The Patriot & Union.

TUESDAY MORNING, DEC. 11, 1860.

O. BARRETT & THOMAS C. MACDOWELL, Publishers and Proprietors.

Communications will not be published in the PATRIOT AND UNION unless accompanied with the name of the author.

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TO THE FRIENDS OF THE PATRIOT AND UNION.

We call the attention of our yearly club subscribers to the fact that their subscriptions will expire during December and January ensuing. We should like very much if our campaign and yearly subscribers would renew their subscriptions and use their influence to extend the circulation of the WEEKLY PATRIOT AND UNION. The terms at which we offer it to clubs are as low as any paper containing the same amount of reading matter published in the Union.

In view of the existing state of affairs, there will be an exciting time at Washington, and it is not unlikely that we shall have a lively time at the State Capital.—At the former we shall have a reliable correspondent, and at the latter competent reporters to give the Legislative news and all other occurrences worthy of note.—We shall also give our usual compendium of foreign and domestic news, and spare no pains to make the PATRIOT AND UNION one of the best (as it is the cheapest) family journals in the State.

Hoping that our friends will make some exertions to extend the circulation of the paper, either by clubs or otherwise, we call attention to the

TERMS.

DAILY PATRIOT AND UNION.

Single copy for one year, in advance.....$4 00
Single copy during the session of the Legislature.. 1 00

WEEKLY PATRIOT AND UNION,

Published every Thursday.

Single copy one year, in advance.....$2 00
Ten copies to one address.....10 00

Subscriptions may commence at any time. *Pay always in advance.* Any person sending us a club of fifty subscribers to the Weekly will be entitled to a copy for his services. The price is so low that we cannot offer greater inducements than this. Additions may be made at any time to a club of subscribers by remitting $1 for each additional name. It is not necessary to send us the names of those constituting a club, as we cannot undertake to address each paper to club subscribers separately. Specimen copies of the Weekly will be sent to all who desire it.

O. BARRETT & CO., Harrisburg, Pa.

The Black Republican papers are busy estimating what "we" have paid for Louisiana, Florida, Texas and California purchases. Who is "we"? The agricultural States, of which the South is the largest part, have paid most in custom duties upon articles of consumption. The settlers in these territories have paid for the lands by the acre! The whole cost is extinguished, and for every dollar paid the North has received at least a hundred fold. The "home market" of ten millions of consumers at the South who pay tribute to northern commerce and manufactures under a system of commercial restriction and protection will be appreciated when lost to us. Then how vast the disproportion of expenditures at the North and the South for internal improvements! Take also the question of fishing bounties. See what has been paid and who has got it! The following is a list of the States, and the amount they have received directly out of the Federal Treasury for this purpose:

Maine	$4,175,050
New Hampshire	563,134
Massachusetts	7,926,273
Connecticut	182,853
Rhode Island	78,895
New York	18,319
Virginia	479
Total	$12,944,998

"Criminal Ambition."

We see very little reason to hope for a satisfactory adjustment of the difficulties that now menace the country, so long as the Republicans refuse to recognize the cause of existing troubles. Shallow and surfece views do not reach the seat of the disorder. It will not heal the disease to indulge in crimination of the South; but the North must learn what it has done to create dissatisfaction at the South, and cure the disease by removing its cause.

The Philadelphia *North American* has discovered "criminal ambition" on the part of the South as the source of all the difficulties. That paper says—"It is no longer open to doubt "that the secession movement is simply an at-"tempt of defiant ambition to get power."—Nothing is more common than to ascribe false motives to conduct that does not meet with our approval. It requires the highest exercise of magnanimity to repose faith in the honesty and sincerity of an enemy. But it must be an exceedingly narrow-minded enemy who can see nothing more in the movement of the Southern States than criminal ambition—the desire of a few leaders to obtain place and power. If some enemy of Italian independence should tell you gravely that the revolution in that country was caused by the ambition of Victor Emmanuel and Garibaldi, you would conclude that his understanding was perverted by prejudice or dwarfed by hatred. You would show him the long train of causes, reaching far into the past, that produced the fruits of revolution, and regard the men who give direction to popular impulses as the mere agents or instruments, whose influence was measured by the extent of their devotion to the popular will, which they guided but did not create.

The cry of criminal ambition is calculated to deepen prejudice against the South, and to incline the North against such concessions as alone can preserve the Union from dissolution. When an influential man is justly amenable to the charge he deserves the severest visitations of public contempt. If we look at home we may possibly be able to discover some objects of criminal ambition. It is not difficult to sketch the lineaments of such a character. Suppose, for instance, a man aspires to the honorable position of Senator of the United States from Pennsylvania. Suppose that this man fully recognizes the danger attending the slavery agitation, and yet panders to that morbid sentiment because it is the tide that leads to fortune. Suppose that he smothers the honest sentiments of his own heart, which would lead him to raise his eloquent voice in condemnation of sectional prejudice, and consents to compromise and tamper with the evil—having enough of conscience not to encourage it openly, and not enough of honest resolution to grapple with it. Suppose this man compromises between duty on the one hand and ambition on the other, by seeking to divert the minds of the people from the momentous issues demanding their consideration, to trivial side issues, deceptive in themselves, but doubly deceptive when used as opiates to drug the public conscience. Suppose that by such means as these the man should succeed in accomplishing the work of party at the expense of the ruin of his country, what should we say of him? Would we not characterize his conduct as criminally ambitious? And if we afterwards learned that he aspired to a seat in the United States Senate, would not that fact satisfy us that his ambition had a more criminal purpose than the achievement of mere party success? We put these questions to the *North American*, and desire to know very respectfully whether it knows of such a man. We think that he can be found without searching very far, and when he is found we call upon the *North American* to read him a very severe lecture upon criminal ambition.

Where Will Secession End?

Many persons suppose that in the event of the States of South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Florida and Mississippi seceding from the Union, (the five States that now appear determined to take the fatal plunge,) that the Government may move along in its wonted course, and that Virginia, Maryland, Kentucky and Tennessee, the border States, will remain attached to the Union as heretofore. But this hope is fallacious. Interest will inevitably draw all the border States with the cotton States. The same concessions that would be necessary to attach the border States to the North and secure the protection of their constitutional rights, would prevent the cotton States from going out of the Union; and if the North will not take the proper steps to prevent dissolution before the process of dismemberment begins, it is not likely it will take such steps after five States have seceded, to save the border States and prevent total disintegration.

The probability that the secession of the five cotton States will result in the secession of all the Southern States, is presented with much force in the following extract from a letter of "Independent," in the *North American:*

Unless some mode of extrication be found, and that speedily, the secession of South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi and Florida may be considered nearly certain. How far the infection of that example may extend afterwards, cannot now be foreseen; but the prospect is saddening to contemplate, even when partially cheered by the glimmering hope that this separation will ultimately result in a reunion of the old ties, strengthened and revived in its attachments by the temporary estrangement. When we reflect upon the sympathies, kindred and community of interests existing between the border and the cotton States, and see the temptation of a common cause and fate held out to the former, in the visions of ambition, power and direction in the new confederacy, resulting from their numerical strength, it is difficult to comprehend why, in such a contingency, they should seek affinity with the section where they would be in a hopeless minority, rather than with that where, by concert, they might hold absolute control. The laws of natural gravitation would lead them to a southern, and not a northern Union. This is the belief of all their sagacious men, and it is precisely the reason why the leaders in South Carolina have repulsed any overtures from Virginia and the border States. They aim at a cotton confederacy, in which the Rhetts and such like shall be the depositories of power. Hence, in the view suggested, any secession now, be it small or large, must be encompassed with momentous hazards, and once begun, no human agency can lift the veil of the future.

What Can be Done?

What can be done to save the Union from impending destruction? is the anxious inquiry that fills every patriot heart. What can be done? There seems at present no adequate answer to the question. Several propositions have been submitted. The House of Congress has raised a committee of thirty-three to consider the subject of a Constitutional Convention as recommended by the President; but from the construction of that committee there is little reason to anticipate that it will do good. Mr. Powell, of Kentucky, proposes the appointment of a committee of thirteen by the Senate to prepare amendments to the Constitution, in accordance with the recommendation of the Message. But suppose that these committees should agree to recommend amendments of the Constitution satisfactory to the South, could they obtain the requisite twe-thirds vote of both Houses? and in the event of obtaining such vote, could these amendments be ratified by three-fourths of the States? Would not more than one-fourth of the States among the number which have precipitated this crisis upon the country hold out to the bitter end, and interpose to prevent any concession to the South, even when the alternative of concession or disunion is presented to them? We confess that we expect nothing from the magnanimity or justice of the Eastern States. Something may possibly be extorted from their fears. The Yankee pocket is more sensitive than the Yankee heart. But the organization of the Republican party is against yielding an inch; they prefer secession to concession, and their influence would, in all probability, be powerful to induce a sufficient number of States to thwart the hopes of the country, by preventing the ratification of any amendments proposed by Congress adequate to the exigencies of the occasion. And what then? The failure of these amendments would be the end of the Republic, extinguishing all hope of preserving the Union by compromise.

Another proposition for bringing about a settlement of the difficulties is, that the Southern States hold a Convention, agree upon what is necessary for their security within the Union, and lay the result of their deliberations before the North; thus presenting the issue of union by concession or dissolution as the remedy against continued aggression. This plan would tend to compact the South, and make them act as a unit. If South Carolina and the other cotton States would go into such a conference (which is questionable) she would be bound by its conclusions, and thus her ultraism might be tempered by honorable regard for her obligations to sister States having interests identical with hers. If she, and the States she might influence, should refuse to consult with other Southern States, under the apprehension that the result of a Convention might be to bring about a compromise with the North, such conduct would have a tendency to estrange the body of the South from her, and determine them not to be dragged into measures inimical to their interests by her selfish and domineering policy. And with the loss of Sothern sympathy her influence for evil would decline, and eventually circumstances might compel her to follow those she aspired to lead. Then the restraining power of the more moderate Southern States would find room to act—but only under one condition; and that condition that the Northern States consent to strengthen the bonds of those Southern States disposed to reconciliation by the adoption of such concessions as they might demand through their Convention.

This again brings us back to the point, would the North ratify such amendments to the Constitution as would provide adequate protection to Southern interests? It might possibly be accomplished as the means of strengthening the moderate Southern States against the extreme States; but only after the total wreck of the Republican party, which produced the present difficulty, and now stands in the way of its adjustment.

Opinion of the Attorney General.

The opinion of Judge BLACK, the Attorney General, given in reply to certain interrogatories of the President, is a paper of great interest at this time, and marked with the power of reasoning amounting to demonstration, which is charactaristic of that officer.

In relation to the collection of the revenue the opinion says:

The law requires that all goods imported into the United States within certain collection districts shall be entered at the proper port, and the duty thereon shall be received by the collector appointed for, and residing at, that port. But the functions of the collector may be exercised anywhere at or within the port. There is no law which confines him to the custom house, or to any other particular spot. If the custom house were burnt down, he might remove to another building; if he were driven from the shore, he might go on board a vessel in the harbor. If he keeps within the port he is within the law.

The conclusion of the opinion of the Attorney General deserves to be given at length:

I come now to the point in your letter which is probably of the greatest practical importance. By the act of 1807 you may employ such parts of the land and naval forces as you shall judge necessary for the purpose of causing the laws to be duly executed, in all cases where it is lawful to use the militia for the same purpose. By the act of 1795 the militia may be called forth "whenever the laws of the United States shall be opposed or the execution thereof obstructed in any State by combinations too powerful to be suppressed by the ordinary course of judicial proceedings, or by the power vested in the marshals." This imposes upon the President the sole responsibility of deciding whether the exigency has arisen which requires the use of military force; and in proportion to the magnitude of that responsibility will be his care not to overstep the limits of his legal and just authority.

The laws referred to in the act of 1795 are manifestly those which are administered by the judges and executed by the ministerial officers of the courts for the punishment of crime against the United States—for the protection of rights claimed under the Federal Constitution and laws, and for the enforcement of such obligations as came within the cognizance of the Federal Judiciary. To compel obedience to these laws the courts have authority to punish all who obstruct their regular administration, and the marshals and their deputies have the same powers as sheriffs and their deputies in the several States in executing the laws of the States. These are the ordinary means provided for the execution of the laws, and the whole spirit of our system is opposed to the employment of any other except in cases of extreme necessity, arising out of great and unusual combinations against them. Their agency must continue to be used until their incapacity to cope with the power opposed to them shall be plainly demonstrated. It is only upon clear evidence to that effect that a military force can be called into the field. Even then its operations must be purely defensive. It can suppress only such combinations as are found directly opposing the laws and obstructing the execution thereof. It can do no more than what might and ought to be done by a civil posse, if a civil posse could be raised large enough to meet the same opposition. On such occasions especially the military power must be kept in strict subordination to the civil authorify, since it is only in aid of the latter that the former can act at all.

But what if the feeling in any State against the United States should become so universal that the federal officers themselves (including judges, district attorneys, and marshals) would be reached by the same influence and resign their places? Of course the first step would be to appoint others in their stead, if others could be got to serve. But, in such an event, it is more than probable that great difficulty would be found in filling the offices. We can easily conceive how it might become altogether impossible. We are therefore obliged to consider what can be done in case we have no courts to issue judicial process, and no ministerial officers to execute it. In that event troops would certainly be out of place, and their use wholly illegal. If they are sent to aid the courts and marshals, there must be courts and marshals to be aided. Without the exercise of those functions, which belong exclusively to the civil service, the laws cannot be executed in any event, no matter what may be the physical strength which the Government has at its command. Under such circumstances, to send a military force into any State with orders to act against the people would be simply making war upon them.

The existing laws put and keep the Federal Government strictly on the defensive. You can use force only to repel an assault on the public property, and aid the courts in the performance of their duty. If the means given you to collect the revenue and execute the other laws be insufficient for that purpose, Congress may execute and make them more effectual to that end.

If one of the States should declare her independence, your action cannot depend upon the rightfulness of the cause upon which such declaration is based. Whether the retirement of a State from the Union be the exercise of a right reserved in the Constitution, or a revolutionary movement, it is certain that you have not in either case the authority to recognize her independence or to absolve her from her Federal obligations. Congress or the other States in convention assembled must take such measures as may be necessary and proper. In such an event, I see no course for you but to go straight onward in the path you have hitherto trodden—that is, execute the laws to the extent of the defensive means placed in your hands, and act generally upon the assumption that the present constitutional relations between the States and the Federal Government continue to exist until a new order of things shall be established, either by law or force.

Whether Congress has the constitutional right to make war against one or more States, and require the executive of the Federal Government to carry it on by means of force to be drawn from the other States, is a question for Congress itself to consider. It must be admitted that no such power is expressly given; nor are there any words in the Constitution which imply it. Among the powers enumerated in article 1, section 8, is that "to declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and to make rules concerning captures on land and water." This certainly means nothing more than the power to commence and carry on hostilities against the foreign enemies of the nation. Another clause in the same section gives Congress the power "to provide for calling forth the militia," and to use them within the limits of the State. But this power is so restricted by the words which immediately follow that it can be exercised only for one of the following purposes: 1. To execute the laws of the Union; that is, to aid the Federal officers in the performance of their regular duties. 2. To suppress insurrections against the State; but this is confined by Article IV, Sec 4, to cases in which the State herself shall apply for assistance against her own people. 3. To repel the invasion of a State by enemies who come from abroad to assail her in her own territory. All these provisions are made to protect the States, not to authorize an attack by one part of the country upon another; to preserve their peace, and not to plunge them into civil war. Our forefathers do not seem to have thought that war was calculated "to form a more perfect Union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquillity, provide for the common defence, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity." There was undoubtedly a strong and universal conviction among the men who framed and ratified the Constitution that military force would not only be useless, but pernicious as a means of holding the States together.

If it be true that war cannot be declared, nor a system of general hostilities carried on by the Central Government against a State, then it seems to follow that an attempt to do so would be *ipso facto* an expulsion of such State from the Union. Being treated as an alien and an enemy, she would be compelled to act accordingly. And if Congress shall break up the present Union by unconstitutionally putting strife and enmity and armed hostility between different sections of the country, instead of the "domestic tranquility" which the Constitution was meant to insure, will not all the States be absolved from their federal obligations? Is any portion of the people bound to contribute their money or their blood to carry on a contest like that?

The right of the General Government to preserve itself in its whole constitutional vigor by repelling a direct and positive aggression upon its property or its officers cannot be denied.—But this is a totally different thing from an offensive war to punish the people for the political misdeeds of their State government, or to prevent a threatened violation of the Constitution, or to enforce an acknowledgement that the Government of the United States is supreme. The States are colleagues of one another, and if some of them shall couquer the rest and hold them as subjugated provinces, it would totally destroy the whole theory upon which they are now connected.

If this view of the subject be as correct as I think it is, then the Union must utterly perish at the moment when Congress shall arm one part of the people against another for any purpose beyond that of merely protecting the General Government in the exercise of its proper constitutional functions.

I am, very respectfully, yours, &c.

J. S. BLACK.

To the President of the United States.

LIQUID STONE.—In the immediate vicinity of the Lunatic Asylum at Bloomingdale, is a building evidently used as a manufactory; for during the day there ascend from the smoke stack and steam funnels those unerring indications of the presence of the great motor.—Within this establishment are twenty powerful machines employed in converting into powder, fragments of rock. These mills work with great rapidity, and the noise arising from their constant operation is almost deafening. The process is that of stamping or crushing instead of grinding; twenty stampers, of about sixty pounds each, falling at the rate of four blows per second, crush and pulverize the masses of rock, which are placed for the purpose upon chilled iron anvils.

As fast as the rock is converted into powder it falls into a trough below, and is thence collected into a common receptacle, whence it is conveyed to a "digester," where a singular transformation takes place. It is here rendered soluble by means of superheated steam and chemical alkaline preparations, which convert the mass into liquor of flint. The metals which combine with the rock or quartz are not affected by this action, and may readily be separated, thus rendering the process invaluable when applied to rock containing the precious or useful metals.

Were this the only service to which this invention could be applied, it would still be useful, and in many gold-bearing localities highly valuable, but while this was, with the inventor, the primary intention, his research and experiments have enabled him to produce a material which is destined to take rank as one of the most useful that the mind of man has ever yet disclosed.

The liquor, after being drawn from the "digester," can be poured into moulds of any conceivable form, and the liquid stone crystalizing, can be converted into the hardest kind of conglomerate; making it valuable for almost any purpose which it may be desired to convert it. Not only can coarse pavements be formed in this manner, but bricks can be made much cheaper and of better quality than from clay by the present process.

The invention is not confined to those uses even, for the finest marble may be moulded at will and made to assume any shape desirable. Paint made from it is incombustible and will protect anything covered with it as perfectly as if it were stone. A slight and inexpensive previous preparation of the wood of ships' bottoms with one or two coats of the properly prepared flint, will make a petrified surface, combining with the woody fibre, as durable as copper, and it will always keep free and clean. In fact, this new agent, or rather this new discovery from nature's great laboratory, is applicable to so many purposes, that in its present infant state we cannot conceive what may not be done with it.—*N. Y. Commercial.*

GENERAL NEWS.

Rev. Robert J. Breckinridge, of Kentucky, has written a letter on the political condition of the country, which is worthy of attention. He hits the causes of the existing troubles with a good deal of accuracy when he says that "if the North insists on using the National Government to put down slavery, or if the South insists on using it to perpetuate and extend slavery, the Union cannot last." Dr. Breckinridge thinks that if the Union can survive the present crisis, the result will be the triumph of the Democratic party in 1864, probably under John C. Breckinridge, the whole South and a portion of the North uniting in his support. This is the best result he can foresee. He speaks in the strongest terms of Mr. B.'s devotion to the Union, and the false accusations of favoring disunion which have been brought against him during the canvass.

HORRID MURDER IN NEW YORK.—On Friday morning a horrible murder was discovered to have been committed at No. 21 East Twelfth street, New York. Mrs. Sarah Shank, a widow lady, aged about 50 years, who kept at that number a small thread and needle store, was found lying upon the floor of her sleeping room, with her throat cut and her head litterally beaten in. She had been seen about her shop in the morning, her fires had been lighted, and a little girl from a neighboring boarding house had conveyed her breakfast to her about 8½ o'clock, making it probable that the murder was committed about 9 o'clock. Near the body lay the fragments of a heavy earthen water pitcher, with which she had doubtless been assailed in the first instance. No clue can as yet be found to the perpetrators.

DEATH OF REV. FRANCIS HERRON.—The Pittsburg papers announce the death of the venerable Dr. Francis Herron, for many years the pastor of the First Presbyterian church of that city. He was among the earliest ministers of the gospel west of the mountains, and at his death was the oldest. He was born in Shippensburg, Cumberland county, Pa., June 28, 1774, and graduated at Dickinson College in 1794.

A telegraphic cable was successfully laid across the Mississippi river at Vicksburg last Friday.

The soldiers at Fortress Monroe have become interested in temperance, and 50 of them have signed the total abstinence pledge.

RAVAGES OF DIPTHERIA.—This disease, better known as putrid sore throat, is still desolating many homes in different sections of the country. Mr. George W. Dingler, of Easton Pa., recently lost all his children—three in number,—in quick succession, who fell victims to this fatal disease. It also rages in Rockingham county, Va., and quite a number of deaths have occurred, as many as four in the same family, (Mr. David Vanfoussen's,) within the last three or four weeks. It spares neither age nor sex.

ANOTHER "PRIZE FIGHT."—On Tuesday a prize fight for one thousand dollars took place near North Berwick, Me., between Michael Fritz, of Providence, R. I., and Wm. O'Neil of Worcester, Mass. Sixty-three rounds were fought, occupying four hours and twenty minutes, when Fritz was declared victor, owing to a foul blow. Nearly one hundred and fifty persons were present from Boston by special trains. Neither party had ever fought in the ring before.

DEATH.—Major General Duncan M'Donald died on the 25th ult., at Edenton, N. C., of which town he was the oldest citizen. He had command of the North Carolina forces at Fort Norfolk, in Virginia, during the late war with England, and aquitted himself with commendable zeal and ability. He had filled the station of Major General of the first division of North Carolina militia for the last forty years.

SEVERE SNOW STORM AND LOSS OF LIFE.—A letter from Sterling, Illinois, dated the 4th inst., states that a terrific snow storm was then raging in that vicinity, the railroads being all blocked up. A gentleman, just arrived there from Denver City, Kansas, reports that four men, formerly residents of Stirling, had been frozen to death on the plains, near Denver, on the 1st inst.

A LITTLE GIRL BOILED TO DEATH IN WHISKY. Ellen Welsh, a sprightly and intelligent littte girl, aged 11 years, fell into a vat of hot whisky at Stearn's distillery, Richmond, Va., Tuesday afternoon, and was literally boiled alive. She lingered in great torture through the night, and died Wednesday morning.

DEATH OF JOHN A. LIGHT.—We lean that Mr. Light, the coronant, who was here last summer, in making an ascension was killed last week in Pennsylvania. The rumor we have is that his balloon came in contact with some object, by which he was thrown out and his neck broken. *Martinsburg (Va.) Republican.*

Samuel Marx, Esq., cashier of the Bank of Virginia, died at Richmond, Friday, from an attack of paralysis.

The Norfolk *Argus* saw large ripe strawberries, Wednesday, just from a field in a neigboring county of North Carolina.

The evidence on both sides in the Burch divorce case has closed, and counsel have commenced their arguments.

Wemyss Jobson, now in jail in England for libel, has been pardoned on the condition that he will return forthwith to New York.

It is said the printing paper used in the London *Times* office annually costs $735,000.

LATEST BY TELEGRAPH

XXXVIth CONGRESS—SECOND SESSION.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.

SENATE.—After prayer and the reading of the Journal, Mr. Bigler (Pa.) moved that the Standing Committees of the last session be continued.

Mr. Latham (Cal.) moved that the resolution relative to an overland daily mail to California, be referred to the committee on post offices and post roads. Carried.

Mr. Sumner (Mass.) offered the memorial of Thaddeus Hyatt, praying relief for the sufferers in Kansas. He cited similar instances, and suggested that the relief should be afforded by an appropriation either of money or lands. Referred to the Committee on Territories.

The Homestead Bill was taken up and passed on first reading.

Mr. Powell's (Ky.) resolution for the appointment of a committee to consider the present condition of Federal affairs, was called up.

Mr. Powell said that events are rapidly crowding us, which if not speedily suppressed, will result in the dissolution of the Government. The resolution proposes legislation to give power for the correction of the evils. Our duty to our country requires us to act promptly.—The eleventh amendment to the Constitution was made in 1794. In 1803 the twelfth was made. Our fathers acted in such emergencies and so can we.

Mr. King, (N. Y.) I am not one of those that despair.

Mr. Collamer (Vt.) moved an amendment striking out portions of the resolution, except so much as referred to federal affairs, and moved its reference to a special committee.

Mr. King inquired whether additional legislation is necessary to maintain the Constitution.

Mr. Yulee (Fla.) inquired what was intended by the amendments.

Mr. Green (Mo.) said he would vote for the resolution; although an amendment to the Constitution or legal enactments, unless they met the popular sentiment or were supported by the strong arm of the Government, were not worth a straw. Efforts must be brought to bear on the public sentiment, or the alternative will be to arm the Federal Government with physical power to enforce the Constitution everywhere.

Mr. Latham (Cal.) said that California will remain with the Union, the great North and West, no matter what occurs. The Pacific Railway is the great disideratum of her people.

Mr. Powell accepted Mr. Collamer's amendment to strike out.

HOUSE.—Mr. Hawkins (Fla.) gave additional reasons why he had asked to be excused from serving on the Union Select Committee.

Florida, he said, was a small State; but, nevertheless, is entitled to the rights and immunities of the other sovereign States. She cannot be forced to remain in the Union, and the Southern States are pledged to defend her in the event of an attempted coercion. He felt satisfied of entire unanimity pervading that State to seek redress of its grievances in its own way, and by means other than Congressional compromises, which latter has never accomplished any successful purpose.

He regarded the component parts of the committee as particularly unfortunate. He criticised the composition of the committee and especially objected to Mr. Davis, of Maryland, as not a fit representive of that State, arguing that all who voted for Mr. Pennington as Speaker, were disloyal to the rights of the South. He regretted that the resolution for the appointment of the committee had come from one of the most gifted sons of the South.

From Washington.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.

The President has just been assured from an authentic source that the authorities of South Carolina will make no resistance either to the collection of duties, or to the Federal possession of the forts guarding the Charleston harbor, during the remainder of his administration.

Sinking of the Schooner Mary J. Hoyt.

BOSTON, Dec. 10.

The schooner Mary J. Hoyt, from New York for Cette, was met on the 8th inst. and found in a sinking condition by the bark Col. Ledyard. The captain and crew were taken off and brought here.

COOPER'S GELATINE.—The best article in the market, just received and for sale by
mar14-tf WM. DOCK Jr.

LYKENS VALLEY NUT COAL—For Sale at TWO DOLLARS PER TON.
☞ *All Coal delivered by PATENT WEIGH CARTS.*
JAMES M. WHEELER,
☞ Coal delivered from both yards. no17

HICKORY WOOD!!—A SUPERIOR LOT just received, and for sale in quantities to suit purchasers, by JAMES M. WHEELER.
Also, OAK AND PINE constantly on hand at the lowest prices. dec6

DIED.

In Harrisburg, December 10th, WILLIAM G., infan son of Daniel and R. Melza Hoke, aged 6 months and 10 days.

The funeral will take place from his father's residence, *Dewberry alley, below Chestnut street*, this afternoon at two o'clock. The friends and acquaintances of the family are respectfully invited to attend without further notice.

Just like the glorious blooming rose
The days appear to be,
But now the coffin doth enclose
That lovely form from me.

Oh! silent grave, to thee I trust
This precious part of worldly dust;
Guard it safe, oh! sacred tomb,
Until his parents ask for room.

New Advertisements.

FOR RENT—From the first of April next, the STORE ROOM now occupied by Samuel E. Zollinger, No. 65 Market street. For terms apply to
dec11 d1m JOHN B. THOMPSON.

NOTICE.—To all persons interested in the distribution of the estate of George Kissinger, late of Lykens township, Dauphin county, deceased.—The Orphans' Court of said county, on the application of the heirs of the late Catharine Foust, deceased, has referred back to the Auditor for further examination the distribution of said estate lately made to said Court, and the Auditor has appointed FRIDAY, THE 4TH DAY OF JANUARY NEXT, at his office, at two o'clock, P. M., of said day, to make said examination, when and where all persons interested will please attend.
JNO. ROBERTS, Auditor.
December 10, 1860.—de11-d3tlaw

NOTICE.—

OFFICE OF THE HARRISBURG, PORTSMOUTH, MT. JOY AND LANCASTER RAILROAD CO.,
PHILADELPHIA, Dec., 8, 1860.

A special meeting of the Stockholders of the HARRISBURG, PORTSMOUTH, MOUNT JOY AND LANCASTER RAILROAD COMPANY will be held on Thursday, the 27th inst., at 11 o'clock, a m., at Sansom Street Hall (Sansom street, between Sixth and Seventh streets,) in the city of Philadelphia, for the purpose of accepting or rejecting a contract for a more permanent lease of their road to the Pennsylvania Railroad Company.
By order of the Board of Directors,
GEORGE TABER,
dec10-dtdec27 Secretary.

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