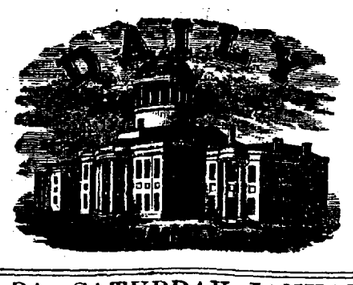
Patriot  Union.

VOL. 3. HARRISBURG, PA., SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 1861. NO. 124.

RATES OF ADVERTISING.

Four lines or less constitute half a square. Ten lines or more than four, constitute a square.

Half sq., one day	$0.25	One sq., one day	$0.50
" one week	1.00	" one week	1.25
" one month	2.00	" one month	3.00
" three months	3.00	" three months	5.00
" six months	4.00	" six months	8.00
" one year	5.00	" one year	10.00

☞ Business notices inserted in the LOCAL COLUMN, or before marriages and deaths, FIVE CENTS PER LINE for each insertion. To merchants and others advertising by the year liberal rates will be offered.

☞ The number of insertions must be designated on the advertisement.

☞ Marriages and Deaths will be inserted at the same rates as regular advertisements.

PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING,
SUNDAYS EXCEPTED,
BY O. BARRETT & CO.

THE DAILY PATRIOT AND UNION will be served to subscribers residing in the Borough for SIX CENTS PER WEEK, payable to the Carrier. Mail subscribers, FOUR DOLLARS PER ANNUM.

THE WEEKLY will be published as heretofore, semi-weekly during the session of the Legislature, and once a week the remainder of the year, for *two dollars* in advance, or *three dollars* at the expiration of the year.

Connected with this establishment is an extensive JOB OFFICE, containing a variety of plain and fancy type, unequalled by any establishment in the interior of the State, for which the patronage of the public is solicited.

Books, Stationery, &c.

SCHOOL BOOKS.—School Directors, Teachers, Parents, Scholars, and others, in want of School Books, School Stationery, &c., will find a complete assortment at B. M. POLLOCK & SON'S BOOK STORE, Market square, Harrisburg, comprising in part the following:—

READERS.—McGuffey's, Parker's, Cobb's Angell's.
SPELLING BOOKS.—McGuffey's, Cobb's, Webster's, Town's, Byerly's, Comby's.
ENGLISH GRAMMARS.—Sullion's, Smith's, Wood bridge's, Monteith's, Tuthill's, Hart's, Wells'.
HISTORIES.—Grimshaw's, Davenport's, Frost's, Willson's, Willard's, Goodrich's, Pinnock's, Goldsmith's and Clark's.
ARITHMETIC'S.—Greenleaf's, Stoddard's, Emerson's, Pike's, Rose's, Colburn's, Smith and Duke's, Davie's.
ALGEBRAS.—Greenleaf's, Davie's, Day's, Ray's, Bridge's.
DICTIONARYS.—Walker's School, Cobb's, Walker, Worcester's Comprehensive, Worcester's Primary, Webster's Primary, Webster's High School, Webster's Quarto, Academic.
NATURAL PHILOSOPHIES.—Comstock's, Parker's, Swift's. The above with a great variety of others can at any time be found at my store. Also, a complete assortment of School Stationery, embracing in the whole a complete outfit for school purposes. Any book not in the store procured at one days notice.
☞ Country Merchants supplied at wholesale rates.
ALMANACS.—John Baer and Son's Almanac for sale at B. M. POLLOCK & SON'S BOOK STORE, Harrisburg.
☞ Wholesale and Retail. my1

JUST RECEIVED
AT
SCHEFFER'S BOOKSTORE,
ADAMANTINE SLATES
OF VARIOUS SIZES AND PRICES,
Which, for beauty and use, cannot be excelled.
REMEMBER THE PLACE,
SCHEFFER'S BOOKSTORE,
NO. 18 MARKET STREET. mar2

NEW BOOKS!
JUST RECEIVED
"SEAL AND SAY," by the author of "Wide, Wide World," "Dollars and Cents," &c.
"HISTORY OF METHODISM," by A. Stevens, LL.D.
For sale at SCHEFFERS' BOOKSTORE,
ap9 No. 18 Marke st.

JUST RECEIVED,
A LARGE AND SPLENDID ASSORTMENT OF
RICHLY GILT AND ORNAMENTAL
WINDOW CURTAINS,
PAPER BLINDS,
Of various Designs and Colors, for 8 cents,
TISSUE PAPER AND CUT FLY PAPER,
At [my24] SCHEFFER'S BOOKSTORE.

WALL PAPER! WALL PAPER!!
Just received, our Spring Stock of WALL PAPER, BORDERS, FIRE SCREENS, &c., &c. It is the largest and best selected assortment in the city, ranging in price from six (6) cents up to one dollar and a quarter ($1.25.)
As we purchase very low for cash, we are prepared to sell at as low rates, if not lower, than can be had elsewhere. If purchasers will call and examine, we feel confident that we can please them in respect to price and quality. E. M POLLOCK & SON,
ap3 Below Jones' House, Market Square.

LETTER, CAP, NOTE PAPERS
Pens, Holders, Pencils, Envelopes, Sealing Wax, of the best quality, at low prices, direct from the manufactories.
mar30 SCHEFFER'S

LAW BOOKS! LAW BOOKS!!—A general assortment of LAW BOOKS, all the State Reports and Standard Elementary Works, with many of the old English Reports, *scarce and rare*, together with a large assortment of second-hand Law Books, at very low prices, *at the one price Bookstore of*
E. M. POLLOCK & SON,
my8 Market Square, Harrisburg.

Miscellaneous.

AN ARRIVAL OF
NEW GOODS
APPROPRIATE TO THE SEASON!
SILK FANS! LINEN FANS!! PAPER FANS!!!
ANOTHER AND SPLENDID LOT OF
SPLICED FISHING RODS!
Trout Flies, Gut and Hair Snoods, Grass Lines, Silk and Hair Plaited Lines, and a general assortment of
FISHING TACKLE!
A GREAT VARIETY OF
WALKING CANES!
Which we will sell as cheap as the cheapest!
Silver Head Canes! Loaded Canes! Sword Canes! Hickory Canes! Fancy Canes!
KELLER'S DRUG AND FANCY STORE,
NO. 91 MARKET STREET,
South side, one door east of Fourth street je9.

B. J. HARRIS,
WORKER IN TIN,
SHEET IRON, AND
METALLIC ROOFING,
Second Street, below Chestnut,
HARRISBURG, PA.
Is prepared to fill orders for any article in his branch of business; and if not on hand, he will make to order on short notice.
METALLIC ROOFING, of Tin or Galvanized Iron, constantly on hand.
Also, Tin and Sheet-Iron Ware, Spouting, &c.
He hopes, by strict attention to the wants of his customers, to merit and receive a generous share of public patronage.
☞ Every promise strictly fulfilled.
B. J. HARRIS,
jan7-d1y] Second Street, below Chestnut.

FISH!! FISH!!!
MACKEREL, (Nos. 1, 2 and 3.)
SALMON, (very superior.)
SHAD, (Mess and very fine.)
HERRING, (extra large.)
COD FISH.
SMOKED HERRING, (extra Digby.)
SCOTCH HERRING.
SARDINES AND ANCHOVIES.
Of the above we have Mackerel in whole, half, quarter and eighth bbls Herring in whole and half bbls.
The entire lot new—DIRECT FROM THE FISHERIES, and will sell them at the lowest market rates.
sep14 WM. DOCK, JR., & CO.

CHAMPAGNE WINES!
DUC DE MONTEBELLO,
HEIDSIECK & CO.,
CHARLES HEIDSIECK,
GIESLER & CO.,
ANCHOR—SILLERY MOUSSEUX,
SPARKLING MUSCATEL,
MUMM & CO'S,
VERZENAY,
CABINET.
In store and for sale by
JOHN H. ZIEGLER,
de20 73 Market street.

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

FAMILY BIBLES, from 1$ to $10, strong and handsomely bound, printed on good paper, with elegant clear new type, sold at
mch31 SCHEFFER'S Cheap Book Store.

CRANBERRIES!!!—A SPLENDID LOT just received by
oct10 WM. DOCK, JR., & CO.

FOR a superior and cheap TABLE or SALAD OIL go to
KELLER'S DRUG STORE.

THE Fruit Growers' Handbook—by WARING—wholesale and retail at
mch31 SCHEFFER'S Bookstore.

SPERM CANDLES.—A large supply just received by
sep18 WM. DOCK, JR., & CO.

KELLER'S DRUG STORE is the place to find the best assortment of Perfumes.

Coal.

TO THE PUBLIC!
JOHN TILL'S
COAL YARD,
SOUTH SECOND STREET,
BELOW PRATT'S ROLLING MILL,
HARRISBURG, PA.,
Where he has constantly on hand
LYKENS VALLEY BROKEN, EGG, STOVE AND NUT COAL.
ALSO,
WILKESBARRE STEAMBOAT, BROKEN, STOVE AND NUT COAL,
ALL OF THE BEST QUALITY.
It will be delivered to consumers clean, and full weight warranted.
☞ CONSUMERS GIVE ME A CALL FOR YOUR WINTER SUPPLY.
☞ Orders left at my house, in Walnut street, near Fifth; or at Brubaker's, North street; J. L. Speel's, Market Square; Wm. Bostick's, corner of Second and South streets, and John Lingle's, Second and Mulberry streets, will receive prompt attention.
jy13-d6m JOHN TILL.

COAL! COAL!!
ONLY YARD IN TOWN THAT DELIVERS
COAL BY THE
PATENT WEIGH CARTS!
NOW IS THE TIME
For every family to get in their supply of Coal for the winter—weighed at their door by the *Patent Weigh Carts. The accuracy of these Carts no one disputes*, and they never get out of order, as is frequently the case of the Platform Scales; besides, the consumer has the satisfaction of proving the weight of his Coal at his own house.
I have a large supply of Coal on hand, comprising of
S. M. CO.'S LYKENS VALLEY COAL all sizes,
LYKENS VALLEY do " "
WILKESBARRE do. " "
BITUMINOUS BROAD TOP do.
All Coal of the best quality mined, and delivered free from all impurities, at the lowest rates, by the boat or car load, single, half or third of tons, and by the bushel.
JAMES M. WHEELER.
Harrisburg, September 24, 1860.—sep25

UP TOWN!
PATENT WEIGH CARTS.
For the convenience of my numerous up town customers, I have established, in connection with my old yard, a Branch Coal Yard opposite North street, in a line with the Pennsylvania canal, having the office formerly occupied by Mr R. Harris, where consumers of Coal in that vicinity and Verbekstown can receive their Coal by the
PATENT WEIGH CARTS,
WITHOUT EXTRA CHARGE FOR HAULING,
And in any quantity they may desire, as low as can be purchased *anywhere.*
FIVE THOUSAND TONS COAL ON HAND,
Of LYKENS VALLEY and WILKESBARRE, all sizes.
☞ *Willing to maintain fair prices, but unwilling to be undersold by any parties.*
☞ All Coal forked up and delivered clean and free from all impurities, and the *best* article mined.
Orders received at either Yard will be promptly filled, and all Coal delivered by Carts. Coal sold by Boat, Car load, single, half or third of tons, and by the bushel.
JAMES M. WHEELER.
Harrisburg, October 13, 1860.—oct15

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

Medical.

HELMBOLD'S HELMBOLD'S
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FOR SECRET AND DELICATE DISORDERS.
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FOR SECRET AND DELICATE DISORDERS.
FOR SECRET AND DELICATE DISORDERS.
FOR SECRET AND DELICATE DISORDERS.
A Positive and Specific Remedy.
A Positive and Specific Remedy.
A Positive and Specific Remedy.
A Positive and Specific Remedy.
A Positive and Specific Remedy.
A Positive and Specific Remedy.
A Positive and Specific Remedy.
FOR DISEASES OF THE
BLADDER, GRAVEL, KIDNEYS, DROPSY,
BLADDER, GRAVEL, KIDNEYS, DROPSY,
BLADDER, GRAVEL, KIDNEYS, DROPSY,
BLADDER, GRAVEL, KIDNEYS, DROPSY,
BLADDER, GRAVEL, KIDNEYS, DROPSY,
BLADDER, GRAVEL, KIDNEYS, DROPSY.
BLADDER, GRAVEL, KIDNEYS, DROPSY,
ORGANIC WEAKNESS,
ORGANIC WEAKNESS,
ORGANIC WEAKNESS,
ORGANIC WEAKNESS,
ORGANIC WEAKNESS,
ORGANIC WEAKNESS.
And all Diseases of Sexual Organs,
And all Diseases of Sexual Organs,
And all Diseases of Sexual Organs,
And all Diseases of Sexual Organs,
And all Diseases of Sexual Organs,
And all Diseases of Sexual Organs,
And all Diseases of Sexual Organs,
ARISING FROM
Excesses, Exposures, and Imprudencies in Life.
Excesses Exposures, and Imprudencies in Life.
Excesses, Exposures, and Imprudencies in Life.
Excesses, Exposures, and Imprudencies in Life.
Excesses, Exposures, and Imprudencies in Life.
Excesses, Exposures, and Imprudencies in Life.
From whatever cause originating, and whether existing in MALE OR FEMALE.
Females, take no more Pills! They are of no avail for Complaints incident to the sex. Use
EXTRACT BUCHU.
Helmbold's Extract Buchu is a Medicine which is perfectly pleasant in its
TASTE AND ODOR,
But immediate in its action, giving Health and Vigor to the Frame, Bloom to the Pallid Cheek, and restoring the patient to a perfect state of
HEALTH AND PURITY.
Helmbold's Extract Buchu is prepared according to Pharmacy and Chemistry, and is prescribed and used by
THE MOST EMINENT PHYSICIANS.
Delay no longer. Procure the remedy at once.
Price $1 per bottle, or six for $5.
Depot 104 South Tenth street Philadelphia.

BEWARE OF UNPRINCIPLED DEALERS
Trying to palm off their own or other articles of BUCHU on the reputation attained by
HELMBOLD'S EXTRACT BUCHU,
The Original and only Genuine.
We desire to run on the
MERIT OF OUR ARTICLE!
Their's is worthless—is sold at much less rates and commissions, consequently paying a much better profit.
WE DEFY COMPETITION!
Ask for
HELMBOLD'S EXTRACT BUCHU.
Take no other.
Sold by JOHN WYETH, Druggist, corner of Market and Second streets, Harrisburg.
AND ALL DRUGGISTS EVERYWHERE.
no14 d&w3m.

EXTRACTS! EXTRACTS!!
WOODSWORTH & BUNNEL'S
SUPERIOR FLAVORING EXTRACTS
OF
BITTER ALMOND,
NECTARINE,
PINE APPLE,
STRAWBERRY,
ROSE,
LEMON AND
VANILLA,
Just received and for sale by
je29 WM. DOCK, JR., & CO.

The Patriot & Union.

SATURDAY MORNING, JAN. 26, 1861.

THE NATIONAL CRISIS.

THREATS AND THEIR EFFECTS.

A very esteemed friend, who writes to us on business matters from one of the free States, introduces some remarks on the present crisis, and referring to the South, says:

"I am afraid of nothing in that direction but precipitancy in secession, nor in the opposite direction, but the danger of a colder and less easily moved blood being warmed up and aroused into action, under the idea of it being supposed it can be influenced by threats. These two matters, if compounded, do cause me to be afraid of their consequences, a civil war; and if brought about, such an one as history tells us not of, and probably the earth never bore witness to. This result may well *make us all afraid*—not of the consequences to ourselves, particularly, for we are of small account in the scale, but to hundreds of millions now in existence, and thousands of millions yet to be."

We cordially reciprocate the conservative sentiments which actuate our correspondent, and insist upon the common duty of the government, the people and the press to exert all their influences for the preservation of peace in any and every event. But we do not concur with our friend in the entirely gratuitous imputation of threats from the South against the North. We do not think that any prejudices against Republicanism, or prepossessions the other way, have blinded us to faults on the part of the South. We are certainly willing to see them, though not disposed to magnify them, as is the practice with some of our cotemporaries; but we shall not affect to see faults in the South which do not exist.

We maintain that our present national difficulties are the consequences of a spirit of aggression; and at the same time we assert, without fear of successful contradiction, that this spirit of aggression is not in the South. We challenge our correspondent, or any press of the North, to prove a spirit of aggression in the South. The fact is precisely the same with regard to *threats*. The South utters no threats against the North. In the act of arming their several States, and putting them upon a war footing, they imply only a well-grounded apprehension that their soil may be invaded. But you look in vain for an expression of purpose, or the slightest intimation of a design to use the munitions of war against the North. If you perceive on the part of any of the Southern people the declaration of their purpose to maintain their rights at all hazards, it is always upon their own soil. If there is anything that seems boastful or menacing, it is not with respect to a purpose to go forth on a Quixotic expedition to air their chivalry in a Northern climate; they confine their martial aspirations to an honest but resolute defense of their own rights and territory.

But suppose the Southern States had all remained in the Union, and had provided them- [illegible] in military associations, with an avowed purpose to maintain their rights against Mr. Lincoln and his administration by a war with those who inaugurate an "irrepressible conflict" with them, there would then be some ground upon which to impute a threatening attitude on the part of the South. And this suppositious case induces us to direct the attention of our friend, and any who may think with him, to the real one.

The election of Mr. Lincoln is an event which of itself constitutes an exposition of a purpose to pursue an "irrepressible conflict" with the institution of slavery, as it exists in fifteen independent sovereignties of this republic. We ask any reasonable man if this is not a most offensive *threat* against the rights, and property, and prosperity of the South? In the process of the campaign, we learned from authentic—from undeniable sources, that vast masses of men were organized under the name of "Wide Awakes," for the maintenance of the party which originated this threat; and that these organizations were of a semi-military character. The design implied was, in the contingency anticipated as the natural result of the first grievous wrong—the inauguration of the "irrepressible conflict,"—to pursue it even to the extent of a war with the South. Mr. Lincoln and his policy, it was believed, would provoke resistance, and the "Wide Awake" organizations were designed to overcome such resistance.

But what has our more recent experience brought home to us? Since certain Southern States have determined to escape from a federal Union in which they were thus put under the threat and ban of Republicanism, *coercion* has become the theme of the North—the maddest device that fanaticism could possibly entertain. *Coercion!* Coerce into union! The terms are preposterous. But we shall not discuss a proposition so monstrous. Our purpose is to point to what this intolerant and despotic spirit of coercion has elicited in the North. And our correspondent, who imagines *threats* from the South, has surely failed to appreciate the quality of the threats implied in the service volunteered to the Governors of the Northern States, and through those Governors alike to the President and President elect of the United States. Are not these *threats?* What necessity has New York or Pennsylvania, or any other free State, to put herself upon a war footing? There has not been a word nor is there a thought, in the South, of wrong towards any Northern State. And there is not a Governor or Legislature of any free State who are not perfectly aware that if the seceding States are left to pursue their own welfare in their own way, on their own territory, that there will be peace in the land, and in the end the most hopeful tendencies towards a reconstruction of the federal Union, *whenever the North desires it under the Constitution*—EVEN AS IT IS!—*Baltimore Sun.*

HORRORS OF CIVIL WAR.

Yesterday, on board of one of the Brooklyn ferry-boats, two Republicans were talking in very bombastic style on the necessity of subduing the Southern States, &c., whereupon a stranger of stalwart form confronted them in a manner somewhat excited, and disclosing the marks of what was once a terrible wound in his breast, said *that* was received while battling for liberty in Italy; and that if the gentlemen whom he then addressed had had any actual experience in civil war, they would speak less flippantly of plunging the United States into horrors of this description. There was truth in the remark. It were well if the people of the country could better understand what civil war is, without learning it by their own bitter experience. They would stand appalled before doing one act which might precipitate it. Something may be learned by turning to the history of the American war of independence. From beginning to end, the conflicts of the whigs and tories were marked by acts of surpassing atrocity.

Of the siege of Fort Stanwix, on the Mohawk river, in the year 1777, it is recorded that Gen. Herkimer raised the militia in the neighborhood to relieve the fort, but fell into an ambuscade of tories and Indians, and "neighbor met neighbor in deadly conflict." The encounter was exceedingly desperate; quarter was neither given nor asked. "There were instances," says the historian, "when all was over, when the death-grasp still held the knife plunged into a neighbor's heart. It seems as if the fight had been presided over by demons."

Another instance showing the intense animosity which actuated men in those trying times, occurred at the capture of Fort Griswold, near New London, Conn. After an obstinate reisstance, the Americans laid down their arms to their assailants; but the massacre continued, led on by Maj. Bromfield, a New Jersey tory. As the story goes, when he entered the fort he inquired who commanded. Col. Ledyard came forward, saying: "I did, sir, but you do now," at the same time delivering up his sword. Thereupon, Bromfield plunged the instrument into Ledyard's breast. Sixty of the yeomanry of Connecticut whom he had lately commanded, were at once slaughtered in cold blood.

Again, at the massacre of Wyoming, in the valley of the Susquehanna, the tories took advantage of the absence of nearly all the able bodied men, who were then in the army under Washington, and led on a party of 1,100 white men and savages. The whole valley was desolated; and the few women and children who escaped to the mountains, afterwards perished under incredible suffering.

On another occasion, when the British were in possession of Long Island, Washington being anxious to learn the designs of the enemy, Nathan Hale (a graduate of Yale College, who had previously contemplated studying for the ministry,) undertook the perilous job of procuring the desired information. While returning from this duty, he was "recognized by a tory relative," taken to Howe's headquarters, and unceremoniously ordered to be executed the next morning.

Four years later, in 1790, the battle of King's Mountain took place in North Carolina. Col. Ferguson, who commanded one of Cornwallis' divisions was attacked and surrounded by a formidable body of backwoodsmen, many of them from Kentucky and Tennessee, and after a severe struggle they were utterly defeated, after three hundred had been slain. Ten of the tories noted for their cruelty to their countrymen "were hanged upon the spot."

Many other soul-harrowing tales characteristic of those "days which tried men's souls" might be collated; but they would faintly depict the horrors of a fratricidal war taking place at this more advanced stage of our history, with a population ten times more numerous, and acting under the influence of passions engendered by protracted sectional controversy. —*Journal of Commerce.*

WHO IS THE AUTHOR OF THE CRITTENDEN COMPROMISE?

A correspondent of the *Herald*, writing from Lexington, Kentucky, under date of January 15, makes this disclosure:

I have seen some complaint in certain newspapers charging the Vice President with supineness at this time. This is unjust. Mr. Breckinridge is among that gallant band who are striving to secure peaceably our rights, and are making one last final effort, in the Crittenden amendment, before an appeal to own people. This is essentially Mr. Breckinridge's the best personal authority, what is generally known here, that the Crittenden amendment, so called, was drawn up by Mr. Breckinridge and M. C. Johnson, Esq., of this city, prior to the departure of the former for Washington, and by him taken on and entrusted to Mr. Crittenden. This you may rely on as authentic beyond a question.

PROPOSED ANNEXATION OF FLORIDA TO GEORGIA.

The Georgians are already discussing the annexation of Florida. The proposition is to divide the State of Florida by the Apalachicola river, the western division then to be annexed to the State of Alabama, and all east of the line, including the islands, to be incorporated with the State of Georgia. The Savannah *Republican* says:

"While such a division would straighten the line of Alabama and give symmetry to her proportions, besides giving her one of the best seaports in the Union, furnished with a navy yard and well fortified, the accession to Georgia would make her imperial in her domain, and with a climate affording nearly every production of the world. We should raise ice in our northern and tropical fruits in our southern section. The country annexed, too, under the new order of things, would settle up rapidly and soon become one of the most prolific sections of the continent."

The same paper adds that the independent position of the States interested is such that no power may rightfully "say nay," and that the public debt of Florida should be no hindrance to the equitable absorption of the State by Georgia and Alabama.

GOV. PICKENS AND MAJOR ANDERSON.

Gov. Pickens has replied to the Postmaster General's letter, inquiring whether Major Anderson and his command would be allowed free communication with the Post Office at Charleston. He states that an arrangement is now existing by which the correspondence for Fort Sumpter is regularly delivered, and access is given to supplies, which is entirely satisfactory to Maj. Anderson; that no espionage is exercised over the correspondence, and that on only two occasions were his official letters detained, and then without any violation of their privacy; that Major Anderson had not had free communication with the Post Office because his presence, or that of any part of his command, might involve a collision, in the excited state of public feeling in the city. He takes high ground for maintaining the rights of South Carolina in her independent attitude, but protests a very earnest desire for peace.

It is somewhat remarkable, if this satisfactory arrangement has been made, that Maj. Anderson should not have notified the Government. No letters have been received from him or any of his officers since the 17th inst., when Capt. Foster informed the War Department of the offer by the State authorities to send the mails to Fort Johnson, midway between Charleston and Fort Sumpter. An official inquiry has been addressed to Maj. Anderson, with a view of ascertaining the exact facts.

Messrs. Hayne and Gourdin have informed the President and others that free communication between the city and Fort Sumpter now existed, but no official confirmation of the fact has come from those most immediately concerned, which naturally provokes comment.

THE SEIZURE OF FIREARMS.

The seiz[illegible] ammunition [illegible] nah, by th[illegible] rise to a q[illegible] "State" po[illegible] the federal authorit[illegible] latter contend that if these goods [illegible] taken possession of at all, it was [illegible] the United States marshal and t[illegible] district attorney to move in [illegible] The police, in stopping the ship[illegible] goods, it is held, stepped beyond the line of their duty, and must be held to their responsibility therefor.

The police commissioners, in answer, allege that the United States marshal is an avowed secessionist, and is doing everything in his power to give aid and comfort to the disunionists, and that, therefore, it is considered expedient that the police take the business into their own hands. The police department, at the same time, is a republican institution—so that the movements on both sides have an aspect more partizan than patriotic.

The muskets seized on board the Savannah steamer Monticello on Tuesday, still remain at the arsenal, in Seventh avenue, and General Superintendent Kennedy says that no claimant has appeared with a view of recovering the same. The United States district attorney was notified that a large quantity of powder and cartridges were shipped on board the Charleston steamer on Wednesday, but no steps were taken to prevent the departure of the alleged contraband goods to their destination.

The police, on Wednesday, by direction of Superintendent Kennedy, seized twenty-five cases, containing five hundred muskets, on board the schooner Caspian. These arms were intended for some point at the South, and were seized as contraband merchandise. They were consigned to Savannah.

THE "WAR" AMONG THE NEW YORK MILITARY.

The dissatisfaction growing out of General Sanford's offer of the services of the military to the Governor, to be used against the South, continues unabated in New York city. Capt. Lovell, of the City Guard, has thrown up his commission, and thus assigns his reasons:

"While I yield to none in my readiness to uphold and defend the constitution of my country, *I am inflexibly opposed to the doctrine that the stronger section of the Union may place a new and unauthorized interpretation on that constitution which, in the judgment of the weaker section, denies them complete security for their property, and then compel its unwilling recognition at the point of the bayonet.* I believe it is possible to adjust and settle our national difficulties in a peaceable manner, and must therefore decline to be made an instrument by the civil and military authorities of this State, under the specious and untenable plea of enforcing the laws, for inaugurating a policy which can only result in a sanguinary and protracted civil war, and a permanent dissolution of our beloved Union."

Gen. Sanford, now seemingly aware that he has been too hasty and indiscreet, has made an "explanation." He says the meaning of the offer was to garrison the harbor forts with militia, if the government should have occasion to withdraw the regular troops to other parts. In such an event the services of those willing to volunteer would be accepted.

THE BLOCKADE OF THE MISSISSIPPI WITHDRAWN—LOAN OF ARMS.

The Governor of Mississippi, in a special message, dated at the capital of the State on the 15th, alludes to the battery at Vicksburg in the following terms:

"Being advised by the Governor of Louisiana that he had reason to believe that an expedition would be sent down the Mississippi river to reinforce the garrisons of the forts and arsenals of that State, I sent Capt. Kerr, with the Vicksburg Jackson Artillery Company, volunteer companies of Vicksburg, to such position as would enable him to prevent any hostile expedition from the Northern States descending the river. Learning that the forts and arsenals were fully garrisoned by Louisiana, I have directed Captain H. H. Miller to withdraw his forces from the position they had taken.

"As soon as I was informed that the Governor of Louisiana had taken the arsenal at Baton Rouge, I sent Col. C. G. Armistead with a letter to Governor Moore, requesting him to furnish Mississippi with ten thousand stand of arms, on such terms as he might deem just.—Col. Armistead informs me that his Excellency has responded to my request by ordering eight thousand muskets, one thousand rifles, and six twenty-four pound guns, with carriages, and a considerable amount of ammunition, to be delivered to him, which will be shipped to Mississippi as soon as possible."

CASSIUS M. CLAY.

Cassius M. Clay has arrived at Washington, and has been in conference with leading Republicans. He is urging the Republicans in both Houses to change their policy of adherence to the Chicago platform, and says they must make proper concessions if they desire to keep Kentucky, or any of the border States, from joining the cotton States in their secession movements. He says Kentucky will be a unit on the question of secession unless some plan of adjustment is adopted, but it is idle to talk of coercing Southern States.

ADDRESS OF THE VIRGINIA CONGRESSMEN TO THE PEOPLE OF VIRGINIA.

RICHMOND, Jan. 24.—The Virginia Congressmen have sent out an address to the people of Virginia, giving a review of the Congressional proceedings in reference to the great question of the day, and the probable action of Congress, saying that it is vain to hope for any measures of conciliation, or adjustment from Congress which the people of the South could accept.—Also saying they are satisfied that the Republican party designs, by civil war alone, to coerce the Southern States under the pretext of enforcing the laws, unless it shall become speedily apparent that the seceding States are so numerous, determined and united, as to make such an attempt hopeless. The address concludes by expressing the solemn conviction that prompt and decided action by the people of Virginia in Convention, will afford the surest means, under the Providence of God, in averting the impending civil war and preserving a hope of reconstructing a Union already dissolved.

THAT BATTERT OF THIRTY-TWO POUNDERS AT MEMPHIS.

We find the following full particulars of the battery of thirty-two pounders at Memphis, in the *Avalanche*, of that city on Monday:

The Minute Men have had tendered to them sixteen thirty-two pound cannon by Major A. H. Douglass, who became the purchaser when the federal government disposed of the navy yard of the city. These guns are, we learn, in good condition, and will immediately be put in working order. A committee, consisting of Capt. James Hamilton, Col. Wm. R. Hunt, D. B. Malloy, Anthony Street, and C. Deloach, have been appointed to take the business in charge, and proceed at once to carry out the purposes of the association.

It is [illegible] purpose of the committee, we learn, to ap[illegible] city council for the privilege of [illegible] ere[illegible] [illegible] on that Memphis does, to avail ourselves [illegible] every means to repel the attack, and [illegible] safety, should actual hostilities, of which now there seems little doubt, occur. Let us by all means strengthen ourselves in every available manner, so as to be prepared for any and every contingency.

PENN'A LEGISLATURE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FRIDAY, Jan. 25, 1861.

The House was called to order at 11 o'clock a. m., and prayer was delivered by Rev. Mr. Colder.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Reports of committees were received.

The committee of Ways and Means, reported as committed an act to pay George W. M'Calla, two hundred dollars for services rendered in winding the capitol clock and the clocks in the Halls for 1860. On motion of Mr. SHEPPARD, the bill was considered and passed.

BILLS IN PLACE.

Mr. MARSHALL, an act to incorporate the North American oil company.

Mr. WILLIAMS, an act to incorporate an oil company.

Mr. ASHCOM, an act to incorporate the Lewis bituminous coal company.

Mr. SMITH, (Berks.) an act relative to purchase money due the Commonwealth on certain land in Berks county.

Mr. DEVINS, an act relative to judicial districts in the State.

Mr. LAWRENCE, an act declaring the West forks of Clarion river above Buena Vista, a public highway.

Mr. GORDON, an act appointing commissioners to lay out a State road in the counties of McKean, Elk, Forest, and Clarion.

Mr. ARMSTRONG, an act relative to unseated lands.

Mr. LAWRENCE, an act relative to a State road in the counties of McKean and Elk.

Mr. EILENBERGER, an act relating [illegible] school directors and school treasurers.

Mr. GORDON moved that when the H[illegible] adjourn, it do so to meet on Monday afterno[illegible] next at 3 o'clock. The ayes and noes being required, it was agreed to by a vote of 49 ayes to 28 noes.

BILLS PASSED.

On motion of Mr. BRODHEAD, the House considered the act relating to sheriffs authorizing deputy sheriffs to appear in court in the absence of the sheriff, through sickness or otherwise. Mr. BRODHEAD having moved to suspend the rules, the bill passed, and was sent to the Senate for concurrence.

An act relating to sheep in Chester county.

A supplement to an act to incorporate the Doylestown and Danborough turnpike road company.

An act relative to the construction of certain bridges over the Monongahela and Allegheny rivers at Pittsburg.

On motion of Mr. HILL, the House proceeded to the consideration of an act to incorporate the Hatborough monument association; which was passed.

An act relating to billiard rooms, bowling saloons, etc., in Centre county.

Mr. CLARK moved that the House proceed to the consideration of the act authorizing the county of Dauphin to borrow money. The act provides that $20,000 be borrowed to complete the court house. The bonds to bear 6 per cent. interest, and to be payable within five years. The act passed.

An act relative to road commissioners in Forrest county.

An act relative to a State road in Butler county.

On motion of Mr. SMITH, (Berks,) the House considered an act relative to laying out [illegible] road in the counties of Berks and [illegible] passed. Adjourned.

DEFERRED DEBATE.

In the House, January 22, Senate [illegible], entitled "Joint resolutions relative to [illegible]tenance of the Union," being under co[illegible]ti n, Mr. SMITH, of Philadelphia, [illegible] follows:

Mr. SMITH (Philadelphia.) I [illegible] sh to detain the House with any lengt[illegible] ks upon the resolutions now pending; [illegible], I feel as though I would not be do[illegible] the constituency which I have [illegible] represent, did I not make an attem[illegible] their almost unanimous opinion, a[illegible] upon the present unhappy conditi[illegible] tofore peaceful but now troubled [illegible] ted country. I am directed by the [illegible] ency to place upon the record of this H[illegible] their *protest against* the *method* of *adjust*[illegible] cibly laid down by the gentleman [illegible] heny and others of the Republican [illegible] this House. Such a course would [illegible] the Southern States now wavering in [illegible] allegiance, while concession and com[illegible] would, in my opinion, conciliate and strengthen the bond which now so feebly holds us together; let us act toward our Southern brethren in this the darkest hour of our country's history in a spirit which is gentle and easy. Kindness, the Christian principle of action, may induce them to discard their present attitude of rebellion, while severity, the Heathen one, would drive them the further on to madness.

It has been well and truly said, that, "of valor *discretion is the better part.*" Is it discreet that when the better promptings of the heart have been blunted; when the worst passions of our nature have been aroused; when so blinded by partisan feelings, that it is impossible to arrive at just conclusions—conclusions on which hang the *unity of these States*, the peace and happiness of thirty millions of people—without due reflection and most cautious and guarded action.

Are we so pure and free from blame or reflection in all our acts, as a State, that we can be allowed to censure and dictate terms to our sister States and equals in the Confederacy? Have we done nought of which they can complain? We are told day after day, since these resolutions have been introduced that we have neither law or shadow of law on our statute books that conflicts with or abrogates any law of Congress. If that be so, if they are only wordy and useless enactments, why not strike them off? Why have the finger of reproach pointed at us, and our noble and patriotic State classed with the other *nullifiers* of Congressional enactments in the Northern States, when we can so easily and without injustice to ourselves, stand like Cæsar's wife—*above reproach?*—Whether those laws be a wrong inflicted, or an injustice imposed upon the people of this State by the legislative enactments of the past, ere the present alarming and exciting developments, that are shaking our Government in the last throes of dissolution had transpired—it matters not to us—whether the laws on our statute books are costitutional or unconstitutional (as we know the best legal minds of our State conflict on that subject) it is not mine the *wish*, much less the *ability*, to discuss. But, Sir, as has been said, we can judge of the future only by the past—our whole history as a nation—from its commencement as a separate [illegible] nment, has been one of [illegible] mises. The only cord [illegible] as one nation, *great*, [illegible] the great anchor-chain [illegible] Ship of State, on which are centered the hopes of all lovers of liberty and [illegible] the world, was forged in equality throughout the [illegible] the compromising and extended debates of over [illegible] ion that culminated at the ratification [illegible] articles of confederation, July 9th, 1[illegible] and tempered through the fires of [illegible] ionary struggle, perfected at the ado[illegible] Federal Constitution in