

(Continued from first page.)

floor, there are other States who are preparing—who are purchasing vast quantities of arms. As has also been said, it will be entirely too late to begin to think about arming when the battle shall be upon us; we must be ready before the time. It is apparent that when we come to consider this question, and see that we really do need these arms, there will be no difficulty here in passing a bill of that kind. If we adopt some proposition that is practical in its character, I apprehend that we shall have no difficulty. But it is important to consider these matters; and it is also important, I think, to consider them as early a period as possible. Let us therefore make no unnecessary delay.—Between this time and Monday or Tuesday, we shall have time to reflect upon the subject and ascertain how these things are. Let us do something practical; let us not go upon a Quixotic chase that will accomplish nothing.

Mr. ABBOTT. It appears to me, sir, that every practicable object would be obtained by dispensing with all amendments that have reference to a particular time for the consideration of this bill, and allowing it to proceed on its passage to a third reading. It will then be available to the House at any time whether it be Monday, Tuesday, Friday or any other day. It seems to me that that would meet the views of all.

Mr. BARTHOLOMEW. I am in favor of speedy and, I may say, immediate action on these resolutions. I shall therefore support the motion of the gentleman from Allegheny, (Mr. WILLIAMS) and I can see no good reason why there should be any objection in the mind of any member that would impel him to oppose that motion.

Some gentlemen suppose that action upon these resolutions at this time would jeopard the cause upon which we have sent an embassy to Washington city. Our hope and our object in sending that embassy was the preservation of this Union. I take it that the resolutions of the gentleman from Allegheny, (Mr. WILLIAMS) aim at the same end—the maintenance of this Union as it is.

I was in favor of sending Commissioners to that convention. I voted heartily, with my whole soul, for the appointment of these Commissioners, in the hope, dim though it be, that some good might result. But I am not one of those who believe that peace is to come from servile, cringing submission. I believe that the music of peace will spring from the bristling bayonet. I believe that armed France today has preserved the peace of Europe. I believe there is more potency in firmness and decision than in the mere act of tame and timid submission. Too many such acts, I am afraid, have already been perpetrated in this hall.

It is not time for arming? Why, our Adjutant General has ordered us to come from the States which show a beggarly account of flint muskets, not enough to arm a Falstaff's regiment. We must have arms. Is it time to prepare for war, when an armed sentinel shall be in every house? Is it time to prepare for war when the Palmetto flag shall float from the spires of the Capitol? No, now is the time. Let the people of the State of Pennsylvania be ready to stand by the Union, and to maintain her Commissioners in that convention by all the power which her resources enable her to exert.

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