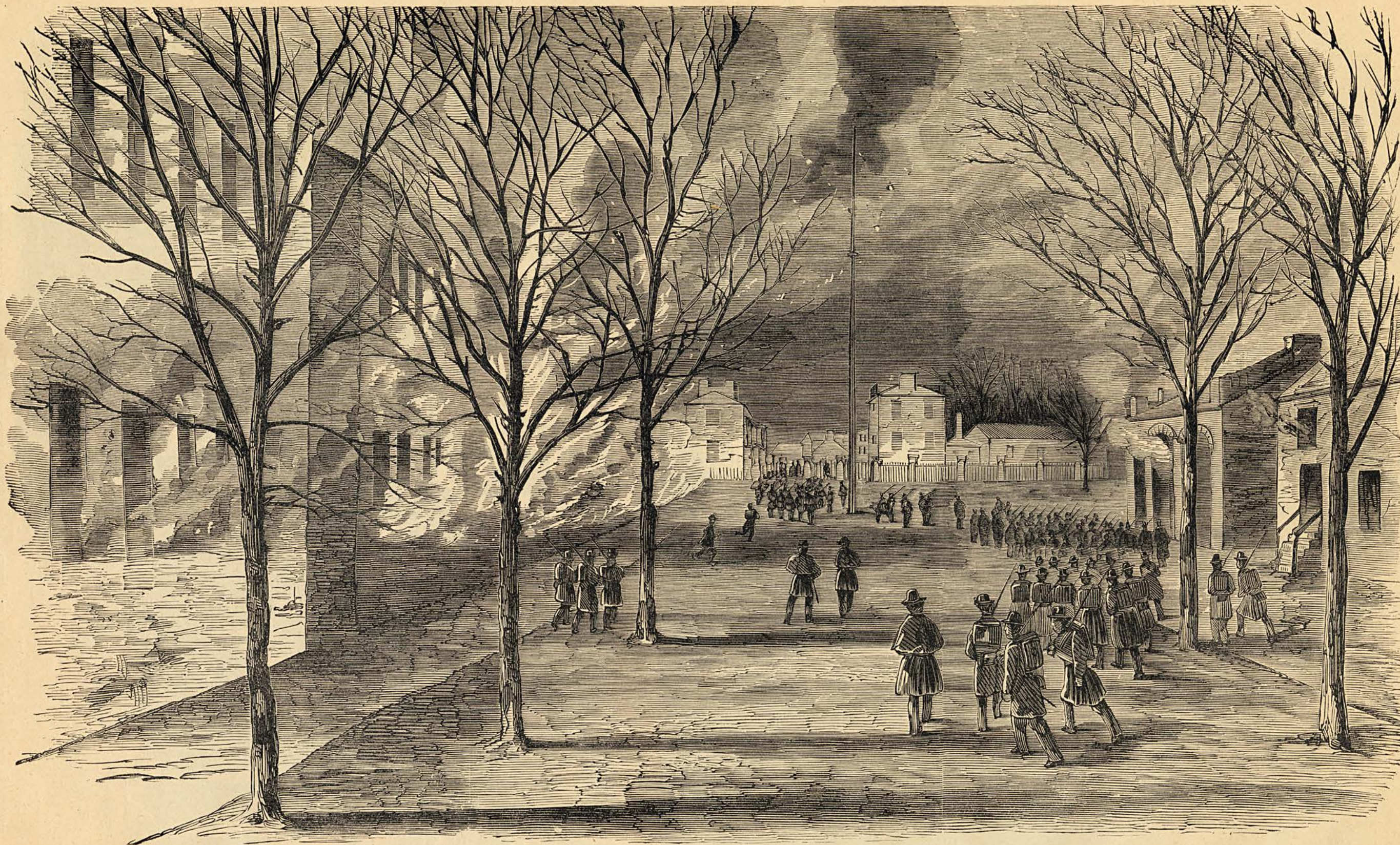




BURNING OF THE UNITED STATES ARSENAL AT HARPER'S FERRY, VA., APRIL 18, 1861.

At the outbreak of the war the United States possessed a few arsenals that had not yet been depleted or destroyed by the skill of those who organized secession. One of these arsenals was at Harper's Ferry. There, less than two years previously, had been enacted the ever-memorable tragedy of John Brown's final act of devotion to the cause in which he believed. Virginia seceded from the Union on the 17th of April, 1861, and on the following day the arsenal of the United States at Harper's Ferry was destroyed by fire. The scene is delineated in this engraving, which is a reproduction of a war time sketch. Very melancholy is this burning. The spring was late, and nature had not yet fully put on that array of green which was destined so many times before the end of the year to be dabbled with red.