



MONDAY MORNING, DEC. 31, 1860.

The President's Fast Day.—In accordance with the recommendation of the President, Bishop Potter, of New York, has designated Friday, the 5th of January, as a day of fasting and prayer.

The Legislature.—The State Legislature will assemble at Harrisburg to-morrow. A State Treasurer will be elected on the 8th of January, and a U. S. Senator (to succeed Mr. Butler) on the 15th of January.

The Pacific Rail Road Bill.—The House of Representatives, on Thursday week, by a vote of 95 to 79, passed Mr. Curtis' Pacific Rail Road Bill. It provides that the road shall start from the western border of Missouri and western border of Iowa, with two converging lines bearing westward, united within two hundred miles of the Missouri river, thence proceeding by a single trunk line by the nearest and best route via the vicinity of Salt Lake, to San Francisco, or to the navigable waters of the Sacramento.

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Address to the Border Southern States.—The Hon. John C. Breckinridge, according to the Washington Star, has drawn up an address to the border slaveholding States, calling for a convention representing them to be held in Baltimore, in February, for the consideration of their duty to themselves, and how to preserve the confederacy in the current crisis. It is said to have been signed by all the Senators from those States, and will be signed by all their representatives in the lower House. This call leaves it to the authorities of the said States how to appoint their representatives to the proposed convention.

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### The Humiliation Difficulty of 1832—How it was Settled.

The politicians who are opposed to a compromise of our present sectional difficulty are constantly referring to the crisis of South Carolina nullification in 1832, which, they tell us, was put down by force by the Government of General Jackson. Without, in the present connection, referring to the widely different state of our political affairs now from what they were then, it is sufficient to say that that difficulty was settled not by coercion, but by a compromise. South Carolina demanded a redress of grievances by the repeal or modification of the tariff of 1828, which bore heavily upon her industry. It was on this issue that she made preparations for secession from the Union. In the height of the difficulty, Mr. Clay introduced his Tariff Compromise Bill, which obviated the objections of South Carolina to the Black Tariff of 1828. The bill passed, and the crisis was averted. The politicians of that day, such as General Jackson and Mr. Clay, were for compromise between the State and the General Government, and the compromise was made. Our troubles now will have to be settled in the same way, or not settled at all.

Who is Responsible?—A writer in the Buffalo Commercial, a Lincoln paper, makes the following confession in regard to the responsibility of the North for the present crisis: "Let the North, especially New England, remember that for this fearful result they are primarily and mainly responsible, by their reasonable legislation, by their unwise and imprudent action, by their unwise alliance of things sacred and profane, all epithets have been exhausted, all sound principles abandoned, and new terms of denunciation and hatred invented, irritating as to madness the excitable population of the South, who, for a quarter of a century, have had these coals of fire heaped upon their heads."

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### Highly Important from Charleston. Fort Moultrie Occupied by the Government Troops. And Their Removal to Fort Sumner. Great Excitement.

CHARLESTON, Dec. 27.—Fort Moultrie was evacuated very quietly last night by the government troops, who spiked the guns and withdrew to Fort Sumner, commanding the harbor. The troops were all conveyed to Fort Sumner before the people of Charleston knew of the movement. There is the most intense excitement here. The convention is in secret session on the subject.

CHARLESTON, Dec. 27, 12:30 P. M.—Major Anderson states that the evacuated Fort Moultrie is in order, all the guns spiked, and that post, and at the same time strengthen his own position.

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### A Heavy Debilitation in the U. States Interior Department.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—The city was thrown into a tremendous excitement to-day, in consequence of the fact that the Secretary of the Interior, shortly after his return from Raleigh, N. C., was supposed to have been the Secretary of the Interior. It appears that this was done upon the order of General Bailey, who has the charge of the Interior, that he had taken from the iron safe a large amount of State bonds and coupons belonging to the Trust fund; and that they were no longer in the possession of the government. Upon investigation in the presence of Mr. Bailey, his statements were unfortunately found to be untrue. The amount abstracted is about \$300,000.

CHARLESTON, Dec. 27.—The latest intelligence from Fort Moultrie says that the gun carriages are on fire and the cannon spiked. It is reported that a train has been laid to blow the fort up, but that statement is doubted. The excitement and indignation of the citizens is increasing.

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### Local Items.

Our Carrier requests us to say that he will be "round" among his town people to-morrow morning, with an Address which he considers "first rate." He desires us, also, to give the usual "hint" in regard to his expectations—but that matter is understood by all.

COMMUNICATIONS for the Compiler must be accompanied by the real names of the writers.

PUBLIC LECTURES.—It was announced, some weeks since, that a Course of Lectures would be given this winter in the German Reformed Church. We are glad to be able to state that the arrangements for the course are nearly completed, and that the first of the series will be delivered on Tuesday evening, Jan. 8th, by our former prominent townsman, Hon. DANIEL M. STRONG, now the President Judge of the Montgomery and Bucks district. Subject: "The Cardinal Dilemma of an American Citizen in the Present Crisis." The reputation of Mr. S. and the object chosen will doubtless draw a large audience. Among those expected to deliver Lectures are Rev. Dr. SCHAFER, Lieut. LYNN, U. S. NAVY, and BAYARD TAYLOR.

CHRISTMAS passed off here without any unusual stir. The places of business were generally closed, and services were had in the German Reformed and St. James Lutheran Churches.—Rev. T. P. BUCHER officiating in the former and Rev. Dr. KRATZ in the latter. The usual Christmas exercises were also had in the Catholic Church.

FIRE.—We are informed that, a few weeks ago, a fire broke out in the Warehouse of Mr. DANIEL LEECH, in Mechanicsville, Littleton township, by which his whole establishment was destroyed—consisting of a Warehouse, Store-room and Dwelling. The departments were all under one roof, excepting the Warehouse, which stood a short distance off. The loss is heavy—amounting to about \$2500. Most of the store goods were saved. There was no insurance on the property. It is not certainly known how the fire originated.

The remains of Rev. CHARLES G. McCLEAN, D. D., and of his sister, FLORENCE McCLEAN, were brought to this place in the noon train on Thursday, for interment in Ever Green Cemetery. The remains were placed at McClean's Hotel, where appropriate services were had on Friday morning, and the bodies then taken, in two hearse, to the Cemetery, accompanied by many of the old friends of the deceased. The Star says: Dr. McCLEAN died at Indianapolis, Ind., on the 4th of July last, and his sister, who resided with him, died a few years previous. They were both well known to our citizens—having resided among us for many years. He had charge of a Congregation in this place at the time the attack was made on Baltimore by the British, in the year 1814, and joined a troop of volunteers and marched promptly to the defence of that city. He preached an able and impressive sermon in the morning (Sunday) and in the afternoon got ready his accoutrements of war. The company started the following morning, and remained in Baltimore until danger was past. He was a great and good man. His dust now rests near the scenes and the friends of his early days.

WORTHY OF COMMENDATION.—Mr. GEO. L. WALKER is now selling his immense stock of splendid PIANOS and MELODIONS, below cost, in order to keep his workmen employed during this winter. We recommend any of our readers who are in want of a first class Piano or Melodion to call on Mr. W. As once, as they may never again have a chance of securing such bargains. Mr. Walker's Warehouses are at the S. E. corner of Seventh and Arch streets, Philadelphia, where he also keeps an extensive assortment of Piano Stools, Sheet Music, &c.—Orders by mail promptly attended to. See advertisement in another column.

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### The Senate's Unanimous Unanimous—Senator Crittenden's Speech.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—The Senate's recent committee came to no conclusion yesterday on any of the points before them, the Republicans asking further time for consideration. The most hopeful hitherto now despond, seeing no immediate prospect of an accommodation of existing political differences. Senator Crittenden, in a conversation with a friend, said that it was the darkest of his life; that he was overwhelmed with solicitude for his country, and that nothing but the election of one people for the Union could restore peace. The extremes of the committee are equally unyielding to concession. The reported declaration of the President elect, that he will adhere to the Chicago platform, has continued the wavering Republicans to that policy, and has increased the intensity of southern feeling. Representative Scott has written a letter, representing from Senator Latham's statement, and the formation of two sections, California would go with the western. Mr. Scott says he warmly sympathizes with the South, and cordially endorses the Union, and that he is not remaining in the Union, until Mr. Lincoln. He wants California to set up for herself as a mighty republic.

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