



RIGHT OR WRONG. WHEN RIGHT, TO BE KEPT RIGHT. WHEN WRONG, TO BE PUT RIGHT.

EBENSBURG.

THURSDAY.....APRIL 11.

The Principle of the Confederation.

The idea held out and the reason assigned for the rupture of the Union by the Southern traitors, says the Harrisburg Daily Telegraph, has been, that the people of the South were compelled to escape into a confederacy in order to protect themselves against the aggression of the North. Such assertions have formed the standing arguments and appeals of Northern doughfaces while advocating the unity and principles of the Democratic party. The dreadful alternative of a disunion is what has benighted the people of the North, and heretofore weakened their influence for good in their own section. But it seems now that it was neither the burden of past aggression nor the fear of future injury that induced disunion. In a speech upon this subject, delivered at Savannah, Ga., on the 21st of March, the Vice President of the Southern Confederacy, Hon. A. H. Stephens, gives to the world the official reasons which induced disunion. He states in his argument, that as the Creator has made a distinction in races, He has also fixed their power and prerogative. Those whom God has stamped as inferior, are to be subjected to the will of the superior—the standard of inferiority to be fixed by the relative powers of the races occupying any territory. In this manner, Mr. Stephens declares that the principle of all governments should be based on a system of slavery. It is the only means, in his opinion, of preserving the harmony of communities and the purity of classes.—Universal freedom begets an equality which must eventually produce degradation, and, as the degeneration of one race has its influence on another, in order to preserve the strength of the stronger, the weaker race must be weakened by slavery and kept in constant and eternal subjugation, to prevent it from perpetrating any mischief.

With slavery as the basis of the Southern Confederacy, and the principle itself constituting one of the greatest monopolies with which the world has ever contended, Mr. Stephens considers the protection of white labor as injurious to business. He is opposed to the imposition of duties, as calculated to benefit one class of labor and injure more extensively another. With this fallacy on his lips, he advocates free trade, pompously declaring that the white mechanic of the South has the independence and strength to protect himself. But behind this sophistry we have the real truth of Mr. Vice President Stephens' design, which is nothing more nor less than to degrade all labor to a level with that of slavery, and to make it subject to their demands and control. If they succeed in securing a recognition for slavery, and establishing it as a principle of government, and at the same time incorporate the system of free trade in the policy of the country, we can imagine how long the white mechanic and laborer will be able to contend with the slave of his own, and the pauper labor of any other country. But as we have already stated, all these arguments in favor of free trade and the divine origin of the institution of slavery, coming from the leaders of the insurrection themselves, are only so many vindications of the policy and principle of the Republican party.—They prove that the designs of the revolutionists at the South tend more to the establishment of the exploded dogmas of tyranny, than the recognition and preservation of civil and religious liberty.

We append an extract from this frank and extraordinary avowal of principle, for the benefit of our readers:

"The prevailing ideas entertained by Jefferson, and most of the leading statesmen, at the time of the formation of the old Constitution, were that the enslavement of the African was in violation of the laws of nature; that it was wrong in principle, socially, morally and politically. It was an evil they knew not well how to deal with, but the general opinion of the men of that day was that some law or other, in the order of Providence, the institution would be evanescent and pass away. This idea, though not incorporated in the Constitution, was the prevailing idea at that time. The Constitution, it is true, secured every essential guarantee to the institution while it should last, and hence no argument can be justly used against the constitutional guarantee thus secured because of the common sen-

timents of the day. Those ideas, however, were fundamentally wrong. They rested on the assumption of the equality of races. This was an error. It was a sandy foundation, and the idea of a government built upon it, when the "storm came and the wind blew, it fell." Our new government is founded upon exactly the opposite sides. Its foundations are laid; its corner-stone rests upon the great truth that the negro is not equal to the white man; that slavery, and subordination to the superior race, is his natural and his normal condition.

This, our new Government, is the first in the history of the world, based on this great physical, philosophical and moral truth. This truth has been slow in the process of its development, like all other truths in the various departments of science. It has been so, even amongst us. Many who hear me perhaps can recollect well that this truth was not generally admitted, even within their day. The errors of the past generation still cling to many as late as twenty years ago. Those at the North who still cling to these errors, with a zeal above knowledge, we justly denominate fanatics."

It is in response to such opinions, and to gratify a feeling of revenge engendered by a consciousness of inferiority, on their own part, that the people of the South are now banding themselves to destroy the fairest and greatest government on the globe. Whenever the Democratic press of the North seek to give a different reason for this revolution, and essay to force the responsibility on the Republican party, they utter the most malignant falsehoods, and render themselves amenable for the actions of their Southern allies.

That Railroad!

We were somewhat astonished—indeed we might say astounded—on reading in the Mountaineer last week as follows:

"We learn that a branch of this (the Underground) railroad passes through Ebensburg."

We had fondly hoped that the above fact was successfully hushed up; we imagined that it was a secret secure from human discovery; but ah, and alas! how signally have we been undeceived. The Mountaineer, by hook or by crook, got behind the scenes, and as a consequence the cat is effectually let out of the bag.

Further concealment in the premises, therefore, being impossible, improbable and unnecessary, we here present a thorough expose of the "institooshun"—(in advance of all cotemporaries.)

The Ebensburg Branch of the Underground Railroad has been established for some time, or perhaps longer. Although built at tremendous expense, it fully answers the purpose for which it is intended. The main track enters town from the eastern side, and leaves it Canada-ward. Trains run as often as circumstances permit.

The depot is located at the juncture of Triumph street and Gloryann alley, sixteen feet under ground. The only entrance thereto is through a trap-door, which is kept constantly guarded by a dozen delirious canines. So that trespassing and posching is almost out of the question.

The acting officials of the E. B. of the U. R. are three in number, to wit: one general agent, whose duty it is to chalk passengers' hats; one brakeman, whose duty it is to break the heads of any who may interfere with the business of the company; and one conductor. Besides these, there are a large number of passive officers, the names and duties of which we omit for lack of inclination.

Ebensburg, lying close to the dividing line between Freedom and Slavery, is one of the great central points of the route; and passengers in great abundance flock thither to take passage on the cars. Annexed is a 'charcoal sketch' of the general appearance of these travelers on their arrival at the depot:



The talisman—the magic open sesame—the pass-word, we mean, unto the favors of this benevolent corporation is the following recitative:

"White folks, I've come over the mountain. So many miles that you couldn't count 'em; I left the folks in the old plantation, And came up here for my education," etc.

The following is a correct 'bird's-eye view' of one of the magnificent vehicles in use on the E. B. of the U. R.:



We may add that the finances of the company are in a flattering condition at present, owing to the fact of Joshua R. Giddings having recently donated it the sum of \$500,000.

P. S.—The appointments for the road for the ensuing year have been made. The Mountaineer can therefore rest easy for a time or so.

The Administration is displaying great caution in all its movements.—Neither the army nor navy officers know anything of its designs, and only those are trusted with the dispatch of military business who are known to be true friends of the Union.

War News.

The news from the Southern Confederacy during the past week have been quite warlike, and it is altogether probable that hostilities between the Federal authorities and the Traitors cannot much longer be avoided.

On Monday General Beauregard issued an order and sent a special messenger to Major Anderson, giving him official notification that all intercourse between Fort Sumter and Charleston with regard to postal facilities and supplies would be prohibited from that date. This is equivalent to a declaration of hostilities.

The sloop of war Pawnee sailed from Washington on Saturday with sealed orders. She carries ten heavy guns and two hundred men. Her destination is supposed to be Fort Pickens.

The revenue cutter Harriet Lane sailed from New York for the South on Monday morning.

Several other vessels are to follow shortly.

The New York Tribune states authoritatively that Major Anderson is not to be withdrawn, but that he is to be provisioned.

The course of the Federal Government thus far has been calm but firm; nothing has been nor will be done rashly. The President has a thorough appreciation of the responsibilities that rest upon him, and will shape his course accordingly.—If war comes, it will come from the traitors of the South. A few more days and we will know the worst.

EDITORIAL NOTINGS.

In fine condition—the streets.

Brought to a sudden stop—garden making in this vicinity.

Disappeared—the robins, blue-birds, &c., of last week.

Appeared in their stead—snow birds, pud muddles and the bottom of our segar-box.

Several destructive conflagrations have occurred in Westmoreland county recently.

Waxes warm—the contest between the Indiana Messenger and the Indiana Loco-Focoary. Go it, ye cripples.

The Prodigal Son was a Scriptural case of secession. He commenced with arrogance, and ended in a pig-pen!

Judge McLean, of the United States Supreme Court, died at Cincinnati on Thursday.

On Friday, Messrs. Lane and Pomeroy were elected United States Senators from Kansas by small majorities.

Ejaculation of a fortunate gamester after he had "broke the bank"—"I might go further and fare worse."

The Rhode Island State election was held on Wednesday. Sprague, the Union candidate for Governor, was re-elected by a large majority.

The State Convention of South Carolina on Wednesday ratified the Permanent Constitution of the Confederate States by a vote of 149 yeas to 29 nays.

The Louisville Journal says the secession of Kentucky would make her a free State as certainly as the enactment of the most effective law of universal emancipation.

Fort Adams, in Newport (R. I.) harbor, is said to be the largest and most formidable fortress in the country. It cost about five million dollars.

At the Connecticut State election, held on the 1st inst., the Republicans elected their State ticket and a majority in both branches of the Legislature, by an increased vote over last year.

The Mountaineer reiterates that state campaign fabrication concerning Carl Schurz, in which the latter, in speaking of the Creator, is represented as calling Him the "ideal gentleman beyond the stars." Pah!

The motto of the Seceding States is or ought to be, "Let us alone." Owing to financial depression in that benighted section, in a short time their device will be changed to "Let us a loan." So note it be.

A cotemporary inquires—"If half a dozen pew-holders in a rich and fashionable church should take a notion to secede, and convert their pews into pig-pens, and the trustees of the building should fall back on the law in order to protect the common rights of all, and insist on the removal of the pigs, would that be coercion?"

We have received the first number of a paper just established in Philadelphia under the title of The Palmetto Flag. As its name indicates, it is to be an exponent of Southern principles. While we do not pretend to deny the right of the proprietors of this daring enterprise to eliminate Southern principles on Northern soil, we would ask, Would a similar privilege be afforded to a Northern man in any of the Seceding States? We rather think not.

The Mountaineer, in speaking of Carl Schurz, the recently appointed Minister to Spain, says that he has lived on Republicanism since he came to this country. We are glad to hear it, for it certainly betokens good taste in the gentleman. But here is the prime difference between Mr. Schurz and the Loco-Foco press: The former lives on Republicanism; whereas the latter—well, just strike out the small matter of a V from the italicized word and you will see what the latter does toward everything pertaining to Republicanism, on every available opportunity.

The Tariff.

The New York press continue to rail against the Tariff, and seem determined to damage its success as much as possible. With a view to do this more effectually, the leading commercial organs of that city are seeking to mingle the operations of the new Tariff with the influence of the secession movements at the South, making the one obedient to the other, and hoping by the ultimate destruction of both, to re-instate New York city in her old position of commercial mistress of the trade of this country. Backed by the hordes of French and English importers, who are draining the country of its wealth, the press of New York are attempting to intimidate the country with the threat that France and England are both disposed to be jealous of the commercial restrictions imposed by our late revenue laws, and that in self-defence, the shipping of these countries will seek welcome and custom in Southern ports, and eventually succeed in glutting the country with the productions of England and France. It would be well for the country, better for its industry and integrity, had New York never reached its present gigantic corruptions in trade, and the sooner it is brought within the limits of reasonable economy and prudence, the more hopeful we will become of reform in many essential qualities and particulars. It is even humiliating to acknowledge that the labor of this country, the industry that produces its wealth, and the strength which develops its resources and abundance, has become dependent on the will and approval of the merchant princes and aristocracy of a debauched and licentious city.

But whatever may be the influence of the New York press for evil, and for such a purpose it is immense, it cannot possibly affect the revenue laws. They are to be fairly tested, and if the result is to cause the grass to grow in the streets of Gotham, there are other localities of the country that will be made to bloom and blossom like the rose. The whole strength of not only the New York, but of the English and Democratic press, is to embarrass the national administration on this subject.—While New York journalists are casting obstacles in the way of a fair and impartial test of our revenue laws, the Democratic press are unceasing in their endeavors to weaken the influence and powers of the government by pointing to its reluctance to enforce the law and carry out the provisions of the Constitution. Thus to embarrass both the Federal and State administrations seems now to be the peculiar pleasure of our Democratic cotemporaries, a work in which they delight the more because it seems to satisfy both their dispositions for mischief and their desire for revenge. The success of free institutions is based upon the protection which is afforded to free labor. Without this protection all classes of no commonwealth or nation can become really great and prosperous. The government that refuses to protect its sources of wealth and industry, fosters a policy both fatal to its existence and its influence.

It is evident that a large portion of the people of the Cotton States are anxious to get back into the Union for it is out of the respect to this feeling that their leaders have provided for the admission of new States into their Confederacy while they speak of the accession of the Border Slave States as probable, and of the admission of the Northwestern and Middle States as not impossible. Thus, practically, Secession is represented to be a short and easy method of amending the Constitution so as to gain new guarantee for slavery, and of thrusting the New England States out of the Union forever, and keeping the other free States out of it until they are prepared to humbly beg their way into the society of the Montgomery conspirators. This theory is a brilliant one, but will most likely be found altogether impracticable.

SECESSION DEAD IN MARYLAND.—The strenuous efforts heretofore made to prepare Maryland to join in the secession movement, are admitted now to have failed utterly. An intelligent citizen of that State, now here, informs me that there need be no distrust of the loyalty of the masses of the people there. It is very well known that the secession movement in Maryland was led and controlled by a small clique of men of desperate fortunes, political and personal, who desired revolution and anarchy, in the hope that in some way opportunity might be afforded them to retrieve their individual ruin. Having failed, they are worse off than before. It is a well-known fact that their organ, the Baltimore Sun, has been seriously crippled in circulation and business by its Disunion services.

The people of Virginia are daily yielding to the secession feeling. They are as completely impregnated with treason as are the people of South Carolina. They have determined to secede, and for this purpose they have been preparing all their energies. The idea of delay, and the constant appeals of Virginia against coercion, were only so many stratagems to give the secessors opportunity for consultation and time for united action. In Maryland, the same feeling is at work, and the two States, Virginia and Maryland, have been acting in concert on the subject, and our readers will discover that both, before the flowers begin to bloom, will be absorbed in the Southern Confederacy.

Orders have been given to the Commissioner of the Land Office, and to the Pension officers, to hold no more official correspondence with persons residing in seceded States.

The Charleston (S. C.) correspondent of the New York Tribune, under date of March 28th, says:

"I am in possession of information from the most direct sources that the leading politicians at Montgomery have received intimations that there is wide-spread and increasing dissatisfaction throughout Louisiana with the new Government, and that a strong Reconstructed party is in course of formation. The movement of Sam Houston in Texas also alarms them exceedingly. I only wish that old Sam, in the name of God and his country, backed by a couple of thousand strong arms, would march through Texas into Louisiana. He would be strengthened at every stage, and the irrepressible conflict would begin in earnest. I can promise him a thousand men from these districts who will gladly fight under the Stars and Stripes if the war cry is to be Freedom, and the ultimatum, Civilization and Progress.

"A conversation, which I could not help hearing, at the Charleston Hotel last night, convinces me that the dissatisfaction among the slaves is more general even than I had imagined. A member of the Convention, who comes from the District of Prince George, was relating to a friend circumstances of a plot which he had discovered, the ramifications of which extended for miles round, and in which the servants of some score of planters were concerned. The idea which possessed the slaves seems to have been that the moment the first gun was fired in Charleston Harbor, they should make a stampede, taking with them all the property they could by their hands upon. This is no singular case; information reaches me daily, which I do not intend to reveal, which proves beyond a doubt that the first gun fired against the United States Government will explode a powder magazine, the vaults of which extend beneath the feet of the whole South."

Spain, it seems, is disposed to take advantage of our dissensions, and our consequent indisposition or inability to enforce the Monroe doctrine, and is taking measures to restore to her domains some of the fair possessions which she has heretofore lost through adverse fortune. San Domingo is the first point to which she has directed her attention, and we now receive the astounding announcement that a virtual annexation has already taken place. During some time past, it appears a system of colonization has been quietly going on large bodies of emigrants being introduced upon the island, with the view of promoting disaffection towards the existing Government, and otherwise furthering the interests of Spain. On the 16th ult. the Spanish flag was hoisted much to the astonishment of the blacks and native population, who appear to have been taken entirely by surprise; and on the 23d, immediately on the receipt of the news at Havana, the Spanish frigate Bianca sailed to the assistance of the colonists, fully armed and equipped, and with a large number of troops on board. She was to be followed as soon as possible by two screw steam frigates, with an army of 5,000 men, when the "protectorate," as the Spaniards are pleased to term it, would be fully established. It was also reported that a large additional military and naval force was on the way from Spain to Cuba to be ready for any emergency in which it might be required. The Island of Hayti is indicated as the next point of operations.

CONTEMPLATED SEIZURE OF THE FEDERAL CAPITAL.—The following is an extract from a letter received in New York city from a gentleman of high position in Washington. It is dated on the 2d inst.:

"The possession of the seat of government by the southern confederacy is an event most confidently predicted to take place within sixty days. The wife of a United States Senator told me an anecdote illustrative of the purposes of the President of the southern confederacy. He holds a very eligible pew in the Rev. Mr. Hall's church, and a lady, wishing to obtain it, wrote to him that she would give what he gave for it. He replied, that "so far from relinquishing my pew, I have ordered an engraved plate to be affixed to it, bearing my name." A lady just from Montgomery, in taking leave of Mrs. Davis, asked, "And what message must I bear from you to my lady friends in Washington?" She replied, "Tell them I shall be happy to receive their calls at the White House, some two months hence." This is very elaborate trifling, or unsurpassed castle building."

In the Franklin oil district of Pennsylvania there are one thousand oil wells sunk, and the lowest estimate at which a well can be sunk is five hundred dollars, but in most cases this does not include loss of time, neglect of other business, traveling expenses, cost of engines for pumping, &c., which on an average may be assumed to be at least five hundred dollars more, making in all an expenditure of a thousand of dollars. This exclusive of the lease or purchase of the land, and the heavy bonus which must be paid before boring is commenced. For this large investment there ought to be a good return, but the Erie Dispatch says that not one well in twelve yields oil in sufficient quantities to pay for pumping and of this reduced number not one in six proves really profitable. The Dispatch adds that the same rule will hold good with all the wells that have been bored in the Allegheny region between Franklin and Tidouate, making an average outlay of from twelve to fifteen thousand dollars to procure what is called a good well.

THE FOREIGN FLEETS.—The Washington correspondent of the N. Y. Times writes: "The latest news from Europe, as contained in the letter of your Paris correspondent, relative to the fitting out of a powerful fleet of war steamers by England and France, and the not less interesting information which comes from the West Indies, regarding the annexation of St. Domingo to Spain, are of special importance to the Southern Confederacy, and to the whole South at the present time. They are the first symptoms of that total change of base of the European powers towards the South and its peculiar institutions, which will surely follow the successful disruption of the Union. The South is now entering upon a career of European dependence from which nothing but a return to its allegiance to the Stars and Stripes can save her. This combined fleet of the two great Anti-slavery Powers will hover upon the Southern coasts, and it may be commissioned to give a guaranty of protection to the Southern Confederacy upon the condition that free trade and an amelioration of Slavery—looking to its final extinction—are agreed to by treaty.

Nothing will be easier than for these great Powers to demand and enforce these terms, and the Confederate States will have the alternative of submission to them, or a return to the fellowship of the Union. It was stated by your Paris correspondent in a former letter that the French people look with longing eyes to the reconquest of Louisiana; and he stated that the press under discussion of establishing a protectorate on the terms above supposed. But little was it dreamed that a combined fleet of France and England was soon to be sent over, and the announcement of this event throws a strong light upon the information previously given by your correspondent.

THE OTHER REVOLUTION.—The Louisville Journal thus alludes to the condition of the South, and the probable effect the result and the realization of secession will have on their future action.

"The young men whose Southern hearts were fired are filling the ranks of volunteer companies, living on camp fare, throwing up sand batteries, and ready to do the fighting; but the tempers are smugly ensconced in offices at Montgomery, and hundreds of miles away from the scenes of danger. But then these eagle eyes, who have left their eyrie, begin to chafe; when the excitement passes away and when they awake to the sickening consciousness that they have been duped; when they look back upon their once proud and honored positions as the flower of our American citizenship, and contrast their present dwarfed political stature; when they recall the glories of the Stars and Stripes, their once dedicated love for the Union of their fathers, pledged by the pledge of lives, fortunes, and sacred honors, then will they think of the destroyers who "turned their paradise into hell," and revolution will be their remedy to recover their lost position, their lost honor, and their lost liberty.—When that time comes there will be a terrible retribution. We do not look for movement of this kind among the "pale whites" of the South; it will burst forth from the very heart of "the expense and rose of the Law State." The young men of the cotton States will not be slow to discover the selfishness of those who have duped them, and, if the right of revolution has been thoughtlessly entrusted to traitor hands, they will regain it and guard it more carefully in the future."

WHAT IS AN ABOLITIONIST.—Of Webster or Worcester it were useless to enquire; both Northern men, they could have no right notions on a question like this. Nay, it is more than probable that they were Abolitionists themselves, and never saw a man in their lives that was not an Abolitionist, in the true and proper sense of that word, as now fixed by the highest literary authority of the only part of the world where they have a right to do so—namely, south of Mason and Dixon's line; and where, in this sense only, it has been in universal use for several years past. This authoritative definition of the term we take from the Southern Literary Messenger, a respectable Richmond Magazine:

"An Abolitionist is any man who does not love Slavery for its own sake, as a divine institution; who does not worship it as the corner stone of civil liberty; who does not adore it as the only possible second condition on which a permanent Republican government can be erected; and who does not, in his utmost soul desire to see it extended and perpetuated over the whole earth, as a means of human redemption second in dignity, importance and sacredness alone to the Christian religion. He who does not love African Slavery with this love is an Abolitionist."

For nearly thirty years past remains the N. Y. Tribune, referring to the above, "it has been a question in this country as to what constitutes an Abolitionist. It will be a satisfaction to many to have the question settled, and we accordingly congratulate ourselves on meeting with this authentic definition at length."

ADJOURNMENT.—The Senate, on Thursday, passed the joint resolution fixing the time of final adjournment on the 18th of April, by a vote of 17 to 7. The resolution having passed both Houses, the Legislature will adjourn on Thursday, the 18th, provided they are smart enough to get through with the apportionment bill and other business of importance pending.

Uninteresting—this line.