

draft from Mexico in January, 1848. Other sums were also added to the fund from the same source, as occasion would permit. But no Army Asylums were in existence, and not until Scott brought the matter specially before Congress, at two successive sessions, did he succeed in securing the necessary act. It was passed, finally, by the General's wise intercession, as we have stated, and he was made President of the Board chosen to select the sites for the several buildings ordered.

In the discharge of this duty he journeyed over the Middle and Western States, in the summer of 1851. The presence of the old hero gave occasion for hearty outbursts of enthusiasm along his routes of travel. Everywhere he was received with the utmost cordiality by all classes:—even those who had been influenced against him, as party servants of a powerful press devoted to the work of the Administration, did not fail to forget their *politics* in the presence of the war-worn servant of his country. In almost every village and town volunteers of the Mexican campaign came forth to greet their Commander-in-Chief, and many were the pleasant reunions which transpired.

The several Asylums were located with great good judgment. They will stand as not among the least monuments of his wisdom and humanity.

In January of this year (1851) the State of Virginia presented a very massive and elegantly wrought medal, inscribed: "The Commonwealth of Virginia presents this medal to Major-General Winfield Scott as a memorial of her admiration for the great and distinguished services of her son, while Commander-in-Chief of the American armies in the war with Mexico, 1847." The presentation was made in Washington, by a committee specially appointed by the Governor. It was a noble expression of the esteem with which Virginia regarded "her son."*

The popularity of General Scott rendered it evident that, if his consent could be obtained his name would come before

* How ought that State to blush for shame that some of its press, under the "Secession" excitement, has descended to the most foul imprecation of Scott for his adherence to the flag under which he has served for more than half a century! We have preserved some of those editorial ebullitions as a sad evidence of the caprices and want in dignity of American journalism. Their reproduction will serve to amaze another generation.