



CLEARFIELD PA., JANUARY 16, 1861.

From Harrisburg.

Our Representatives at Harrisburg have let off a great amount of "gas" during their two weeks session which has just passed. It seems as though our national troubles were of but very little importance, being treated as secondary matters.

They have also passed a Resolution through the Senate authorizing the speaker to appoint a new Committee, similar to Massachusetts and South Carolina, to be styled "Committee on Foreign Relations."

In the House the negro worshippers have been quarrelling for several days, as to whether the Wide Awake or the Volunteers should lead off at the inauguration of Governor Curtin.

Our Senator, Col. Hall, is Chairman of the Committee on Estates and Escheats, second on the Committee on Corporation, and third on Judiciary Committee.

In the House, Mr. Gordon is Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, and also placed on the Committee of Education and Library. Mr. Lawrence is placed upon the Committee of Ways and Means, and Corporation.

Mr. Gordon is very much in favor of Wide Awake-ism. He is their champion in the House. We presume this is caused by the moral atmosphere which usually surrounds the midnight parades of these Clubs.

In the Senate, on the 11th instant the resolutions of Senator Welsh, proposing to repeal the obnoxious provisions in the act of 1847 and the Penal Code were voted down.

The news from Washington is of the most deplorable character, notwithstanding the continued secession in the Southern States, the majority in Congress act as though they were determined to bring about a dissolution of the Union.

The punishment of Col. Forney, like that of Cain, is becoming greater than he is able to bear. Hear him in his issue of the 11th instant: "Nothing could give us more pleasure than to speak kindly of James Buchanan. When, more than three years ago, we were constrained to denounce his Kansas policy, it required a struggle such as those only can understand who are called upon to separate from an old friend, and to substitute the language of harshness for that of confidence and esteem."

From Washington.

By order of the Governors of the States in which they are situated, the State Militia have seized eleven Forts, which cost the General Government \$5,500,000, and amount 225 guns of the largest size.

Secretary Thomas, who succeeded Mr. Cobb, has resigned, and Hon. J. A. Dix Post Master at New York has been appointed to the vacancy.

The President's Cabinet stands now as follows:

Secretary of State—Mr. Black, of Pa. Secretary of the Treasury—Mr. Dix, of N. Y. Secretary of the Navy—Mr. Toucey, of Conn.

Secretary of War—Mr. Holt, of Ky. (acting). Secretary of the Interior—Vacant. Postmaster General—Mr. Holt, of Ky. Attorney General—Mr. Stanton, of District of Columbia.

A difficulty between Gen. Scott and Senator Toombs occurred at a private dinner party on the 10th inst. High words passed between them. According to the relations of the scene in Congressional circles, the conversation turned on the sending of troops to Charleston, when Mr. Toombs expressed a hope that the people there would sink the Star of the West.

Gen. Scott, with much earnestness, asked if it was possible that he, (Toombs) as an American, desired such an event.

Mr. Toombs replied, affirmatively, and that those who sent the vessel there should be sunk with her. Gen. Scott then said he was responsible for what he said, and Mr. Toombs remarked, "You have known me for twenty five years, and am aware that I, too, am responsible."

Who states the Truth?

"The call upon Ministers and people is extraordinary. The Government and nation are fully alarmed—the public danger is great and imminent. In this crisis to whom shall we go? Where turn our anxious eyes, but to God?"

"The Government is in the throes of dissolution. Treason and robbery run riot in the Departments. The National Finances are ruined. The public credit is at its last gasp. Traitors by scores sit in Congress, and are paid in preference to true men."

"Astounding—the fact, that persons two miles from this place should follow their usual avocations and are as happy and contented, as if no secession hub-bub prevailed in Clearfield Borough."

It is indeed mortifying to know that there are a number of individuals in our midst, who ggle, snarl, and snaffle at our national calamities, as if they held the destiny of nations in the hollow of their hands.

If they remain consistent in their present course, we expect to see them dance a jubilee upon the graves of their Fathers.

In order to let the public judge for themselves what our surroundings are, we publish the above three extracts from high authority. The first is from a call of the Clergymen of Clearfield; the second is from the N. Y. Tribune; and the third and last is from our neighbor—the Journal. We hope the Journal will not insist on its versions of the state of the country, against the above authorities; but we expect it to tell its readers who states the facts in the case.

Drawing Lines.

It is amusing to see the wincing and dodging of late among the blackest Republicans, led on by the Tribune, and followed by our neighbor, the Journal.

These Northern Disunionists, like their Southern allies, are moving everything before them, to bring our country to disgrace and ruin. We are glad to see that a breach has been made in the ranks of this desperate opposition, led on by the Albany Journal, heretofore an Abolition paper, which controlled the local politics of New York.

The Chicago Platform is bound to go under, with every adherent that attempts to stay upon it. Sectionalism, both North and South, by whatever name it may be called, will soon be buried beneath the feet of a free and independent people.

Demagogues, who seek Platforms and Party in preference to patriotism, will ere long be cast away and despised like their fathers—the Tories and Traitors of the American Revolution.

We hope that our happy country and her glorious institutions will overcome the boisterous waves that are now beating high against our gallant ship of State. We believe the Great Governor of the Universe will deliver us again from the hands of our enemies, and restore us in a peaceful manner to our heretofore happy firesides.

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We hope Mr. Forney will close his next eulogy on the President with something like the following:

"O, that my load of sin were gone, O, that I could at last submit."

Or, "While the lamp holds out to burn, The vilest sinner may return."

All a Mistake.

We copy the following article from the Chicago Daily Times of the 2d instant, as it will, no doubt, amuse our readers:

THREE CHECKS FOR GOV. CURTIN.—Our readers will find in our telegraphic column a synopsis of the message of Gov. Curtin, of Pennsylvania. It breathes a noble spirit of concession and many fairness. Gov. Curtin has dashed the bonds of party to the dogs, and meets the great Revolution that now rages in the Republic in the spirit of a patriot and an honest man. This is the evidence of a truly great man, and we cheerfully award to the Governor of Pennsylvania our unqualified praise. Our hopes of the Union rise largely as we read these noble sentiments, and we involuntarily cheer the noble Pennsylvanian.

The almost moral impossibility of Col. Curtin being endowed with such greatness of soul, should have suggested to the editor of that paper that he was laboring under a mistake, and induced him to examine the matter which had thrown him into such ecstasies, when he would have discovered that the message was from the Democratic Governor, Packard, and not from the Republican Governor, Curtin, who was not inaugurated. Our friend of the Times should remember the old adage, "Look before you leap."

St. Louis, Jan. 11.—By order of Lieut. General Scott, a detachment of forty United States troops, under command of Lieutenant Robinson, took possession, early this morning, of the United States Sub-Treasury, Custom House and Post Office buildings.

Letter from Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 14, 1861. Messrs. Editors: Thick blackness continues to cast its gloomy shadow over our beloved country. Every hour is expected to announce that the dreaded collision has taken place, that fraternal blood has been shed, and, consequently, that the last hope of the patriot has expired.

For days it was announced that Mr. Seward, who is to be Secretary of State under Mr. Lincoln, was to address the Senate. It was anxiously awaited, in hopes that a way of salvation might be indicated—that some assurance would be given by him, speaking for the great party of which he is the acknowledged leader, that there was yet reason to hope for a reconciliation. His speech was made yesterday, and is to day published in all the Sunday papers of Philadelphia, but, alas! it gives but little hope. It is an able production—a splendid eulogy upon our Constitution and Union—and the ruin and disgrace, and devastation that must follow their destruction, is vividly portrayed; but after all he fails to point out a way to avert this dreadful calamity. This he could do if he would. It would cost him but little trouble. A few words from him would "set the ball in motion," and give peace to a nation now on the verge of civil war.

The adoption by Congress of the Crittenden proposition would at once restore peace. This would be done if Mr. Seward had given the word. On him and his party, therefore, rests the responsibility. Every hour brings some new excitement. Now it is that Major Anderson is bombarding Charleston, and the city is in flames. Again it is announced that Washington is about to be besieged by fifty thousand Virginians. One hour Mr. Buchanan is denounced as a "perjured traitor," and the next, he is the recipient of the hypocritical praise of his enemies. The people should put their trust in him. If any man can pilot the ship of State through this trying ordeal, it is Mr. Buchanan. He has had more experience than any other American statesman—is full of years, and full of honors—and if he has any ambition it is that he may retire from public life with his countrymen at peace.

The people should wait no longer on Congress. They are, at least nine-tenths of them, in favor of the Crittenden proposition. Let them delay no longer, but ACT, AND ACT AT ONCE. Delay is death.

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IMPORTANT FROM SOUTH CAROLINA.

Attempt of the Star of the West to land troops at Fort Sumter—Opening of the State batteries upon the Steamer. [Despatches to the New York Herald.] CHARLESTON, JAN. 10, 1861.

The despatches sent yesterday as to the Star of the West are strictly correct.

The Charleston Courier says that at about half-past six o'clock yesterday morning the steamer General Clinch discovered the steamship Star of the West, and signaled the fact of her approach to the battery on Morris Island. As soon as the signals were seen by those on guard there, Morris Island was astir with men at their posts before the orders were given them to prepare for action. They remained in anxious suspense, but ready for what they believed was sure to come—a volley from Fort Sumter. The Star of the West rounded the point, took the ship channel inside the bar, and proceeded straight forward until opposite Morris Island, about three quarters of a mile from the battery. A ball was then fired athwart the bows of the Steamer. The Star of the West displayed the stars and stripes. As soon as the flag was unfurled the fortification fired a succession of heavy shots. The vessel continued on her course with increased speed, but two shots taking effect upon her she concluded to retire—Fort Moultrie fired a few shot at her, but she was out of their range. The damage done to the Star of the West is trifling, as only two out of seventeen shots took effect upon her.

Fort Sumter made no demonstration except at the portholes, where guns were run out bearing on Morris Island.

Major Anderson, during the forenoon of Wednesday, despatched Lieutenant Hall with a flag of truce to Charleston, where he delivered a communication from the Major to Governor to Pickens, where he recapitulates the facts concerning the Star of the West, and requests to know if the action of the State troops is authorized, and says that if such action is not disclaimed by the South Carolina authorities he will prevent the passage of all vessels to the city of Charleston. Gov. Pickens replied that the reinforcement of the fort was regarded as an act of hostility to South Carolina, and that he approved of the attack upon the Star of the West. After some deliberation Major Anderson concluded to refer the subject to the federal authorities at Washington, and Lieutenant Talbot, was sent to the capital with despatches.

Florida and Alabama have seceded from the Union. An ordinance of secession was passed by the Florida Convention on Thursday, with but seven negative votes. The Alabama Convention adopted a secession ordinance on the 11th. Four States have now bolted from the Union as follows:

South Carolina, December 23. Mississippi, January 9. Florida, January 10. Alabama, January 11.

THE NATIONAL CRISIS.

SPECIAL MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

At the opening of your present session I called your attention to the dangers which threatened the existence of the Union. I expressed my opinion freely concerning the original causes of these dangers, and recommended such measures as I believe would have the effect of tranquillizing the country and saving it from the peril in which it had been needlessly and most unfortunately involved. Those opinions and recommendations I do not propose now to repeat. My own convictions upon the whole subject remain unchanged. The fact that a great calamity was impending over the nation was even at that time acknowledged by every intelligent citizen. It had already made itself felt throughout the length and breadth of the land.

The necessary consequences of the alarm thus produced were most deplorable. The imports fell off with a rapidity never known before, except in time of war, in the history of our foreign commerce. The treasury was unexpectedly left without the means which it had reasonably counted upon to meet its public engagements. Trade was paralyzed, manufactures were stopped, the best public securities suddenly sunk in the market, every species of property depreciated more or less, and thousands of poor men, who depended on their daily labor for their daily bread, were turned out of employment. I deeply regret that I am not able to give you any information upon the state of the Union which is more satisfactory than what I was then obliged to communicate. On the contrary, matters are still worse at the present than they were. When Congress met a strong hope pervaded the whole public mind that some amicable adjustment of the subject would be speedily made by the representatives of the States and of the people, which might restore peace to the conflicting sections of the country.

That hope has been diminished by every hour of delay, and as the prospect of a bloodless settlement fades away, the public distress becomes more and more aggravated. As an evidence of this, it is only necessary to say that the treasury notes authorized by the act of the 17th of December last, were advertised according to law, and that no responsible bidder offered to take any considerable sum at par, at a lower rate of interest than 12 per cent. From the facts it appears that a government organized like ours, domestic strife, or even a well-grounded fear of civil hostilities, is more destructive to our public and private interests than the most formidable foreign war.

In my annual message I expressed the conviction which I have long deliberately held, and which recent reflection has only tended to deepen and confirm, that no State has the right, by its own act, to secede from the Union or throw off its Federal obligations at pleasure. I also declared my opinion to be, that even if that right existed, and should be exercised by any State of the Confederacy, the Executive Department of this Government had no authority under the Constitution to recognize its validity by acknowledging the independence of such State. This left me no alternative, as the Chief Executive officer, under the Constitution of the United States, but to collect the public revenue and protect the public property, as far as this might be practicable under the existing laws. This is still my purpose. My province is to execute, not to make, the laws. It belongs to Congress exclusively to repeal, modify or enlarge their provisions to meet exigencies as they occur. I possess no dispensing power. I certainly had no right to make an aggressive war upon any State, and I am perfectly satisfied that the Constitution has wisely withheld that power even from Congress.

But the right and the duty to use the military force defensively against those who resist the Federal officers in the execution of their legal functions, and against those who assail the property of the Federal Government, is clear and undeniable. But the dangerous and hostile attitude of States towards each other has already far transcended and cast into the shade the ordinary Executive duties already provided for by law, and has assumed such vast and alarming proportions as to place the subject entirely above and beyond the Executive control. The fact cannot be disguised that we are in the midst of a great revolution. In all its various bearings, therefore, I command the attention of Congress, as the only human tribunal under Providence, possessing the power to meet the existing emergency. To them exclusively belongs the power to declare war or authorize the employment of the military force in all cases contemplated by the Constitution, and they alone possess the power to remove the grievances which might lead to war, and to secure peace and union to this distracted country. On them, and on them alone, rests the responsibility.

The Union is a sacred trust left by our revolutionary fathers to their descendants, and never did any other people inherit so rich a legacy. It has rendered us prosperous in peace and triumphant in war. The national flag has floated with glory over every sea. Under its shadow American citizens have found protection and respect in all lands beneath the sun. If we descend to considerations of purely material interest, when, in the history of all time, has a confederacy been bound together with such strong ties of mutual interest? Each portion of it is dependent on all, and all upon each portion, for prosperity and domestic security. A free trade throughout the whole supplies the wants of one portion from the productions of another, and scatters wealth everywhere. The great planting and farming States require, and commercial navigating States send their productions to domestic and foreign markets, and furnish a naval power to render their transportation secure against hostile attack. Should the Union perish in the midst of the present excitement, we have already had a sad foretaste of the universal suffering which would result from its destruction. The calamity would be severe in every portion of the Union, and would be quite as great, to say the least, in the Southern as in the Northern States.

The greatest aggravation of the evil, and that which would place us in a most unfavorable light, both before the world and posterity, is, as I am firmly convinced, that the secession movement has been

chiefly based upon a misapprehension of the South of the sentiments of the majority in several of the Northern States. Let the question be transferred from political assemblies to the ballot-box, and the people themselves would speedily redress the serious grievances which the South have suffered. But, in Heaven's name, let the trial be made before we plunge into an armed conflict upon the mere assumption that there is no other alternative.

Time is a great conservative power.—Let us pause at this momentous juncture, and afford the people of both the North and South an opportunity for reflection. Would that South Carolina had been convinced of this truth before her precipitated action. I therefore appeal, through you, to the people of the country, to proclaim in their might that "EXTENSION MUST AND SHALL BE PRESERVED" by all constitutional means.

I most earnestly recommend that you devote yourselves exclusively to the question how this can be accomplished in peace. All other questions, when compared with this, sink into insignificance. The present is no time for palliation. Action, prompt action, is required. A delay in Congress to prescribe and recommend a distinct and practical proposition for conciliation, may drive us to a point from which it will be almost impossible to recede. A common ground on which conciliation and harmony may be produced is surely not unattainable.

The proposition to compromise by letting the North have exclusive control of the territory above a certain line, ought to receive universal approbation. In itself, indeed, it may not be entirely satisfactory; but when the alternative is between a reasonable concession on both sides, and the destruction of the Union, it is an imputation on the patriotism of Congress to assert that its members will hesitate for a moment.

Even now the danger is upon us. In several States which have not seceded, the forts, arsenals, and magazines have been seized. This is by far the most serious step which has been taken since the commencement of the troubles.—This public property has long been left without garrisons and troops for its protection, because no person doubted its security under the flag of the country in all the States of the Union. Besides, our small army has scarcely been sufficient to guard our remote frontiers against Indian incursions. The seizure of this property, from all appearances, has been purely aggressive, and not in resistance to any attempt to coerce a State or States to remain in the Union.

At the beginning of those unhappy troubles, I determined that no act of mine should increase the excitement in either section of the country. If the political conflict were to end in civil war, my own determination not to commence it, nor even to furnish an excuse for it, by any act of this Government. My opinion remains unchanged, that justice as well as sound policy requires us still to seek a peaceful solution of the questions at issue between the North and the South. Entertaining this conviction, I refrained even from sending reinforcements to Major Anderson, who commanded the forts in Charleston harbor, until an absolute necessity for doing so should make itself apparent, lest it might unjustly be regarded as a menace of military coercion, and thus furnish, if not a provocation, at least a pretext for an outbreak on the part of South Carolina. No necessity for these reinforcements seemed to exist. I was assured by distinguished and upright gentlemen of South Carolina that no attack on Major Anderson was intended, but that on the contrary, it was the desire of the State authorities, as much as it was my own, to avoid the fatal consequences which must inevitably follow a collision. And here I deem it proper to submit for your information copies of a communication dated the 23rd of December, 1860, addressed to me by R. W. Barnwell, J. H. Adams and James L. Orr, Commissioners from South Carolina, with accompanying documents, and copies of my answer thereto, dated the 31st of December.

In further explanation of Major Anderson's removal from Fort Moultrie to Fort Sumter, it is proper to state that after my answer to the South Carolina Commissioners, the War Department received a letter from that gallant officer, dated on the 27th of December, 1860, (the day after this movement,) from which the following is an extract: "I will add as my opinion, that many things convinced me that the authorities of the State designed to proceed to a hostile act—[Evidently referring to the orders dated December 11th, of the late Secretary of War.] Under this impression I could not hesitate that it was my solemn duty to move my command from a fort which we could not possibly have held longer than forty-eight or sixty hours, to this one, where my force is increased in a very great degree."

It will be recollected that the concluding part of these orders were in the following terms: "The smallness of your force will not permit you, perhaps, to occupy more than one of the three forts; but an attack on, or an attempt to take possession of either of them, will be regarded as an act of hostility, and you may then put your command into either of them which you deem most proper to increase its power of resistance. You are also authorized to take similar defensive steps whenever you have tangible evidence of a design to proceed to a hostile act."

It is said that serious apprehensions are to some extent entertained that the peace of this District may be disturbed before March next. In any event it will be my duty to prevent it, and this duty shall be performed.

In conclusion, it may be permitted to me to remark, that I have often warned my countrymen of the dangers which now surround us. This may be the last time I shall refer to the subject officially. I feel that my duty has been faithfully, though imperfectly performed, and whatever the result may be, I shall carry to my grave the consciousness that I at least meant well for my country. (Signed.) JAMES BUCHANAN.

WASHINGTON CITY, JAN. 8, 1861.

Both houses of the New York Legislature—with but two dissenting votes in the House and one in the Senate—adopted resolutions approving of the recent special Message of the President to Congress, and tendering him whatever aid in men and money may be required to enforce the laws and uphold the authority of the federal government.

SENATOR BIGLER.—The course of Senator Bigler in the present crisis, is deserving of the warmest approval. It has been his constant effort to allay the excitement, and have Congress agree upon some fair compromise that will secure justice to all sections and restore peace to the country.—Senator Bigler is a strong Union man and an honest, faithful representative. He will shortly retire from public life with an enviable reputation—the result of his able efforts in support of the principles of the Constitution and the party he has so long served. A Pennsylvanian in every thought and feeling, he yet, in a crisis like the present, rises above State and party pride, and pleads for the whole country. He is an honest man and a true patriot.—From Union.

WASHINGTON, JAN. 11, 1861.

The Minister of Nicaragua, Mr. Molina, has just communicated to the government that a resolution of thanks, a sword of honor, and a large tract of land, had been unanimously voted by that government to Captain Hiram Paulding, of the United States navy, for his gallant services in riding the country of the filibustering gang which invaded it in December 1857. The permission of Congress must be obtained before Captain Paulding can accept this honorable testimonial of his conduct, but it is to be presumed that the subject will be speedily and favorably acted on by the body.

The steamer Star of the West returned to New York on Saturday morning from her unsuccessful attempt to land United States troops at Fort Sumter. The official account of her reception by the South Carolina forces does not differ materially from that heretofore published. Seventeen shots were fired at the Steamer, one of which took effect on her port bow, another on her starboard quarter, while a third passed between the smoke stack and the walking beam, but no damage was inflicted, save some splintering of woodwork. The gunnery practice of the assailants is described as having been surprisingly accurate.

Clearfield Markets.

Table of market prices for various commodities including flour, wheat, and other goods.

MARRIED.

In Lumber City on Tuesday, the 8th instant, by Isaac Lemmon, Esq., Mr. C. G. MILLER, and Miss ANN SPOONER, both of Sell top.

On the 13th inst., by J. H. Jones, Esq., Mr. LEVI BURGESS to Miss JESSIE BARRIS, both of Graham top.

DIED.

In Tyrone Borough, on the 24th of December last, Mr. WILLIAM H. HENDERSON, aged 32 years, 5 months and 18 days.

CLEARFIELD AND CENTRE

HOTEL.

Tyrone, Blair County, Pennsylvania. THOMAS MAYS, PROPRIETOR.

The Subscriber respectfully informs his friends in Clearfield county, and the public generally, that he has again taken charge of the above Hotel, and is fully provided with everything necessary to the comfort and convenience of his guests. A large Warehouse for the Storage of Grain is attached to the establishment. Jan. 16, 1861. THOMAS MAYS.

STATEMENT OF THE CLEARFIELD COUNTY BANK, for the month ending December 31, 1860.

Financial statement table showing assets and liabilities with various entries and amounts.

JAS. B. GRAHAM, Cashier.

Clearfield, Pa., Dec. 31, 1860.

STRAY HEIFER.—Come to the residence of the subscriber in Huston top, about six or six weeks ago, a HEIFER—red, crumpled horns, and about two years old. The owner is requested to come forward, prove property, charges and take her away or she will be disposed of according to law. WILLIAM HOFF. January 2, 1861. 31*

PURITAN SORE THROAT CURED.

I, the undersigned, would inform the public that I can cure the Puritan Sore Throat. Any person can obtain further information by coming to me, in Henderson township, Jefferson county. If no cure, no charge. Come one, come all, do not fail. You can have information by calling at Jacob Kuntz's, in Troutville, where I live. Jan 9-31* GEORGE KRAMER.

Ladies dress goods, of patterns and textures please all, will be found at the corner store Curwensville, May 16, 1860. E. A. IRVIN.

Stella and other Shawls in variety at the above Store of E. A. IRVIN. Curwensville, May 16, '60.

Fruit, Dried Apples, Pears and Apples, Peaches, Cherries, Prunes and Raisins at the corner store of E. A. IRVIN.

ROBERT J. WALLACE, ATTORNEY AT LAW. Clearfield, Pa., Office in Shaw's Row, opposite the Journal office.

dec. 1, 1859.—M.