



Clearfield, Pa., December 26, 1860.

Shall the Politicians, or the People Rule?

Our Government is upon the threshold of dissolution. The happiest and most prosperous nation in the world is momentarily threatened with civil war.

And what has caused this wonderful change in our nation's prosperity? We answer, the judgment of the people of the sixteen non-slaveholding States, as expressed by the election of Lincoln.

It may be that this, of itself, was not sufficient, any more than a single plank is enough to build a ship; but it is the "last feather" that has broken the camel's back.

But is there no remedy? We answer, there is but one. The North must either convince the South that the above is not a fair interpretation of the verdict of the late election, or else, that the North is willing to recede from that verdict.

Will either of these things be done? Seven weeks have now elapsed, and not a single word has come from the President elect—hence the South is compelled to understand him as still adhering to his formerly expressed opinion that this government cannot exist "half slave and half free."

No alternative, therefore, is left to the South. The abolition of slavery would be their ruin—and they prefer not to be ruined, and believe that in secession is their only hope.

Nor has the Republican party—as a party—taken a single step, in any quarter, giving the slightest hope of an adjustment. On the contrary, instances are not wanting in which they boldly and defiantly persist in their aggressions, and within a very few days. Witness the refusal of the Vermont Legislature, by a very large vote, to repeal their laws nullifying the Fugitive slave law; and also the vote in Congress the other day rejecting the resolution declaring slaves "property," within the meaning of the Constitution.

The first step in the Drama of the second American Revolution was performed in the Hall of the House of Representatives at Washington, at 4 o'clock on the 20th instant.

The vote of secession in the South Carolina State Convention was announced by telegraph to her delegation in Congress. It produced, as might be expected, intense excitement among the members of the House, and for a long time confused the proceedings.

"Heads, I win; tails, you lose," truly. Our neighbor very candidly admits that the North has something to concede. But in making these concessions the South is to concede a good deal more than she now complains of. If, says the Journal, the South will guarantee us "full freedom of speech and of the press," in order that we may go down their and preach and publish our Abolition doctrines among their slaves, and stir them up to cut their master's throats, we will kindly repeal our laws nullifying the Constitution.

from New England to Virginia or South Carolina.

Of course, every man of sense must know that no such conditions can be accepted, and that it is an insult to make the offer. If it is left, therefore, to such nincompoops to adjust our present difficulties, as a matter of course there is no hope, not of an adjustment—for that is past praying for—but for a re-construction. They would only make the trench wider, and a re-adjustment still more impossible.

There is no law in any of the Southern States that "interferes with the rights of the citizens of the North," unless we first "interfere" with their rights. The Slaves are the property of their owners—made so by the fathers of the Republic—and our neighbor has no more right to interfere with his property, to the prejudice of our national difficulties, and for averting the impending danger, have been presented by our wisest and purest statesmen, without, as yet, giving the least hope of success.

It is no plain that there is no hope for our country, unless THE PEOPLE rise in their majesty and take the direction of affairs into their own hands. We believe the great heart of the people is right. We believe they of the North and they of South are alike willing to "do as they would be done by"—and that if their united and concentrated voice could now be heard and understood, peace and good will would prevail throughout the land within twenty-four hours.

Shall Force be Used?

President Buchanan is just now the victim of a fresh outpouring of the personal abuse of his enemies. The choicest Billingsgate is too soft and mild to vent their spleen, and such epithets as, "traitor," "dotard," &c., are freely used; and forney, as a "Occasional," attempts to draw a parallel between the conduct of the President respecting the re-inforcement of the Forts at Charleston, and that of Benedict Arnold.

The wickedness of the heart that can perpetrate such outrages upon our country—for it is not Mr. Buchanan who suffers from such attacks—is without a precedent. No man with a spark of patriotism could do it. They are traitors and slanderers, not only of their country, but of humanity.

All this virulence is heaped upon the President because he—having a better knowledge of the circumstances than any other man—declines to precipitate a collision with South Carolina by reinforcing the military armaments at Charleston.

We have but little hope of averting a collision. We believe a collision will take place, and that before many days. But we are quite sure, and every man with an ounce of reason must agree with us, that had an increased force been sent to Fort Moultrie, it would have been considered a menace, or an act of coercion, and a collision must have been the result.

The vote of secession in the South Carolina State Convention was announced by telegraph to her delegation in Congress.

The South Carolina delegation immediately withdrew from the Hall, giving a final farewell to their associates, which seemed more like a departure of old friends than that of persons bound on a mission of, perhaps, a bloody Revolution.

CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES.—The National Intelligence, of Washington, says the population of the United States, as indicated by full returns of the census received at Washington, is 31,000,000, an increase since the census of 1850 of upwards of 7,900,000 persons.

EUROPEAN.—The steamship City of Manchester was intercepted off Cape Race, on Saturday morning and European advices obtained to the 13th. The political news is unimportant. The London Times censures the attitude of South Carolina in the position she has taken towards the Federal Government. Italian affairs remain unchanged.

Who are at Fault?

How perfectly ridiculous are the professions of the Republican journals, that they are "willing to do the South justice;" that they will "grant her all her just rights;" that they "seek not to invade or molest her;" and that they "design no interference with slavery where it exists, but that they only seek to prevent its extending to territory where it does not now exist."

Do these journals forget that in their platform of 1856, "slavery and polygamy" were declared to be "twin relics of barbarism?" Have they changed their opinion on this subject? If so, where is the evidence? If not, surely they must continue to war against this "twin relic of barbarism." If they still think it is barbarous to hold slaves, it is their duty, as civilized Christians, not only to prevent its extension, but to put it down wherever it exists.

But again: if they were sincere in their professions of non-interference with the admitted rights of the Southern people, why do they manifest such reverence for the memory of John Brown, the murderer? One of the most conspicuous banners borne in the great Republican demonstration made in Pittsburgh, just previous to the election, was inscribed, in glowing capitals, with the words, "We revere the memory of John Brown, of Ossawatimie." Is not this saying to all other fanatics, "go and do likewise; the cause is a holy one; you have our sympathies now, and when the proper time arrives you shall have our aid and protection."

This is the only fair, logical construction put upon such declarations and demonstrations by the Southern people. They are susceptible of no other interpretation. The Southern people, therefore, are compelled to look upon the people of the North as their deadliest foes—ready and willing to cut their throat—and steal and burn their property. Is it any wonder, then, that they seek a separation from us? Do not self-preservation compel them to it? Let any man make it a personal question, and bring it home to himself, and he must come to the conclusion that all our present difficulties and dangers are the legitimate consequences of the avowed and threatened aggressions of the Republican party upon the institutions of the South.

This is honestly confessed by some of them; but by the great body of them it is either denied, or their acts of wrong boldly persisted in and justified. Under such circumstances, can there be any hope of a re-adjustment? Can our Southern brethren be expected to strike hands again with us of the North, and look upon us as of the same household, as long as we stand convicted before the world as the canonizers of their murderers? Can they consent to live in terms of fellowship with us, whilst we are proclaiming our right to cut their throats and steal their property? Can we hope for a "Union of hearts and a Union of hands," as long as we insultingly proclaim them to be "barbarians?" Before this can be expected, we must purge ourselves of these wrongs. The Republican party alone can do this. Will they do it? We answer, never—if it is left to their present political leaders. If it is done at all, the PEOPLE must do it. Will they longer hesitate?

Lincoln's Views.

All attempts heretofore made to get a correct opinion from Mr. Lincoln upon the slavery question, have proved abortive. Whenever a call is made, the inquirer is cut short by the journals and leaders of his party, by referring to his public speeches and letters.

We have at length received one of his last letters, in which he defines himself rather clearly, as follows: "This is a world of compensations; no one who would be no slave must consent to have no slave. Those who deny freedom to others, do not deserve it for themselves, and, under a just God, cannot long retain it."

This is an extract from a letter Mr. Lincoln addressed to the Republicans of Boston, in answer to an invitation to participate in the celebration of Jefferson's birthday, on the 14th of April last. We understand that this letter has been extensively circulated at the South, which the people there receive as the worst kind of political heresy. In it he attacks every Southern sentiment, and even the Deity himself.

We have carefully reviewed Mr. Lincoln's political record, and have arrived at the same conclusions that Mr. Greeley and Mr. Giddings have: that he has been, and will continue to be so hereafter, an ultra Republican.

We believe, however, that the present state of things will compel Mr. Lincoln to change his natural course, and fall back, to receive his future support from such men as Bates, Corwin and Cameron. We incline to think the President elect will treat Greeley & Co. in the same way that they treated their party in 1852—"spit upon" them.

We would gladly point our readers to something more than Abolition sentiments in the life and career of Mr. Lincoln; but for this we have no warrant. Whatever conservative opinions we concede to him are mere conjecture and speculation. He is bound to deceive Greeley & Co., who elected him, or Bates & Co., who alone are fit to conduct the Government.

PRINCE ALBERT, midshipman, will visit the West Indies and North America, early next year.

Latest from Washington and the South.

The late news from the South, is deplorable in the extreme. Two important events transpired on the 20th instant, and at about the same moment—the one at Washington, the other at Charleston. As the years and days were being taken in the House of Representatives at Washington, on the passage of the Pacific Railroad Bill, the year, 1860, (for there were no days) were being taken in the State Convention at Charleston, in favor of the ordinance declaring the secession of South Carolina from the Union!

The perfect unanimity of this vote shows that secession is not a scheme, either of revenge or of ambition on the part of such leaders as Keitt, Rhetts, and others, but is the universal sentiment of her people.

The Railroad Bill passed by the significant vote of yeas 95 nays 74. The following synopsis of the bill will show the route contemplated.

The committee adopted Mr. Curtis substitute, which provides for a road starting from the Western border of Missouri and the Western border of Iowa, with two converging lines westward, meeting within 200 miles of the Missouri river, thence proceeding by a single track line by the nearest and best route, via the vicinity of Salt Lake, to San Francisco, or to the navigable waters of the Sacramento. It also provides for a road from the western border of the South-western States, starting from two points, namely, Fort Smith, and the Western border of Louisiana, with two converging lines leading Westward, uniting with the Southern Pacific Railroad company, chartered by Texas.

The Committee of thirteen called for by the resolution of Senator POWELL of Ky., was announced on the same day, and is as follows:

Messrs. Powell, Hunter, Crittenden, Seward, Toombs, Douglas, Collamer, Davis, Wade, Bigler, Rice, Doolittle and Grimes.

Mr. Davis asked to be excused on account of the position in which his State stood, and he was excused.

If this committee, in conjunction with a similar committee of Thirty-three, heretofore appointed in the House, are unable to devise a plan for the re-adjustment of our National difficulties, we may as well "hang our harps upon the willows"—and the demagogues and fanatics, in both sections of the country, who have brought us to this fearful state of things, will have a terrible reckoning with the friends of Humanity everywhere.

The following despatch, which we cut from the Philadelphia papers of the 22d instant, contains about the only sunshine we have from the South:

THE SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE.—SLAVERY TO BE THROWN OUT OF CONGRESS.—Washington, Dec. 21.—The Senate Select Committee on the Crisis met to-day, and had a free interchange of opinions, during which Mr. Douglas said he was ready now to unite in recommending such amendments to the Constitution as will take the slavery question out of Congress. In view of the dangers which threaten the Republic with disunion, revolution, and civil war, he was prepared to act upon the matters in controversy without any regard to his previous action, and as if he had never made a speech or given a vote upon the subject. Senator Bigler, who is on the Committee, has been for some days maturing a plan by which the slavery question, by an amendment to the Constitution, may be removed altogether from Congressional control. It meets with the approbation of distinguished gentlemen.

"Free Homes and Free Labor."

The "Republican" leaders promised the people "free labor" as one of the results of their success, and they are giving it to them with a vengeance. Labor is so "free" that it can be had for almost nothing. It is getting down to the starvation point. As an instance of the way people who voted for Lincoln are waking up to the terrible realities of driving our customers from us, we cite the following: A gentleman of our acquaintance met a mechanic who had voted for Lincoln. "Well," said he, "how goes the times?" "Ah," said the mechanic, "bad enough, I am out of work. Nothing to do and no prospect of any." "Well why did you vote for Lincoln?" "Because I believed what they told me, that it would do no harm to the country; but if I had my vote to give over again, I would cut my hand off before I would do it." "So you begin to see your folly," said our friend. "See it!" replied the mechanic, bitterly, "I wish to God I could feel that my wife and little ones would be as well cared for this winter as the Southern slave and I would be happy!"

Such is the sorrowful picture now just beginning to loom up before us. The hard times have not yet fairly begun to pinch. The working classes have not been long enough out of employment to consume their scanty sums saved up, but in four or five weeks these will be gone, and then look out. The people, so long blindfolded, will see the guilty demagogues who have used the negro for the destruction of the white men. They will mark those who have sung of negro freedom only to destroy the white man's liberty to earn bread for his starving family, and when they see all the terrible consequences of negro equality, the result will shake northern society to its very foundation. Messrs. Republicans, don't worry yourselves about the South. Revolution is at your own door. Acteon, you know, was devoured by his own dogs. Day Book.

T. H. Force has been appointed Postmaster at Grahamton, in place of James B. Graham, resigned.

THE SENATE CRISIS COMMITTEE.

We copy the following synopsis of the proceedings of the "Senate" Crisis Committee of Thirteen, from the New York Herald of the 24th instant. The reader can judge of the prospect of an adjustment.

The Proceedings on Saturday—The Determination of the Republicans to make no Concessions.

The Senate Committee of Thirteen were in session in Washington six hours and a half on Saturday, considering various propositions to arrest the progress of dissolution and give peace to the country.

The amendment to the constitution proposed by Mr. Crittenden, to settle the controversy between the North and the South finally and forever by a division of the country from ocean to ocean, on the parallel of the Missouri line, was the great subject of discussion. Messrs. Crittenden, Douglas and Bigler maintained it with great zeal and ability.

Mr. Douglas reiterated his former determination to consider the question for the preservation of the country, as though he had never cast a vote or uttered a sentiment on the subject before. If that mode of compromise would not answer, he declared himself willing to go for any other consistent with honor or justice.

The appeals of Mr. Crittenden in behalf of the Union are said to have been eloquent and sublime. He, too, was willing to embrace any other effective mode of adjustment.

Mr. Bigler, of Penn'a, preferred a division by a line across the country, because in that way the question of slavery could be taken out of Congress and separated entirely from the popular elections in the North, without which we never could have permanent peace.

Messrs. Wade, Doolittle, Collamer and Grimes opposed the proposition with much earnestness and ability. They maintained that the people in the late election decided the question of slavery in Territories, and, therefore, they had no concessions to make or offer. They manifested great unwillingness to act in the absence of Mr. Seward, but as they could give no assurance of his immediate return the committee declined to defer action on account of his absence.

Messrs. Davis, Toombs and Hunter discussed the present unhappy condition of the country with unsurpassed ability, and whilst manifesting a willingness to accept any measure of final settlement which would secure their just rights in the Union, insisted that propositions must come from the dominant party, the Republicans.

The vote on Mr. Crittenden's proposition was as follows:— For the proposition—Messrs. Bigler, Crittenden, Douglas, Rice and Powell—5. Against it—Messrs. Davis, Doolittle, Collamer, Wade, Toombs, Grimes and Hunter—8.

Messrs. Hunter, Toombs and Davis, nevertheless, intimated an inclination to go for it if the Republicans would propose it in good faith.

The second proposition submitted by Mr. Crittenden, denying the right of Congress to abolish slavery in the dockyards and arsenals, was voted against by Messrs. Collamer, Doolittle, Grimes and Wade—4. The remainder of the Committee voted for the proposition, but as it had not a majority of the Republicans, it was defeated under the rules adopted by the committee, that no proposition should be considered adopted and recommended to the Senate which did not receive a majority of the Republican votes, and also a majority of three opposed to the Republicans.

The third clause, denying to Congress the right to abolish slavery in the District of Columbia, was defeated by the same vote, the Republicans all voting against it, and the remainder of the committee for it.

The fourth clause, establishing the right of transit, was defeated by the same vote.

The fifth, which is intended to perfect the Fugitive Slave law, by requiring the several States to pay for fugitives who might be recaptured from the officers of the law, was lost by the same vote, the Republicans all voting in the negative.

Many other propositions were offered and voted upon, but none of leading importance—none that would meet the great exigencies of the times.

Mr. Davis submitted a resolution expressly recognizing property in slaves, but no vote was taken on it.

Mr. Toombs submitted a series of resolutions embracing substantially the principles of the Breckinridge platform, but final action was not taken on them.

The committee adjourned to meet at ten this morning.

The Death of a State.

The following solemn and striking passage may be of use in a time when so many think lightly and speak wantonly of the political convulsions, the dying agonies, as they may prove to be, of a great nation. It is an address by one of the most illustrious scholars of the country, Dr. Taylor Lewis, of Union College. Express.

"The State," says the great philosopher of Rome, "undergoes no natural death; that is, no death in the ordinary course of nature, like a man; but when taken away, is utterly extinguished and blotted out. It is as if a world had perished—simile est ac si omnis hic mundus interiret et concideret." Even the external form is gone; there is no longer anything to define its outward or internal boundaries. Its people, in that case are no longer fellow-citizens, or even citizens of anything. They are mere men and women, with no other relation than that of mere contiguity. Its territorial limits vanish or remain only as enclosing a political vacuum surrounded by other States. A political death comes over what before was full of social life, and society is decomposed into its individual elements. It is no longer a body, but a mass—a mass of pre-tercent and fermenting atoms.

"At whose command shall these fragments again come together? Who, by an inherent political power, shall again breathe into them the breath of life? From this valley of dry bones a State or States may at some future time arise; but God alone can determine the time and manner of its resurrection."

AMALGAMATION.—A policeman of Cleveland informs the editor of the Plaindealer, of that city, that he personally knows of over thirty negroes who are living as man and wife with white women in the city of Cleveland.

STATES WITHDRAWING.—It is now ascer-

tained with a positive degree of certainty that the following States will secede the days named, unless they conclude to keep their Conventions in session until that of Georgia meets, which is on the 18th of January, when they will go on altogether:

- Alabama—Convention meets Jan. 7; retires Jan. 10.
- Mississippi—Convention meets Jan. 7; retires Jan. 10.
- Florida—Convention meets Jan. 3; and will probably retire with Alabama and Mississippi.

It is expected Arkansas and Texas will not be long behind them.

Philadelphia Markets.

PHILADELPHIA, Monday, Dec. 25.
 COFFEE is in fair demand at forward prices. Sales of 600 bags Rio at 11 1/2 @ 12 1/2 per lb. 4 months.
 CLOVERED is rather scarce, and is wanted. Small sales of good quality at \$3 3/4 per 64 lbs. and 500 bushels handsomely at \$5.60. For Times, and Flaxseed prices are entirely nominal.
 FLOUR.—There is more inquiry for Flour and prices are firmer. Sales of 1500 bushels, including mixed and good superfine, at \$4 75 @ \$5 per bush. and 1000 bushels Western extra on private terms. There is a steady home consumption demand from our lowest figure up to \$6.50 for common and fancy brands, according to quality. Fine Flour is scarce, and commands \$3 62 1/2. Corn Meal is very quiet; the last sale of Pennsylvania was at \$2.50 per bush.
 GRAIN.—Wheat is in active demand, and has advanced 2c. per bush. about 10,000 bush. were disposed of at \$1.25 for prime Pennsylvania, and \$1.35 @ 1.45 for white, including 7,000 bushels Southern red for export on private terms. 500 bushels Pennsylvania Rye sold at 75 @ 76c. Corn is rather quiet. Sales of old yellow at 6 1/2c. and new do. at 5c. Oats are steady at 32c. for Delaware, and 32 @ 33c. for Pennsylvania.

Clearfield Markets.

Corrected weekly by C. KRATZER & SON, Wholesale and Retail Dealers in Groceries, Provisions, and General Dry Goods.
 Buckwheat 3/4 Bu. 1.00
 Rye " " " " 1.00
 Corn (ears) " " " " 1.00
 Clover seed per bush. 0.40
 Flour, Sup. Fine, 3/4 bbl. 7.00
 " Extra " " " 6.00
 Dried Apples, 3/4 bbl. 1.00
 Butter " " " " 1.00
 Eggs 3/4 doz. " " " " 1.00
 Beans 3/4 Bu. " " " " 1.00
 Salt 3/4 Sack. " " " " 1.00
 Hops 3/4 lb. " " " " 1.00
 Rags " " " " 1.00
 Bacon, Sams and sides, 1.00
 Wheat per bush. 1.50

DIED.

In Lawrence township, on the 23d instant, Miss SARAH, wife of Milton McBride; aged 33 years and 9 months.
 Dearest mother, thou hast left us, Here thy loss we deeply feel; But 'tis God that has bereft us— He can all our sorrows heal.
 Yet, again, we hope to meet thee, When the day of life has fled; Then in Heaven, with joy to greet thee, Where no farewell tear is shed. Centre county papers please copy.
 In Becaria township, on the 8th of October last, Miss SARAH DILLON; aged about 22 years.
 In Becaria township, on the 11th instant, HANNAH, wife of John Dillon; at an advanced age.
 In Becaria township, on the 21st instant, Mr. GEORGE DILLON; aged about 24 years.
 In Lawrence township, on the 20th instant, of diphtheria, ALLEN BARBERT, son of Isaac and Matilda Thompson, aged about 4 years.
 In Lutherburg, on the 21st instant, Dr. JAMES DOWLING, of Brookville; aged about 50 years.
 In Morris township, on the 20th instant, of diphtheria, ANDREW KERRHART, aged 22 or 23 years.

JOHN ODELL.

UPHOLSTER AND CARRIAGE TRIMMER.

Located at A. H. Shaw's Mills, one mile East of Clearfield borough.

Respectfully informs the citizens of Clearfield and adjoining counties, that he is at all times prepared to manufacture, at the shortest notice, Hair, Rush, and Straw Mattresses of all kinds and sizes, one of which is a Folding Mattress, suitable for CABINS ON RAILS, which can be folded in small compass, and emptied and refilled at pleasure; and very cheap. He also trims Carriages, makes repairs to all kinds of Carriage Trimming and Upholstery, and makes Cords for Mason's Trench Lines, of any thickness or length. Country Produce, Corn Husks, or Cash taken in Exchange for work. All orders left with any of the Merchants of Clearfield borough will be promptly attended to. dec25-26.

HARTSWICK'S DRUG & VARIETY STORE.

MARKET STREET NEARLY OPPOSITE JAIL. The undersigned will have constantly on hand a well selected stock of Drugs, Chemicals, Dye-Stuffs, Oils, Paints, Tobacco and Segars, Stationery, Perfumery, Brushes, and Fancy articles, which he will dispose of cheap for cash. He invites the public to call and examine his stock of goods before purchasing elsewhere. Country Physicians furnished with Drugs, Medicines, and Surgical Instruments at the most reasonable rates. J. G. HARTSWICK. Clearfield, Pa., Dec. 26, 1860.

LICENSE NOTICES.

THE following named persons have filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Court of Quarter Sessions of Clearfield county, their Petitions for License at the January Session next, agreeable to the Act of Assembly of March 28th, 1856, entitled "An act to regulate the sale of Intoxicating Liquors," &c.

BRANSON DAVIS, Lumber City but R. J. Haynes, Karthaus tp. Clearfield tp. James Gibson, sen., Bloom tp. A. L. Ogden, Lawrence tp. Joseph L. Curby, Lumber City.

MERCANTILE LICENSES. O. B. Merrell, Clearfield tp. P. T. Hegarty, Covington tp. Jos. C. Brenner, Morrisdale.

JOHN L. CUTLER, Clerk Q. S. Dec. 26th.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.—Letters of Administration having been this day granted to the undersigned on the estate of GEORGE DILLON, late of Becaria tp., Clearfield county, deceased, all persons indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment, and those having claims against the same will present them duly authenticated for settlement. JOHN WELD, Jr., Adm'r. Becaria tp., Dec. 24, 1860. dec25-26.

Boots and Shoes. A larger stock and lower prices than ever. At the Clearfield Postoffice. Curwensville, May 16, '60.