Mr.Giles F.Filley on Fremont.

(Statement of Giles F.Filley, of St.Louis, Mo., to J.McCan Davis, Dec.17, 1898. Mr.Filley was one of the prominent men of St.Louis during the war period.)

Fremont was so extravagant in his notions of things that soon all of his old friends left him. His vagaries were many. One of them I recall was his order requiring all wagons,in the commissary department to be drawn by white mules. I did not witness his departure for Cairo, but it was said that his carriage was wheeled down to the wharf behind six prancing horses. He telegraphed me from Cairo to have timbers sawed and put into a raft, on which he proposed to mount some artillery and then float the rafts down the river,sinking every floating enemy and annihilating every island that might have a hostile gun planted upon it. The scheme was never carried out.

Fremont, according to report, had a plan which contemplated the establsihment of three governments. The Northern Confederacy was to embrace the northern states east of the Mississippi,and was to be governed at Washington; the Southern Confederacy, the states then in rebellion; and the Western Confederacy, all of the territory west of the Mississippi. Fremont was to become dictator of this Western empire.

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