

#### 4. MISSOURI DEMOCRAT ARTICLES, FEBRUARY WEEK FOUR

February 22, 1861



(FLP: Ser 1MD-Feb#31)

February 22, 1861

#### South Carolina vis-à-vis Missouri and the Death of Slavery

(Reprint/Editorial)

"Her interests are all with freedom and the free states, and her fortunes are irrevocably linked with theirs. Almost surrounded as she is by free states, and permeated by the wind currents of freedom which sweep upon her perpetually from those free states to her east, west and north, with the free navigation of her mighty river absolutely dependent upon the Union, with railroads sweeping across her from Illinois to Kansas . . . —what to her are the fidgets of South Carolina?"

(From the *New York Times*, Feb. 18)

There is no more preposterous fallacy than that which is just now urged with such persistence by the adherents of two opposing political factions—that the fortunes of the whole of the Southern states are irrevocably linked together for the support and propagations of slavery, or that, because that institution is recognized in them all, therefore their aims, interests, and destiny are identical. For the fact is, that the mere incident of slavery, so diverse in the different states in its extent, its scope, its history, and its power, can furnish no such almighty bond of union to the

exclusion of other interests, greater, more vital, and universal. There is far more real antagonism today, both of interest and principle, between Missouri and South Carolina than there is between Massachusetts and North Carolina. Nay, so radically diverse are the purposes of the disunion cotton states from those of the border slave states of the great West, that the latter could not exist a year in a confederacy in which South Carolina had a controlling voice.

The conspirators of the Deep South cotton states along the Gulf of Mexico, in their dreams of a slave empire, of which they shall be lords, would trample down every interest but their own; while in the border states of the West

and of the center, social and economic forces are working irresistibly to expel slavery, which can never be other than perturbing and hostile. With the one, the slave interest is supreme, while in the other, it is continually dwindling in power, and the broader interests of humanity are firmly asserting their supremacy and jealously maintaining it.

Compare, for example, the relative growth of the white and black races in Missouri and in South Carolina for the last ten years.

The new census<sup>390</sup> exhibits the remarkable fact that the free population of Missouri has nearly doubled within the last decade, being now (in round numbers) eleven hundred thousand, while the total slave population is only one hundred and fifteen thousand, or one black to ten whites, an increase of but thirty percent; and during the last two years, or since the decision of Kansas to enter the Union as a free state, the expansion of slavery has been checked, and the number has been stationary. The same ratio of increase of whites for the next ten years will give the state a free population of over two million; while, should the export of slaves southward go as rapidly as at present, the slave element in Missouri, in 1876, will not be much larger than it is now in New York; or for all practical purposes, be eliminated.

<sup>390</sup>See maps AM-6a, AM-6b, and AM-6c on pages 446-448, for more information on the distribution of the white, slave, and freemen population of Missouri.

In South Carolina, on the other hand, according to the ominous figures of Mr. Kennedy, there are in round numbers, one hundred thousand more black slaves than whites, while during the last ten years, notwithstanding the enormous export of slaves westward, the increments in both classes of her population has been just about the same. The ratio of her slaves, however, actually increases at a high rate, and but for the western outlet, they would now number two to one of the whites. And should she be finally cut off from the Union, and her Trans Mississippi slave market be shut off (as it certainly will be), and if this increase goes on, gathering force continually as it must, in two or three decades, the white population of South Carolina will bear about as insignificant a proportion of the total population as the blacks do to whites in Missouri. This, in the natural course of events, will cause her Palmetto flag,<sup>391</sup> to become the emblem of a black kingdom, not more imposing than any African kingdom.

What interest, then, has Missouri, the stalwart giant of the West in slaves, in common with this foredoomed kingdom of slaves?

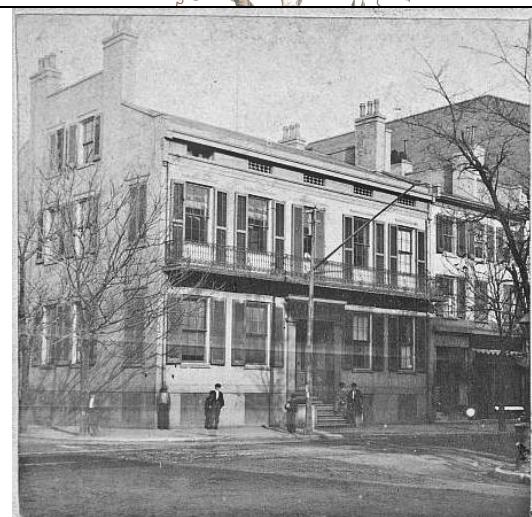
For the fact is, that in Missouri, slavery is but a temporary and exceptional affair left over from before the Louisiana Purchase, and not the all-together rolling affair that it is in South Carolina, and the entire abolition of the institution in Missouri today would not affect the interests of the state half as much as the secession furor has already affected those of South Carolina.

Missouri, too, knows well that all her splendid future, as well as her present greatness, depends upon the labor of the sturdy freemen,<sup>392</sup> who have been attracted by her liberal institutions, not less

than by her generous soil. And she knows also that that grand procession of pioneers, now converging towards there from all parts of Europe, who will before long make every acre of her magnificent domain smile with plenty, and her mineable minerals yield up those metals, which are for her a jewel richer than the product of a million slaves, would be suddenly and forever arrested, should she sacrifice, under the pretext of secession propagandism, the peace and security which she now enjoys. Her interests are all with freedom and the free states, and her fortunes are irrevocably linked with theirs. Almost surrounded as she is by free states, and permeated by the wind currents of freedom which sweep upon her perpetually from those free states to her east, west and north, with the free navigation of her mighty river absolutely dependent upon the Union, with railroads sweeping across her from Illinois to Kansas, with the vast commerce of the plains rapidly centering in her chief city, with the Pacific Railroad connecting her with the gold and silver mines of Washoe [Nevada], Pike's Peak [Colorado], and California, with energy, emigration and a boundless future—what to her are the fidgets of South Carolina?

We predict, then, that when on the 28th of this month, her Convention shall assemble to adopt measures for "vindicating the sovereignty of the state and the protection of its institutions," slavery will not be the only institution the vindication of which she will keep in view, but that

following the wise example of Virginia and Tennessee, she will resolutely declare for the perpetuity of that Union, under which she has grown, in half a century, from infancy into the proportions of a giant and become one of the foremost states of the republic, both in population and wealth. In the next ten years, she can accomplish what the folly of secession will delay a hundred years.



Office of Missouri Pacific Railroad Co.  
St. Louis, Mo. (c. 1867)

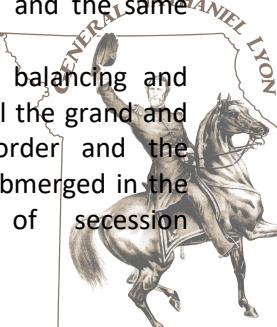
<sup>391</sup> Refers to the South Carolina state flag, which pictures the palmetto tree..

<sup>392</sup> In the city and county of St. Louis, there were more free blacks than slaves.

But a still more striking diversity in the slavery element than even that between Missouri and South Carolina is furnished by contrasting the state of Mississippi with Maryland. In Mississippi, during the decade, there has been an absolute increase of a hundred and seventy thousand slaves, or a surplus over the white growth of sixty thousand. In Maryland, on the other hand, the slaves have actually decreased five thousand since 1850, while the white population has increased a hundred and fifty thousand. Indeed, neither Maryland nor Delaware can now hardly come into the same social category with the slave states at all. In Maryland, the institution is rapidly disappearing, while in Delaware, their total slave population is hardly as many slaves as belong to some individual planters in the cotton states.

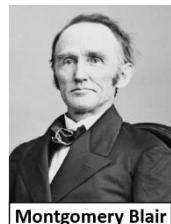
The same line of comparison might be run between other of the slave states, and the same striking contrasts would appear.

The fact is, that without the balancing and harmonizing power of the Union, all the grand and varied interests of the great border and the Western states would be utterly submerged in the one, all destructive, vortex of secession propaganda.

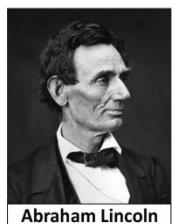


**Editor's Note:** In the article below, Montgomery Blair, the elder brother of Missouri's U.S. Congressman-Elect Francis (Frank) Blair Jr., is recommended for a position in Lincoln's Cabinet. Montgomery will be appointed Lincoln's postmaster general and become a very influential member of the Cabinet, especially concerning military matters. He will also play a major role in all issues concerning Missouri. Born in 1813, he was an 1835 graduate of West Point and fought in the Seminole War. After leaving the Army, he moved to St. Louis, was an attorney, a judge, and served as mayor in 1842-43. He moved to Maryland in 1852. After the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, he left the Democratic Party and became one of the founding leaders of the Republican Party. His

name will appear often in the volumes of this 1861 Missouri Speaks series.



Montgomery Blair



Abraham Lincoln



Frank P. Blair, Jr.

(FLP: Ser 1MD-Feb#31.2)

February 22, 1861

### Hon. Montgomery Blair

"The name that he wears is a synonym for all that is gallant and long-suffering in the service of the Republican Party. But in his moral fitness for a position in any president's Cabinet, we feel that we have a right to speak, for knowing him well, as do thousands of others in this city, we know that he is 'honest, faithful and capable.'"

In several quarters, we see very favorable mention made of the Hon. Montgomery Blair, of Maryland, to fill one of the Cabinet offices under Mr. Lincoln. Every honest citizen of the United States has felt his cheek mantle with shame at the disgrace brought on by our government and people by the corruption and treason of one of Mr. Buchanan's ministers.<sup>393</sup> No man can be unmindful of the hands into which the good name of our government is entrusted.

We hold, therefore, that it is the right of every loyal citizen to feel and manifest an interest in the appointments of Mr. Lincoln, or any other

<sup>393</sup> This refers to President Buchanan's Sec. of War, John B. Floyd, who used his government position to enrich himself and friends. Then when he knew civil war was inevitable, scattered the Navy around the world, and had arms and equipment from the Northern depots shipped South. After President Buchanan refused to pull Maj. Anderson out of Fort Sumter, Floyd resigned and went South, where he accepted a commission as a Confederate general.

president. And accordingly, we record our earnest desire to see so good a man as Judge Montgomery Blair placed in Mr. Lincoln's Cabinet.

We shall not dwell on Judge Blair's political claims for such an honor. The name that he wears is a synonym for all that is gallant and long-suffering in the service of the Republican Party. But in his moral fitness for a position in any president's Cabinet, we feel that we have a right to speak, for knowing him well, as do thousands of others in this city, we know that he is "honest, faithful and capable." He possesses a temper of wonderful equanimity, an impartial, upright and well-informed judgment, and firmness and courage for what he believes to be right, that no man in the Union can exceed.

Judge Blair's life-long experience in the ablest political school that ever gave direction to American politics (that of Old Hickory and Thomas H. Benton in their glorious days) gives him an advantage that few men in the nation can rival. We trust Judge Blair may be offered a seat in the Cabinet. A more honorable and [useful] public officer would never be found.

—*Evening News of Yesterday.*



(FLP: Ser 1MD-Feb#31.3)

February 22, 1861

## Missouri For the Union—Rejoice the Vile Reptile Secession is Slain

"In this glorious struggle, we have shown that with us, love of country is stronger than a love of party. We have proved that we are ready to act only with the men who are faithful to the Constitution and will sustain a government of equal and popular rights."

The day of our deliverance is at hand. The traitor army is routed. The viper foes of Missouri that have nestled upon her bosom until warmed into life by her kindness and forbearance, attempted to give her the vital sting, but through your courage, they have not succeeded. Through the trying ordeal just past, our beloved state has purged herself from the villainy of secession.

### **MISSOURI IS TRUE TO THE UNION**

Let the earth rejoice. Let the people unite in songs of thanksgiving. The arm of treason is broken. The hand that was raised against the flag of our country has been paralyzed by the almighty breath of the people. The sun of liberty yet smiles upon us, and tyranny trembles in view of the scaffold erected for its execution.

The blow was struck by your hand that has shivered into fragments the "cabbage tree" of secession, which traitors planted upon our soil, intending to water it with tears and blood of the laboring men.

By laying aside party and rallying so nobly around the standard of "Unconditional Union," you have given political schemers and disunion rebels a foretaste of what they may expect in the future at your hands. You have manfully defended your own rights. You have nobly sustained your own cause.

You have demonstrated what workingmen can do when called upon to uphold the honor of that country in which the hope of popular liberty is centered.

### **THE VILE REPTILE IS SLAIN**

The triumph is a complete and glorious one, and you have got the vile reptile, SECESSION, under your heel.

You have now but to follow up the good work, and take care that this same disunion serpent does not appear to you in another shape.

He is capable of assuming almost any form, but the mark you have put upon him will guide you correctly.

Look at the top of his head, and if you find there a mark in the shape of the heel prints of the workingmen, be sure it is he, and give him another.

In this glorious struggle, we have shown that with us, love of country is stronger than a love of party. We have proved that we are ready to act only with the men who are faithful to the Constitution

and will sustain a government of equal and popular rights.

By this position, let us stand in all coming time, and on the principle of a free, stable government, let us plant our batteries and live and die in defense of our liberties. With this resolve carried into action, we are secure against the ravages of foreign wars, or from the blighting curse of domestic treason. If we are true to ourselves and our own interests, we will have the best of help, for we help ourselves.

*"Who would be free,  
Themselves must strike the blow."*

Paul Plato

**February 23, 1861**

**Editor's Note:** At the time the article below was published, it did not reflect the actual conditions in the St. Louis Arsenal, as the arsenal commander, Brevet Major Hagner, would not allow Captain Lyon to make the necessary preparations to protect the Arsenal. Lyon released the information below to mislead the secessionists and deter an attack. After the Lincoln administration gave Lyon command of the Arsenal, something he should have had from the beginning, according to the Articles of War and Army regulations, Lyon implemented the precautions described in the article below.



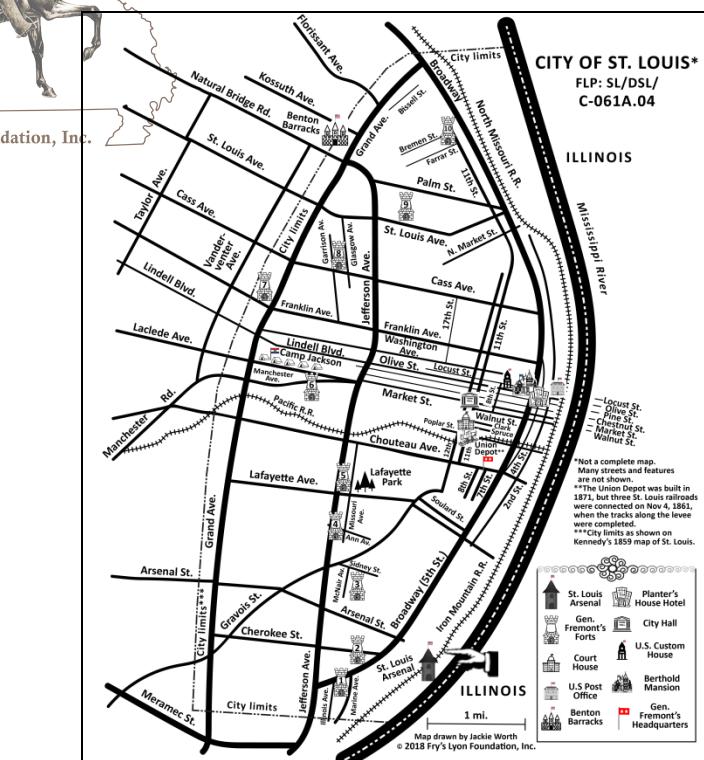
February 23, 1861

### The St. Louis Arsenal

**Condition—Preparedness to Repel an Assault**  
**—Names of the Officers—Discipline of Troops**  
(Editorial)

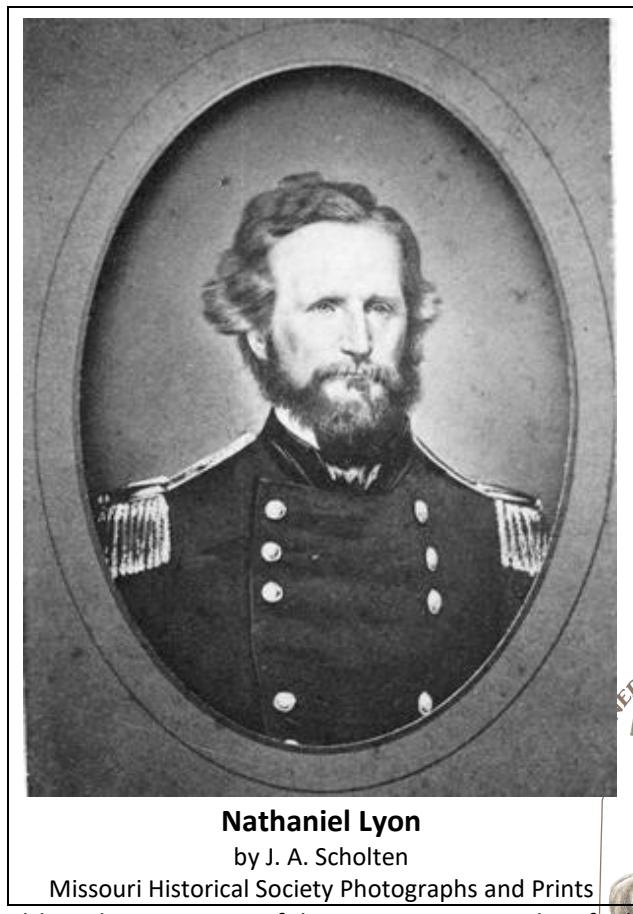
"The infantry soldiers are all good and true men. The officers are sound on the Union question, and would sooner die than see the Stars and Stripes hauled down and any mongrel secession flag hoisted in its stead, no matter by whom or under what authority."

If there be any secessionist or other persons in St. Louis or out of it, who is under the impression that the Arsenal in this city can be easily wrested from the possession of the United States government, let him at once stand on the idea; and if there be any Conditional Union man who goes to bed at night half inclined to fear that before he awakes the next morning, the Arsenal property will have been seized, let him henceforth rest in peace. The Arsenal is safe in the hands of United States troops, in force sufficient with the best of defense at their command to drive off ten times the number, with all the arts and implements of that likely to be brought into action by secessionists or others.



See map GM-7 on page 420 for an enlarged image.

We paid a visit to the Arsenal yesterday, and

**Nathaniel Lyon**

by J. A. Scholten

Missouri Historical Society Photographs and Prints  
 although it is a peaceful area, one cannot but feel the moment once the gate is closed upon him, that he is surrounded on all sides by terribly effective weapons of defense.

The number of men now quartered within the walls and capable of active service, is five hundred, with a large reserve team at the Jefferson Barracks, five miles below the city. The troops are divided into ordnance corps and infantry corps, the latter being responsible for its defense and the most numerous. The chief ordnance officer in command is Major Hagner, the second in command is Captain N. Lyon, recently arrived from Fort Scott [Kansas], whither he went in search of Montgomery's band,<sup>394</sup> on the occasion of the late outbreak on the



<sup>394</sup> Refers to the band of James Montgomery, an abolitionist who believed in destroying the South with "fire and sword," and was notorious for his raids on pro-slavery settlements along the Missouri-Kansas border. For more information on Montgomery, see (FLP: Ser 1MD-Jan#31.3.1).

border.<sup>395</sup>

The following is a list of all the officers, and the state from which they hail:

#### ORDNANCE CORPS

Brevet Major, Peter V. Hagner; Washington, DC  
 1st Lieutenant John W. Todd; Kentucky

#### INFANTRY CORPS

Captain Nathaniel Lyon; Connecticut  
 Capt. Alfred Tracy; Massachusetts  
 1st Lieutenant, William F. Lacy; Virginia  
 2nd Lieutenant, John A. Thompson; Virginia

#### ARTILLERY CORPS

1st Lieutenant, Rufus Saxton; Massachusetts

The infantry soldiers are all good and true men. The officers are sound on the Union question, and would sooner die than see the Stars and Stripes hauled down and any mongrel secession flag hoisted in its stead, no matter by whom or under what authority.

Brevet Major Hagner has recently arrived from Fort Leavenworth, and superseded Major Bell in the command of the post.<sup>396</sup> He is a brave and gallant officer. Captain Lyon, who is equal in line rank<sup>397</sup> to Brevet Major Hagner, is captain of the Second Infantry. Captain Lyon graduated from West Point in 1841, and immediately entered into active service as a 2nd lieutenant infantry company commander in the Seminole War, in Florida. After leaving

<sup>395</sup> See (FLP: Ser 1MD-Jan-Annex-14).

<sup>396</sup> Major Bell was removed at the request of the Union Safety Committee for suspected disloyalty. On January 24, Gen. Frost wrote Gov. Jackson advising him Major Bell was everything they could desire and would turn the St. Louis Arsenal over to the state whenever the time came. See (FLP: Ser 2PS-Jan#20).

<sup>397</sup> In reality, Nathaniel Lyon out-ranked Brevet Maj. Hagner, having been promoted to Regular Army captain earlier than Hagner (June 11, 1851 vs. July 10, 1851), even though Hagner graduated from West Point five years earlier. Hagner was a brevet major because the Ordnance Corps commander of the Arsenal calls for the commander to be a major; therefore, Captain Hagner had the temporary rank of brevet major while he was in command of the Arsenal.

Florida, he served along the Great Lakes in upstate New York. On the breaking out of the Mexican war, he was ordered to Mexico, and served under General Taylor, then Gen. Scott, in command of an infantry company. He participated in the storming of Vera Cruz, Cerro Gordo, Contreras, Churubusco, Molino Del Rey, and the final taking of the City of Mexico, where he was wounded. For his leadership and heroism in battle, he was promoted from 1st lieutenant to brevet captain. On the close of the war, he went to California; commanded several expeditions to Clear Lake and Russian River to chastise troublesome Indians, for which he was complimented by both the War Department and the Congress. He served on the Western Frontier from 1849 to 1854. After May of 1854, he was assigned to Fort Riley, Kansas, but served throughout the West. He arrived in St. Louis with his company to protect the Arsenal on February 27, 1861.

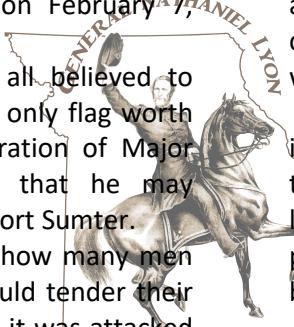
The subordinate officers are all believed to regard the Stars and Stripes as the only flag worth following. They have a high admiration of Major Anderson, and profess to hope that he may maintain his position unharmed at Fort Sumter.

We need not tell our readers how many men from the lower part of the city would tender their aid to preserve the Arsenal, in case it was attacked by secessionists, acting under state or individual authority.

#### NOW THE ARSENAL CAN BE DEFENDED

It is not our practice to state how the Arsenal will be defended, that is, of course, a military secret which it would be impolite to expose; but we can state the means of defense and the possibilities of the war, and with the assurance that the necessities are well understood by the officers in command and the means of carrying out the plans ready at a moment's warning, leave our readers to learn of it for themselves how the place can be defended.

It is well known that the Arsenal buildings and grounds are surrounded by a high stone wall. This is extremely fortunate, as it forms a basis of protective precautions. Plank platforms may be erected, but a hundred yards inside the walls and with a force of infantry to keep off intruders, the walls can never be scaled. This is an important point



gained. Sentinels now guard the wall, and a single shot would be sufficient to call several hundred men to arms in mere minutes. The gates are commanded by six four-pound howitzers,<sup>398</sup> protected by earthworks to keep off the fire of musketry or rifles. The soldiers can never be reached by rifle or musket, while a charge of grapeshot would scatter an assailing force at the gates quickly. There are some of these ugly customers at each gate.

The orders to prepare field works were received from the War Department<sup>399</sup> about two weeks ago. The work has been done promptly and well. The artillery is so distributed that any attack of the railroad could be repelled in a few minutes by running out a couple of guns beyond the walls in the southwest corner and completely keeping the track northward. Then inside, thirty-two pounders are arranged to sweep the length of the walls completely, so that if an assailant ever got over the walls they would meet certain destruction.

There are other means at hand to dispose of an invading force, should one be successful in reaching the inside of the walls; warning which we are not at liberty to speak but has been accomplished toward putting the Arsenal in a defensive condition, has been done quietly and without any noise or parade.

We are permitted to state that a large entity of arms lately stored in our Arsenal has been shipped to other states, principally to Wisconsin. As the southern states have had more than their share in the seizure of the arsenal in Charleston<sup>400</sup> [South Carolina], Baton Rouge<sup>401</sup> [Louisiana], and elsewhere, Secretary [of War] Holt, with a commendable sense of justice, has supplied the northwest from this point.

There is an abundance of stores, artillery arms, and ammunition left for practical purposes, and a force of laborers not engaged putting every musket, rifle, sword, and pistol into perfect order. The artillery is chiefly mounted. Sandbags for throwing

<sup>398</sup> Howitzer: a cannon which fired hollow projectiles and was lighter than its solid-shot cousins.

<sup>399</sup> See (FLP: Ser 2PS-Feb#11).

<sup>400</sup> The Charleston Arsenal was seized on December 28, 1860.

<sup>401</sup> The Baton Rouge Arsenal was seized January 10, 1861.

up fresh breaks are all ready for use, and in short, the condition of things may be pretty much called "on equal footing."

One company was engaged with muskets in target practice yesterday while we were on the grounds, and their proficiency would do credit to any of our excellent volunteer companies. At a distance of sixty yards, nearly every ball was inside a ring fifteen inches in diameter, and the bull's eye was completely riddled. We understand that the men take great pride in the ranks as to the best shot. A careful inspection of the arms and ammunition is ordered daily to see that neither are injured by dampness or otherwise.

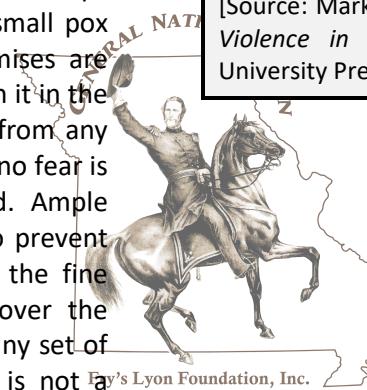
### THE SMALL POX

The quarters of officers and men are kept in the cleanest condition, and the health of the troops is generally good. The stories about the small pox epidemic in a fearful extent on the premises are exaggerated. There are a few men sick with it in the hospital, but they are kept entirely aloof from any contact with the main body of troops, and no fear is entertained whatever that it will spread. Ample precautions have been taken, however, to prevent it. We could not help being struck with the fine appearance of the men as we passed over the grounds. They look as well and hearty as any set of troops ever seen in this city, and there is not a rebellious spirit among them.

The American flag is hoisted at sunrise and lowered at sunset, with military honors. Long may it wave.

**Editor's Note:** Prior to Jackson being elected governor, he was the State Banking Commissioner. As a result, he was intimately familiar with banking operations and bank owners across the state. After Jackson took office, he developed a plan to fund the arming of his secession-minded supporters by having banks give special loans to wealthy landowners, who would then use the money to arm locally organized quasi-military units that could be brought into state service when

the governor was ready. "Neither the signers nor the bankers thought they would be personally responsible for repayment." Governor Jackson had assured them his new Confederate state government would assume the debt. However, after the governor was forced from the capital by General Lyon, and the loans became due, banking regulators required the borrowers to repay the loans when they came due. This caused formerly wealthy landowners to lose everything when they could not repay the loans. It is assumed that the new banking laws discussed below, being pushed by the secessionists in the legislature, had something to do with the governor's effort to arm his supporters. [Source: Mark W. Geiger, *Financial Fraud and Guerrilla Violence in Missouri's Civil War, 1861-1865* (Yale University Press, 2010), page 70.]



(FLP: Ser 1MD-Feb#32.1)

February 23, 1861

### The Bank Bills in the House

(Editorial)

"There seems to be an understanding or an agreement between the House and Senate. The House asks the Senate to pass its stay laws, and in consideration thereof, the House will pass the Bank bill, with slight amendments."

Jefferson City, Feb. 22.

The Bank bill came up before the House yesterday. The House refused to refer it to the committee and manifested a decisive desire to proceed to its consideration at once. The debate on it and amendments will take up doubtless several days. The bank influence (if the first action of the

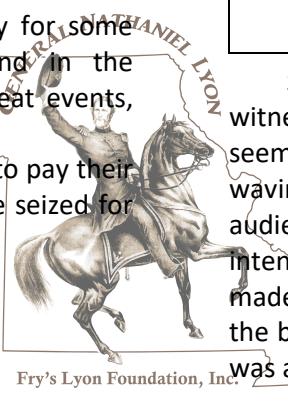
House is to be taken as a guide) is very strong, and they may be able to carry through a bill, which will suit only the banks.

There seems to be an understanding or an agreement between the House and Senate. The House asks the Senate to pass its stay laws,\* and in consideration thereof, the House will pass the Bank bill, with slight amendments. How this plan will work yet remains to be seen. If the Senate rejects the stay laws, then the bank bill will have a hard road to travel; otherwise, it will go through easily. The stay law advocates, who have a majority, use this argument:

*We wish to support the people; you wish to support the banks. Agree to our Bank Bill, and we will agree to yours.*

But this very proposition will delay for some time the final passage of either, and in the meantime, the times, pregnant with great events, may materially alter their final decisions.

\*Stay laws gave debtors extra time to pay their creditors before their property would be seized for payment.



Fry's Lyon Foundation, Inc.

## February 25, 1861



(FLP: Ser 1MD-Feb#32.3)

February 25, 1861

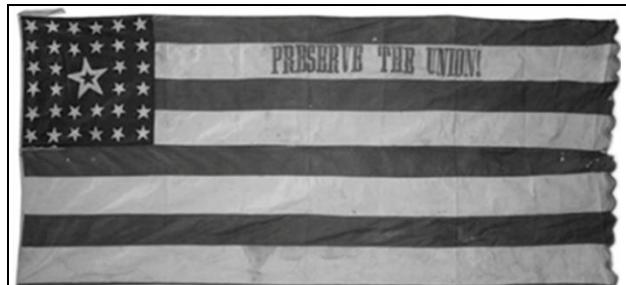
### Union Feeling—An Incident (Reprint/Editorial)

(From the Kansas City *Journal of Commerce*)

At the meeting on Saturday night [February 23] at the courthouse, an incident occurred that shows the feeling of the great popular heart on the question of Union.

Bantle's splendid saxhorn band had been taking their usual practicing lesson, and when their

lesson was over, adjourned to the courthouse and stationed themselves at the door, unknown to the great body of the immense audience. At the first interval in the proceedings, the close of Dr. Condiff's Union speech, they struck up "Hail Columbia," at the same time displaying the Stars and Stripes waving over the heads of the people.



**Stars and Stripes**  
**"Preserve the Union!"**

33 stars, 1859-1861

Such a scene of enthusiasm was never witnessed in the city before. The entire audience seemingly sprang to their feet and nothing but waving hats could be seen above the heads of the audience, while the cheers ran wild in their intensity, and with a prolonged continuance that made the building tremble. Old men jumped up on the benches and shouted with the vigor of youth. It was a memorable incident.

## February 26, 1861



Jefferson City (Missouri's Capital)



Missouri State Convention

(FLP: Ser 1MD-Feb#33)

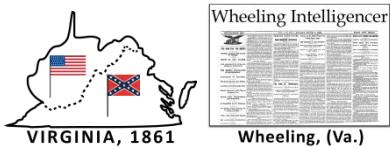
February 26, 1861

### What Is Said of Our Election (Editorial)

"The secessionists have been overwhelmingly defeated in Missouri by the national men of that state, many of

the prominent leaders of public opinion declaring that the institutions of the country must be upheld under all circumstances and that all political reforms be secured by legitimate and honest means. Differences in politics are not adequate grounds for the dismemberment of a government."

The following are reprints of articles from across the country.



The election news from Missouri is very meager as yet, but sufficient to indicate, beyond a doubt, that the Unconditional Unionists have carried the state by a heavy majority. In St. Louis County, the secessionists were nowhere. This result is most gratifying. It is one more link in that chain of border states that are tied to the Union and the Constitution—one more pound that is to break the back of secession. Nobly done, good and faithful Missouri!



The election in Missouri last Monday [February 18] resulted in the triumph of the Union party. In spite of all the wrangling of the *Missouri Republican*, the greatest lying disunion paper in the state, St. Louis rolled up a majority of nearly 5,000 for the Union candidates.



The secessionists have been overwhelmingly defeated in Missouri by the national men of that state, many of the prominent leaders of public opinion declaring that the institutions of the

country must be upheld under all circumstances and that all political reforms be secured by legitimate and honest means. Differences in politics are not adequate grounds for the dismemberment of a government and the consequent ramification of inconclusive evils upon these now living and their prosperity. Missouri has done nobly. It is almost a matter of wonder that any of her people were so politically demoralized as to seek remedies for political complaints in the total subversion of the liberties of the people.



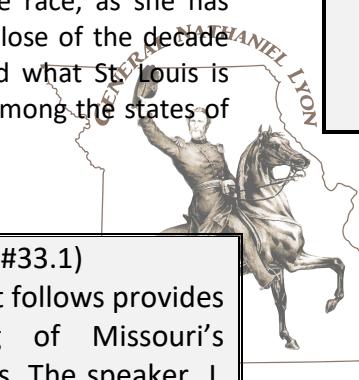
The reaction against secession in Virginia, Kentucky, and Tennessee resulted in a glorious climax in Missouri on Monday last.

The disunionists disguised their candidates in the garb of Conditional Union or anti-coercion men, and warred upon all Unionists as Black Republican abolitionists. The *St. Louis Republican* announced in advance that if the Unconditional Unionists should win, it would be nothing but a Republican triumph. The fight was therefore not a square one, and the traitors were overwhelmed. It would seem that if Missouri, a slave state, could thus pronounce in favor of absolute unqualified submission to the Constitution and laws of the land, while seven slave states profess to have grievances, enough to push them into an attitude of rebellion, that inhabitants of the free states might be expected to unanimously stand by the Union.



The intelligence received from Missouri must be cheering to every friend of the Union, as secession has been so completely defeated, that it will never again be heard of in the great pivotal state. The city of St. Louis gives a clear majority of four thousand for the Union, and it is supposed that hardly ten members in favor of separation have been elected to the Convention. If any state has

grounds for complaint, it is Missouri, surrounded, as shown, by free communities on three sides, but her loyalty is too great to be even shaken by trivial matters. More than this, Missouri has awoken to the consciousness of the magnificent future which awaits her, carrying, as she does in her girdle, the keys of the Pacific, as well as, the Mississippi, Missouri and Ohio valleys. If her soil is not fully equal to that of Illinois, her climate will more than compensate for this defect, while her mineral wealth is literally immeasurable. Her principal city, St. Louis, is destined to be the commercial center of the great valley, standing like a halfway house between New York and San Francisco, the three cities being likely to become the largest and most influential in their respective sections of the country. We are far mistaken if St. Louis does not distance Cincinnati [Ohio] in the race, as she has already beaten Chicago by the close of the decade on which we have entered. And what St. Louis is becoming, Missouri will yet be among the states of the Mississippi valley.



(FLP: Ser 1MD-Feb#33.1)

**Editor's Note:** The article that follows provides insight into the thinking of Missouri's secessionists toward St. Louis. The speaker, J. W. Tucker, was the editor of a South Carolina newspaper before moving to Missouri two years earlier. After he arrived, he became the editor of the St. Louis secessionist *State Journal* newspaper, and according to this article, the St. Louis *Bulletin* also. The *State Journal* was shut down on 12 July, at the order of General Lyon, as a seditious newspaper, and Tucker was eventually charged with treason. While his trial was in progress, he fled St. Louis and joined Gov. Jackson, who had already fled the capital. Afterward he became one of the editors of Jackson's State Guard newspaper, the *Argus*.

**Timeline:** Jul 12. - Col. McNeil, at the direction of Gen. Lyon, halts the publication of the *State Journal* newspaper. (FLP: Ser 2PS-Jul#49). The

reason given by McNeil for shutting down the paper is as follows:

*The Missouri State Journal, a newspaper printed and published in the city of St. Louis, has given and is continually giving, aid and comfort to those who are in active rebellion against the authority of the government of the United States. It has not only encouraged them by its persistent appeals to the people to take up arms against that authority but by its constant and continual publication of intelligence known to be false, respecting the troops of the United States, it has indirectly incited disaffected citizens to the commission of overt acts of treason.*



(FLP: Ser 1MD-Feb#34)

February 26, 1861

### **Secessionist J. W. Tucker's Opinion of St. Louis**

"He supposed Missouri would act in concert with the other border states. If the concessions they asked were granted, they might remain for a while in the Union; but he undertook to say that no patchwork of compromise, Crittenden's or any other, could long keep them with the North. Their feelings and interests were with the South, and the sooner they find it out, the better for them."

JEFFERSON CITY, Feb. 23, 1861.  
The stagnant waters of the Capitol were moved

last evening by a lecture from J. W. Tucker, Esq.,<sup>402</sup> of your city.

The lecturer commenced by modestly alluding to himself and the object of his address. He had a personal and political design of momentous importance to the people of the state, which he should presently explain to them. He did not, however, proceed directly to the point, but wandered off to the city of St. Louis. He talked about its growth, its destiny, the magnitude of its business and influence, which made it, in some respects, the pride and ornament of the state.



Joseph W. Tucker

### The Germans

The Germans, he thought, constituted the greatest number. They were not bad; they were frugal, industrious, but they were foreigners and hostile to the state government which protected them and to the institutions of the state. They were

<sup>402</sup> After moving to St. Louis in 1858, Joseph W. Tucker started the secessionist *Missouri State Journal*, which became Gov. Jackson's champion and mouthpiece. Publication of the paper was suppressed in July 1861. See (FLP: Ser 2PS-Jul#49).

in the hands of the Black Republicans, and were used to carry out their wicked purposes.

### City Government

The city government was in the hands of the same Black Republicans, and they filled all the offices from the judges to the street sweepers. They were worthy men for what he knew, but he believed every one of the judges were hostile to the institutions of the state, and to the policy and feelings of the legislature. These things ought to create apprehension and alarm, and St. Louis ought to be brought into harmony with the rest of the state.

### Newspapers

The newspapers of St. Louis were also hostile to the interests of the state, and exercise a disastrous influence. He expanded on the influence of the press, as molding and controlling the character, sentiments and political action of the state, and then described the troublesome influence of the newspapers in that city.



St. Louis, Mo.

(Democratic Party Paper)

He first took up *The News*, a very good paper, a respectable paper, and conducted by honorable gentlemen; but it was indecisive, unreliable, and its influence was disastrous to the South and to the institutions of Missouri. It never omitted an opportunity to slander and vilify the South. It spits upon the secession resolutions of South Carolina; it first suppressed the fact that Mississippi appointed a delegate to this state, and abused her for not doing so, and then when the commissioner came, wanted to know what business or right he had to dictate to this state. That paper first advocated the Crittenden Compromise,<sup>403</sup> and then went for Unconditional Union, and turned upon the friends of John Bell.<sup>404</sup>

<sup>403</sup> See (FLP: Ser 1MD-Jan-Annex-8).

<sup>404</sup> John Bell ran on the new Constitutional Union Party ticket in the 1860 presidential election. In St. Louis. There