

Eastern News.

THE SOUTH CAROLINA FLAG.—This glorious flag now flies from many windows of buildings in our city, and we hope in a few days to see hundreds of them unfolding themselves over our heads. No one, at the present time, can gaze on this standard of our State without feeling his heart swell with emotion, and his arm nerved and strengthened with a determination to stand by it to the last.—*Charleston News.*

PORTENTOUS.

The belligerent disposition of the Southerners is most strikingly manifested by the numerous and extensive orders received by fire-arms manufacturers in the Northern States. Most of the leading houses in New York, and Hartford, Ct., have received large orders. The house of Symm Bro., have already filled an order for five thousand stand of arms, United States pattern. It is stated by this house that only about 10,000 stand of arms can be procured at this time in the United States, and to supply more, orders exceeding this amount will have to be filled by importation from abroad. In addition to the muskets, they have made large sales of artillery swords, and army pistols.

Messrs. Cooper & Pond, of Broadway, are daily in receipt of from twenty to fifty orders from South Carolina, Alabama and Georgia. The bulk of the orders show that they are for military organizations, comprising as they do, principally rifles and navy revolvers.

Messrs. A. W. Spies & Co. have not been forgotten. Orders have been received for a supply of an indefinite number of Colt's revolvers and rifles. Most of these orders have come from Georgia, principally from Columbus.

Messrs. John P. Moore & Co., N. Y., have done for the last two months a very largely increased and increasing business, almost entirely with the South. As with the other firms, a large proportion of these orders are from South Carolina; but Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee and North Carolina have also bought freely. In addition to direct orders from these States, many are received through Philadelphia dealers. For evident reasons they do not wish to state the precise number of arms sold by them within the last sixty days, but they can be counted by thousands. Never since the first introduction of his famous weapons has Col. Colt's extensive factory been the scene of more bustle and excitement. Many and large orders have been filled direct from the factory, and the demand is but slightly diminished. A somewhat peculiar feature of the orders addressed to Messrs. Moore & Sons is the total absence in them of any allusion to the present political excitement.

Flags have not been forgotten. Mrs. McFadden, of Hudson street, finds herself unable to fill orders from the South for the manufacture of flags. The majority of orders come from South Carolina and Alabama. In leading demand by the South Carolinians is the "palmetto" flag. Recently, twelve were shipped to Charleston in the steamer Columbia. The flag has a white ground, a palmetto tree in the centre, and a red star on the right hand upper corner. Another flag manufactured by her has a red ground, with fifteen white stars in it. She has also made a large number of American flags, with this alteration, there being only one star in the place of the thirty-one in our national ensign. The principal flag being shipped to Alabama is one modeled after our national bunting, but having fifteen stripes and fifteen stars in a blue field, encircling the words: "A united South."

Within the past two weeks a large shipment of American ensigns have also been made to various parties. Doubtless other orders for arms and flags have been received from private parties at the South, but the few herein cited are sufficient to show the current of popular feeling.

According to an article in the *Richmond Dispatch* of the 19th ult., Virginia can at the present time arm efficiently about 25,000 men. She has at least sixty bronze and rifled field pieces and howitzers. A contract has been made for 3,000 shells and shrapnells in addition to those purchased with the Parrott guns. Five hundred barrels of Dupont powder has been purchased and stored in magazines built for the purpose. The model of a new Virginia musket is determined on. Other warlike preparations are also in progress.

The *Charleston Mercury* scouts Virginia's idea of holding a Southern conference, and says, too late, South Carolina wants no conference, but in the convention which will assemble to frame a constitution, compel the organization of a Southern confederacy.

The cannon in the citadel are being overhauled and cleaned up.

The military committee have agreed upon a plan for arming the State, and will report to the legislature immediately on its reassembling.

Hon. John Forsyth, of Alabama, and Senator Slidell of Louisiana, have come out for secession. Forsyth has issued an order at Mobile, for the enrollment of 8,000 men, to be placed under his command for the defense of the State. This creates serious thoughts at Washington, owing to the fact of Forsyth's known conservatism heretofore.

The Charleston merchants say that the people have suffered long enough by contracted, arbitrary plans. The banks have

been undergoing a money pressure during the past ninety days, daily growing worse. The policy now pursued is ruinous. They recommend all wholesale merchants to have a meeting to determine the course best to pursue. They say it is due the community that some relief measure be adopted by the bankers.

The *Courier* of the 19th ult., says:—"We assure our northern readers, and beg them to believe, that South Carolina will secede alone, if necessary, although we have no fears of that result."

The *Journal of Commerce* has the following brief allusion to the present stoppage of business:

Owing to the partial suspension of orders from the South, the small receipts of cash from that quarter, and the prevailing distrust and uncertainty as to the future, manufacturing operations have been suspended or greatly reduced by many large houses, thereby throwing numerous persons out of employment. One clothing establishment which we might name, has discharged 1,000 hands; a hat establishment has discharged nearly 1,000; a saddlery firm has reduced its force about 500; and curtailment is very general. At Newark, especially, the crisis is severely felt, on account of their extensive connections with the southern trade. Should there be no improvement, much suffering must ensue among the laboring classes. It appears singular at first sight, that thus far, houses in the western business are the largest sufferers; but it is inevitable that all classes of traders suffer from the prevailing panic, unless we except the manufacture of fire arms. It would probably be no exaggeration to estimate the number of persons thrown out of employment since election day at twenty-five thousand, a large proportion of whom are young women.