

**Where are Davis and his Men?—Doubts that the Virginia Ordinance of Secession will be Ratified by the People.**

There is a good deal of mystery hanging over the movements of the rebel troops and leaders, and hundreds of false rumors touching their whereabouts. Notwithstanding the newspapers have had thousands of Secession troops posted on Georgetown heights and commanding the city of Washington, together with Gen. Beauregard at Richmond with a large army, and Jefferson Davis with other troops within but a few hours march of that point, it is now ascertained that there certainly have been no rebel troops at Georgetown, and it is doubtful whether Davis and Beauregard have even started on their threatened raid on Washington. Indeed, a Richmond correspondent of the *Times* asserts positively that Jeff. Davis is still at Montgomery, and that Beauregard has not been in Richmond. Nor will the Secession leaders attack Washington, or make any hostile demonstrations toward the North, until after Virginia shall have joined the Southern Confederacy. And this latter event is not so sure to happen after all, inasmuch as the Ordinance of Secession has yet to be submitted to the vote of the people, who may repudiate it altogether. The unanimous uprising of the North—so totally unexpected by the Secession traitors—its warlike response to the movements of Davis and Beauregard, and above all, the countless myriads of excited troops who are gathering all over the States and hurrying towards the Virginia line, will have a wonderful effect in strengthening the Union feeling which still lingers among the masses, and urging them to one more effort to save their State from the vortex of disunion, while a corresponding

depression of the hopes of the Secession demagogues will be sure to follow. Besides, there is that minor Secession movement—the wheel within a wheel—which has gathered so much strength in the western half of the State, that it has already culminated in the call of a Convention to consider the question of a disunion of the Commonwealth. Western Virginia says plumply that she will not go with the Southern Confederacy, and this decision, when uttered with all the formalities and sanctions of a popular convention will have a salutary effect upon the movements of the eastern counties. To have the poisoned cup thus presented to their own lips, will have the effect of showing the people the absurdity as well as the wickedness of the whole scheme of Secession, and thus strike the movement stone dead.

Our news from Baltimore of to-day indicated also a great change in the feelings of her citizens touching the secession movement. The *Sun*, hitherto a bitter, out-and-out Secessionist, now takes the other tack, protesting against the passage of an ordinance, and denying the right of the Legislature to consider the matter. The stand taken by this city has doubtless had its share in bringing about this wholesome change in the tone of the leading Southern organ of Baltimore. Perhaps also the impending great slave stampede, which has just commenced on the Maryland borders, may also have had its effect, to say nothing of the numerous escapes from the city itself of its business men.

We have also to-day further rumors from the South, to the effect that large bodies of rebel troops are concentrating at various points in Virginia—at Harper's Ferry, Richmond, Norfolk, etc.; one rumor putting the force at Richmond at 28,000 men. But travelers who come direct from those places do not confirm these reports. They are evidently but exaggerated repetitions of the former rumors.