the Confederate States and with the authorities of such other slave-holding States as may wish to enter into it, having in view the protection and defense of the entire South against the war that is now being carried on against it." The said commissioners met the Hon. Henry W. Halyard, the accredited representative of the Confederate States, at Nashville, on this day, and have agreed upon and executed military league between the State of Tennessee and the Confederate States of America, subject, how-
ever, to the ratification of the two governments, one of the duplicate originals of which I herewith transmit for your ratification or rejection. For many cogent and obvious reasons, unnecessary to be rehearsed to you, I respectfully recommend the ratification of this league at the earliest practicable moment.

Very respectfully,

ISHAM. G. HARRIS.

[Inclosure.]

CONVENTION BETWEEN THE STATE OF TENNESSEE AND THE CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA.

The State of Tennessee, looking to a speedy admission into the Confederate established by the Confederate States of America, in accordance with the Constitution of the Provisional Government of said States, enters into the following temporary convention, agreement and military league with the Confederate States, for the purpose of meeting pressing exigencies affecting the common rights, interests, and safety of said State and said Confederacy:

First. Until the said State shall become a member of said Confederacy according to the constitution of both powers, the whole military force and military operations, offensive and defensive, of said State, in the impending conflict with the United States, shall be under the chief control and direction of the President of the Confederate States, upon the same basis, principles, and footing as if said State were now and during the interval a member of said Confederacy, said force, together with that of the Confederate States, to be employed for the common defense.

Second. The State of Tennessee will, upon becoming a member of said Confederacy under the permanent Constitution of said Confederate States, if the same shall occur, turn over to said Confederate States all the public property acquired from the United States, on the same terms and in the same manner as the other States of said Confederacy have done in like cases.

Third. Whatever expenditures of money, if any the said State of Tennessee shall make before she becomes a member of said Confederacy, shall be met and provided for by the Confederate States.

This convention entered into and agreed [upon] in the city of Nashville, Tenn., on the 7th day of May, A. D. 1861, by Henry W. Halyard, the duly authorized commissioner to act in the matter of the Confederate States, and Gustavus A. Henry, Archibald O. W. Totten, and Washington Barrow, commissioners duly authorized to act in like manner for the State of Tennessee-the whole subject to the approval and ratification of the proper authorities of both governments, respectively.

In testimony whereof the parties aforesaid have herewith set their hands and seals the day and year aforesaid, in duplicate originals.

HENRY W. HALYARD, [SEAL.]
Commissioner for the Confederate States of America.

GUSTAVUS A. HENRY,
A. O. W. TOTTEN, [SEAL.]
WASHINGTON BARROW, [SEAL.]

Commissioners on the part of Tennessee.

JOINT RESOLUTION ratifying the league.

Whereas, a military league, offensive and defensive, was formed on 7th of May, 1861, by and between A. O. W. Totten, Gustavus A. Henry, and Washington Barrow, commissioners on the part of the State of Tennessee, and H. W. Halyard, commissioner on the part of the Confederate States of America, subject to the confirmation of the two governments:

Be it therefore resolved by the Gen. Assembly of the State of Tennessee, That said league be in all respects ratified and confirmed, and the said Gen. Assembly pledges the faith and honor of the State of Tennessee to the faithful observance of the terms and conditions of said league.

Adopted May 7, 1861.

W. C. WHITTHORNE, Speaker of the House of Representatives.
B. L. STOVALL, Speaker of the Senate.


May 7, 1861 - Innocence, rhetoric and a flag presentation in Stewart County

Dover, May 7th, 1861

Mr. Editor: The people in Old Stewart are all right—They are not only a unit upon the question of severing their connection with the Lincoln Government and uniting their destiny with the Southern Confederacy immediately, but are also a unit in defending to the last drop of blood and the last breath the rights and institutions of the South.

We have two large Companies already made up in this County, one that is ready and anxious to march to any point where they may be needed, and the other for home protection. Yesterday, according to previous notice, the ladies of Dover, through Miss Mary E. James, presented Capt. Graham's Company of Infantry, numbering over one hundred, with a beautiful and gorgeous flag, bearing the inscription on one side, "OUR RIGHTS," and on the other, "VICTORY." Miss James Addressed the Company as follows:

SOLDIERS OF THE STEWART COUNTY GUARD:—It is with sentiments and emotions of the profoundest pleasure I perform the part so generously assigned me this day, by the ladies of Dover. When I behold your martial bearing and the determined valor that sits upon each dauntless face in your ranks, my heart swells with pride, that I am a native of the same County with your-
selves, that the first air my infant lungs drank in, was amidst the hills of freedom and valley of plenty of Old Stewart. It is needless to add that all eyes are turned with proud confidence to the Military, that great bulwark of protection in time of war.

The public mind is now intensely agitated, and the great Southern heart is throbbing with indignation at the unjust and tyrannical policy which the Northern Administration is endeavoring to impose upon the South. Every breeze which floats over our hill troops or along our valley, brings intelligence of some new aggression, some fresh outrage upon the great character of American Liberty, and, by a petty usurper and despot, who has brought everlasting shame and disgrace upon the Executive Seat once occupied by Washington, the Father of his Country.

And fired by these unhallowed encroachments upon your rights as freemen—you have gallantly quit your shops, the fields, and counting-houses—you have thrown aside the implements of your peaceful pursuits and with soldiers hands, served with patriotism, grasped the sword, and are now ready and eager to march at the tap of the drum to rush to the field of strife, and meet in sanguinary conflict the tyrants who would dare trample upon the rights of Southern freemen.

Influenced by this patriotic sentiment, the ladies of Dover—your wives, your mothers, your sisters and you daughters—through me, offer for your acceptance this flag, which I now unfurl to the breeze. May it wave proudly over many a victorious field, and the gallant hearts that marshal under its folds soon return to the fond embrace of their friends covered all over with victory and glory. Heaven forbid that this flag should ever fall into the hands of the enemy, or be trailed in the dust. And should it be your fortune to meet your foes in battle's strife—then when you manly cheeks blanch and your hearts palpitate amidst the din and roar of battle turn your eyes to that flag, and think of those who formed it, and presented it, and let this nerve your arm for the conflict, and be a prestige of victory on every battle field.

Heaven is on your side, Justice is with you, and woman's hearts and woman's prayers will accompany you. Go then, my gallant friends, and fear not to defend that land which in repose is a Lamb, but when roused a Lion.

"Which seeks not the combat, nor shuns its career,
'Tis respect for her laws she exacts from her foes,
And honor it they shall, tho they do it with fear."

Capt. Graham then replied in his usual happy style in a most eloquent and appropriate address. Stating that he and his brave boys had not volunteered for six nor twelve months, but in the language of Gov. Carroll, when starting for New Orleans in 1812, they had entered during the war. That their watch word in battle should be the wives, the mothers, the sisters, and the daughters of Dover, that the ladies who presented that flag might rest assured it would never
be dishonors, but would be defended with the last breath of the last man in their ranks. Capt. Graham and his Company were cheered three times by the immense crowd in deafening and enthusiastic cheers.

Maj. N. Brandon and Gen. W. WE. Lowe, have both commenced to form Companies in this County, which, I have no doubt will soon be completed.

Capt. Graham has already tendered his Company to the Governor the State.

CITIZEN

Clarksville Chronicle, May 10, 1861.

May 7, 1861 - Pulaski's Martha Abernathy's remarks about the beginning of hostilities in the Civil War

What startling events have transpired since I last wrote in this book. The American feels himself scrutinized by the world. The North under cover of [the] Constitution & Flag implore Divine aid in crushing the South who is only defending right & honor. Weigh the motives of the two sections & reason (unaided by Christian convictions,) certainly sustains the South in this revolution. For revolution we must call it, as secession but faintly conveys our idea. We do not claim to have left—our Union, but we do claim to have the right to maintain it. Let the North waive her Stars & Stripes & call it union, so we must do. For why should we give up the Union & the Constitution. I tell you my children, (for whose eyes I write this) the North gave up the Constitution long before we did. They did it in changing the meaning of its pure precepts to suit their higher law policy, hoping (they say) to liberate the slave. Aye, he might be liberated in name, but would he be indeed? I leave the record of their past to tell you. I say again. Long waive the Stars & Stripes, perhaps fewer in number, but not necessarily less loyal to right & honor to religion & not necessarily less loyal to right & honor to religion & patriotism. Let us then place our trust in God, God who rules worlds as well as makes them. He who gave us being will dispose of us as suits best his end. And in praying for deliverance from this dread calamity war, let not our appeal be prompted by ambition, neither by a false pride of country, but by an earnest desire to further on the cause of Christ, that the work which we have begun so gloriously for Christianity may not be crippled by our downfall. O, although all seems dark I must think God's smile is behind the cloud & that we may erect out of the ruins of this once great nation, two governments, which in time to come may negotiate together, & hardly realize that this hatred ever existed. God grant that it may be so. May his justice be stayed by the hand of mercy & may we yet rejoice where we now mourn—

Elizabeth Paisley Dargan, ed., The Civil War Diary of Martha Abernathy

NOTE 1: Elizabeth Paisley Dargan, ed., The Civil War Diary of Martha Abernathy,
May 7, 1861 - Percussion Caps

Nashville, May 7, 1861
To Hon. W. P. Chilton, Montgomery

Mr. Irby Morgan, who is just starting to Louisville, Ky., on public business, requested me to enclose to you these caps as the first make of Nashville. They are making millions now of the same sort. Mr. M. Bought the copper in Orleans, and other fixings, and says please attend to his request per his express to you from Orleans.

Respectfully yours,
C. D. Sanders.

*How It Was*, p. 167. [Note 1]

**Note 1:** As cited in: Mrs. Irby Morgan, *How It Was; Four Years Among the Rebels*, (Nashville: Publishing House Methodist Episcopal Church, South, 1892), p. 167. [Hereinafter cited as: *How It Was*.]

May 8, 1861 - Mysterious murder in Randolph, Tipton County

A Mr. Hogge attempted to pass a sentinel at night without the countersign, and was bayonetted on the spot. He expired without a groan. The remains of the murdered individual were carefully removed by the murderer to conceal his crime, and the occurrence would never have been known, had not portions of the individual's body been found in several of the tents of the soldiers.

Memphis *Avalanche*, May 8, 1861.

May 8, 1861 - Seeing Confederate soldiers off at the Cleveland Depot

. . . We all went over to the depot. . . I gave a soldier a bouquet, got acquainted with several of them, gave a great many of them bouquets. . .

Diary of Myra Adelaide Inman, p. 94.

May 8, 1861 - The General Assembly forgives Tennesseans from paying out-of-state debts

CHAPTER 6. An Act to prevent the Collection of Debts owing by citizens of Tennessee to citizens of the non-slaveholding States, during hostilities.

Section 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee*, That no person in an non-slaveholding State, their agents or attorneys in this
State, shall have power to sue for or collect any monies owing to, or any property claimed by citizens of any such State, in the State of Tennessee, during the hostilities between Tennessee and the Federal Government.

Sec. 2 Be it further enacted, that it may and shall be lawful for such debtors to pay such monies into the Treasury of the State, which sums shall be receipted for by the Treasurer, and shall be refunded with interest, upon the cessation of hostilities.

Sec. 3 Be it further enacted, That this act take effect from and after its passed.

W. C. WHITTORE, Speaker of the house of Representatives
B. L. STOVALL, Speaker of the Senate.

Passed May 8, 1861.

Public Acts of the State of Tennessee. . . April, 1861, p. 35

NOTE 1: Public Acts of the State of Tennessee, passed at the extra session of the Thirty-third General Assembly, April, 1861, (Nashville: J. G. Griffith & Co.: 1861.)

May 8, 1861 - More panhandling in Memphis

Begging.-Another begger was arrested in the streets yesterday. She was a stout, hearty woman, and was seen by the police to enter many places, and accost many persons asking for charity to a distressed woman. In the evening she became so much intoxicated that it became necessary to arrest her; a search revealed a nice whisky bottle stowed away in her pocket.

Memphis Daily Appeal, May 8, 1861.

May 8, 1861 - Confederate stationary for sale in Memphis

Confederate Flag Envelopes.-We have received from our friend R. C. Hite, a pack of the "latest style" envelopes. They contain a beautiful colored engraving of the Confederate flag, with nine stars in a circle, and one in the center, crossed with the letter T, to represent Tennessee.

Mr. Hite has also on hand ribbon badges with a similar device on them-inscribed with the following mottoes:"FOR OUR RIGHTS WE FIGHT!" and "DEATH TO THE INVADER!"

Memphis Daily Appeal, May 8, 1861.

May 8, 1861 - Lessons on the preservation of soldiers' morale

Campaigning Axioms.
1. One well fed, well equipped, well appointed brigade is worth two that are ill
provided.

2. In active service, three men die of undue exposure, bad food, and their own
imprudences, where one is killed by shot or stab.

3. An easy, rational, nicely fitting uniform, with warm, substantial blanket,
broad soled boots or shoes and good woolen socks, will more conduce to effi-
ciency in service than superiority in weapons.

4. The lightest possible head covering, with a good look out for ventilation,
will add a tenth to the distance a regiment can march in a day, while insuring
increased comfort.

5. A small cotton handkerchief, or half a yard of the commonest sheeting,
moistened with water in the morning and again at noon, and worn between the
hat and the head, will protect the soldier from sun-stroke, and greatly diminish
the discomfort and fatigue of a hot day's march.

6. A flat bottle, covered with woolen cloth, the cloth being moistened and the
bottle filled with water, in the morning, will keep reasonably cool throughout a
long, hot day.

7. Of all villainous concoctions, the liquors sold by camp-followers are the
most detestable and dangerous. They are more deadly than rifled cannon, and
are sure to be taken just when they should not be. Every soldier who means to
do his duty to his country should insist that all venders of these poisons be
drummed out of camp.

8. A good cook to each company, who knows how to make salt meat juicy and
tender, and to make it ready whenever and wherever it may be wanted, is equal
to two doctors and four extra combatants.

9. Officers who love and care for their men while in repose, never have to com-
plain of their conduct when in action.

10. A soldier whose heart is in the cause he fights for, is worth two who fight
for their pay.

Memphis Daily Appeal, May 8, 1861.

**May 8, 1861 - Drunken volunteer firemen’s brawl in Memphis**

The Fireman's Fight.-During the fight among the firemen on Main and Court
streets on Wednesday night, a member of the number 7's, named Day, was shot
in the middle finger of the right hand; he was knocked down and stamped
upon, his head was much cut, and he received a stab in the back. He was get-
ting along favorably, and it is expected will soon recover. The engine of the
No. 7's received several injuries in the affray. An ornamental piece of the gal-
lery has been chopped off. The gallery has also dents and bruises caused by
pistol-shots and brick-bats. Deep dents in the wood and brass work show
where an attempt was made to seriously injure the main portion of the engine;
one of the iron bearings that receives the brakes was broken, and other miner
injuries inflicted. The fight over the engine was ferocious, but officer John
Creighton and others, contrived to rescue it before important injury was done.
The only known cause of the disgraceful proceedings was excess of whisky.

Memphis Daily Appeal, May 8, 1861.

May 9, 1861 - "Tennessee has taken her position and has proudly determined to throw her
banners to the breeze, and will give her strength to the sacred cause of
freedom for the WHITE MAN OF THE SOUTH;" excerpts from the
"LEGISLATIVE ADDRESS TO THE PEOPLE OF TENNESSEE" May
9, 1861.

Fellow-Citizens:

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The election of a sectional President by an unreasoning appeal to numerical
superiority, precipitated a crisis in the Government which many wise men
anticipated and patriots would have gladly adjourned to another and far distant
period. Several of the slaveholding States, upon the happening of this event,
commenced preparations for leaving a Union which in their judgments, prom-
ised to become an instrument of destruction to the action constitutional rights
of the South. . . A Peace Congress was called for, and anxious to give every
evidence of a sincere desire to settle existing difficulties, prudent and discreet
men were sent to confer with delegates from other States. The Congress
resulted in a failure, as did the faithful efforts of Southern men in the Congress
of the United States. . . It was believed that the masses of the Northern people
would do justice to the demands of the South, if not prevented by the arts of
their politicians. Subsequent acts prove that the masses are, if possible, more
bitter in their hostility to the South than their leaders.

The inaugural address of the newly-elected President, however doubtful in its
terms, was charitably construed into a message of peace. It was considered
absurd to suppose that any President of a free country would ever venture upon
the mad experiment of holding sovereign States together by means of the bayo-
net. No one not blinded by fanaticism, can fail to recognize the fact that a gov-
ernment based upon the popular will can only be maintained in its integrity by
appealing to that powerful and controlling influence. Force, when attempted,
changes the whole character of the Government; making it a military despo-
tism, and those that submit become the abject slaves of power. . .

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Congress refused to vote a dollar for the prosecution of hostilities against the
people of the South; he and his agents got the appropriation by falsehood, pre-
tending that it was needed to pay off the Government debts, and instead of so
using it, fails to pay even the maimed and wounded soldier his pension, or the
hard-working census-taker his salary, but scatters it among a brutal soldiery,
whom he has hired to murder Southern freemen and to desecrate Southern soil
Tennessee, ever loyal to the Constitution, has been an advocate for peace, and has struggled to bring together the broken fragments of the Union, yet in the midst of her well meant efforts, a war is made upon her; every avenue of trade is closed up, and the people are suffering in all the privations of a blockade. Not even provisions, demanded by the necessities of the people, are allowed to be shipped into the State, and property of private individuals is made subject to piratical and illegal seizure. Boats have been plundered of their cargoes by authority of the Government, and when called on for an explanation by the Governor of Tennessee, even the honor of a reply is refused.

Tennessee is unarmed, and the first great object was to organize the military and adopt every means of defence within our power, menaced as our country is by armies of alarming magnitude. Our western borders exposed to attack, with life, liberty and property staked upon the issue, it is not time to think of half-way measured. The money and the blood of Tennessee will be called for in no stinted quantities, if it be necessary to protect the priceless heritage of freedom that we possess, and which we hold a sacred trust to our children. The military bill is also submitted with this address to the judgment of our constituents. . . In conformity with these obligations of duty, the Legislature has prepared two instruments to be voted upon by the people, on Saturday, the 8th of June.

In submitting these two grave questions to the popular judgment the Legislature dispensed with all intermediated agencies, preferring to go at once to the great source of all political power—*the people themselves*. . .

The military league which has been formed with the Southern Confederacy is also submitted with this address. . .

This league places Tennessee where she deserves to stand—in company with the old States of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia, whose histories are redolent with the glories of past struggles of liberty. . .

It is painful to reflect that Tennessee has no representation in any national or confederate council; her gallant soldiers will go forth to battle for a common cause, and but for a short time, at least, her voice cannot be heard, only through the ballot box in June.

It is submitted that Tennessee has but one of two alternatives—either to attempt to maintain a distinct and separate nationality, or to unite with the other States of the South. If you decide on the former, a provision should at once be made for new departments of government. . .
When this body met, it determined to sit with closed doors. We are aware that this mode of legislation is objectionable to some. It is the first time in the history of the State that the rule had been adopted, because in that history no case had occurred to call for its exercise. The proceedings of the convention that framed the Declaration of Independence were in secret. The convention that framed the Constitution of the United States, held its secret sessions, and the Senate of the United States not unfrequently sit with closed doors. Those who have taken occasion to condemn us, may be purer than those who framed the Declaration of Independence, and the Constitution of the United States; but we very much doubt whether they will have a greater hold upon public confidence. But the reasons for our course are our best justification: the country was excited, and the public demands imperious. We desired to legislate uninfluenced and un retarded by the crowds that would otherwise have attended our deliberations; but still more important than this, the western portion of Tennessee was in an exposed condition, with no military defence whatever; the towns and counties bordering on the Mississippi river were liable to be assailed at any hour by the armed forces collected at Cairo, and we desired that no act of legislation on our part, would form the pretext for such an invasion, so long as it could be avoided. Our fellow-citizens of West Tennessee, and of Arkansas, are laboring night and day to erect batteries on the river to prevent a descent of the enemy. A duty that we owed to them to the cause of humanity demanded that we should not make our action known till the latest possible moment. If some desired light, while we were at work, we equally desired to save the blood and the property of Tennesseans. Our doors have now been thrown open, the Journals will be published—every vote is recorded, and he must be a fault-finder indeed who will complain after hearing the reasons that prompted our actions.

We have briefly touched the principal subjects that engaged the attention of the Legislature. Tennessee has taken her position and has proudly determined to throw her banners to the breeze, and will give her strength to the sacred cause of freedom for the WHITE MAN OF THE SOUTH.

R. G. Payne, Chairman of the Joint Select Committee


Messages of the Governors of Tennessee, pp. 294-300.

May 9, 1861 - An Act to amend the Militia Law of the State, requiring Captains to give notice, and for other purposes

CHAPTER 9

An Act to amend the Militia Law of the State, requiring Captains to give notice, and for other purposes

SECTION 1, Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee, That section third of an act passed on the 31st of January, 1861, entitled an act
to repeal the act of 1857, Chapter 32, abolishing military duty, be so amended that all Captains of companies in this State are required to give at least ten days' notice to their companies, in three public places in their civil district, before any person required to perform military duty in said company shall be subject to be court-martialed or fined.

SEC. 2, Be in enacted, That volunteers in the service of the State, who may be on duty out of the State at the election ordered by the General Assembly on the Declaration and Ordinance of the 8th of June, 1861, shall be entitled to vote in all cases, where, if in the State, they would be entitled to vote in said election, held to afford them the means of doing so, the Captain or officers in command of the company of such volunteers, is hereby appointed and empowered to open and hold the election for the voters of his company. The votes shall be by ballot, and the said Captain shall forthwith certify the result in writing to the Secretary of State, and the same shall be counted as a part of the vote of the State, in ascertaining the result. Before opening said election, the Colonel, or some other field officer of the regiments, respectively, shall administer an oath to the Captains entrusted with holding said election, to act impartially and faithfully, and report the result to the Secretary of State.

SEC. 3. And this act shall take effect from and after its passage.

W. C. WHTTHORNE, Speaker of the House of Representatives
B. L. STOV AL, Speaker of the Senate
Passed May 9, 1861

Public Acts of the State of Tennessee. . . April, 1861, p. 37. NOTE 1

NOTE 1: Public Acts of the State of Tennessee, passed at the extra session of the Thirty-third General Assembly, April, 1861, (Nashville: J. G. Griffith & Co.: 1861.)

May 10, 1861 - Rhetorical Approbation for Secession in Clarksville

We trust there is not a heart in Tennessee that will not beat freer, and glow with warmer emotions of patriotism on learning that our gallant State has, through her Legislature, passed an ordinance, declaring her independence of the Black Republic of the North, and she has also entered into a treaty, offensive and defensive, with the Confederate States—both acts to be perfected by an affirmative vote of the people on the 8th of June next. The Legislature has likewise appropriated five millions of dollars for war purposes, and authorized a call for fifty-five thousand troops—twenty-five thousand of that number for immediate service.

This is glorious news, and we tender our individual acknowledgments to the Governor, to the able Commissioners, appointed by him, and to those members of the Legislature who sustained these measures, for their wisdom and patriotism—their devotion to southern rights, and their stern defiance of abolition
tyranny and usurpation. However dire the necessity, we cannot, without pain, witness the dissolution of the Union formed by our forefathers, but although the stars that blazoned the old flag, are, to us, lessened in number, they will gain in luster, and the stripes we bequeath, a fit legacy, to the contemptible tyrants and fanatics who have rent in twain the glorious old banner, and gathered its stars into two separate constellations. But the die is cast, and for the honor and safety of Tennessee, let there be but one voice among the people, and that in favor of a separation, now and forever. Let the 8th of June be a day every memorable for the unanimity with which Tennessee proclaimed her independence of the northern despot who seeks the destruction of her rights and the subjugation of her people. Away with delusive hopes of peace and union! Away with timid counsels and clinging sympathies for a once glorious government now perverted into an engine of oppression. Cast out the evil spirit of submission to a base usurper, and let every Tennessean resolve to stand by his State and the South until peace and independence have been won and secured.

Clarksville Chronicle, May 10, 1861.

May 10, 1861 - "... this whole region in a miserable state of unpreparedness, and totally unable to meet an invasion that is imminently threatened by U. S. troops from the North." A Mississippian's fearful assessment and counsel relative to military preparedness in West Tennessee

TRENTON, TENN., May 10, 1861.

Gen. L. P. WALKER, Secretary of War, &c., Montgomery, Ala.:

DEAR SIR: I came to this place my former residence, a few days since from my plantation in Noxubee County, Miss., and found this whole region in a miserable state of unpreparedness, and totally unable to meet an invasion that is imminently threatened by U. S. troops from the North. There are now at Cairo, the southern point of Illinois, 7,000 men, well armed, having field artillery and plenty of heavy guns, and everything indicates that it is being made a strong point-d'appui, or basis of operations, for an extensive invasion of the country below. It is quite probable that in a few days a force of 20,000 or 30,000 men will be concentrated at Cairo, and in all this section there are only a few half-formed companies of volunteers and home guards, mostly without arms of any kind, to meet and repel any attempt at invasion. The defenses being prepared on the Mississippi above Memphis are totally inefficient when the river is down, and it is now rapidly falling. There are at Randolph, the second Chickasaw Bluff, about 1,000 men with two batteries under the bluff, but a force of 1,500 or 2,000 landed a few miles above can easily march around, take possession of the hills that overlook the batteries, and shoot down the men in them like bullocks in a pen. Another fort for the protection of these batteries should be immediately constructed, or they will be of little use. In like manner a respectable force can be landed above Fort Harris and in a few hours be in the city of Memphis, where there are no defenses looking landward. The best
defense of Memphis, as well as all points below, on and off the river, may be made at Columbus, Ky. Below the mouth of the Ohio River there is no strategic point of half so much importance, and it should be immediately occupied by a strong force, notwithstanding the neutral position of Kentucky. Self preservation demands it. A strong fort at that place and an auxiliary one at the old Jefferson Barracks at the mouth of Mayfield Creek, eight miles above Columbus, with sufficient garrison in each, would protect the terminus of the Mobile and Ohio Railroad and prevent the passage of any but an overwhelming force. If the Government of the Confederate States should not determine to take and fortify Columbus, then a strong force should be immediately sent to Union City, the intersection of the Mobile and Ohio with the Nashville and Northwestern Railroads, and to the point where the former railroad crosses the Obion River, with field artillery and a sufficiency of heavy guns for several strong batteries. The Mississippi and West Tennessee volunteers should be concentrated at these points. Your Excellency would excuse me for making and urging these suggestions did you know the exposed situation of this region, and the greater imminence of the danger from the recent action of the State of Tennessee and her alliance with the Confederate States of America.

I have the honor to be, with highest respect, your obedient servant,

WM. W. LEE.


May 12, 1861 - May 13, 1861 - Anxieties about weaponry expressed in pre-Confederate Tennessee

HEADQUARTERS, Nashville, May 12, 1861.

Hon. L. P. WALKER, Secretary of War:

DEAR SIR: When Mr. Hilliard left this city he gave Governor Harris assurances that as soon as the military league entered into by him, as the representative of the Confederate States, and the commissioners of the State of Tennessee was ratified by the Government at Montgomery, Tennessee should be supplied with arms sufficient to put the State on a war footing. I trust the work of ratification has been done, and that you are now ready to arm our waiting and anxious troops with such weapons as will enable them to teach the base Black Republican invaders a lesson they will not soon forget. We can do literally nothing without arms from you. We have at Memphis about 5,000 percussion muskets in good order. We have here, say, 3,000 muskets, 1,000 of them rifled, fit for use. Besides these there are in the armory some 4,000 muskets (flints), in a damaged condition and entirely unfit for use at present; they are being repaired, but it will be several months before we can rely upon them. We have nothing for the cavalry service. We are without any artillery force, except the small stock at Memphis. Now, my dear sir, this is our condition, and we are ruined unless we have arms furnished us. It is the purpose of the Governor to call out at least 20,000 troops, and double that number if needed. Can you help
May 1861

To the Ladies.

Headquarters of Prov. Army of Tenn.,
Memphis, May 12, 1861

Major-General Gid. J. Pillow, commanding the Provisional Army of Tennessee, tenders his compliments to the ladies of the city of Memphis engaged in the patriotic duty of providing the gallant sons of Tennessee with necessary clothing for the field, and requests that they cause him to be furnished with information of the number and character of uniforms and other articles of clothing on hand for distribution; and for what different corps they are designed. This information is necessary, to enable the Major-General commanding to understand the extent of preparation by the Quartermaster's Department, for the brave men who have and are about taking the field to protect the rights, honor and persons of the fair daughters of Tennessee.
By order of Major General Gid. J. Pillow

Memphis Daily Appeal, May 14, 1861.

May 13, 1861 - Rumors of slave rebellion in Bradley County

. . . Last night the negroes were to have an insurrection—so it was reported. . .

Diary of Myra Adelaide Inman, p. 95.

May 13, 1861 - Prospects of Enfield rifle manufacturing in Nashville

Nashville, May 13, 1861
To Irby Morgan, Esq., care of Hon. W. P. Chilton, Montgomery, Ala.
Dear Sir: Since writing your yesterday, I have received by express, without any advices, an Enfield rifle, which, I presume, has been sent me by Judge Chilton. It is the most superior arm for a soldier. I do not think it can be improved. It is simple, strong, and light. I can have them made here just as good as the sample, and I can find all the material necessary right in our own city. Every piece of machinery necessary can be contracted for here also, as well as at any other place in the world, and, if need be, I can certainly get as many workmen from England as I want, or even from Yankeedom.

I will send you samples of our [percussion] caps to-day.

In haste,
S. D. Morgan

How It Was, pp. 168-169.

May 14, 1861 - "That is their post, one of inferiority, not of citizen soldiers." Anxieties about free Negroes in Memphis

Our Free Colored Men-What Shall Be Done With Them?-Editors Appeal: The proposition of the committee of safety, to enlist companies of our free colored men, is not relished by our citizens generally; and the question comes up, "what must be done with them?" Let me suggest to that committee that they confer with major-General Pillow as to the policy of placing four or five of our free negroes in each company from Memphis, for cooking, washing, etc. That is their post, one of inferiority, not of citizen soldiers. They understand that sort of work better than any boys who are called to do battle. Let them be made useful in that way.

Common Sense.

Memphis Daily Appeal, May 14, 1861.
May 15, 1861 - Tennessee joins the Confederacy

A RESOLUTION to ratify the agreement and convention entered into between the Commonwealth of Tennessee and the Confederate States of America.

Resolved by the Congress of the Confederate States of America (two-thirds of the Congress concurring therein), That the Congress advise and consent to the ratification of the convention and agreement entered into on the 7th day of May, 1861, at Nashville, Tenn., between the Commonwealth of Tennessee, by her commissioners, and the Confederate States of America, by their commissioner, the Hon. Henry W. Hilliard.

CONGRESS, May 15, 1861.

I, Johnson J. Hooper, Secretary of the Congress of the Confederate States of America, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of resolution which was unanimously adopted by the Congress, in executive session, this 15th day of May 1861.

Given under my hand, the day above written, at the Capitol, in the city of Montgomery.

JOHNSON J. HOOPER, Secretary of the Congress.

OR, Ser IV, Vol. 1, p. 320.

May 15, 1861 - Memphis committee of safety censors negro preaching and church services

Negro Preaching.-Two weeks ago service in the negro churches was interdicted. The committee of safety have modified this as follows: Resolved, That the order for the suspension of negro preaching be so modified that when the regular minister of a church, attended by respectable white persons, will agree to hold afternoon services, that the same be allowed.

Memphis Daily Appeal, May 15, 1861

May 16, 1861 - A brief report on army life at camp Randolph, near Memphis

Life in Camp.-The following sketch of life in camp at Randolph is from the correspondence of a member of the Hickory Rifles, in the Christian Advocate: "The first two or three days after we came here were very inclement, rendering it impossible to keep dry or comfortable in marching, or on guard, or even in our tents. They are open at one end; plank or straw are placed upon the ground, to lay our blankets on. Yet only a very few have been on the sick list. Six men are allotted to each tent, and eight to each mess. Every mess has its head man, who, every day at 10 o'clock, draws rations for it, and is supplied with an iron kettle, oven wash pan, tin bucket, wooden bucket and coffee pot. Each member of the mess has his tin plate, cup, spoon and knife and fork. We have our own cooking, washing, etc., to do, which seems quite funny. We are not remarkably
skillful in the performance of these domestic duties yet, but we are learning 'by
degrees.'"

Memphis Daily Appeal, May 16, 1861.

May 17, 1861 - "Victor Emmanuel II of Italy and the Confederate States-twin sisters of free-
dom." Flag presentation to the Memphis Italian-Bersaglieri military com-
pany

Italian Flag Presentation.

We have little space for the details of these frequent and interesting ceremo-
nies-flag presentations—but in the case of the presentation that took place yes-
terday at Jackson's Mound, Fort Pickering, in which Mrs. Montedonico, Mrs.
L. Rocco and Miss Mary Panisi were the donors, and the Italian military com-
pany the recipients, there is an interesting peculiarity, the parties being the
countrymen of the incomparable Garibaldi and of the other heroes whose
unconquerable determination has made Italy free. The address on the part of
the ladies was as follows:

["]

We present to you gallant soldiers, the highest gift that woman can donate
to bravery. We give you this flag, well knowing that in your hands it will be
carried on to victory, and while under your care it will never be tarnished.
While it waves on the red battle field it will unfold to you the smiles of moth-
ers, sisters, wives and sweethearts, and when you return it shall be treasured as
the ensign of victory and honor. Guard and defend it forever. ["]

J. A. Signaigo, Esq., replied in the following suggestive words:

["]

Ladies: Allow me in behalf of the Italian Bersaglieri military company to
return to you our most sincere thanks. The presentation of this flag is an honor
that will never be forgotten by us. This moment is an oasis in the desert of a
soldier's life. But, be assured, that when the hordes of northern Vandals shall
dare to invade the sacred soil of the Confederate States, the home of our adop-
tion, this flag will be one of the foremost, among the first in defense of our
mothers, our sisters, our wives, our sweethearts, and of our homes and fire-
sides; and never will that flag be struck, until every man who battles beneath its
folds shall have died defending it to the last. The remembrance of the fair ones
who presented it will be an incentive to lead us on to victory; it will be to us
what the white plume of Henry of Navarre was to his soldiers, the beacon that
will lead us on to honor and to glory. The cause of the Confederate States is the
cause of every honest Italian who glories in the immortal names of Cinccinna-
tus, Rienzi, Garibaldi, and last and greatest of them all—the first soldier of Ital-
ian independence—the darling of the Italian nation—Victor Emmanuel II. Italy
and the Confederate States-twin sisters of freedom. Liberty's youngest born—the
cause of one is as the cause of the other; they are battling for the same great
end—the right of man, against two of the most desperate tyrants that ever dis-
graced God's favored countries. The despised Francis Joseph, of Austria, and
the drunken sot who not disgraces the office that the immortal Washington, Jef-
ferson, and Jackson once graced and dignified—the American hero who revels in the halls of the old nation while the country is convulsed in the flame of civil war. Ladies, we swear to you that while the Confederate States remain, and they will live forever, "we wave the sword on high, and swear with her to live for her to die." Ladies, again we thank you for your generous present. ["]

Memphis Daily Appeal, May 18, 1861.

May 19, 1861 - "We have no spoons, knives, nor forks, but use our fingers, pocket knives & sharp sticks." Letter from G. W. Wharton of Cannon County, to his Uncle Daniel Weedon describing life at a Confederate camp of instruction in Middle Tennessee

May 19, 1861
Sunday Evening
Camp Cheatham Robertson Co.
Uncle Daniel,
I seat myself upon a pile of straw, blankets, knapsacks, etc., to write you the first lines since leaving home. We arrived at this camp on the railroad leading to Clarksville Friday evening—pitched our tents among two or three thousand volunteers and are now spending a real soldiers life. We see nothing scarcely but volunteers and hear nothing but the sounds of drums and fifes and the usual noises of camp life.

Our camps are pitched about two or three hundred yards from the main encampment where we are to form another regiment. Our Company being the first one in the regiment which is Co. A 4th Regiment.

I will now tell you something about our fare. We are divided into messes of 8 men and our provisions are issued out to us. We have bacon, meal or flour, a little rice, potatoes, sugar, coffee & salt and then we can cook to suit ourselves.

You would have laughed to see me cooking supper this evening with my sleeves rolled up to my elbow and then washing our dishes after supper, such as tin pans, tin cups, etc. We have no spoons, knives, nor forks, but use our fingers, pocket knives & sharp sticks.

As to privileges we have scarcely any. We are bound up fast. We have a guard placed around our camp, which we cannot leave unless we go to the spring after water. The boys think it hard, but we cannot help it.

We cannot tell how long we will stay at this camp. It may be weeks, or even months. Time alone will tell, but as soon as our services are needed we will be off.

I could write you a longer letter, but [I have] no convenient place to write. I am writing this on my knee with a dim light and noise all around me and Mr.
McCabe is to start to Woodbury early in the morning and will take this letter for me.

Please write to me and send it by McCabe, who will be coming back in a few days. Tell Cousin Joe to be sure to write me and give my love to her & Sally and Aunt Maria and accept a share yourself and also my friends at town (Woodbury). Bro. Sam has written to town and therefore I shall not say anything in this to them. If you can read this show it to mother or Jane or some of them and tell them I'll promise to do better next time. So goodbye at present.

G. W. Wharton


**May 19, 1861 - The problem of panhandling girls in Memphis**

Juvenile Beggars. - The presence of a number of little girls upon our streets for some time past, who are not only importunate for alms but annoyingly impudent, has been a source of much vexation to numbers of our citizens. We have frequently seen them follow persons for a square at a time, day after day, protesting their poverty and detailing their misfortunes, yet when offered employment in some gentleman's home, it has been invariably refused, upon some pretext or another. To give in such cases is not charity, however much we may be inclined to relieve want. Rose Conner, one of these juvenile lazaroni, was yesterday before the recorder, and fined five dollars and costs, which was readily settled from a purse well filled with the gleanings of importunate impudence.

Memphis Daily Appeal, May 19, 1861.

May 20, 1861 - Confederate Secretary of War L. P. Walker to Governor Isham G. Harris relative to twelve month enlistments for Tennesseans and provision of muskets

•See August 7, 1861—On Tennessee Volunteers, by "TWELVE MONTHS" Note 1

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A., Montgomery, May 20, 1861.

His Excellency ISHAM G. HARRIS, Governor of Tennessee:

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that four regiments are required for the Confederate service to be raised in Tennessee, and which will be armed by this Department with muskets, and should Your Excellency desire it, and will arm four other regiments with the country rifle, they will be also received into the Confederate service. The general rendezvous of the first four regiments will be Union City, but as to the last four, when they shall be organized, Your Excellency's proposition will be considered as to a point of rendezvous for them. Col. Churchwell is here, and has assured this Department that he has now a regiment ready for service. If this be so, and if it be agreeable to Your Excel-
lency, one of the four regiments named to be armed with muskets may be that
he has mentioned, in which event the rendezvous of that regiment may be
made Knoxville instead of Union City.

Considering the importance of instant action in the organization of these forces
as a check to the threatening attitude of the enemy on the north banks of the
Ohio River, and to impart a greater feeling of security to the citizens of Tennes-
see, I have consented to exercise the discretionary power with which this
Department is invested, and to relax the general rule exacting service for the
war, and to receive the whole of these regiments for twelve months only, trust-
ing to their patriotism to re-enlist if the exigencies of the war at the end of that
time should demand it. But to prevent any misunderstanding hereafter, in the
event that the general rule should be applied to Tennessee as elsewhere, I wish
here to say it cannot have escaped Your Excellency that our enemies of the
North, through their Executive at Washington, have made proclamation for
enrollments for three years and enlistments for the war, thus indicating their
determination for a prolonged contest, and a firm resolution to prepare fully for
that result by the conversion of their forces from raw militia and volunteers
into trained and disciplined regulars. To the effectiveness of these troops thus
inured to the battlefield your Excellency will perceive they will add economy
of administration through the movement. Their calculation is that often hereto-
fore made and notably practiced by the Cromwellians against the Cavaliers.

It is supposed that at first our impetuosity and superior dexterity in the use of
arms will cause the earlier victories to lean to our side, but that trained disci-
pline and the solid phalanx will finally prove triumphant. Nor will it be denied
that the heaviest relative expense of an army is demanded during the year of its
enrollment and general equipment. Therefore, for us to disband each of our
regiments at the end of twelve months' service would be to entail upon the
Government the largest yearly expenditures and to keep our armies constituted
of raw recruits, while the enemy were constantly diminishing their relative
expenditures and advancing more in every element that constituted effective-
ness. Under these circumstances it is plain we should conform our periods of
service in the field, as we have been doing from the first, to those of the enemy,
and thus at all times leave to our forces the advantage of their original superior-
ity. I send herewith a circular copy of the general rule adopted. I have ordered
the requisite number of muskets to arm four regiments to be sent to Your
Excellency; but they are sent with the distinct understanding that they are not
to be distributed to any other troops than those indicated, and not to them until
they are duly organized and mustered into the Confederate service by a Con-
federate officer. This duty will be assigned to Lieut. McCall, now at Nashville.

This rule is universal and cannot be relaxed under any circumstances. The
Government must see to the husbanding of its resources as to arms, to their
effective use, safe-keeping, and proper return, and Your Excellency will excuse
the repetition that these troops must be organized into regiments and duly mus-
tered into service before they receive their arms. Your Excellency will doubt-
less appreciate the reasons that have led me to suggest the ordinary country
May 20, 1861

rifle for four of the regiments named. Our lines of operation have recently become widely extended, as Your Excellency is aware, and the demand for arms so great since the accession of the border States, adopting our flag, that considerations associated with controlling public interests and the success of the war in which we are engaged call for the practice by this Department of the wisest discretion in regard to the distribution of our military provisions in these respects, consisting chiefly of muskets. The necessity for this course on the part of the Department becomes still more apparent from the fact that our manufactories of arms are not yet fully established. It therefore occurred to me that as many of your citizens were known to be habituated to the use of the rifle, and that weapon was common among them, four regiments might be formed and armed from the country, each man furnishing his own instrument; and I must confess I have never yielded implicit credence to the prevailing idea that the musket is a superior weapon to the rifle. Such may be the case with the improved minie gun, but even the ordinary rifle, in the hands of the brave Tennesseans and Mississippians, saved and won the battle of Buena Vista during the Mexican war, as it did in the hands of Carolinians at the battle of King's Mountain during the Revolution—in both instances with sad havoc to the enemy. There can be little doubt, I apprehend, that with a large portion of our inhabitants among the mountains the rifle would always prove more fatal and successful on the field of battle, than the most improved muskets in any other hands than those of veterans.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

L. P. WALKER, Secretary of War.


May 20, 1861 - Enthusiasm for war in Middle Tennessee, excerpt from the diary of John C. Spence

The Confederate army are still increasing. At Camp Trousdale, from the best information, are all in good health and spirits are kept close at drill every day—the friends of the boys are making visits every week to them, taking them clothing and boxes of something to eat. So, war is not such a bad thing after all? They have no fears, are satisfied they can whip two Yankees to one and would not wish to engage a less number. Being in a war camp has a tendency to make men courageous and defiant and may add somewhat devilish.

Spence, Diary.

May 20, 1861 - Confederate Navy's interest in the Tennessee Iron Works in Stewart County

CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA, Navy Department, Montgomery, May 20, 1861.

SIR: Upon the receipt of this order you will proceed to ascertain the practicability of obtaining wrought-iron plates of from 2 to 3 inches in thickness.
The Tennessee Iron Works have, I am informed, rolling mills for heavy work. They are on the Cumberland River, in Stewart County, Tenn.

You will ascertain as early as possible whether the plates of this thickness can be furnished, and their form, dimension, weight, and price per pound must be stated, together with the best means of forwarding them to New Orleans.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. R. MALLORY, Secretary of the Navy.

Captain DUNCAN N. INGRAHAM, C. S. N.

May 20, 1861 - Resolution of the Confederate Congress to provide for the defense of the Cumberland and Tennessee Rivers

Hon. S. R. MALLORY, Secretary of the Navy. Resolved, That the Secretary of the Navy be empowered to purchase four steamboats, to be converted as soon as practicable into gunboats for the defense of the Cumberland River, and also to procure a like number of gunboats for the defense of the Tennessee River, at the earliest practicable moment.

Adopted, December 19, 1861.

May 21, 1861 - Letter from James FergusonNOTE 1 to his wife in Bolivar

Near Randolph, Tenn-

May 21st 1861

My Darling Wife,

On Yesterday morning we heard some canon firing at Memphis & thought something must have turned up & about 8 o'clock A. M. we were ordered to Randolph to start at 11:00 A. M, you never saw such confusion—did not have time to get breakfast—started on train numbering about 1000 men—arrived in Memphis, marched to the river to get on the TurgoncarNOTE 2—had to hold men all night on the deck to keep the boat from turning over. Could get no dinner or supper. Got off boat at daybreak—chose camping ground stretched tents—pitched tents and now at 10:30 O. C. are eating Breakfast, the 1st meal we have had for 30 hours—of course we feel badly—But I am willing to bear privation & sorrow & even death to preserve untarnished this our heritage of freedom to protect you, My Darling wife & those I love. Though the Gnawing of hunger are terrible yet the consciousness that I am doing my duty makes me welcome with a smile—any suffering any fate—And, if my life should be taken—then my Darling, trust in God & he will protect you—he will be a per-
fect husband—One that can protect & defend you in all time & against all ene-
mies. And I tell you frankly that if I did not have an abiding confidence in his
protection of you Death would be an unwelcome visitor. But when you trust in
Him there is no death what seems so is transition—This life of mortal breath-Is
but the [illegible] of the life Everlasting whose portal we call death.

I think we will leave here soon. They are expecting an attack here as Lincoln
sent over [?] night last week [?]. . . a corps of Engineers to survey the mouth of
Hatchie Bottom and escaped without being detected.

Give my love [to] Ma & [the] children, Uncle John & family. I will write to
them all when I have time.

God Bless you. . .

James Ferguson

Talbot-Fentress Family Papers, TSLA

NOTE 1: Not to be confused with James Ferguson, brother of Champ Ferguson.

NOTE 2: Evidently a steamship.

May 21, 1861 - Tennessee—Confederate passion and rhetoric; Dr. Robert C. Abernathy of
Pulaski to Dr. Hern of Indiana regarding Southern enthusiasm to defend
itself from the Federal invasion

Dear Friend,

Your very welcome letter reached me in due time & met with a cordial recep-
tion by all your friends (to whom I showed it)—I would have answered it
sooner, but my time has been monopolized by my profession & my mind pre-
occupied in anxious reflections upon the impending crisis. Your friends are all
well so far as I know & hopeful as to the result of the conflict. Pro. Mooney
preached the most soul-stirring sermon to the volunteers ever heard in this
country,-all were delighted, his text was the 45th verse of the 17th ch[apter]. Of
the 1st Book of Samuel,-he read the whole chapter as preliminary to the ser-
mon, &made Goliath personify the North & David represent the South—said
that the world was full of Good & Evil; David representing the Good & virtu-
ous of his day & his seemingly invincible adversary, the evil. You can imagine
from the text the character of the sermon, but you cannot conceive the true
effort. We will publish it & I will send you a copy. Our volunteers numbering
about 25,000 are near the Kentucky line, near Cairo & other convenient points
in camp. Well provisioned and well armed. Such entire unanimity prevails that
the first intimation of invasion 75,000 freemen will rise as one man to repel
&crush out the vandal hordes & scoundrels who would dare to put their infa-
mous feet upon the soil of Tennessee. I tell you, my Friend, the race is not to
the swift nor the battle to the strong.” We are resolved to conquer a peace &
dictate the terms of it,-we have asked to be let alone, & have been told in cow-
ardly defiance, "that it did not belong to the vanquished to dictate terms to the victors." I say cowardly defiance, because nothing but the confidence which brute force inspires could ever have induced the Gentry of the conscientious-scruple sick school of fanaticism to have given expression to so wonderfully a heroic a sentiment,—the most chivalrous sons of Tennessee are in the field & they will know no defeat. We who are the fathers of the land are forming reserved companies of Minute Men & we are all resolved to go whenever out Governor calls us. Our Negroes are all in fine spirits, many have gone with the Army & many more want to go & if God shall (in his wisdom) suffer us defeated in the first engagement, we will muster 10,000 or perhaps 50,000 slaves who will meet death cheerfully in defense of their masters rights. Subjugate us!! Never, never, never!!! Mind you, we wage no offensive war; & we claim to be freemen & to be possessed of the right to live in a Government of our own making. The North denies us this right & affirms that they will conquer us & hold us as conquered provinces,—Now in the name of all that is good & right! what sort of Government will this be if Lincoln & his minions succeed in subduing us? Could it by possibility be maintaining the Unions? A Union of 8,000,000 of high toned, brave & chivalrous men & women with [the] yoke of Northern bondage & oppression upon our necks? Talk of Union of gunpowder with fire of religion with sin, of Heaven with Hell as well as [the] union of these two elements, the one claiming to be free & independent, the other planting its unhallowed foot upon our necks & crushing us into submission to their heterodox ideas. The idea at the North seems to be to whip us into submission & then make us trade with them, & this must be done before the 1st of Jan. 1862—well, they may possibly accomplish their object but it will be the most costly patronage the world has ever seen.

Diary of Martha Abernathy

May 21, 1861 - "Tennessee."

All hail, beautiful and brave daughter of the South! With open hands and loving hearts we welcome you! No oath is needed to prove to us your fidelity and affection. The achievements of your gallant volunteers in every field when you country called you, are your witnesses! Those fields have been reddened with your blood and determined by your glory! Tennessee—the Volunteer State—the native land of heroes, the burial ground of Jackson—can never be false to her friends and brethren!

Many of her friends looked to her with abating faith and faltering hearts. Our confidence never failed. Our convictions the unbroken faith of all Mississippi have been confirmed! Prophecy has become history. The Pleiad which some thought had gone forever, has re-appeared. If it vanished for a moment—if a cloud was drawn over it that concealed it glorious beams have now emerged with additional splendor, and sheds it light upon the azure field of the "Confederate Flag." Tennessee! Our fate, our affections are the same. Mississippi has
not an echo that does not repeat your name! She has not a heart that does not say "God bless you!"

Vicksburg Sun.

Clarksville Chronicle, May 24, 1861.

May 21, 1861 - Assessment of military preparations in West Tennessee; an excerpt from the report of George B. McClellan

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE OHIO, Cincinnati, May 21, 1861.

Col. E. D. TOWNSEND, Assistant Adjutant-Gen.:

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of May 15, sent by Lieut. Williams, and beg to assure the lieutenant-general commanding that I will leave nothing undone to carry out his wishes as expressed therein. I have received from several different sources important information in relation to the movements and position of the rebels in Tennessee, the substance of which is as follows:

Nashville and Memphis are evidently the strongholds of the secessionists in that State. There are counties in Western Tennessee, such as Stewart, Henry, Haywood, Lauderdale, and Henderson, where the Union feeling is predominant, if not represented by main force. I learn that the Union men have determined to go armed to the polls, and, if necessary, use force to enable them to deposit their votes. Their ulterior course is not yet determined upon, but their leaders say that the presence of the troops of the Gen. Government would be beneficial and would rally to the cause of the Union many who are now outwardly secessionists. I am told that there is much excitement among the negroes there, who in their private talks have gone so far as to select their white wives. Reliable information has reached me that a detachment of Arkansas troops, stationed on the Mississippi above Memphis, has been suddenly recalled to Searcy, White County, Ark., to repress a negro insurrection. A white preacher and six negroes were hung there a few days since, and thirty negroes were to hung yesterday, charged with being concerned in the insurrection. Intercepted telegraphic dispatches indicate the movement of 1,000 Arkansas troops from the interior of the State to Fort Smith yesterday. Other Arkansas troops are said to have passed through Memphis en route to Lynchburg. The indications are that the disposable troops in the regular Confederate service from Mississippi, Alabama, and Louisiana have taken the same direction. The troops remaining in Tennessee seem to be State militia, and not in the regular Confederate Army. They are represented as being but indifferently armed, under no discipline, consisting to a large extent of boys and old men, much excited by liquor and politics, and anxious to fight. Desertions are said to be frequent, and it is said there will be much difficulty in keeping them together for any great length of time.
Some allowance, of course, must be made for these statements. The following points are undoubtedly occupied: Germantown, in Shelby County, Tenn., is a rendezvous; Camp Harris, on the Mississippi, about six miles above Memphis, by 3,000 men, with three guns, one of which is said to be a rifled cannon recently smuggled through from Boston; Randolph, on the Mississippi River, is held by from 3,000 to 5,000 men, with the six light guns formerly constituting Bragg's battery; at Union City, on the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, in Obion County, from two to three regiments without guns; at Clarksville, about 1,000 men without guns. It is probable that two regiments, formerly posted in eastern Tennessee, passed through Nashville two days ago to take post on the railroad near Springfield, in Robertson County. I learn that various small detachments are posted at different points near the Kentucky line.

I hear from excellent authority that Governor Harris has expressed a determination to occupy Columbus, Ky., by the troops now at Union City; this to be done whether Governor Magoffin consents or not, and the movement to be effected within a few days. Some indifferent iron guns are being cast at the foundry of A. Street & Co., Memphis. Efforts are being made to establish a powder factory at Nashville.

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GEO. B. McCLELLAN, Maj.-Gen., U. S. Army.


May 22, 1861 - Mrs. McEwin's Union Sentiment in Nashville

In Nashville, Tenn., while secession banners wave from every other building, both public and private, one heroic lady (Mrs. McEwin) has placed the National Flag on her house, and says she will shoot whoever attempts to tear down the glorious old Stars and Stripes. Let her name be engraved on the hearts of all loyal Americans.

Louisville Journal, May 22, 1861. NOTE 1


May 22, 1861 - Flag waving in Memphis

Scandalous.-The people passing along Main street between six and seven o'clock last evening were disgusted by the exhibition of a drunken fellow driving in an open barouche with four of those creatures of whom the poet significantly wrote: "A shameless woman is the worst of man," who were also under the influence of liquor. Along the whole length of the more business part of Main street they past shouting, laughing uproariously, vociferating remarks.
upon individuals in the street, and as if this was not enough to call the public
stare down upon them, waving a flag as they went along. Officer Sullivan over-
took them beyond Winchester street and brought women and driver to the sta-
tion house and locked them up.

Memphis Daily Appeal, May 23, 1861.

May 22, 1861 - Deceased infant discovered in Memphis

Dead Child Found.-Last evening, near the Market street bridge, a newborn
child, dead and wrapped in a blanket, which was covered with some bricks and
stones, was found in a ravine. No attempt had been made to bury the little one,
and it had evidently been but recently placed where it was found. It is natural to
expect that a case like the present is the result of illicit intercourse, but, as we
some time ago explained to our readers, on the authority of a public medical
official, the secretary of the board of health, still born children are often surrep-
titiously disposed of in this city on account of the outrageous expense attend-
ing burial in the regular cemeteries. The practice of such revolting acts will
only be abandoned when the city council do as other cities and provide a pot-
ter's field where the poor can have free burial and the working population have
sepulture at prices within their means.

Memphis Daily Appeal, May 23, 1861

May 23, 1861 - Convicts produce accouterments of war in Nashville

Work at the Penitentiary.-The Nashville Patriot says that there are at least two
hundred men employed at the penitentiary in the manufacture of haversacks,
caps, pouches, camp chests, gun hammers, tool chests, and remodeling bayo-
ets, scabbards, and that in a few days, preparations for making cartridges, etc.,
will be completed. A large Number of hands have also been employed in the
manufacture of shoes for the soldiers, and wagons for army purposes. Col.
Johnson is thus making the prison subserve the use of the State in this emer-
gency, and we feel well assured that he will make it as useful as possible.

Memphis Daily Appeal, May 23, 1861.

May 24, 1861 - Major-General Gideon J. Pillow on expected attack by River upon Fort Ran-
dolph

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 123. HDQRS. PROVISIONAL ARMY OF TEN-
NESSEE, Memphis, May 24, 1861.

The major-general in command of the Army of Tennessee is in possession of
the purpose of the enemy to attempt, within the next ten days, a descent of the
Mississippi River. The plan is to approach the batteries at Randolph in the
night. When signaled to come in the enemy will be slow to answer by whistle,
but will answer and continue to answer; will keep well on the opposite shore,
and with a heavy head of ream will aim to run by the batteries above Memphis, expecting to reach the city and take it by surprise, believing that we have no forces here. This information is brought to the major-general commanding by a special dispatch from a source evidently well informed of the purposes of the enemy, and directly from the camp at Cairo. The boats in which the descent will be attempted to be made are the City of Memphis, Mound City, Iatan, Swallow, Swan, and probably others. Their present plan does not seem to contemplate an attack by land, but this may be changed or we may not be in possession of all the propose. It is the purpose of the enemy, it seems, in this way to take possession of the city of Memphis, open the river again by running the blockade here, and hold this place. The movement is an exceedingly hazardous one for them, but they believe we have but few guns at Randolph and that those there are of light caliber. They therefore think they can succeed in passing down. They are further informed that we have no forces here, but that all our troops are at Jackson, Tenn. This information may cause a movement to be made which will enable us to send the whole force embarked to the bottom of the river. The major-general therefore directs that Brig.-Gen. Sneed keep constant and vigilant watch; that he be well prepared with guns in battery for action at all times; that he keep out picket guards of mounted men at the bridges crossing Hatchie River, and at such other points as may be deemed advisable; that he give orders for the proper disposition of the supporting force in the event of an attack by night. Brig.-Gen. Sneed will have the orders read to the troops. Upon the appearance of any steamer downward bound, after the signal of one blank cartridge, give her shot as soon as she is in reach of your guns, and if no prompt evidence of approach to your shore, open with all batteries and sink her or them. The major-general commanding wishes every possible energy thrown into the work of field intrenchment and completing the work on the batteries. The sentinels at night should be well instructed as to their duty.

By command of Maj.-Gen. Pillow, commanding Provisional Army of Tennessee:

JNO. C. BURCH, Aide-de-Camp.


May 24, 1861 - "TO THE PALMYRA VOLUNTEERS."

The tocsin of war has sounded throughout
The land, and you country calls upon
You, in this, her hour of peril
Go forth, then, with bold-fronts, and
Brave hearts, and God speed you,
In your great and glorious cause.
And like the illustrious Washington,
The "Father of his Country," be "first in "The hearts of your countrymen."
"Strike! 'till the last armed foe expires— "Strike! for your altars and your fires-
"Strike! for the green graves of your sires, "God, and your native land."
Fight, like brave and gallant men,
Strew the ground with the enemies slain;
Conquer, and return again,
With laurel wreaths of fame.

*Montgomery County*, May 20, 1861.

Clarksville *Chronicle*, May 24, 1861.

**May 24, 1861 - "Tennessee's Battle-Song"**

By Henry Weber

Awake, take up the arms! prepare for battle!
Our country's honor calls on your her sons!
Arise! arise! ye warriors, from your slumbers!
There is not one of you who fighting shuns,
The Lord of hosts your hearts and arm will strengthen;
The prayers of wives and sisters, filled with woe,
Plead at his throne your cause, the cause of freedom!
Success to you! Confusion to the foe!
Form! form! in proud array, ye Tennesseans!
March onward-charge-break down the seried line
That now invades the South, hallowed to freedom,
Where happiness-religion-culture shine,
Amidst the storm of war and cannon roaring,
Think of your pass-word, "Death or victory?"
Renown and love the conqueror awaiting,
And glory those who in the battle die.
Fight manly! Shame on all who will be branded,
When the fight is o'er, with wounds on back or heel,
Where'er may be the "Valley of decision"—
Thus saith the Lord, decide it with the steel,
Let all your priests uphold their arms in prayer,
That God, the God of battle, be your stay;
While his strong aid the en'my is confounding;
Yours is the crown, the vict'ry of the day.

From the Nashville *Patriot*

Clarksville *Chronicle*, May 24, 1861.
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, Nashville, May 25, 1861.

Hon. L. P. WALKER, War Department, Montgomery:

SIR: Your dispatch of the 20th instant was placed in my hands by Gen. Zollicoffer on the 22d. I sent Lieut. McCall, of the Confederate Army, to West Tennessee on yesterday for the purpose of mustering into the service of the Confederate States such of our West Tennessee regiments as may be willing to enter that service, and think it probable that the four regiments to be armed with muskets will be mustered into service within a day or two. If, however, the whole number shall not be made up in that division of the State, I will make up the deficiency in regiments already formed in Middle Tennessee. I do not think it advisable to station a regiment of Confederate troops in East Tennessee at this time. We have about fifteen companies of the troops of the Provisional Army of Tennessee stationed at Knoxville, and sound policy requires that they should be continued there for the present instead of troops sent from or mustered into the service of the Confederate States. I approve your suggestion as to the use of the sporting rifle with minie-ball, and have no doubt it may be made a highly effective arm for all shooting purposes upon the battle-field. I am taking steps to raise the four regiments called for by your dispatch to be thus armed, and hope to have them ready for the field at no distant day.

Your dispatch is silent as to the subsistence, transportation, pay, &c., of the troops called for. I feel warranted, however, in assuming that these all follow as necessary incidents to the act of being mustered into the service of the Government of the Confederate States, and therefore have given orders to have them mustered in as fast as regiments are found organized and ready. The number of troops stationed at Cairo and above that point on the river and railroads, taken in connection with many other indications unmistakable in their character, but unnecessary to be enumerated here, drives me to the conclusion that the settled purpose of the Federal Government is to attempt to descend the Mississippi River with an overwhelming force at an early day, in view of which fact I regard it as a matter of the highest importance to the Confederate States, as well as to Tennessee, that a large force, fully armed and equipped, be stationed in the northwestern portion of this State. We find very little difficulty in raising any reasonable number of men, but unfortunately we have not a sufficient number of small-arms for such force as will be necessary for present purposes. We have been fortunate in securing a sufficient number of heavy guns for our stationary batteries, but have little or no field artillery. We have all the means of supplying this indispensable necessity of the service if I could secure the services of an experienced ordnance officer to direct us in their manufacture and to apply the proper tests when made. If you know of such an officer, whose services can be secured, I shall be greatly obliged to you for the information.

I am informed that there are a number of regiments, armed, equipped, and ready for the field in the States of Mississippi, Alabama, and Louisiana. If this
be true, it seems to me that every consideration of prudence and security requires that these troops should be stationed immediately upon the northern boundary of West Tennessee. They will be more healthy, more comfortable, and more cheaply subsisted there than farther South, and if there is to be battle to prevent the invasion of the Valley of the Lower Mississippi it must be fought in the northern part of West Tennessee. I am concentrating such force there as I am able to arm, but such force as I may be able to concentrate there will, I fear, be unequal to the task of driving back so large a column of invaders as will be thrown upon us in that quarter. Indeed, if our forces and energies are not concentrated to meet the enemy at this point—if he should be permitted to lay waste to West Tennessee, flushed as he would be by this temporary success, and strengthened by the possession of Memphis as the base of his operations against the Valley below and the Southern States east of him—I am at a loss to know where the stand can be made to prevent his onward march to New Orleans. These suggestions have presented themselves to my mind with so much force that I have left authorized to submit them to you for such consideration as you may see proper to bestow upon them, after which, if you should take the same view of the matter that I have done, I shall be very happy to have your aid in inducing the States names to station their organized troops as suggested.

Very respectfully,
ISHAM G. HARRIS.


May 25, 1861 - "MURDER WILL OUT" by William G. Brownlow

A secret of some importance has been cautiously communicated to this city from Alabama by a man not likely to be deceived. The same facts in substance have been intrusted to a most estimate individual here under the solemn injunction of secrecy for a specified time. There are now three other gentlemen besides ourselves and they are men of high positions who know the facts and have the evidence of them. This stupendous and appalling conspiracy amounts to this:

Johnson, Nelson, Baxter, Temple, Trigg, Maynard, Brownlow and George W. Bridges are to be arrested after the election in June by a military force and taken in irons to Montgomery and either punished for treason or held as hostages to guarantee the quiet surrender of the Union men of East Tennessee.

The facts of his conspiracy against the rights of America citizens together with the names of those concerned in urging it on, all, will be left in the hands of reliable, bold and fearless men who will make them public at the proper time. The thousands of Union men of East Tennessee devoted to principle and to the rights and liberties of those who fall at the hands of these conspirators will be expected to avenge their wrongs. Let the railroad on which Union citizens of East Tennessee are conveyed to Montgomery in irons be eternally and hope-
lessly destroyed. Let the property of the men concerned be consumed and let their lives pay the forfeit and the names will be given. Let the fires of patriotic vengeance be built upon the Union altars of the whole land and let them go out where these conspirators live like the fires from the Lord that consumed Nadab and Abihu, the two sons of Aaron, for presumption less sacrilegious. If we are incarcerated at Montgomery or executed there or even elsewhere all the consolation we want is to know that our partisan friends have visited upon our persecutors, certain secession leaders, a most horrible vengeance. Let it be done, East Tennesseans, though the gates of hell be forced and the heavens be made to fall.

In disclosing this bold and deep-laid plot against the liberties of freemen we have not intended a sensation article. Some may smile at its alleged senseless absurdity but we are not alone in putting forth these facts. We most solemnly implore our friends throughout East Tennessee as they regard our welfare and as they cherish principles for which we are likely battling not to molest any person or property in advance of an attack upon any of us but to hold themselves in readiness for action, action. As yet the conspiracy is only partially revealed, the murder partly out; the mask will be taken off in due time. We are not in possession of the names of any confederates and abettors outside of the limits of East Tennessee though some have been closeted with East Tennesseans and the details of their plans agreed upon. Again in the name of everything sacred we ask for ourselves and those threatened with us that no more shall be made by our friends toward injuring the person or property of any living man or existing corporation until further developments are made; and then let every brave man act and let all act together. Thanks be to God for the vigilance of some true men and for their promptness in making communications. A Union man of high character who will disguise himself and travel hundreds of miles at his own expense to serve true men to him personally unknown deserves to be immortalized and to live forever.


NOTE 1: As cited from the Knoxville Whig. May 25, 1861.

May 25, 1861 - War excitement in Jackson

Went to town this evening. The Public mind is so excited that everybody wants to know everything. . . There will be fighting in earnest doubtless very soon. 1000 Confederate troops passed thro Jackson this evening from Miss. on their way to Northern line of Tennessee on [the] Mobile & Ohio Railroad. The Regiment formed in Jackson are ordered to leave this morning, destined for some place. . . I don't believe this war will last long. It may, it is true the preparations are on a grand scale both North & South & disposition is manifested by the Lincoln Government to "Wipe the South Out." But the Thing is impossible, and they must soon see it & desist. The issue is fairly made up. The South either
seced or be content to live the mere dependencies of Northern oppression, 
"Liberty or Death" is our motto.

Robert H. Cartmell Diary.

**May 25, 1861 - Assistance for Soldiers' Families in Memphis**

Aid to the Families of Soldiers.-The county court have undertaken to allow to 
the wives of those who are absent on military duty twelve dollars a month, and 
to each of their children six dollars a month, when such families require such 
aid. Persons desirous of availing themselves of the allowance offered, will 
apply at the office of Esq. Hume F. Hill, on Main street, between Madison and 
Monroe streets, over Mansfield's drug store, or to Esq. Mallory, over Dearing 
& Wetherill's drug store, Main street, between Union and DeSoto streets.

Memphis Daily Appeal, May 25, 1861.

**May 26, 1861 - Assessing need for public assistance in Memphis**

Aid to the Poor.-Mr. Underwood, city almoner, had several applications at his 
office on Second street near Madison yesterday, for assistance. Nine persons 
received articles of food for which they appeared very grateful. Three were 
refused, having revealed that they were not in necessitous circumstances. One 
woman, on being offered a piece of bacon, turned up her nose with the remark 
that she did not eat the article. She was informed that she might call again 
when real necessity had made her less delicate. Mr. Underwood will evidently 
make a good almoner. He is kind without credulity, and firm without harsh-
ness.

Memphis Daily Appeal, May 26, 1861.

**May 27, 1861 - Fear of a slave insurrection in Madison County**

. . . Went to town this evening while there a message was sent to Jackson from 
up about Mr. Pinson that there was an insurrection among the negroes headed 
by white men. A company [of soldiers] from Memphis was sent on the cars & 
[a] good many citizens with double barreled shotguns [also went]. Proved to be 
a false report, started by some fellow shooting a repeater 4 or 5 times in front 
of a house where some women were.

Robert H. Cartmell Diary.

**May 28, 1861 - Difficulties and disarray in recruiting for Tennessee's Confederate Volunteer ranks, Isham G. Harris to L. P. Walker**

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, May 28, 1861.

Hon. L. P. WALKER, War Department, Montgomery:
SIR: When I had the honor of addressing you on the 25th instant\textsuperscript{1} I flattered myself with the hope that I should experience no difficulty in inducing some four of our volunteer regiments already organized to muster into the service of the Confederate States at once, and by that means secure the use of the 4,000 guns you had the kindness to send me; but upon submitting the proposition to any one of our regiments or companies I find many members ready to be mustered into the service at once, but others objecting, and to attempt to carry out the policy is to disorganize regiments and companies and to a great extent demoralize the force now so necessary to the service of the State and the Confederate States. This I am unwilling to do. Hence the regiments for the Confederate States must be raised for that especial purpose, which will take some time, during which, under your order, the guns you sent me are lying idle, while I have several thousand men organized and ready for the field [already mustered into the service of the State], but unarmed, with a powerful enemy menacing us every moment. If you can, consistent with your sense of duty, relax the rule laid down in your dispatch of the 20th instant so far as to allow me to put these guns into the hands of our State troops, I assure you that they shall be withdrawn from them and placed in the hands of the regiments raised for the Confederate States the moment these regiments are raised and mustered in. Nothing short of the imperative necessity of the case before me would induce me to trouble you with this request; but believing as I do that it is a matter of the highest importance to the successful defense of the Confederate States, as well as the State of Tennessee, I feel that it is a duty to urge it.

Respectfully,

ISHAM G. HARRIS.

Have the kindness to answer by telegraph.

I. G. H.


\textit{May 28, 1861 - Convict labor and an upsurge in war production in Nashville}

A Good Work Going On.

The Nashville \textit{Union} speaks encouragingly of the manner in which military work is being forwarded in the penitentiary. On visiting that institution on Friday last, the editor found sixty-five men employed alone in making cartridges, turning them out at the rate of 20,000 per diem. A little practice will greatly increase the result of their labors. Thirty men are employed in repairing and cleaning muskets, who finish up, as bright and perfect as when new, about one hundred daily. The manufacture of cap boxes, cartridge belts, haversacks, camp chairs, stools, cots, military chests, etc., etc., is also being vigorously
prosecuted. Of course all these preparations are being made at a very trifling expense to the State.

Memphis Daily Appeal, May 28, 1861.

**May 28, 1861 - Exhortation to provide for needy families of Confederate volunteers**

Families of Volunteers.-Although the county court have agreed to furnish regular aid to the wives and children of those who are gone to the war, we are informed by the mayor that he has many applications made to him by those who are entitled to this aid, and whose necessities require immediate attention, but that he is unable to direct them what to do, as the mode of dispensing the promised assistance has not been agreed upon. This is an important subject; we are bound to prevent distress and want reaching the families of those who have devoted their lives to their country. Let no "red tape-ism," no "circumlocution office" obstructions stand in the way of the performance of this sacred duty. Since writing the preceding, we have been informed that any proper person calling upon any magistrate, (Esquire Hume and Mallory have been appointed in this city) and presenting a certificate of the volunteer's enlistment, when he enlisted, and in what company, will at once obtain relief.

Memphis Daily Appeal, May 28, 1861

**May 28, 1861 - Memphis highlanders organize a volunteer military company**

A Card.

"Scots wae, ha wi' Wallace bled."

To Scotchmen, Scotch-Irish and their descendants:

Brothers and Friends-Our native and adopted land is invaded, and shall we, the descendants of noble clansmen, who were never known to turn the deaf ear to "Freedom's call" now remain idle? No! To arms! and let us hurl back the hireling mercenaries of Glasgow, who for Lincoln gold would invade our soil, desecrate our firesides, and taint the glorious name of SCOTCHMAN.

Meet at the city council chamber, corner of Madison and Second streets, at 8 o'clock this evening.


Memphis Daily Appeal, May 28, 1861

**May 28, 1861 - Editorial opinion on the indecency of giving daguerreotypes to soldiers**

Advice to Girls.-There is a practice, quite prevalent among young ladies of the present day, which we are old fashioned enough to consider very improper. We allude to giving daguerreotypes of themselves to young men who are merely
acquaintances. We consider it indelicate in the highest degree. We are astonished that any young girl should hold herself as cheap as this. With an accepted lover it is, of course, all right. Even in this case the likeness should be returned if the engagement, by any misunderstanding, cease.

If this little paragraph should meet the eye of any young girl about to give her daguerreotype to a gentleman, let her know that the remarks made by young men, when together, concerning what is perhaps on her part, but a piece of ignorance or imprudence, would, if she heard them, cause her cheek to crimson with shame and anger."Were it a sister of ours," we have often said with flashing eye-"were it a sister of ours!" but that not being the case, we give this advice to anybody's sister who needs it, most anxiously desiring that she should at all times preserve her dignity and respect.

Memphis Daily Appeal, May 28, 1861

May 29, 1861 - The work of the Southern Mothers

Southern Mothers: The unfortunate combination of circumstances which prevented the reception room of the society from being ready by Monday will not prevent its being made so this week. The committee will be in attendance tomorrow, Wednesday, A. M., and the room will be ready by the afternoon to receive the sick. The members, and others intrusted with work, are requested to send sheets, towels, linen, and all articles useful to a sick room. Sheets and towels should be marked "Southern Mothers" in the corner. The visiting committee will attend at the room every afternoon from five P. M., when persons, desirous of taking the sick to their houses, can remove them. The constitution of the society requires that the persons admitted shall be actually in the service of the South, and sent to the officers of the association by the officers of the army; no others can be received. Ladies are requested to send in immediately supplies of bandages and other articles for the surgeons to Mrs. S. C. Law, president, as boxes are in preparation to be sent to the camp hospitals. One will go to Randolph on Wednesday. Persons wishing to contribute articles of food, services of servants, etc., are requested to come forward and do so immediately.

By order of the president,
Mary E. Pope, Secretary.

Memphis Daily Appeal, May 29, 1861.

May 29, 1861 - Attempt at welfare fraud in Memphis

Did Not Know Where She Lived.-A woman, who represented herself to be in extreme distress, applied yesterday at the office of Mr. Underwood, the city almoner, on second street, near Madison, and asked for relief. She said her husband had fits, and her own health but poor, and heaven help them, they were next to starvation. The story was told with great unction, and movingly inter-
spersed with tears. Underwood is not easily caught in a shower, so spite of the crhistal drops "in dear woman's eye," he asked where the weeping daughter of affliction lived? "On Union street, sir." Between what streets?" "Do not know the streets sir." "Tell me the names of some of your neighbors?" "Don't remember them, sir." This was puzzling, so Underwood sent his assistant to attend the lady home, (the almoner is always polite to the sex) and to see how she was fixed. At the next corner "the lady" was obliged, now she was up town, to call on a lady acquaintance; she would just look in and be at the corner in a minute. The minute passed, and several more in its company, but "the lady" did not return to the corner. Imposters have no chance with Underwood, but the suffering and necessitous will not apply to him in vain. He is overflowing with the milk of human kindness to those who are really in distress, and such can call upon him with confidence that no necessary kindness will be withheld.

Memphis Daily Appeal, May 29, 1861.

May 29, 1861 - A Woman Driver

A Fast Lady.-At sun down last night a buggy, containing one person of each of the two sexes, was seen rushing with racing speed along Shelby street. The reins were held by the lady, who drove like one of the haunt ton driving through a husband's fortune. The gentleman reclined against the back of his seat with an air of enjoyable languor; as he puffed his cigar with a satisfaction ineffable and almost transcendental, he gave a look of quiet approval at his 2:40 driver in crinoline, who reminded every spectator of the loves and triumphs of "Mose and Lize." On Monroe street the fast couple halted to give their nag a breath, and indulge themselves in a cobbler. But here, alas! their proud and triumphant progress through admiring throngs was at an end and the elegant Mose, and the dashing Lize were taken into custody by policemen Van Campen and McIlvainie, who conducted them both to the station house.

Memphis Daily Appeal, May 30, 1861

May 29, 1861 - Women drill in Confederate military camps in Jackson

Letter from Jackson.

Jackson, Tenn., May 29, 1861.

Editors Appeal: According to promise, I write you this letter to let you know how times are with us, and something about times in camp since our arrival here. The most interesting circumstance that has occurred since our arrival this place was a large company of ladies out on drill at the camp on yesterday, officered by Dr. Bryan and Col. Young, of Memphis. . .

The camps are filled daily with ladies and gentlemen from the vicinity of Jackson. I think we will get our marching orders by the last of this week. It is rumored that we are to go under Gen. Beauregard, but I do not know how true it is. Truly yours,
May 30, 1861

Jno. A. G. H.

Memphis Daily Appeal, May 31, 1861

May 30, 1861 - Excerpt from a letter by Davidson Countian Edward Bradford, at Camp Trousdale (camp of instruction) wrote to his father, Frederick in Tank, Tennessee

We are getting plenty to eat and plenty of exercise. We drill two hours twice a day. They carry us about two miles from Camp to drill us and when we get back we have to stay on our own ground, about an acre. We have not been formed into [a] regiment yet, but will be in a few days. . . . I enjoy everything but the way we sleep. We have not got any straw in our tents and have to sleep on the ground with one blanket to cover with. We have a dance every night. We have more music than we want. There is about a dozen fiddlers to every camp. John [Edward's brother] and I both had to stand guard last night from eleven until one. We all keep our health so far. I believe I have told you as we can not hear anything [from the outside world] shut up here.

Frederick Bradford Papers, TSLA.

May 30, 1861 - Call for Delegates to the East Tennessee Convention

On Thursday, 30th of May, 1861, a large number of delegates representing the people of the various sections of East Tennessee assembled at Knoxville, in pursuance of the following call:

EAST TENNESSEE CONVENTION.

The undersigned, a portion of the people of East Tennessee, disapproving the hasty and inconsiderate action of our Gen. Assembly, and sincerely desirous to do, in the midst of the troubles which surround us, what will be best for our country and for all classes of our citizens, respectfully appoint a convention to be held in Knoxville on Thursday, the 30th of May, instant; and we urge every county in East Tennessee to send delegates to this convention, that the conservative element of our whole section may be represented and that wise, prudent, and judicious counsels may prevail, looking to peace and harmony among ourselves:


May 30, 1861 - Prayer at the first day of the East Tennessee Unionist Convention in Knoxville

. . . The deliberations of the convention were opened by the Rev. Thomas W. Humes, of Knoxville, who addressed a fervent prayer to the Throne of Grace, as follows:

Almighty and ever living God, our Heavenly Father, to Thee do we owe all the blessings we enjoy, whether of a civil or religious kind. It becomes us on all important occasions to make known unto Thee our wants and desires and supplications; and we would now come before Thee in the faith of Christ and beseech Thee that Thy blessing and favor may rest upon us. We believe that Thou art the God of unions as well as individuals. We are assembled here today under circumstances adapted to fill our hearts with anxious foreboding for our beloved country. Dark clouds have gathered over it. A spirit of alienation and strife has gone abroad through the land. Citizens are in arms against the Government; brethren against brethren, and we are threatened with war and bloodshed. It may be that our civil and religious liberties are in danger of serious injury and loss. O God! we believe that Thou wast with the founders of the Republic at the beginning of its existence and midst then uphold and cherish and prosper them; and we pray that Thou wilt not leave us now as a nation, but wilt continue to us Thy favor and goodness for the time to come. We confess, O God, that we have not been properly thankful for the blessings bestowed upon us, nor improved them as we ought. We have been too proud and boastful and wicked as a people; too neglectful of Thy word, too forgetful of Thee and of our duties toward each other. But we beseech Thee to have mercy upon us and forgive us our transgressions. Turn from us Thy righteous indignation. Avert from us the ills that impend over us. In this our time of darkness and doubt, to whom, O God of our farther, shall we turn for relief and for help but to Thee? Throw around the nation, we entreat Thee, the arms of Thy protection. Give wisdom from above to those who are in authority for the duties of their station and uphold and strengthen their hearts and hands in every measure they may adopt for the public welfare which Thou wilt approve and which will promote righteousness and secure peace. Rebuque the spirit of faction and discord, of wickedness, corruption, and vice in the land and dispose the hearts of the people to the love of Three and of our Blessed Redeemer and to the cultivation of good will and brotherly affection; and grant that the civil and religious liberties we enjoy shall be handed down to the generations that are to come. Look graciously, we beseech Thee, upon the citizens who, under the prompting of patriotic feelings, have come up here to-day to consult concerning the public welfare. Give them the spirit of wisdom and counsel and understanding; indicate to them the path of duty, and grant them courage and fidelity to follow it. Bless us all in the various relations of life. Forgive us our sins and enable us so to pass through the things that are temporal that we finally lose not but attain the things that the eternal, and may reach by Thy grace that heavenly kingdom.
which Thou hast prepared for Thy faithful people. All which we ask in the name and for the sake of Thy Son Jesus Christ, our only mediator and advocate.

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May 30, 1861 - A Scotchman on the Crisis.

Memphis, May 29, 1861.

Editors Appeal: As a Scotchman, I hail with pride the call made on my countryman in your issue of yesterday, to form themselves into a military company for the protection of their "altars and their fires" against the invaders of the land of their adoption, whose tocsin of war may already be heard sounding along our borders. But while I give my cordial support to the movement, as a descendant of those who shed the blood of patriotism with Wallace, and fought under the banner of Bruce, I object to the rallying cry which calls us to arms, viz: "To drive back the hireling mercenaries of Glasgow." In the first place, the Scotch are not a mercenary people, and never fought for hireling gold beneath the folds of any other banner than that of their own sea girt isle; and in the second place, the story is a fabrication, a lie got up by Jas. Gordon Bennet for a mercenary purpose, at the expense of his country's reputation, for his own has long since been bartered like a piece of merchandise, and his name desecrated at home as much as it is villified abroad. . .

John Gourlay.


May 30, 1861 - Need for uniforms, city almoner's report, and assistance to the families of volunteer Confederate soldiers

Call to Private Ladies.-The Washington Rifles would feel sincerely grateful to all ladies who would be kind enough to come forward and assist them in making their uniforms. All ladies so disposed will please call immediately at the store of Strauss, Lehman & Co., 202 Main street. N. Freck, Captain.

City Almoner.-This officer entered on his duties on Thursday last, in a store on Second street, above Madison. Since that time he has given aid to twenty-eight widows and their families. The amount of provisions supplied to each applicant varies with the number of the children; generally speaking there has been given to each twelve pounds of flour, six pounds of bacon, and six pounds of potatoes.

Soldiers' Families.-Spite of the action of the county court, and of notices given to the families of volunteers now in the field, we learn from our mayor that the families thus provided for on paper are really, in many instances, suffering and destitute, and can obtain no aid. The assistance formerly extended in extreme
cases has been withdrawn or turned aside to other classes of cases, the action of
the county court having constituted these forsaken ones the county's especial
care. We learn also from the city almoner that he has applications made to him
by persons in extreme difficulty. We hope speedy and effectual means of relief
will be put in operation. Food is wanted, and wanted at once.


May 30, 1861 - Major General Gideon J. Pillow orders army medical staff to assist Southern Mothers

Special Order-No. 114.
The association of Ladies of the city of Memphis, known as the "Southern Mothers," having, by their President, Mrs. S. A. Law, informed the Major-General commanding the Army of Tennessee, that they "will have a large, comfortable room fitted up by Monday, to receive any of our soldiers who may be sick and require nursing, from whence they may be carried to the houses of the Society if desired;" and that "many houses are open to them, no matter from what quarter they may come, if in arms for the defense of the South."
The attention of the Medical Staff is especially called to this benevolent provi
sion of the patriotic ladies of Memphis, and the Major-General directs that
where the soldiers are reduced by disease and become greatly prostrated, so
that an early recovery cannot be anticipated, they will have them brought in the
Government transport "Ingomar" to the Hospital of the "Mothers' Association."
With such anxious care and sympathy on the part of the ladies of Memphis, for
the well-being of our patriotic and brave volunteers, the dangers and privations
of the soldier's life will be met with promptitude and heroic fortitude by the
soldiers of the army of liberty.
The Major General commanding begs leave, in the name of and as the repre
sentative of the Army of Tennessee, to tender his thanks for the provision so
erly and so widely made for the care of Tennessee's defenders.
By command of Major-General, Gideon J. Pillow, Commander P. A. of Tenn.
Pollock B. Lee, Assistant Adjutant-General.

Memphis Daily Appeal, May 30, 1861

May 31, 1861 - Shooting lessons near Cleveland

... we all went down to the spring and learned to shoot. Mr. Montgomery
joined us there. I shot twelve times, loaded the gun three times and the pistols
three. Enjoyed myself finely.

Diary of Myra Adelaide Inman, p. 97.
May 31, 1861 - Resolutions of the East Tennessee Unionist Convention in Temperance Hall, Knoxville

...After a running debate... the report of the committee was amended and finally adopted as follows:

In the enumeration of the rights of the citizens, which have been declared under the solemn sanction of the people of Tennessee, there are none which should be more warmly cherished or more highly estimated than that which declares that "the citizens have a right in a peaceable manner to assemble together for their common good," and at no time since the organization of our Government has there been an occasion which called so loudly for the exercise of that inestimable right as that upon which we are now assembled. Our country is at this moment in a most deplorable condition. The Constitution of the United States has been openly contemned and set at defiance, while that of our own State has shared no better fate, and by the sworn representatives of the people has been utterly disregarded. Constitutions, which in other days were wont to control and give direction to our public councils and to those in authority by the fiat of the people, have been wholly supplanted, and fanaticism, passion, and prejudice have assumed an arbitrary sway. Law and order seem to have yielded their beneficent officers for the safety of the country and the welfare of the people, and in their stead revolution, in spite of its attendant horrors, has raised its hideous head. The condition of the country is most perilous, the present crisis most fearful. In this calamitous state of affairs, when the liberties of the people are so imperiled and their most valued rights endangered, it behooves them in their primary meeting, and in all their other accustomed modes, to meet together, consult calmly as to their safety, and with firmness to give expression to their opinions and convictions of right. We, therefore, the delegates here assembled, representing and reflecting, as we verily believe, the opinions and wishes of a very large majority of the people of East Tennessee, do resolve and declare:

1. That the evils which now afflict our beloved country, in our opinion, are the legitimate offspring of the ruinous and heretical doctrine of secession; that the people of East Tennessee have ever been, and we believe still are, opposed to it by a very large majority.

2. That while the country is now upon the very threshold of a most ruinous and desolating civil war, it may with truth be said, and we protect before God, that the people (so far as we can see) have done nothing to produce it.

3. That the people of Tennessee, when the question was submitted to them in February last, decided by an overwhelming majority that the relations of the State toward the Federal Government should not be changed; thereby expressing their preference for the Union and Constitution under which they had lived prosperously and happily, and ignoring in the most emphatic manner the idea
that they had been oppressed by the Gen. Government in any of its acts—legis-
lateive, executive, or judicial.

4. That in view of so decided an expression of the will of the people in whom "all power is inherent and on whose authority all free governments are
founded," and in the honest conviction that nothing has transpired since that
time which should change that deliberate judgment of the people, we have con-
templated with peculiar emotions the pertinacity with which those in authority
have labored to override the judgment of the people and to bring about the very
result which the people themselves had so overwhelmingly condemned.

5. That the Legislative Assembly is but the creature of the constitution of the
State and has no power to pass any law or to exercise any act of sovereignty,
except such as may be authorized by that instrument; and believing as we do
that in their recent legislation the Gen. Assembly have disregarded the rights of
the people and transcended their legitimate powers, we fell constrained and we
invoke the people throughout the State as they value their liberties to visit that
hastily, inconsiderate, and unconstitutional legislation with a decided rebuke
by voting on the 8th day of next month against both the act of secession and of
union with the Confederate States.

6. That the Legislature of the State, without having first obtained the consent of
the people, had no authority to enter into a military league with the Confed-
erate States against the Gen. Government, and by so doing to put the State of
Tennessee in hostile array against the Government of which it then was and
still is a member. Such legislation in advance of the expressed will of the peo-
ple to charge their governmental relations was an act of usurpation and should
be visited with the severest condemnation of the people.

7. That the forming of such military league and thus practically assuming the
attitude of an enemy toward the Gen. Government (this, too, in the absence of
any hostile demonstration against this State) has afforded the pretext for rais-
ing, arming, and equipping a large military force, the expense of which must be
enormous and will have to be paid by the people; and to do this the taxes,
already onerous enough, will necessarily have to be very greatly increased and
probably to an extent beyond the ability of the people to pay.

8. That the Gen. Assembly, by passing a law authorizing the volunteers to vote
wherever they may be on the day of election, whether in or out of the State, and
in offering to the Confederate States the capital of Tennessee, together with
other acts, have exercised powers and stretched their authority to an extent not
within their constitutional limits and not justified by the usages of the country.

9. "That government being instituted for the common benefit, the doctrine of
non-resistance against arbitrary power and oppression is absurd, slavish, and
destructive of the good and happiness of mankind."

10. That the position which the people of our sister State of Kentucky have
assumed in this momentous crisis commands our highest admiration. Their
interests are our interests. Their policy is the true policy, as we believe, of Ten-
Tennessee and all the border States; and in the spirit of freemen, with an anxious desire to avoid the waste of the blood and the treasure of our State, we appeal to the people of Tennessee while it is yet in their power to come up in the majesty of their strength and restore Tennessee to her true position.

11. We shall await with the utmost anxiety the decision of the people of Tennessee on the 8th day of next month, and sincerely trust that wiser counsels will pervade the great fountain of freedom (the people) than seems to have actuated their constituted agents.

12. For the promotion of the peace and harmony of the people of East Tennessee it is deemed expedient that this convention should again assemble: Therefore,

Resolved, That when this convention adjourns it adjourns to meet again at such time and place as the president, or vice-president in his absence, may determine and publish.

The entire report, on motion of Col. Heiskell, of Monroe, was unanimously adopted.

Dr. W. W. Alexander, of McMinn, offered the following:

Resolved, That those members of our State Legislature who heroically, though vainly, resisted to the utmost extent of their ability the iniquitous and unconstitutional ordinances of the late extraordinary session of the Legislature deserve the grateful remembrance of every patriot in Tennessee.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

The following, offered by the chairman of the committee on business, was adopted:

Resolved, That the proceedings of this convention be published in the Knoxville Whig, Jonesborough Express, Kingston Journal, and the Louisville (Kentucky) Journal, and that 5,000 copies of the proceedings be published by the Knoxville Whig for general circulation among the people.

Governor Johnson then continued his remarks. He spoke about three hours and commanded the earnest attention of the convention throughout his entire speech. His address was masterly in argument, carrying conviction to every honest mind that heard it.

At the close of his remarks, on motion, the convention adjourned subject to the call of the president.

T. A. R. NELSON, President.

JNO. M. FLEMING, Secretary.

May 31, 1861 - Official application forms for obtaining public assistance in Memphis

Applicants for Relief.

By the kindness of 'Squire Richards—to whose earnest endeavors the measure of giving relief from the county to the families of volunteers on duty, is greatly indebted for its success—we are enabled to lay before the public the following information as to the manner in which persons desiring to apply for aid from the county must proceed. In the first place 'Squire Richards at the city buildings, north-east corner of Second and Madison streets, or 'Squire Hill, over Mansfield's drug store, on Main between Madison and Monroe streets, or 'Squire Mallory, over Wetherall's drug store on Main street, between Union and Gayoso streets, or any other magistrate of the county, must be applied to for a printed form of certificate—which they will freely supply—then the blanks in the two certificates must be filled by the proper persons. The form contains two certificates intended to prevent fraud, and to secure the relief to those entitled to it, and no others. The first form must have the names of two respectable citizens, who will swear before the magistrate to the facts stated in the certificate. The following is a copy of this form, the names in it are, of course, fictitious:

State of Tennessee,
County of Shelby.

Personally appeared before the undersigned, a justice of the peace, in and for the county and State aforesaid, James White and John Black to me well known, and they being duly sworn, say on oath that they are well acquainted with the pecuniary condition of Mark Brown who is a volunteer in the army of Tennessee, and that they know that the family of the said Mark Brown are left destitute of the necessary means of support.

Sworn to and subscribed before me,
Jas. White, L. R. Richards, J. P., John Black.

The second form must be presented to the captain of the company, with the necessary information for filling it up. When filled up and sworn to it will read as follows, except that the real name will be substituted for the fictitious ones we use:

This is to Certify, That Mark Brown is a private in company, "The Advance Guards," commanded by Capt. Geo. Green, in the Army of Tennessee, that he leaves a wife named Bridget Brown and three children, named John, Mary and Frank Brown, aged three, five and seven years, that they are left destitute of the ordinary means of support, and are citizens of the Fifth Civil District of Shelby county, Tennessee.

Sworn to before me 7th June, '61.

Geo. Green, L. Richards, J. P.
Capt. Advance Guards.
Esquire Richards has nearly forty of these certificates already filled up. When
the disburser of the county funds is appointed, the applicant will present the
certificates to him, when he will enter the name in his register, and the party
will then be entitled to regular relief.

Memphis Daily Appeal, May 31, 1861

May 31, 1861 - Execution of murderes Moses and Isacc in Memphis

The Execution To-day.-At one o'clock to-day the two negroes, Moses and
Isaac, found guilty of murder, are to be executed in the field on the Raleigh
road, this side the fair grounds. The prisoners will leave the jail about noon,
escorted by Capt. Jackson's company of Bluff City Guards and the Italian com-
pany of Garibaldi Guards, which companies will preserve order at the place of
execution, forming a cordon around the gallows. The prisoners were visited by
several clergymen, and other pious persons yesterday. Moses, who killed an
Italian organ-player, is of somewhat obtuse intellect. He says little, but shows
some signs of distress. Isaac, who killed an overseer, is an intelligent fellow.
He has occupied most of his time, of late, in reading the Bible, and in writing
some incidents of his religious experience. He is devotional, and anxious to be
prepared for the great future he has this day to face. Spite of babbling theorists,
Isaac is acute enough to know that while he "who spake as never man spake"
forgave a criminal at the place of execution, and assured him an entrance into
paradise, there is firm hope for the worst if earnestly sought for. This is the first
legal execution that ever took place in this city; a negro who committed an
atrocious murder was hung here some years ago by the enraged mob. The exe-
cution of Levi Stover is fixed for June 28th. Barnes, who was also sentenced to
be hung, obtained a new trial.

Memphis Daily Appeal, May 31, 1861.

The Execution Yesterday.-Behaviour of the Condemned-Their Speeches at the
Scaffold.

Yesterday was the time appointed for the execution of the sentence of death
passed upon Isaac, a mulatto, and Moses a full negro, for the crime of murder.
As we have before stated the behavior of the men while in prison has been
exemplary. Isaac has spent most of his time lately in prayer, and reading his
Bible, religious conversation with the clergy and other persons who have vis-
ited him. For a portion of the time he has been in prison Moses has been
employed as a turnkey within the jail; he has been always remarkably quiet and
docile, nothing in his looks or manner indicating the possible existence of a
capacity to commit a crime of such ferocity as that for which he has suffered
death. Of late, while listening to religious advice, and showing that the heav-
enly truths communicated to him were not without their influence, he has been
silent and has shown signs of great distress as the fatal day approached. At half
past eleven, yesterday, the two men were taken in a furniture wagon, which
contained coffins for their bodies, to the place of execution near the Fair
Grounds. Isaac looked about him and recognized acquaintances with a smiling and animated manner. Moses was gloomy and nervous. On reaching the field they were placed on the gollows, which was a platform having a trap door in the center. The platform was placed between two trees, and extending from one to the other of these trees was a beam from which were suspended the two ropes with the nooses already adjusted.

The condemned men were dressed in white surplices, extending from their necks to their heels, and having wide sleeves, and on their hands they had white gloves; their arms were pinioned. With them appeared their religious attendant, Mr. Merriman, who has been unremitting in his attentions to them in their cells, two religious friends, sheriff Felts and the jailor, Capt. Jackson.

Mr. Merriman came forward and announced that the prisoners had, by the kindness of the sheriff, permission to speak to those present if they were so inclined. One of them, Isaac, was quite an intelligent man, and would state something of the dealings of God with his soul. Isaac then came to the front of the scaffold; he was a mulatto with an intelligent and rather kindly looking countenance. He stood before the spectators with an undismayed demeanor. No symptom of fear or tremor, or even of ordinary agitation was visible in his manner. On the other hand there was nothing vaunting or self assertive. His behavior was gentle and easy, but calm and self-possessed. The gallows was entirely surrounded by a circle of military, the Bluff City Guards and Garibaldi Guards, armed with muskets and bayonet. Beyond them was a numerous but not excessively large crowd of spectators on foot. At the outskirts of these parties were persons among whom we were surprised to see some of the female sex-on carriages, in wagons, and on horseback. Some buildings on the ground and a portion of the amphitheater of the Fair Grounds had persons standing upon them. Looking upon the whole scene with a quiet smile, Isaac addressed the spectators. He said:

["I want you all to know what God has done for me; it is more than man can take away. He has given me unsearchable riches of Christ, and to face death, hell and the grave. True, I have killed a man and taken a life I cannot restore, but God has been merciful and encouraged me to hope. I exhort you all so to live that you may have the hope that I have now. I wish I could persuade you now to kneel and ask God for heavenly possessions; so rich they are, so enduring, that I could die twice, yes, three times, to gain that eternal reward which God has promised the penitent. I call upon all to be humble, to rely upon God—we ought to be humble, for dust we are, and to dust we must return. Give to God the life he has given to you; to die is but paying him back his own. I call on all around, while you have life and health to turn and get saved while you have opportunity, or you will be damned and sink lower than the grave. I feel that if one present will come forward and take me by the hand and engage to meet me in heaven, I can die with joy. There is a fine crowd here to see the murderers hung; I hope when they go home they will have reason to say, not that they saw two murderers hung in the manner they had expected, but that they saw two Christians calmly meet death. Let all try to live so they can meet"]
death as I do, for I die richer than the whole world, for I have more than the
world can give. God has given me something to say to this crowd, when I have
said it I am ready to go home to heaven; I come at the eleventh hour, but God
will accept me. I have committed murder, but God is merciful. Many of you, I
am afraid, have done or will do the same; then repent in time. You soldiers that
are fixing for battle, you are only fixing for your ruin, unless you prepare for
the great change that is to come. If all would pray, there would be no need of
fighting; God would stop all the mad careers that men are running in the
United States. Mr. Abraham Lincoln is nothing to God, and if you will seek
God's aid, he will bring back peace. I wish you would forget what is gone by
and all be Union again. God told me while I was lying in my bed that I was for-
given; he told me this, and I tell you now. Your eyes are perhaps as blind as
mine were. If I had repented when I was a young boy, I might perhaps have
been a preacher and have been able to lead souls to Christ. I have been in
prison two years and eight or nine months. I could not go to church, but I read
the Bible, and I heard God speak to me in a vision, or in some way. Have faith,
and hope, and charity, and do not be afraid to fast. I have lately fasted every
Friday, beginning on Thursday afternoon at three o'clock, and eating and drink-
ing nothing until nine o'clock on Saturday morning. The first time I began I
forgot God, and went to drink from the bucket, but the thought of God flashed
across my mind and I forbore. I tell you to fast and never mind if it makes you
sick, so it is in a good cause. Now if any of you feel like shaking hands with me
and come and do so, the officers will permit you."

In accordance with this invitation a number of colored people went up and took
his hand. He cheerfully and warmly recommended them to lead a religious life.
Some of them went up to Moses, but at the sight of their streaming eyes and
heaving bosoms he broke down and cried with them. The speech of Isaac was
protracted, with considerable rambling and repetition, but was characterised by
great earnestness.

When he had concluded Moses came forward, and with great emotion, and a
touching earnestness that deeply affected many of the spectators, he with great
simplicity of delivery, uttered these words: "I hope God will forgive me. I
know I have done wrong. I hope you will all meet me in Heaven. I have no
more to say to you. Farewell, farewell forever!" Deeply affected, poor Moses
then returned to his seat.

Mr. Merriman then stated that by the desire of the condemned they would sing
the hymn beginning:

When I can read my title clear,
To mansions in the skies.
Isaac sung heartily; Moses spasmodically. At the beginning of the second verse
Moses started up, trembling from head to foot with nervous agitation, and
excitedly exclaimed, "Adieu, vain world!" he then became more composed,
but was evidently suffering mentally to a great degree. After the hymn Mr.
Merriman offered a prayer, and bid farewell to the unfortunate men. The scaffold was cleared of all but the sheriff and the jailor, who completed the last preparations. The arms were more tightly pinioned, the legs were tied at the ankles, and above the knee, a hood belonging to the white surplice was drawn over their faces, and they were left to undergo the last agony. At this fatal moment not a nerve shook in the whole body of Isaacs; he stood firm, and even Moses had lost his wild agitation and awaited the end in quiet. The sheriff drew the bolt that supported the door at ten minutes past one o'clock. The men fell a distance of three feet. Their struggles were very slight; some convulsions of the breast, a little tremor in Moses' feet, and very soon all signs of life were over. Both died very easily. At twenty minutes to two o'clock the bodies were cut down, and after the coffin lids were fastened over them they were taken away and the crowd disappeared.

This execution was the first legal execution that ever took place in Memphis; a negro was hanged some years ago by a mob. The negro, on the 1st of January, 1851, went to John K. Chester, the city register, at the door of the mayor's office, and asked him to examine his free papers. The register pronounced them forged, and was going to have the negro arrested, when the latter drew a pistol, and shot him in the head. He died in ten minutes, leaving a widow and a family of children. The negro was put in the calaboose, then near the market house, but the crowd took him from it and hung him on a tree twenty yards from the calaboose. Twelve of fifteen hundred people were present on the occasion. Before he was hanged, a son of the deceased shot him in the back, but without inflicting serious injury. The individual who tied the negro up was afterward prosecuted for damages, and had to pay his value. This was the only execution that ever took place in Memphis until yesterday.

Isaac was the slave of Major Berry; he had run away and was concealed at Nonconnah creek. On the morning of Aug. 31, 1858, Mr. Mack, who was out hunting, came upon him and two other runaways. He attempted to take him, but they took his gun from him. Mr. Gideon Bowden, overseer of Col. F. R. Sledge, of Arkansas, then endeavored to take him, when Isaac shot him with Mr. Mack's gun. He was not taken until Wednesday, the 8th of September, when he at once confessed the crime. He had two trials, at both of which he was found guilty.

Moses, slave of Mr. Worsham, on the 14th November last beat an Italian organ player on the head with a large iron gate hinge until he thought he was dead. He then took from him his organ and a trifling sum of money. The organ he afterward offered for sale in the city when he was arrested.

The Italian, whose name was Giacomo Passagno, lingered at the hospital until the 17th of November, when he died. Moses was found guilty on his first trial. He appealed to the supreme court, but there his sentence was confirmed.

Memphis Daily Appeal, June 1, 1861.
May 31, 1861 - Dealing with the poor in Memphis

The City Poor.-We are happy to observe that the measure introduced at the last meeting of the board of aldermen for aiding the poor of the city is working well. The efficient city almoner, Mr. Underwood, deserves great credit for his management, and is no doubt held in grateful remembrance by those whose wants he has alleviated. Mr. Underwood has called on many of our citizens for contributions, who, with characteristic promptness and liberality, with one or two exceptions, have honored his draft with handsome donations. Up to this time donations have been made by Morris & Co., Cordis & Co., Mescham & Galbreath, A. Vaccaro & Co., Pickett, Wormley & Co., Dr. Fenner, Day & Proudfit, J. F. Frank, Goyax & Neely, Kendig & Cook, J. Boro & Co., J. Torian, West, Cochran & Co., Cook & Co., Todd & Goyer, Keel & Co., Chase & McClelland, J. & J. Steele & Co., H. Dorr, Elliott & Atwood, L. C. Churchill, and M. Seelig. Liberal donations of vegetables have been made by Capt. Shirley and R. A. Parker. Mr. Underwood has as yet made no calls except on Front row, having on hand a stock that will take some time to distribute. Any one desiring to further a praiseworthy cause can do so by calling under the mayor's office, corner of Second and Madison streets.

Memphis Daily Appeal, May 31, 1861.

May 31, 1861 - Memphis system for providing relief to the needy families of volunteers to be adopted at Shelby County Seat at Raleigh

Relief for Families of Volunteers.-We have extreme pleasure in stating that ample relief will be extended to the families of those who are in the army of their country and whose families are without the means to maintain themselves. It was proposed to pay such families in orders on the county treasurer; these orders were to be used as money and paid to the storekeepers who would collect the cash from the treasurer. This system would have exposed the women who received the orders to the operation of "shaving" from such harpies as might be ready to take advantage of their helplessness, and of their ignorance of the stature of county paper, to fleece them. The orders would therefore have actually been worth to them a much lower sum than appeared on their face. They might have lost forty cents on the dollar, yet the county treasury would not be advantaged a cent, as the whole amount must be paid there. Another evil effect would have resulted from the depression of these orders-the county paper generally could not escape participating in the depreciation. To save the families of the volunteer from any possible imposition, and to secure to them all the advantages the county court intended, the banks of the city have undertaken to advance money to the county, and this money will be paid to the families of volunteers, enabling those who receive it to use it to the best advantage, to make their purchases where they please, and in such amounts as they choose, which could not have been done with county orders. On Monday a meeting of magistrates will be held at Raleigh, when the details of the mode of making the allowances will be decided upon; the scheme will
then go into practical operation. Some individual, whose patriotic benevolence will prompt him gratuitously to perform the labor, will probably be appointed treasurer of the county fund for the relief of the families of volunteers; to him the persons entitled to receive relief will apply at set intervals—once a week would be a good time—and he will pay them their allotted allowance.

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