

The Daily Post.

TUESDAY MORNING, MARCH 10, 1863. COLLECTING THE REVENUE.

We hardly think it probable, although it is possible, that the government will make the collection of the revenue at the Southern ports a test question. It appears clear to our mind, that as long as affairs remain in their present condition, the Administration will find it as impracticable to collect the revenue in the ports of the Southern Confederacy, as to reinforce Fort Sumter.

The Eastern papers are filled with the particulars of naval preparations for some purpose or other, but we want our bones too stiff on account of this fact. It is doubtless true that all the Military and Naval resources of the Eastern States have, for some motive, been concentrating at Annapolis. These movements do not seem to do well agree with the policy of peace, which the abandonment of Fort Sumter and Fort Pickens would intimate, yet the common sense of the people tells them that they are not taxed for the support of an Army and Navy to be used against any portion of the people who paid for its establishment and who contribute for its support. It is against the spirit of union which made the government of these United States, to use its Military and Naval forces against Americans. They will never be made the instruments of Administration chastisement against the South.

It is true, that the President says in his inaugural that he will faithfully execute the laws of the United States, but he has already done this, but there are no laws by which he is empowered to use the Navy to blockade American ports, nor by which he can collect duties in any other manner than at ports of entry. A vessel destined for one harbor cannot be ordered to another to make an entry and pay duties, for the 9th section of the 2d article of the Constitution expressly says: "No shall vessels bound over to one State, be obliged to enter a port or harbor in another State." This is one of the laws which Mr. Lincoln is bound and has promised faithfully to execute, and to neglect to do it, or to compel any other course, without authority of law, would be a violation of the general principles of commerce and maritime law.

The present revenue laws provide that importers may warehouse their goods from a year to three years, when desirable. If an attempt were made to collect duties at the mouth of harbors, it would be illegal and impracticable. Foreign vessels by law must deposit their papers with the Consul of their respective nations before making an entry, and when the entry is made it must be made at the Custom House. Surely it is not intended to ship the custom houses and consuls to remote outside of the Southern harbors. There is no law to warrant the collection of revenue on the high seas, nor to employ men of war for the purpose. The law requires that it should be done on land at ports of entry. There are a variety of duties devolving by law upon the officers of the Customs, such as examining cargoes, weighing and measuring them, &c., which cannot be done at sea.

If it were not illegal it is impracticable to collect the revenue except on shore, and we do not think any effort to do so will be made. In executing the laws, the President must be subject to laws and can only act "within the extent of his authority." But aside from the question of legality and practicability, that matter of the collection of revenue must be considered as a question of policy bearing upon the one great object of preserving, re-uniting and perpetuating the Union. The fate of everything now depends upon the wisdom of the government in deciding the question of peace or war. The indications are that it is not contemplated nor desired by the new administration. The country does not wish for war. An attempt to collect the revenue in the ports of the seceded States, certainly if illegal measures are resorted to, to accomplish it, would inevitably lead to war, and for this we are not prepared. We have neither the ships, the men, nor the money to use as engines of destruction against our neighbors of the South.

The best policy of the administration in regard to the collection of revenues in the ports of the seceded and Confederate States, is that of masterly inactivity. The abstract question of right can be decided hereafter. The law has not provided that American ships and men shall be used against their fellow countrymen. The peace policy is the only safe policy.

ITEMS TELEGRAPHED TO THE PRESS. On Saturday the President solicited the written opinion of each member of the Cabinet concerning the withdrawal of Major Anderson from Fort Sumter, which all concurred in approving General Scott's recommendation except Mr. Blair. Mr. Lincoln will now decide for himself. Orders have been sent for the troops on board the Brooklyn and other sloops of war, now stationed at Fort Pickens, to land them immediately and reinforce Major Sumner. An attack from the revolutionists is apprehended, and this precaution is therefore deemed proper. Hon. Thomas Corwin will accept the mission to Mexico, if the instructions conform to his policy. Secretary Chase must go to market immediately for part of the loan last authorized. The Chronicle says: The Commissioners from the C. S. A. have received reliable information that they will very soon receive an official reply to their communication. It is believed and currently stated at Washington that it will express a earnest desire for peace, at the same time declaring that the United States Government will, in no way or manner, consent to recognize the Confederate States as forming a separate government. Several officers of the highest class have resigned at the department. Mr. Blair, Mr. Lincoln will now decide for himself. The Cabinet was convened in session on the question of an extra session. It is generally thought that the calling of one can scarcely be avoided.

Congressmen Yet to be Elected. The States which are yet to choose Representatives, and their times for election, are as follows: Connecticut—April 1; North Carolina—Aug. 5; Rhode Island—April 5; California—Sept. 2; Kentucky—Aug. 5; Kansas—Sept. 2. Only two of the seceded States—South Carolina and Florida. The others would have chosen in August, September and October. The members already elected stand thus: Representatives—W. D. Loomis—44; Democrats—10; Whigs—10; Republicans—24. Of those to be elected, the Republicans will probably elect seven. If the seceded States should elect and send to Congress, there would be a small majority either way.

Interior Custom Houses.

The Montgomery Congress propose to impose a duty on cotton going northward out of the Confederacy by railroads. The Augusta Chronicle wants to know how that duty is to be collected except at seaports? So far from diminishing the number of these offices, it will be found necessary largely to increase them, at least to have them stationed at the intersection of railroads. There is likely to appear, to be a double set of interior custom houses, one on the Southern borders, to collect the Southern export duty, and one on the Northern borders, to collect duties on foreign goods imported duty free, through Southern ports. These will be new obstructions to trade, which will be found very inconvenient in practical operation.

It is announced that the Southern government of the South has appointed William M. Yancy, of Alabama, Judge P. A. Root, of Louisiana, and Colonel A. Dudley Mann, as special Commissioners to England and France, for the purpose, first, of securing the recognition of the Southern government by the independent governments of the Confederate States; and secondly, to propose such Southern commercial reciprocity as English and French statesmen will not be apt to decline. Thomas Butler King, of Georgia, has been selected by the Southern States to visit Europe, to make arrangements for the direct trade from the Confederation to the ports of the South.

More of the leading New York journals may now be said to be edited by their Washington correspondents, or at least, to be "Washington reported" by their editors. Greatly gone by the board and a black umbrella, and went long ago. Mr. Raymond got a dispatch on Saturday night and last instant: Mr. Dana got a hint of this and followed suit; General Webb did not follow because he had already gone; Mr. Spaulding is also up, and a brace of his collaborators; the Cavalier Wilcox represents Mr. Bennett, and Mr. Bryant recently went to see what's going on.

The success of Charles Minstrel in England has led to the formation of a band of Female Minstrels. They are also in number, however, occupying the post of accapany, in addition to the male conductors, and are not only successful, but have received the approbation of the press, though, for a few signs, the novelty of the thing attracted large audiences.

The Commission appointed by Caroline county, Virginia, to purchase arms, have bought in New York \$8,000 worth of rifles and carbines with accessories, which were distributed on Monday to the volunteer companies of that county, who have uniformed themselves. These arms will kill at a distance of 1,000 yards.

FORNERS NOW—Passengers for Savannah by the steamship line were notified that their baggage would be subject to the scrutiny of the Southern Custom House officers. It is said, make a very rigid examination, and allow nothing but the strictly proper effects of the passengers to pass.

THE GAZETTE thinks that Mr. Lincoln is not disposed to concede the border States; only by the abandonment of Fort Sumter, because it is necessary. We are not here, Mr. Lincoln's mistake is in his low estimate of the Lincoln's patriotism and love for the Union.

THE NEW ORLEANS Delta says that the Southern horses, which are chiefly raised upon the Northern coast, will be retained at home this year, and the Southern raises will be very tame affairs. This is a hard for the sporting generation of the North.

HARRISBURG LETTER.

The over-lasting Bismarck question occupied the attention of the session of the whole of the afternoon, and not as yet solved. Speeches stupid, eloquent and witty, were delivered, and the effort was made to rally party drill to come to the rescue to Law, the distinguished and truly eloquent gentleman, who had been in vain, for it is said that the friends of the bill had received the bounty and had to abandon the responsibility of the bill, and it is now where the responsibility is.

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