Pittsburgh Gazette.

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PITTSBURGH:

WEDNESDAY MORNING, MARCH 13, 1861.

The Administration and Fort Sumter.

Since the reception of the telegraphic dispatches on Monday afternoon, the greatest anxiety for further developments has been felt. The fact of most excited interest, prompting all manner of conjectures as to what could have caused such a proposition to be so suddenly and unexpectedly sprung, has been manifest on all hands. Of course, till the facts and arguments which have been considered by the government at Washington as justifying the conclusion they have come to, shall be laid before the public, it would be sheer folly to attempt to review their decision—even if that decision were certainly known, which is not pretended in the most positive form the rumor has taken. When we say this, we do not mean to dispute the correctness of the report, so far as it goes, that a determination has been come to by the Government, to withdraw the troops from Fort Sumter; but to dispute the assumption that such a movement is the whole matter determined upon. We think it is a very reasonable hesitation on our part to refuse to accept the reported decision to withdraw the troops, as a complete statement of the measures determined on and now to be undertaken in that quarter.

During the suspense of the morning, up to the hour when dispatches were received, the remark was frequently heard, after many a conjecture was discussed and dismissed as more or less unsatisfactory,—Well, surely the dispatches to-day, will set all these doubts at rest, which were so strongly excited yesterday and are just as strongly felt to-day, either by altogether contradicting the reported decision itself, or by giving such facts as will justify it, both in point of principle and policy, and relieve the Government in adopting this course of receding from a position which the country had looked to them to maintain, from a grave charge of default, by removing the appearance which certainly this proposed course of action (backward) wears at present—hesitation in the performance of duty—fear of the responsibility of taking a decisive step forward. What reason have we, however, to doubt the wisdom, firmness and patriotism of the men who have taken counsel and determined upon this question of Fort Sumter?

It is surely at present almost entirely a military question, whether it ought or ought not to be re-enforced. And in this view, whatever the competent military advisers of the government decide upon recommending, the government can surrender nothing—not a jot of any principle to which they have pledged themselves to adhere while administering the affairs of the country—in following out such a course as may be thus recommended to them.

The situation is not one of their making. The late administration and its minions—all of them either conspirators or the dupes of those who were conspiring in overt or covert treason—made the desperate, the irretrievable situation in which we find Major Anderson and his brave companions at this moment—surrounded by hostile batteries, and reduced to dependence on the rebels of Charleston for supplies of provisions—with only sixty-four men to defend a fortress against a beleaguering army.

The difference between the war which is now threatened and a war with a foreign power, must be taken into the account. In the latter the patriot soldier rushes to the battle-field to repel the invader or to resist the tyrant, and when a foe falls before him, he can feel that his country has one enemy the less to meet and to fear. But in civil war the patriot soldier feels that in every victim that falls his country has lost a son and he a brother; whom, whatever his crime, however base and wicked his act and his intention, he cannot but weep over as a brother still—and no illusion of glory can give him joy in the hour of victory or ever afterwards.

In order to more effectually carry out the responsible duty devolved on him, of "enforcing the laws and collecting the revenue of the country" in the port of Charleston, it may be necessary for the President to withdraw the troops from Fort Sumter. It would not be possible to enforce the collection of the revenue, by sending ships for that purpose, while the Charleston rebels had the brave men now in Fort Sumter left exposed to the fury which that act would provoke.

It is unpatriotic, it is contemptible, to urge as a motive for reinforcing Major Anderson, that though it would serve no important end for practical good, it would yet, by bravely bearding the lion of rebellion in his own den, assert and vindicate the unquestionable rights of our government. Some very important end ought to be in view, some great practical good ought to be the motive to justify an act that we have every reason to believe would initiate the horrors of civil war. Even if that dark and terrible hour had come, and war were already begun, the question might still be asked—would the maintaining possession of Sumter be worth the cost it would involve? How much more calmly, then, ought we not now to discuss this question, when there can be but one paramount consideration shaping our conclusions on the whole matter. Whether the possession of Sumter would really be worth the cost of re-enforcing and maintaining a fort in Charleston harbor which had no strategic importance whatever, even should the present complications unhappily lead ultimately to the civil war we would so earnestly strive to avert—is, as we have already remarked, merely a military question. That being decided, let action be taken accordingly—without regard to the factitious, and delitious, point of honor raised by some good men, who are only a little over-sensitive at the wrong time.

But a superficial judgment on the mere appearance of things, however satisfactory to the unreflective in the hour of excitement, will have no sway even to ordinary sympathy, in any such grave crisis of affairs as that which our government has now to meet.

MR. LINCOLN AND HIS CABINET.—The Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia *North American* says that all the recent developments make it plain that while the President submitted to the importunity and clamor of the thousands who desired to control or direct the composition of his Cabinet, his own mind was made up from the beginning in regard to certain leading points, and never wavered during all the outside pressure. It was really concluded at Springfield, with perhaps the single exception of Mr. Blair, whose appointment was determined after he reached Washington. If any enterprising patriots suppose they exerted influence in this matter, they cannot too soon recover from this delusion. At least they would do well not to overcount themselves too strongly upon any such supposition merit. The four rival candidates of Mr. Lincoln for the Chicago nomination, were doubtless settled in his mind, as soon as the election was over, and perhaps before. It was a stroke of policy to conciliate all their friends and to silence family jars. How far the results may justify that expectation, and only be known after the experiment has been fully tried. A perfect accord is yet to be established, and it may require some time to see many aspirants for the Presidency in the past, and perhaps in the future, are sitting at the same council board, Mr. Polk tried to get his Cabinet under bond against being candidates, and perhaps Mr. Lincoln may find the suggestion worth regarding before many months have elapsed.

The Surrender of Fort Sumter.

The country is now about realizing the sad effects of the armistice which James Buchanan made with the Southern Disunionists. That faithless public officer was actuated by a double purpose in this execrable transaction. He not only secured personal ease himself during the remaining portion of his term, but he was resolved to embarrass his successor in office The people will, however, place the responsibility in the right quarter, cunningly as the villainous scheme was devised. In his dishonorable retreat at Wheatland the curses of a betrayed people will reach him, and if he is capable of any feeling at all, his last few years will be years of torture and misery. Had he been true to his country—true to the solemn oath which he took on his entrance into office—true to the common instinct of a man and a patriot—the American flag would now be flying from every fort in Charleston harbor, and the secession movement would have been crushed in the outstart. The Washington correspondent of Forney's *Press* very truthfully says:

"Posterity will hold James Buchanan to an awful account for not, as long ago as October or November, 1860, taking time by the forelock, and throwing troops, arms and ammunition into the Southern forts, in advance of the treason at that day boldly proclaimed. His inertness, his refusal to do this thing, was not imitated by his Cabinet. His Secretary of the Navy sent off our ships of war to distant and to foreign stations; and his Secretary of War threw into Georgia, South Carolina, Mississippi and New Orleans an incredible amount of ammunition and arms; while his Secretary of the Treasury buried himself in undermining the credit of the National Government, by disseminating the doctrine that this union could not and should not stand in the event of Lincoln's election. Where have these proceedings left our country to day? How does Mr. Lincoln find himself on entering upon the discharge of his high duties? The answer is to be found in the opinion freely given by the venerable Lieutenant General of the Army of the United States, Winfield Scott, who declares that Fort Sumter cannot hold out ten days against the South Carolina troops and batteries, and that it could not be reinforced without the aid of an army of ten thousand men, backed by our entire navy. Hence it is that the opinion begins to be entertained and announced of recalling Anderson from Fort Sumter, in order to spare the effusion of blood. Late intelligence announces that fifteen days hence Major Anderson and his troops will be at the point of starvation; and a highly distinguished authority argues in this wise: 'Shall we let them surrender, and thereby give the Southern conspirators a chance to rejoice? Would it not be better if this Government should say to the people of South Carolina, you have been misled into the belief that the Republican party, if in power, would encroach upon your rights, and bring upon the country civil war. We withdraw our troops, and thus show you that you were mistaken. We could have held Charleston in ashes, but we forbear, believing that time will teach you that you were wrong, that your best interest is to return to the Union, and that nothing but humiliation and disgrace will await you outside of it. You are still our brethren, and, therefore, we disdain war to shed your blood.' I am not giving you my own opinions, but simply stating the facts as they are. The responsibility, awful and unparalled as it is, must be laid at the door of James Buchanan. It is for the new Administration to deal with realities as it finds them."

The Proposed Promotion of Maj. Anderson.

The proposition to promote Major Anderson to the Brigadier Generalship, over the heads of at least fifty senior officers, has provoked considerable hostility in the North. It would be well for those of our people who are so lavish in their encomiums on the commander at Fort Sumter, to ask themselves whether he is deserving of all the fine speeches which they have made concerning him. The fact should not be forgotten that while General Scott, Secretary Holt and other friends of the Union have been denounced and lampooned by the secessionists, there is not a more popular man in Charleston this day than Major Anderson. He is regarded there as a sympathiser with the ultra Southern feeling, and it is claimed that his fort was not re-enforced through his connivance with Buchanan. A writer in the *Tribune*, who seems to be well acquainted with the subject, says:

"When, two weeks after the occupation of Fort Sumter, the Star of the West was driven away, Major Anderson gave as an excuse for standing still, while the American flag was outraged and the lives of 250 men were put in jeopardy under his eyes, that he had no guns mounted which could reach the battery on Morris Island. Yet, before this time, Mr. Holt says the Major had advised the War Department that he had no need of reinforcements. Did he, with his eyes thus rudely opened to his weakness, change the tenor of his despatches? No; the invariable burden has been the same: "I can maintain myself here without reinforcements." He knew well, no one better, that Mr. Buchanan would clutch at any pretext to avoid offending the Secessionists, and took care to furnish him the above excuse, while the enemy built battery after battery for the express purpose of cutting off communication with the one, and making the re-enforcement of the fort a difficult and, probably, bloody enterprise. Now, he writes to the new Administration, exaggerating the dangers of his position, stating that his supplies are running short, and that it will take 10,000 men to open the communications, with the evident purpose of frightening the President into giving up the fort. His whole course has so plainly shown a far greater sympathy with and desire to be useful to the insurgents, than any endeavor to do his duty to the United States, that there is no man who would be more warmly greeted in Charleston than he. Yet this man, who stood calmly by and saw the Star of the West fired on, who has, day after day, for two months, seen men and munitions of war, to be used against his country, pass close under his guns without a remonstrance or a threat; whose whole course has tended only to make the surrender of the fort sure and bloodless; who thinks the demands of the Golf States just, and has flung their claims with them in all their acts; this man, it is now proposed to raise over the heads of fifty of his seniors, many of them tried and capable officers, and promote three grades to the rank of Brigadier General.

SPAIN AND MEXICO.—By late intelligence from Europe and also from Mexico, it is believed that Spain intends hostile movements towards Mexico, growing out of the dismissal of the Spanish ambassador, Mr. Pacheco. It is stated that the Spanish fleet had sailed from Havana to Vera Cruz, which lends credence to this statement. Mexico is prepared and anxious for such a hostile movement on the part of Spain, as it will tend to divert attention from the internal feuds, and have the effect of concentrating the constitutional government.

The question of the recognition of the southern confederacy has already been talked of at the capital, and application made for a legation to that confederacy. The new government, however, had taken no steps in the matter, and would wait further developments before doing so.

EVACUATION OF FORT SUMTER.

The telegraph announces that the evacuation of Fort Sumter has been determined on by the Administration at Washington. While we regret the necessity for this movement most sincerely, we cannot regard it in any other light than as the result of the villainous treachery of James Buchanan. The old traitor at Wheatland chuckles at the success of his efforts to break down a government whose greatest misfortune was to have had him at its head. On his head all the indignation of the people should fall, and he, above all other traitors, should be execrated by his betrayed countrymen. His fiendish triumph, at the expense of the nation's honor, will be a brief one, while his infamy will be immortal.

THE Governor has signed the bills commuting the tonnage tax on the Pennsylvania Railroad, and changing the name of the Sunbury and Erie Railroad, and to assist in the completion of a railroad to Erie. Both these acts, at a meeting of their boards, have been accepted by the companies.

NORTHERN RAILROAD STOCK ATTACKED BY GOV. BROWN, of GEORGIA.—The Charleston *Courier*, of Friday, to credibly informed that Governor Brown, of Georgia, had attached the stock in the Macon and Western Railroad, belonging to Northern stockholders, amounting to about $1,000,000.

A VOICE FROM CUBA.—The editor of the *Cuban Messenger*, who says he is "Southern and pro-slavery in morals, habits, and politics," makes the following prediction in his paper of the 24th ult:

"We believe that the course of Mr. Lincoln, in modestly on assuming his Presidential duties, will give assurance to the whole country that his Administration will be a national one, under the Constitution and laws of the United States as they exist, and, that he will contain the South in all her rights and privileges, and also lend his official influence to reconcile and adjust the unhappy difficulties which have distracted the nation for the past three months."

MARRIED:

NEIL—ROBINSON—In Mt. Lebanon, March 12, 1861, by Rev. R. F. Wilson, Mr. WILLIAM S. NEIL and Miss NANCY ROBISON, all of the above-named place.

DIED:

MCGREA—On Monday, the 11th inst., at her residence in Wilkins Township, Mrs. LIBERTY M. MCGREA.

Her funeral will take place WEDNESDAY MORNING at 11 o'clock.

KILGORE—Tuesday morning, March 12th, 1861, FANNY, daughter of James S. and Mary A. Kilgore, aged 23 months.

ANDERSON—On Tuesday morning, March 12th, Col. JAMES ANDERSON, in the 77th year of his age.

The friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral from his late residence, near Manchester, on THURSDAY MORNING at 10 o'clock.

For Sore, Weak, Inflamed Eyes and Eye Lids.

A true specific and invaluable remedy has been at last discovered. Dr. Humphreys argues that these affections invariably result from a constitutional disease, of which the local affection is only the outward manifestation. Hence, HUMPHREYS' SPECIFIC HOMŒOPATHIC OPHTHALMY PILLS are only taken internally, and yet cure the worst forms of obstinate Sore Eyes and Eyelids, which blight, will be promptly benefited, and the cure of the worst cases is only a question of time.

Price 50 cents, with directions.

N. B—A full set of HUMPHREY'S HOMŒOPATHIC SPECIFICS, with Book of Directions, and twenty different Remedies, in large vials, morocco case, $5; ditto, in plain case, $4; case of fifteen boxes, and Book, $3. Single boxes, 25 cents and 50 cents.

These Remedies, by the single box or case, are sent by mail or express, free of charge, to any address, on receipt of the price. Address Dr. F. HUMPHREYS & CO.,
No. 562 Broadway, New York.

Sold by J. M. FULTON, Fifth street, second door from the Post Office, Agent for Pittsburgh. fe16:d&w1y

☞ Mrs. WINSLOW, an experienced Nurse and Female Physician, has a soothing Syrup for children teething, which greatly facilitates the process of teething by softening the gums, reducing all inflammation—will relieve all pain, and is sure to regulate the bowels. Depend upon it, mothers, it will give rest to yourselves and relief and health to your infants. Perfectly safe in all cases.—See advertisement in another column. mh8-d&w1y

POLITICAL NOTICES.

FOR SHERIFF.—ADAM WEAVER, of the Seventh ward, Pittsburgh, will offer himself as a candidate for Sheriff of Allegheny county, subject to the Republican Convention. fe27:td&wtS.W.T.

FOR SHERIFF.—JOHN AIKEN, of the Eighth ward, Pittsburgh, will be a candidate for the above office, subject to the decision of the Republican County Convention. mh8:tc

FOR SHERIFF.—JOHN MILLER, of East Liberty, Collins township, is a candidate for Sheriff of Allegheny county, subject to the decision of the Republican County Convention. mh7:tc

FOR SHERIFF—The friends of Gen. J. S. NEALY, of Collins Township, respectfully urge his nomination. His public services, both to his country and party, well-known energy and ability to meet public respect, entitle him to every consideration. At the same time, he resides in the district entitled to this office. fe27:tc

FOR SHERIFF.—HARRY WOODS, of Peebles township, asks the votes of his friends to obtain the Republican nomination for Sheriff of Allegheny County. His business will not allow him the opportunity of traversing the county and seeing them all. fe21:tmarch5

FOR SHERIFF—HUGH S. FLEMING, of M'Clure township, subject to the decision of the Republican Convention.

FOR SHERIFF—HENRY H. LEWIS, of Sharpsburg, is a candidate for Sheriff of Allegheny county, subject to the Republican Nominating Convention.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER.—JOHN MILLER, Esq., of Shaler, will be a candidate for the above office, subject to the decision of the Republican Convention. fe28:tc

PROTHONOTARY.—JOHN G. CURTIS, of Allegheny city, is a candidate for Prothonotary of Allegheny county, subject to the decision of the Republican County Convention. fe13:tc

PROTHONOTARY.—CAPTAIN H. PATON, of Upper St. Clair township, asks the votes of his friends for the Republican nomination for Prothonotary of Allegheny county—the infirmity of his left hand not allowing him the opportunity of traversing the county and seeing them all. fe20:tmch5

PROTHONOTARY.—D. C. HULTZ, of Snowden Township, will a candidate for nomination to the above office, subject to the decision of the Republican Convention. fe12:tc

PROTHONOTARY.—RICHARD DANVER, of Reserve township, will be supported for the above office, subject to the decision of the Republican Convention. ja30:tc

Public Notices.

THIRD EXHIBITION of THE SEWARD LITERARY SOCIETY takes place at CONCERT HALL, on THURSDAY EVENING, March 14th. Proceeds to be devoted towards the relief of Kansas. Those intending to be present on the occasion will please procure their tickets in advance. Admission, including Reserved Seats, 25 cents. Tickets 15 cents, to be had at the door. Doors open at 7 o'clock; performances to commence at 7½ o'clock. Concert to conclude with the Grand Drama entitled "Home," with new and appropriate scenery, dresses and properties. Dramatis Personæ:

Mr. Fitzroy, Mr. Young's
Mr. Lovell, Mr. Gilmore's
Mr. Sterling, Mr. Young's
Mr. Wilson, Mr. Gilmore's
Mr. Hamilton, Mr. Young's
Mr. Mortimer