

The National Crisis.

It is understood that prominent members of the Diplomatic Corps have addressed this Government in reference to the commercial interests of their respective countries in view of the present political troubles, and what degree of protection may be expected, or something to this effect. The Government, however has not yet replied.

Returns are daily received at the proper office from South Carolina postmasters, showing that honoring of contractor's orders for pay and purchase of postage stamps.

The steamer Star of the West which sailed from New York on Saturday, was chartered at the order of Gen. Scott, and took a full supply of provisions for Major Anderson, and 350 men under Lieut. Bartlett. She ought to have been heard from at Charleston to day.

The report circulated in Washington for some days past, and telegraphed to Northern papers, to the effect that forty tons of shot, shells and powder were recently shipped to New Orleans by Adams & Co's Express, proves to be wholly incorrect.

CHARLESTON, Jan. 9.—The Star of the West, endeavoring to enter our harbor about daylight this morning, was opened upon by the garrison on Morris Island and also by Fort Moultrie. The steamer put about an went to sea.

The belief is that no injury was sustained by either the boat or those on board. Fort Sumter did not respond.

Lieut. Hall of Fort Sumter came over to the city about 11 o'clock with a flag of truce. He repaired to the quarters of the Governor, followed by a crowd of citizens.

He was in secret communication with the Governor and Council for two hours. He closed his interview with the Governor and Council about 2 o'clock.

The object of the departure of the Brooklyn for Charleston is supposed to be to bring back the troops to Norfolk.

Both the Union and Douglas Democratic convention of Kentucky unanimously recommended the adoption of the Crittenden resolutions.

Secretary Thompson resigned to the President his commission as Secretary of the Interior, because orders were given to reinforce Major Anderson.

The War Department is in possession of information that the Governor of South Carolina has forbidden the United States Sub-Treasurer at Charleston from paying the debts of the Government in favor of Major Anderson and his command, and the Sub-Treasurer has refused accordingly.

On inquiry at the proper quarters, it has been ascertained that before June last, it being found that the arms at the several arsenals were not proportionately distributed, and that the Southern arsenals were less than the Federal.

The President anticipates the early confirmation of Mr. McIntyre, as Collector of the port of Charleston, by the Senate, and he will proceed forthwith to Charleston by land, and endeavor to execute the revenue laws on shore.

The National Intelligencer says that the seizure of the United States forts in Georgia was precipitated by mischief-making telegraphic despatches from Washington.

The ordinance for the immediate secession of the State of Mississippi has passed the Convention by a vote of 34 to 15.

About 11 o'clock yesterday morning a boat from Fort Sumter, bearing Lieut. Hall with a white flag, approached the city. Lieut. Hall had an interview with Governor Pickens and was afterwards escorted to his boat and re-embarked for Fort Sumter. The communication from Major Anderson is as follows:

Six: Two of your batteries fired this morning on an unarmed vessel bearing the flag of my Government. As I have not been notified that war has been declared by South Carolina against the United States, I cannot but think this a hostile act committed without your sanction or authority. Under that hope, I refrain from firing a shot on your batteries. I have the honor, therefore, respectfully to ask whether the above-mentioned act—

which I believe without parallel in the history of our country or any other civilized Government, was committed in obedience to your instructions, and notify you, if it is not disclaimed, that I regard it as an act of war, and shall not, after reasonable time for the return of my messenger, permit any vessel to pass within the range of the guns of my Fort. In order to save, as far as it is in my power, the shedding of blood, I beg you will take due notification of my decision for the good of all concerned, hoping, however, your answer was justly a further continuance of forbearance on my part. I remain, respectfully, ROBERT ANDERSON.

Gov. Pickens, after stating the position of South Carolina, said he justified the act, as he regards the reinforcement of the Forts as an act of hostility.

Maj. Anderson then informed Gov. Pickens that he should defer action and await orders from the government.—Lieut. Talbot went on board and left for Washington to get instructions.

In Ten States of the Union Lincoln did not receive a solitary vote. It does not appear by the returns that a single human being is in favor of all that immense extent of territory. In five other States, polling several hundred thousand votes, he scarcely received a corporal's guard of support. The Republican party is not a United States Party. It has no existence, and is regarded as a public enemy of all the people, in almost half of the States.

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 believed would have the effect of tranquillizing the country, saying it from the peril in which it had been needlessly and most unfortunately thrown.

Those opinions and recommendations I do not propose now to retract. 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 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 the thousands of poor men who depended upon 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 more at present than they were.

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, which might restore peace to the conflicting sections of the country. That hope has been diminished by every hour of delay, and 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 the Treasury notes authorized by the act of the 17th of December last were advertised according to law, and no responsible bidder offered to take any considerable sum at par at a low rate of interest than 12 per cent.

From these facts it appears that in a Government organized like ours, domestic strife, or even a well grounded fear of civil hostilities, is more destructive of 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 declare 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 a State. I felt me an alternative as the chief Executive officer under the Constitution of the United States but to collect the public revenues and protect the public property, so far as this might be practicable under existing laws.

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 may occur. I possess no dispensing power; I certainly had no right to make 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 military force 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 the States toward each other has already 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 Executive control.

The fact cannot be disguised that we are in the midst of a great revolution.—Therefore, I commend the question to 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 to authorize the employment of military force in all cases contemplated by the Constitution, and they alone possess the power to remove all 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 for 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 in glory over every sea, and 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 bonded together by such strong ties of mutual interest.—Each portion of it is dependent upon all, and all upon each portion, for prosperity and domestic security. Free trade throughout the whole supplies the wants of one portion from the productions of another, and scatters the wealth everywhere. The planting and farming States require the aid of the commercial and navigating States to send their productions to domestic and foreign markets, and furnish the naval power to render their transportation secure against all hostile attacks.

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 the most unfavorable light both before the world and posterity, is, as I am firmly convinced, that the secession movement has been chiefly based upon misapprehension of the sentiments of the Northern States. Let the question be removed from the political assemblies to the ballot-box, and the people themselves would speedily address the serious grievances which the South has 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 the momentous point, and afford the people both of the North and South an opportunity for reflection. Would that South Carolina had been convinced of this truth before her precipitate action. I therefore appeal through you to the people of the country, and shall be preserved by all constitutional means. I most earnestly recommend that you devote yourselves 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 palliatives. Prompt action is required. A delay in Congress to prescribe a remedy is 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 upon which collision and harmony may be produced is surely not unattainable. The proposition to compromise by letting the North have exclusive control of the territory above the receive general approbation. In itself, indeed, it may not be entirely satisfactory; but when the alternative is between 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 a moment. Even now the danger is upon us. In several States have not yet succeeded, the forts, arsenals and magazines 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 any State of the Union. Besides, our small army has scarcely been 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 these unhappy troubles, I determined that no act of mine should increase the excitement in the section of the country. If the politics of conflict were to end in civil war, it was my determined purpose not to commence it, nor to furnish any excuse for it by any act of the 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. In entertaining this conviction, I refrained even from sending reinforcements to Major Anderson, who commanded the forts of Charleston harbor, until an absolute necessity for doing so should make itself apparent, lest it might be regarded as a menace of military coercion, and thus furnish a pretext for an outbreak on the part of South Carolina. No necessity for this reinforcement of the forts, or for the seizure of the property, 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 might eventually follow a military collision. And here I beg to inform you that I have information copies of a communication, dated 28th December, 1860, addressed to me by R. W. Barwell, J. H. Adams and James L. Orr, Commissioners of South Carolina, with the accompanying documents and copies as my answer thereto, dated December 31.

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 Dec. 27th, 1860, the day after his movement, from which the following is an extract: "I will add as my opinion that many things conspired to me that the authorities of the State designed to proceed to a hostile act, (viz. to refer to the orders dated Dec. 11 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 probably have held longer than forty-eight or sixty hours, to this one, where my power of resistance is increased to a very great degree."

It will be recollected that at the concluding part of the orders was in the following words: "The smallness of your force will not permit you, perhaps, to occupy more than one of the three forts, but an attack on, or attempt to take possession of either one of them will be regarded as an act of hostility, and you may then put your command into either of them, which may do much 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, in which I do not share, that the peace of this District may be disturbed before the fourth of March next. In any event it will be my duty to preserve 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 it may be imperfectly performed, and whatever the result may be I shall carry to my grave the consolation that I at least meant well for my country.

(Signed) JAMES BUCHANAN. WASHINGTON CITY, Jan. 8, 1861.

Coughs, colds, sore throat, bronchitis, asthma, croup, whooping cough, and incipient consumption, however severely developed, are cured in a surprisingly short time by Dr. Wistar's Balsam of Wild Cherry—a medicine as generally appreciated as universally known. Prepared by S. W. Fowle & Co., Boston. Sold every where by druggists and agents.

Holloway's Pills and Ointment.—Messengers of Pills.—Disorders of the kidneys, stone and gravel. In all diseases affecting these organs, whether they secrete too much or too little water, or are affected with stone or gravel, with aches and pains settled in the loins over the regions of the kidneys, more benefit may be derived in 24 hours by the use of these medicines than would be in six months by any other treatment. In bad cases if a small pot of the ointment be rubbed on the small of the back over the kidneys it will quickly penetrate and give instant relief, but perseverance is necessary to effect a cure. Six or eight pills should be taken nightly according to the circumstances. A trial of these remedies will be attended with satisfactory results.

THE MONTROSE DEMOCRAT.

TERMS—\$1.50 PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE. A. F. GERRITSON, EDITOR, PUBLISHER, AND PROPRIETOR. Charleston, Jan. 17, 1861.

TO THE PUBLIC.

THE FIRST VOLUME OF THE MONTROSE DEMOCRAT commenced with the number based on the 2d day of January, 1861, and the 4th since it has been under our editorial and printing care, and we are glad to announce the fact that the business is at this time in a much more healthy and prosperous condition than at any former period since we entered upon our arduous, but not altogether unprofitable, enterprise. We are glad to see that the public mind is so generally interested in the progress of the war, and we are glad to see that the public mind is so generally interested in the progress of the war, and we are glad to see that the public mind is so generally interested in the progress of the war.

It shall be our earnest endeavor to make our paper a daily and weekly source of information to the public, and we shall endeavor to make our paper a daily and weekly source of information to the public, and we shall endeavor to make our paper a daily and weekly source of information to the public.

Resolved, That we love the Union—rendered sacred by the memories and blessings of four score years—and we are ready to lay, as did the patriots of 1776, to pledge our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honors to its maintenance.

Resolved, That upon this anniversary of one of the battles of our country, we are proud to refer with honor to the brave old Jackson, who whether in the battle field or council chamber was of the same stern metal, who knew his duty, and DARED TO DO IT, and in this respect at least we commend his example to the leading men of the present times, as worthy of all praise and imitation.

L. F. Fitch made some remarks giving a history of the various Pension laws heretofore passed. S. A. Newton presented a form of memorial to Congress which was adopted. Voted that it be sent to both houses of Congress with the names of the officers of the present times, and the names of all the soldiers present.

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man and a broken voice, he would give them a specimen of those songs. He did so, and sang. (Applause.) Among other things, Tunia Van Antwerp, Martin Hall and Capt. Cobb gave reminiscences. The latter was in the regular service under Gen. Macomb, at Plattsburg, and had a man shoot down by his side—a man himself grazed on the shoulder by a musket ball, and found one of the enemy's balls in his pocket the next morning.

Committee on Resolutions called for, and L. F. Fitch of that committee reported the following which were read and severally adopted by a unanimous vote. Resolved, That as the Soldiers of 1812, we look with pride and exultation upon that noble country whose battles we have fought, and which has been so greatly prospered in the triumph of true principles.

Resolved, That the same patriotism which served the army and fired the zeal of the soldiers of 1812 still exists in our land, and duty calls upon us with true hearts will spring into life, ready now as then to fight the battles of our common country and conquer our enemies, whether at home or abroad.

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HARPER'S MAGAZINE.—We are in receipt of Harper for January. This is by far the most popular magazine in the country, and has an immense circulation both in the United States and Canada. If any of our readers want a good periodical let them take "Harper." Now is the time to subscribe. Address, Harper & Bros., N. Y. Terms—Single copy, 33 cents; two copies, 65 cents.

It is announced that Seward is to be Lincoln's Secretary of State! Such of the patrons of the Montrose Democrat as have neglected to pay their subscription for the past year, are requested to send us 53 cents for the past and coming years. It should be sent along at once.

The anonymous call in the Republican for a meeting of "friends of the Constitution and Union," has been printed without consulting the Democrats, who are all true friends of their country. We doubt not that the meeting is designed to be the usual one held by the Republicans, many of whom are John Brownites. Then why this dodge? "Will you walk into my parlor?" says the spider to the fly.

We read in all Illinois paper of some more weak Republican brethren—no more than forty-two of the county treasurers of that State are reported to be "a little faulty" in their accounts. It appears that they all belong to the imbecile Republican party, as a Republican paper in Chicago pronounces their "account on the slavery question," but thinks nevertheless that they are "unworthy of trust in financial matters."

Montrose Fire Company. Election returns of the Montrose Fire Co., No. 2, held at the Engine House, Jan. 7th, 1861.

Foreman, E. MOTT, 1st asst., J. GRIFFERS, 2nd asst., A. J. BREWSTER, Treasurer, F. B. CLAWSON, Secretary, S. M. WILSON, Pipeman, ISAAC HAMILS, Asst., W. DOOLITTLE, J. P. W. RILEY, W. J. MULLFORD, G. A. TILDEN, J. D. GOBDWIN, WARDENS, DAVID NELSON, PORTER.

After the election, the Working Members met a few of the Hon. Members at the public house of Wm. K. Hatch, where a splendid supper was served up, to the entire satisfaction of this branch of the Fire Department.

Esqr. Chamberlin on the behalf of the Hon. Members, manifested a wish to sustain No. 2, in her noble enterprise. B. Stroud represented the Fire Insurance companies, and stood up for No. 2 to the tune of Five Dollars.

F. B. Chamberlin and W. S. Wilmarth gave in their testimony as working members. S. M. Wilson, Sec'y.

YOU WANT IT, YOUR WIFE WANTS IT, YOUR CHILDREN WANT IT, IT WILL CERTAINLY PAY, AND YOU WOULD HAVE IT.

You only know how USEFUL, how INSTRUCTIVE, and how ENTERTAINING it is. We refer to that "first best," that largest, most instructive most beautiful, and yet cheapest journal in the whole world for the HOUSEHOLD, for the FARM, and for the GARDEN, viz: the American Agriculturist.

YOU WANT IT because it contains so very many new and useful directions, hints, and suggestions about all kinds of out-door work in the GARDEN, in the FIELD, in the ORCHARD, in the little plot of ground, about Domestic Animals, etc. The Agriculturist is not a stale rehash of theoretical stuff, such as goes the rounds from one paper to another, but it is filled with useful and new practical information, every word of which is reliable because prepared by honest, practical WORKING MEN, who know what they write about.

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THE friends of REV. HENRY BOVILLERS are respectfully invited to attend a donation visit, at his residence in New Milford, On THURSDAY, JAN. 17th, 1861.

European Intelligence. We have three days later news from Europe, by the steamship Palestine. Affairs are not materially changed in the Eastern Hemisphere. The Chinese despatches record some sharp dealing on the part of the English. Over \$800,000 have been forced from the Celestials to indemnify the injured English citizens, but there is nothing said about a similar stroke of policy on the part of the French Government, although Frenchmen suffered severely in the affair. Astonishing as it may appear, Gaeta still holds out, and the King grows great as his followers diminish. Napoleon has again, it is said, advised capitulation, which has been once more politely declined. The British Press were eloquent about American matters, and the London Times said, in substance, that this system of Government is a failure.

The large shipments of gold for New York created no uneasiness in the London money market, as it was believed that no panic here, when we do not owe much to England, could materially affect the pecuniary affairs of our British cousins. French re-enforcements were being sent to the army in China. A most important rumor, to the effect that Napoleon and Alexander of Russia were determined to support Francis of Naples in his struggle, was gaining credence in Paris. It was also said that Napoleon meditated to make a northern and a southern kingdom in Italy, which would go far to settle the feuds that exist there between natives of both extremes of the country.