

Raftsmen's Journal.



S. B. ROW, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR. CLEARFIELD, PA., JAN. 16, 1861.

WHAT CAN BE DONE! There is no use in any one trying to close his eyes to the real condition of our country. So far as the action of the Gulf States can do it, a dissolution of our beloved Union is accomplished. Four of them have declared their connection with the United States severed.

As these facts force themselves upon the public mind, every good citizen is anxiously inquiring, "what shall we do to be saved?" as a nation, but as yet no one has been able to give an answer that is received with any considerable degree of confidence.

U. S. SENATOR.—On Tuesday, Jan. 8th, the two Houses of the Pennsylvania Legislature met in joint convention and, on first ballot, elected EDGAR COWAN, Esq., as U. S. Senator, for six years from the 4th of March next, in place of Mr. Bigler. The vote stood thus:—

Mr. Gordon, one of our members of the Legislature, on the 12th inst., offered the following resolution, which was adopted by a vote of 50 yeas to 26 nays: Resolved, That we affirm the doctrines of the Chicago platform as expressing the sentiments of a large majority of the people of Pennsylvania, and that we have no reason to ignore it.

THE FAMINE IN KANSAS. BURLINGAME, OSAGE COUNTY, KANSAS, December 26th, 1860. EDITOR RAFTSMAN'S JOURNAL:—Dear Sir: I wish to occupy a small space in your paper, while I attempt to give your readers a sketch of the condition, and want of provisions in Kansas. I shall base this upon my own experience; the truth of which will apply to hundreds and thousands of the citizens of this unfortunate territory.

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SUMMARY OF NEWS.

MUCH comment has been excited by the revelation in the President's letter to the South Carolina Commissioners, that the last verbal instructions from the Secretary of War to Major Anderson at Fort Moultrie, on the 11th of December, which were communicated by Colonel Butler, were not brought to the President's notice until the 21st, ten days after.

THE STEAMER STAR OF THE WEST. The steamer Star of the West arrived at New York, during the night of the 11th on her return from the unsuccessful attempt to re-inforce Fort Sumter. She brings back the troops destined for the relief of the fort.

THE PRESIDENT'S CABINET. The following resignations have taken place in the Cabinet since the secession crisis has assumed any considerable consequence, viz: Hon. Lewis Cass, Sec. of State; Hon. Howell Cobb, Sec. of Treasury; Hon. John B. Floyd, Sec. of War; Hon. Jacob Thompson, Sec. of Interior; Hon. P. F. Thomas, Sec. of Treasury.

THE REIGN OF TERROR IN CHARLESTON. The terrorism which prevails at Charleston has driven away some of the most substantial people who transacted business there. Two recent instances are known of large money contributions being demanded, with strong intimations that if not answered, they would be compelled.

MR. CRITTENDEN'S RESOLUTIONS. Mr. Crittenden's resolutions were amended by his consent on Wednesday last (9th) on motion of his colleague, so as to provide that all territory below the Missouri line, and all hereafter acquired, shall be devoted to Slavery.

PORTS SEIZED BY THE SECESSIONISTS. The following named ports have thus far been seized, by order of the Governors of the States which they are respectively located, and are now in possession of the secessionists: Forts Pulaski and Jackson, Savannah, Ga.; Forts Morgan and Gaines, Mobile, Ala.; Forts Mifflin, Beaufort, and Caswell, Ochs Island, N. C.; Forts Moultrie and Pinckney, Charleston, S. C.; Forts St. Philip, Jackson, and Pike, Louisiana.

MARINES AT FORT M'HENRY. Fort M'Henry at Baltimore was on Wednesday last occupied by a company of 40 United States marines, enough to hold it against a sudden assault by a mob.

THE HOUSE WILL MEET TO BE PASSED. The House will meet the responsibility thrown upon it by the President by adopting, at the first opportunity, the force bill recently reported from the Committee on the Judiciary by Mr. Bingham, of Ohio.

PENSACOLA, FLORIDA, TO BE ATTACKED. A dispatch from Charleston states that the commander of the U. S. troops at Pensacola, imitating Major Anderson, has abandoned all the forts in the harbor except Fort Pickens, where he has concentrated his men, and that three hundred Alabamians have gone from Mobile to make an attack upon him.

Late advices from Charleston report that the excitement there had somewhat abated, in consequence of pacific news from Washington. Lieutenant Talbot, Major Anderson's messenger, has arrived at Washington, and it is reported that the garrison at Fort Sumter is not in need of re-enforcements.

HOME PROSPECTS.

Our present number shows that we have brought out the big gun, and that we have got upon the stocks iron plated frigates of war upon the high seas. We have not yet reached of those "last days" spoken of by the good old prophet Isaiah, when "the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established among the nations, and shall rebuke many people; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

ARMED BANDS FROM NEW ORLEANS. Armed bands from New Orleans have taken possession of the United States forts in Louisiana, and the Arsenal at Baton Rouge.

IMPORTANT FROM CHARLESTON. The Star of the West Fired Into. CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN MAJOR ANDERSON AND GOV. PICKENS.

CHARLESTON, Wednesday, Jan. 9, 1861. About 11 o'clock this morning, a boat from Fort Sumter, bearing Lieut. Hall with a white flag, approached the city.

Governor Pickens, after stating the position of South Carolina to the United States, says that any attempt to send United States troops into Charleston harbor to re-enforce the forts would be regarded as an act of hostility, and in conclusion adds that any attempt to re-enforce the troops at Fort Sumter, or to retake and resume possession of the forts within the waters of South Carolina—which Major Anderson abandoned after spiking the cannon and doing other damage—cannot be regarded by the authorities of the State as indicative of any other purpose than the coercion of the State by the armed force of the Government.

GOV. PICKENS IMMEDIATELY GRANTED THE PERMISSION desired, and directed Lieut. Talbot to have every facility and courtesy extended to him as bearer of dispatches to the United States Government both in going and returning.

Lieutenant T. Talbot left Charleston late the same night with dispatches from Major Anderson to the President of the United States.

Lieut. Talbot goes to Washington for further instructions from the President. A party of gentlemen entertained him at the Charleston Hotel previous to his departure.

REGISTER'S NOTICE.—Notice is hereby given, that the following accounts have been examined and passed by me, and remain due in full to the Register of Deeds, legates, creditors, and all others in any way interested, and will be presented to the next Orphans' Court of Clearfield county, to be held at the Court House, in the Borough of Clearfield, commencing on the Second Monday of January, 1861, for confirmation and allowance.

The final account of John Macnamis, Administrator of all and singular the goods, chattels, rights and credits which were of George Johnston, Jr., late of Bell tp., Clearfield county, deceased, which were of John B. Graham, Jr., late of Bradford township, Clearfield county, deceased.

The account of John Graham, Jr., and James Nelson, Administrators of the goods and chattels which were of John B. Graham, Jr., late of Bradford township, Clearfield county, deceased. JAMES WRIGLEY, Register. Clearfield, Pa., December 5, 1860.