

September 11, 2005

Skedaddle

Week of March 26th to 31st, 1861

Volume 2, Issue 13

WEEKLY GLIMPSES FROM NEWSPAPERS, JOURNALS AND DIARIES, &C, OF THE TIME

CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY (for the week)



Texas Governor Sam Houston—Deposed for Refusing to take Confederate Oath

Publication Note: This issue of *Skedaddle* covers only 6 days in order to correspond to a more standard “week.” Issue 1 of this volume started with January 1, 1861. It made sense at the time. However, January 1 was a Tuesday and this resulted in subsequent “weeks” of each issue being Tuesday through Monday. By shortening this issue to 6 days, issues in the future will cover a Monday through Sunday week during the war.

March 26.

- South Carolina State Convention reassembled.
- Texas State Convention passed an ordinance, and the Legislature approved the act, deposing Sam Houston from the executive chair in consequence of his refusal to take the new oath of allegiance to the Confederate States.

March 28

- Vote of Louisiana on secession published: pro 20,448, con 17,296.
- U. S. Senate in extra session adjourned.

March 30

- Mississippi State Convention ratified the Constitution of the Confederate States (78 v. 7).

March 26, 1861

NEW YORK HERALD

The News.

Col. Lamon, the President’s envoy to Charleston, and bearer of the order to Major Anderson to evacuate Fort Sumter, reached Charleston on Sunday, and, after an interview yesterday morning with Gov. Pickens and Gen. Beauregard, visited the fort. It is supposed that the fort will be evacuated tomorrow; but the day of the departure of the troops has not transpired.

Reports from Montgomery state that by the 1st of April there will be five thousand troops of the Southern confederacy concentrated around Pensacola.

In the United States Senate yesterday Mr. Hale’s resolution for an election of subordinate officers was again laid over. Mr. Powell offered a resolution calling for copies of Major Anderson’s despatches

to the War Department during his command at Fort Sumter. The remainder of the session was occupied in discussing Mr. Douglas's resolution calling for information relative to the policy of the administration with reference to the seceded States. The discussion was interesting, as will be seen by our report.

The English press discuss American affairs at considerable length, and generally regard the establishment of the Southern confederacy as a fact accomplished. We this morning reproduce several articles upon this subject from the London press.

In the State Senate yesterday the long deferred response to the resolutions of inquiry by that body was received from the Metropolitan Police Commissioners, in regard to their sending members of the force South on the occasion of President Lincoln's journeying to Washington. The Commissioners say they had reason to believe that a conspiracy existed to disturb the public peace, and that the field of its operations lay outside of the city of New York. Detectives were accordingly sent to Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington; but from the confidential character of the information on which they acted, and from the nature of the detective system, it would be inexpedient for them to divulge the sources or the nature of this information. The minority report of the State Commission in the late Peace Congress was also received by the Senate signed by Messrs. Granger, Corning, Bronson and Dodge.

A Nauseating Dose.

Nearly thirty years ago Messrs. Tappan, Hale and Hallock set up an anti-slavery newspaper in the city of New York. Instead of publishing the news, they devoted their columns to details of alleged cruelties practiced by slaveholders upon their chattels. A baser attempt at political demoralization was never attempted, and the worst publications of French sansculottes writers are innocuous compared with these records. The establishment of this pestilent sheet was the commencement of the anti-slavery crusade which has now resulted in the dissolution of the Union, the overthrow of this hitherto great nation, this superb governmental fabric, the work of Washington and the patriots and sages who lighted the torch of liberty at Lexington and saw its full blaze at Yorktown. More than all this, the work of Tappan, Hallock, Hale & co. has arrested the progress of this imperial city, paralyzed its trade, and thrown thousand of honest artisans upon the charity of a cold and heartless world. The publication to which we refer is the Journal of Commerce, the vehicle through which the first grain of abolition poison was administered. What merchant will not kick this sheet out of his counting room?

THE RICHMOND ENQUIRER

The Flag Raising at Chester.

Some three hundred or more persons assembled at Chester (10 miles from Richmond, in Chesterfield county) on Saturday last, to witness the raising of a Southern Confederacy Flag. The trains from Richmond and Petersburg arrived simultaneously, each bringing a goodly number to participate in the interesting proceedings which the programme had shadowed forth. Several ladies from the neighborhood and some residing in more distant parts of the county, were also present. Their presence tended much to enliven the scene and lend to it a charm which the presence of ladies can only give. The Armory Band from Richmond was present, and contributed much to the interest of the festivities, the inevitable Dixie being served up in every conceivable style, and occasionally rendered with attractive variations.

The speaking took place from the front piazza of the larger hotel, and was listened to with unflagging interest throughout. Among the orators was the Hon. Daniel C. Jarnette, of Caroline, who spoke with impressive animation and elicited very spirited applause.

Mr. L.S. Hall, a distinguished member of the State Convention from the county of Wetzel, responded to the urgent calls of the people, in terms fluent, forcible and eloquent. The speaker took occasion to declare that his county was for the South and her institutions most emphatically; that if there should be a conflict of arms between the North and South, the speaker knew two hundred men, and could then name them, who would rush with eagerness to the fray, and battle gallantly for the South. His remarks were heartily endorsed by the approving plaudits of the assemblage.

The beautiful flag, with seven stars, (an eighth half made up to represent Virginia,) and three stripes, was run up at 12 o' precisely, amid enthusiastic cheering and an air from the band, which made the inspiring strains of Dixie ring through the forests of Old Chesterfield. The ladies too joined in with a zest that wreathed their fair faces with sweet smiles, and waved their snowy handkerchiefs with exultant pride and approval.

The dinner was served up at one o', upon two tables extending the entire length of the hotel dining room. These tables were literally covered with every substantial and every delicacy that the markets of the two cities, in close proximity, could furnish, and they were twice filled before all the visitors had dined. The variety, elegance and cuisine of the banquet all attested Mr. Lindsay's eminent qualifications as a caterer, and received the unqualified approval of everyone present.

In the afternoon, a meeting of such of the citizens of Chesterfield as desired to participate, was organized, with Mr. Charles Friend as Chairman, and Mr. James Snead as Secretary. Resolutions were passed, with but one dissenting voice, declaring as the opinion of the meeting that the time had arrived when Virginia should resume all powers heretofore delegated to the Federal Government; that the Convention now in session at Richmond immediately pass an ordinance of secession from the Federal Union; that the State of Virginia ought at once to become a member of the Southern Confederacy; and approving the course of the Hon. D.C. DeJarnette in the Congress of the late United States; requesting Chesterfield Senator and Delegate in the General Assembly of Virginia to offer a proposition providing that the sense of the people be taken as to whether Virginia shall go North or South, at the approaching May election; that a copy of the resolutions be furnished to Chesterfield's representative in Congress, the Senate, House of Delegates and State Convention, with the request that they present the same to their respective bodies; and that the thanks of the meeting be tendered to the speakers of Saturday for their able addresses.

The Hon. Mr. Pennybacker, of Rockingham county, Va., Col. Burfoot, of Chesterfield, T.H. Wynne, Esq., of the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad, Robert H. Ruffin, Esq., of Manchester, and Capt. Henry Clay Pate, occupied the speaker's stand in the afternoon, and delivered sensible and well timed addresses, after which, the hour for the departure of the trains having arrived, all who had reached the scene of festivities by rail, embarked on the cars, and were soon en route for their respective homes. Those present speak in approving terms of the admirable manner in which the whole programme was carried out, and refer with satisfaction to the fact that not a single unpleasant incident occurred during the day. All seemed bent upon enjoyment, and all seemed to have realized their expectations to the fullest extent.— (Petersburg Express.)

Abraham Lincoln's Importance.

The importance of Abraham Lincoln is vastly overrated by the Black Republicans of the North, and the Submissionists of the South. They endeavor to impress upon the people the idea that he holds in his hand the issue of life or death to the South, and that he has fully made up his mind to speak the life giving word to our section! Many presses and politicians of the South declare for Submission and against Secession, upon the ground that Lincoln will give the country a "conservative administration." Does any reflecting man, of any section, really believe that the present

opinions or intentions of Abraham Lincoln, whether right or wrong, ought to have the slightest influence in deciding the question of the relations of the border-slave States to the two confederacies between which they are now compelled to make choice? No considerate mind can view Lincoln, in the position to which he was called last November, in any other light than that of a mere "feather on the tide" of Abolitionism. The people of the South have no fears of the feather, but they ought to be alive to the importance of protecting themselves against the torrent of Abolition fanaticism which threatens to engulf them.

CHARLESTON MERCURY

Another Envoy from Washington.

The city was all agog yesterday, at the announcement that still another Ambassador from Washington has come to town, and was in close conference with the Governor. It appears that this last Envoy, Mr. W.H. LAMON, of Illinois, arrived in the city on Sunday morning, and registered his name upon the books of the Charleston Hotel as from Virginia. He remained quietly at the hotel until yesterday morning, when he sent his card to the Governor, requesting an interview. The nature of his communication has not been made public. About one o' clock, accompanied by Col. DURYEY, Aid to the Governor, Mr. LAMON left the city in the steamer Planter, Capt. FERGUSON, and proceeded to Fort Sumter. The tide being low, the steamer was unable to reach the Fort wharf, but was met at a short distance by a boat commanded by an officer, who, we understand, was Lieut. HALL. After presenting a written communication to the Lieutenant, Mr. LAMON was invited into the boat, accompanied by Col. DURYEY, and they were then taken to Fort Sumter, where they remained for about one hour. On the approach of the steamer to the Fort, about half the garrison had collected on the wharf, and some half dozen officers were on the ramparts, using their spy glasses. After staying in the Fort for some time, Mr. LAMON, accompanied by Major ANDERSON, took a walk around the ramparts of the fortification, the Major apparently explaining to his visitor the position of the Fort and its surroundings. While on the steamer, the Envoy from Washington alluded several times to the importance of preserving the peace, saying that he expected to leave immediately for Washington City, and hoped to return here in a few days. The last remark would indicate that he bore no order for the evacuation of the fortress, and would give color to the opinion held by many, that the question of leaving is still in debate between Major ANDERSON and the Washington authorities, each being anx-

ious to shift the responsibility of leaving off their own shoulders. This matter as it stands is becoming rather annoying to the public here, and the people are expecting with anxiety a final settlement, either peaceably or by the sword.

Mr. LAMON left by the night train last night for Washington. The latest and apparently most reliable rumor was that his brief visit related to postal affairs, and that his trip to Fort Sumter was merely incidental, as bearer of despatches.

Admission of Northern States into the Southern Confederation.

We stated yesterday that it was unmistakably the idea entertained by the body which formed the Confederate States Constitution, to admit hereafter into the new Government the States of the Northwest, Pennsylvania, New York, &c., the power being given to futures Congresses of doing so by a two thirds vote. We urged the importance of at once educating the public mind throughout the South upon the impolicy and danger of reorganizing on any terms, the political connection with the North just severed. The dissolution of the Union was both rightful and expedient. It was a step essential to our peace, or equality, our prosperity and our development. Were the causes, which have brought us into peril and rendered a separation necessary, temporary and evanescent, it would be well to look to a readjustment of our intimate relations with those who have nearly threatened us with degradation and ultimate ruin. But the sources of our troubles are not of today, nor are they shifting and transitory in their nature. They are the growth and product of many years systematic persistent cultivation. They are as deep rooted and stable as the hard characteristics of the stubborn Yankee race. The Union has been dissolved in consequence of the steady, long, increasing and now predominating hostility evinced by the whole North towards the South. For years the Southern peoples have, with unexampled patience, endured the unceasing assaults of Northern interests, Northern ambition and Northern fanaticism, placed in direct antagonism to their just rights and vital institutions. As a matter of self preservation and self respect they have at last placed themselves beyond the reach of this incessant and harassing warfare waged upon them under the privileges of a common government, and to promote their designs. We now have a government of our own to meet their government. Before it will be desirable, wise or possible to take such enemies again into the fellowship of a common government, the plainest common sense dictates that a vast change must come over their feelings, their political opinions, and their policy. How probable such a change is and how soon

it is likely to occur to an extent to justify their admission, depends upon the facts of their past history and present condition in these respects.

We know that the views of the universal Northern people, in regard to the nature and powers of a general government, are radically wrong. Their only idea is a consolidate government over one aggregate people—a nation, with a national government—the States mere territorial divisions, for the sake of convenience of reference and certain local matters of small importance. Can such a pernicious view be eradicated in a day, or a year, or a dozen years, with people who have been brought up in error so dangerous and radically unsound?

We know that the grand cardinal principle of their republicanism is the bald, unchecked sway of numbers. “The majority must govern,” the minority must yield—absolutely acquiesce. From being only an instrument of securing justice to the citizen - with checks and balances for the protection of the weak and few - government thus degenerates into a capricious and oppressive tyranny, as rapacious as it is responsible. Can those who entertain such low views of free government; with whom liberty is license—democracy, mobocracy; whose idea of the object of government is profit; whose statesmen are demagogues; the whole tendency of whose politics is to level downwards into one pestilent mass of popular corruption and demoralization; who scout at conservatism, and revel in all the vices and follies of agrarianism and higher law ethics—can such peoples be safe or valuable confederates for the Southern States? Is there any reason to believe that these dangerous and anarchical doctrines will be speedily or not very remotely abandoned?

DIARY OF A YANKEE IN THE PATENT OFFICE

TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 1861.

Another warm pleasant day with some wind, rained some last night. At work hard in the office and very much fatigued tonight. Julia called for me from her school after calling upon Mr Alexander of the Seed Room and getting some garden & flower seeds. I did not go down to the Ave this evening. Took a walk with Julia up 14th St after taking short nap on the sofa. Read the days news in the “Star,” heard the boys read some. Their mother thrumed the Piano some. I have noded some, am off to bed at 1/2 past 9.

March 27, 1861

NEW YORK HERALD

The News.

Our despatches from Washington state that the Cabinet have had under consideration of evacuating Fort Pickens, and there is good reason to believe that the fort will be abandoned by the federal troops within thirty days, thus removing the last immediate cause for hostilities between the two confederacies.

The Commissioners of the confederate States dined last evening with Mr. Corcoran, the Washington banker, in company with the foreign Ambassadors. The commissioners are, it is said, on friendly terms with the English and French Ministers—a circumstance regarded as very significant.

The South Carolina State convention reassembled yesterday. The first proposition presented was a resolution to cut off all the supplies and mail facilities hitherto accorded to the garrison of Fort Sumter. It is said the resolution will be voted down. As an evidence of popular feeling, however, it is suggestive.

In the United States Senate yesterday the debate on Mr. Douglas' resolution calling for information as to the policy of the administration with reference to the seceded States, was resumed, and continued mainly by Messrs. Douglas and Breckinridge, who discussed the issues involved in the Kansas question and the present troubles of the nation. Finally Mr. Douglas' resolution was laid on the table by a vote of 23 against 11. Mr. Breckinridge and Mr. Clingman then offered resolutions, to the effect that the Senate recommend the withdrawal of the federal troops from the limits of the confederate States. They were laid over for future consideration, and the Senate went into executive session and confirmed a number of appointments.

The commercial article of the Paris Constitutionnel of March 3 says:—'If the Morrill tariff should pass congress, as appears likely, exportations from France, England and Germany to the Northern States would receive a severe check, and, nolens volens. European commerce would incline to fraternize with the South in spite of its slavery institution and principles.'

The United States mail steamship Bienville, Captain E. D. Bulloch, was on Saturday morning taken possession of by the Revenue Department for an alleged violation of the revenue law, in bringing a cargo from New Orleans without the regular certified manifests. The cargo is now being discharged and the question submitted to the Treasury Department at Wash-

ington. An answer is expected from the Secretary to-day or tomorrow, which will decide whether the vessel is liable to seizure or not.

The investigation into the charges of bribery and corruption against the Harbor Masters of New York was continued yesterday, at the Astor House, by the committee of the Senate. A number of witnesses were examined, many of whom testified to the payment of money to several of the Harbor Masters for the procuring of berths. Among those placed on the stand were several of the Harbor Masters themselves. The committee adjourned to meet at Albany on Friday next, at three o'clock in the afternoon.

The democrats evince an eager desire to be relieved from official duty under the republican administration of Mr. Lincoln. United States District Attorney Roosevelt resigned nearly two months ago, yet there are so many contestants for the office the President has as yet been unable to select the right man.

Southern vs. Northern Manufactures.

We are informed from a reliable source that numerous companies are now being organized within the precincts of the Confederate States with a view of developing their water power resources and the establishment of manufactories in the republic for the fabrication of those kinds of goods usually furnished by the New England States, especially the States of Connecticut and Massachusetts. It will be inferred, therefore, from this statement that the Southrons are determined to be independent in a manufacturing as well as political point of view of the North.

The newspapers of the South come to hand with their columns filled with displayed advertisements, calling upon their readers to patronize manufactures' and, as far as we can learn, this little admonition is not being disregarded. In yesterday's paper we presented for the perusal of our readers specimens of these advertising appeals.

We take this occasion to say that a very grave error prevails among the people of the North in respect to the manufacturing and handicraft resources of the South. It has been alleged time and time again, by the republican press, that Southern manufacturers cannot compete with those of New England, even were they to make the attempt; but the logical or philosophical reasons for such a conclusion have been as frequently obscured from the public. Many of those men who worked and voted for the election of Mr. Lincoln will learn, perhaps too soon, that the South can manufacture goods—such as agricultural implements, farm wagons, carriages, boots, shoes and brogans and like articles—as well as the men of the North, if the capitalists of the new confederacy shall zealously push

their manufacturing's project to a finality. To those who are uniformed as to the real cause why the South has not paid attention to manufacturing industry we will explain. Heretofore the people of the South have found it necessary to devote their whole time to the development and growing of the great staples for which they are world wide celebrated, and in charity to the North gave them the job to make the implements whereby these were husbanded. Consequently the Northern States have had their share, indirectly, of the profits of the Southern crops. There is nothing under heaven to prevent the South from manufacturing every article necessary for domestic use. She has water power facilities second to none in the world, and if the manufacture's system shall be adopted, the New England mechanics would soon wend their way where they may find remunerative labor; and in a short time the Yankee master manufactures and capitalists would find, to their surprise, their factories idle and rotting over their heads.

TRI-WEEKLY ALAMO EXPRESS

San Antonio, TX

Union Sentiment in Texas

Our dull and gloomy city was enlivened by a pleasant and stirring event on Tuesday last; some four companies of the 3d, Infantry, Maj. Brooks in command, passed through our city with the flag of our country flying gaily on the breeze and the fife and drums playing 'Yankee Doodle'; they were saluted with many a warm cheer, and many a curse fell upon the heads of those who have "precipitated" our state out of the Union. The troops were accompanied by a long train of wagons.

ALBANY EVENING JOURNAL

Fort Sumter.

Capt. Fox, who visited Fort Sumter on the requisition of the War Department, has returned here and reported the result of his mission. It is very well understood that he had a plan for introducing reenforcements, which had been submitted to the members of the Cabinet, and was regarded as measurably practicable but attended with the probability if not certainty of collision, which constituted the chief objection to its adoption. He is perfectly familiar with all the approaches to the harbor of Charleston, having been long connected with the coast survey, and had practical experience as the commander of one of Aspinwall's steamers. His scheme did not contemplate any serious danger in running the gauntlet of the bat-

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teries on the islands which guard the channels, but only in landing the men and provisions at Sumter, after it had been reached. If a fire was opened on his transports from Fort Moultrie or the other batteries, it would be necessary for Sumter to silence them in order to discharge the reenforcements. Any attempt, therefore, looking to that object would almost inevitably lead to bloodshed, and before resorting to it, the Administration would be constrained to expect that alternative. Even if successful without great loss of life, nothing would be gained but the retention of a fortress which has only a local value in protecting Charleston, and is of no national moment whatever.

Capt. Fox is fully impressed with the courage, integrity and sincerity of Major Anderson, with whom, however, his communication was necessarily limited, as Gov. Pickens sent Capt. Hartstein, late of our Navy, as an escort with him to the Fort, who kept within earshot during most of the interview, or, at least, near enough to prevent any free communication. He considers that the Fort can be reenforced either by a military operation, which, of course, would require a force not at the disposal of the President, or by the strategy already referred to, with its attendant hazards of a desperate conflict. The supply of provisions now in the garrison will probably enable Major Anderson to sustain his command reasonably well until the 15th of April. From all the facts disclosed by this investigation, it is manifest that Fort Sumter must be abandoned, or civil war inaugurated. Capt. Fox is cautious, intelligent and well-informed, and was brought to the notice of the Government by Mr. Aspinwall and some of the principal ship-owners of New-York and Boston.

CHARLESTON MERCURY

The Wholesale Trade of Charleston.

The business men of Charleston are already beginning to reap the advantages of the independent position which the South has taken, in consequence of the refusal of the North to grant her constitutional rights. The results of the last few weeks have demonstrated conclusively that the commercial prosperity and political equality which THE MERCURY for years predicted, were not vain boasts. Business of all kinds has increased at an amazing pace; customers are thronging the city from all quarters of the South, and the indications are that Charleston is destined to become the commercial metropolis of the Confederate States.

In dry goods and fancy goods the operations have been very large, and the purchasers, we are informed, are principally composed of those who used to patronize New York. One house alone, the business

of which heretofore was chiefly confined to Georgia, has sold heavy bills to merchants from Georgia, Mississippi, Arkansas, and Texas. In shoes alone, the sales of the last two weeks have amounted to upwards of \$200,000.

In short, the prospects of Charleston never were more bright than at this season. It would be impossible to furnish at this writing details of the great increase of business which has taken place, and which is but a small part of what may be expected in the future. Suffice it to say that it is enough to stimulate the energies of our business men.

So serious has been the effect of this rush of trade to Charleston, that Northern merchants engaged in Southern trade have circulated the report that Charleston traders have increased their prices by adding on the duties under the recent tariff charged on all goods from the Northern States—in other words, that the business men of Charleston have determined to take an undue advantage of their customers. This is manifestly so untrue that is hardly deserving of notice, and yet it is by such means that the attempt is made to obtain Southern patronage. Not a merchant that we have visited has made any such addition to his prices. All the goods received before the tariff went into operation, are disposed of at the usual rates. Of course, when the merchant pays the duty, it will also be charged to the purchaser; and this is a fair business transaction. But even supposing such to be the fact, which we positively deny, would it amount to a reason why Southern merchants should buy at the North? We think not. Clearly they would be compelled to pay a duty there, and another duty on bringing their goods across the line. Where then would be the advantage?

The end of all this will be the establishment of direct trade with Europe. A Memphis paper truly remarks:

“The establishment of the Government of the Confederate States of America, with a tariff operating upon the importations from the non-seceding States, must have the effect of driving to the seaports of the South all the trade of the cotton States, and make them great depots for foreign importation as well as the markets of purchase for the country merchants.”

The final arrangements for a line of steamer between Liverpool and this port are nearly completed now and our business community is ready to support it. This pioneer line, we confidently believe, will be followed by others in a very brief time. Our largest houses have looked into the future, and they are taking measures accordingly. The hardware dealer have always imported the bulk of their stock, but in the future they have determined to import more largely. The same remark will apply to all the other branches of

trade. One of our largest drug houses has already issued a circular to its patrons on the subject, a brief extract to which is subjoined:

“As we shall hereafter import our European, Mediterranean and East India Drugs and Chemicals direct to Charleston, we omit all such from the list, and until our arrangements are completed, we will procure them on the best possible terms.”

But there is a want to be supplied. We want more houses and more capital. There is room for enterprise and money in Charleston. We feel satisfied that it will be forthcoming. The vast capital of the South will centre at this point and her energetic business men will aid in the development of our trade and commerce.

Admission of Northern States into the Southern Confederation.

The South is fully aware that the peoples of the Northern States are fundamentally unsound on the question of slavery. They universally regard it as immoral and sinful to hold property in man. They believe it unrighteous and unjustifiable in the Caucasians at the South to hold Africans in bondage. This doctrine has been taught them by their mothers and their school mistresses, their college professors and their preachers, their orators, poets and historians, their lawyers and their jurists. It has been impressed upon them in their primers and their text books, in their religious reading and their light reading, in their histories and their law books. It has come to them through the multifarious channels of the teeming daily press. Generation after generation the work has gone on. Anti-slavery has been taken in with their mothers' milk, grown with their growth and strengthened with their strength, until so thoroughly assimilated into their constitutions as to become a part of their political principles, their ethics and their religious faith. With singular exceptions the universal sentiment at the North is one of condemnation of Southern civilization and Southern citizens. Whether rudely proclaimed or politely repressed, it pervades their homes, their hustings, their court houses and their sanctuaries, and everywhere its hostile and disparaging influence may be felt by the Southron as the perpetual frown of an alien people against him and against his, touching their domestic institutions and their civil, moral and religious status.

It is true that here and there at the North is found a man who, understanding the true condition and appropriate relations of the Caucasian and African in this country, justifies slavery. But these are few and far between, singular and without influence among their fellows. It is true that many are found who

apologize for the South and her semi-barbarous institutions, and find reasons to palliate, and, in great measure excuse, the guilt of her people. Nor is it untrue that many more urge that, however criminal, it is the business of the South, and not the North, who is not our conscience keeper, and has no right to intermeddle.

But with all these admissions, the North is nevertheless radically unsound on the subject of slavery, and the question arises whether, with this great gulf dividing us into two distinct people, having distinct domestic institutions, and broadly differing therein in religion, morals and politics, it would be sensible in the slaveholding States, after ridding themselves of the perilous connection, to admit again under a common government those who are so diverse, so inimical, and whose hostility by that instrumentality has already proved both troublesome and dangerous to the South. Does any one who has looked at the history of the anti-slavery crusade, and noted the method and progress of events, suppose that this adverse sentiment and these deleterious views can be readily eradicated? If so, then he has much to learn of history, and is unskilled in the rule of three, of policy and states. He either does not appreciate the depth and breadth in which the anti-slavery fanaticism is rooted at the North, or he knows little of human nature and the difficulty of correcting its ignorances and errors. For ourselves, we can see no prospect of such a change as would warrant the slaveholding States in again placing themselves under the damaging influences of the Northern States. It is a policy involving little less than the destinies of the South. To us it indicates, on the part of its advocates, a failure to comprehend the requirements of our position, and a disposition to trifle with the securities we now have for safety, independence and prosperity. We trust the public of this section will scrutinise the matter closely, leaving behind them all sentimentality and unreasoning timidity. They will they rise up to the full measure of their great future, and place their heel sternly upon the scheme of reorganizing the Union of irrepressible conflict."

Shoe And Leather Manufacturing Company.

As another evidence of the direction given to the public mind by the independent action of the South, we would call attention to the advertisement of this Manufacturing Company in another column. It is a movement of great importance to the whole South. This is a corporation which will benefit alike all the Confederate States, for, in all of them, shoes enter largely into trade, and heretofore Northern manufacturers have furnished the supplies. In this manner, we

would see Southern Capital and southern energy and enterprise employed. Too long has the North absorbed the wealth of those States which now form the Southern Confederacy. Let the future bear witness to a successful effort to regain our lost advantages. And this we predict, will be one of the most profitable investments of the day.

DIARY OF A YANKEE IN THE PATENT OFFICE

WEDNESDAY 27

A rainy morning, but pleasant by noon. It rained nearly all last night. We have at last got a Comr of Patents. Mr Holloway of I.A. was confirmed by the Senate today. Went down to the Hotels this evening. Strange and anxious faces yet crowd them. Called at the "National" upon Judge Ira Harris NY Senator. Had a pleasant "call," conversed upon various subjects. He thinks the Secession Movement will die out if it is let alone. Got the NY "Times" and came home 1/2 past 9 & read it. Got letter today from Prest Cowles of Elmira Female College. Clock has just struck 11.

March 28, 1861

NEW YORK HERALD

The News.

Col. Lamon, President Lincoln's special envoy to Fort Sumter, returned to Washington yesterday afternoon. The particulars of the result of his mission have not been made public, but it is known that Fort Sumter will be evacuated as soon as the vessel detailed to convey away the garrison shall reach Charleston harbor, and arrangements for their removal have been completed.

Our correspondent at Charleston states that President Davis has made a requisition upon the Governors of South Carolina, Florida and Georgia for troops, but upon what service they are to be despatched had not transpired.

In the United States Senate yesterday a message was received from the President declining to communicate the despatches received from Major Anderson, the commander at Fort Sumter, as their publication would at this time be inexpedient. A long debate then ensued upon the question of taking up Senator Breckinridge's resolution advising the withdrawal of the federal troops from the seceded States. Upon taking the question the vote stood 19 to 10. As there was not a quorum, the subject was dropped, and the Senate went into executive session, and in the course of a couple of hours confirmed a large number

of appointments. A list of the names is given among our telegraphic despatches.

Among the confirmations by the Senate yesterday was that of Hiram Barney, as Collector of the Port of New York.

The Troubles of the Nation.

WASHINGTON, March 27, 1861.

Colonel Ward H. Lamon, bearer of despatches from President Lincoln to Fort Sumter, returned this afternoon, and reported himself to the President while the Cabinet was present. The Colonel brought with him a large palmetto tree which was presented to him at Charleston.

Colonel Lamon had no opportunity to state to the President the results of his mission to Fort Sumter this afternoon. An interview was had this evening, but the precise information Colonel Lamon brings, or the effect it has had upon the President's mind, is not known outside of the Cabinet, except as since indicated in a conversation the President had with a gentleman, to whom he said that Major Anderson was ordered to report with his command at another place, and would embark with his troops as soon as the facilities for doing so reached him, which would be in a few days.

Colonel Lamon does not hesitate to state his experience at Charleston in regard to the modus operandi of reaching Fort Sumter. He reached Charleston on Sunday morning, and took himself as 'Ward H. Lamon, of Virginia.' He did this because he ascertained that he could not reach Fort Sumter without a permit from Governor Pickens, and could not see the Governor until Monday morning, and in order not to make himself a target for the curious for twenty four hours, as he would have done had he announced himself from any other State. He was not annoyed until Monday morning, when a delegation of Charlestonians called upon him, and inquired if his name was Lamon? He replied, 'Yes, my name is Ward H. Lamon.' They asked him if he was a friend of President Lincoln? He replied that he was. He was then asked if he had any objection to tell them the object of his mission? He said he had objection, and added that he had important business with Governor Pickens, with whom he was soon to have an interview, and if the Governor wished to state to them the result of the same he could do so.

This put a stop to questions; but a strict watch was kept upon the Colonel, as if he was some infernal machine that had been thrown suddenly in their midst to destroy them. No insult was offered to him, however, but thousands of the Charlestonians assembled to gaze upon the representative and friend of 'Old

Abe,' all wondering whether he was the messenger of peace or war.

Colonel Lamon soon obtained an interview with Governor Pickens, and informed the Governor that he was bearer of despatches from President Lincoln to Major Anderson, and he wished to be allowed facilities to reach the Fort. Governor Pickens treated Col. Lamon with great courtesy, and promptly informed him that he should have a steamer in which to proceed to the Fort and immediately detailed Col. Duryea, one of the Governor's staff, to accompany him. The Governor also assured Col. Lamon that he would issue orders to the Mayor of the city to see to it that he had safe conduct through the city during his stay.

Accordingly, everything was provided as indicated, and the Fort was reached. Col. Lamon invited Col. Duryea to accompany him into the Fort, where he was introduced to Major Anderson and the other officers in Fort Sumter. Colonel Lamon and Major Anderson then left Colonel Duryea to be entertained by the other officers, and proceeded to private quarters, where an interview of several hours was had, the result of which has been reported to the President, and will be the subject of an official communication from the President in a few days.

Despatches received here from Charleston tonight assert that it is well known that Major Anderson has not a week supplies of provision on hand, and is out of fuel, and that the probability is the authorities will refuse to allow him longer to purchase supplies from Charleston market. It is believed that Colonel Lamon is the bearer of similar information, and if so it is easy to account for the remark made by the President in conversation tonight as quoted above.

CHARLESTON MERCURY

Admission of Northern States into the Southern Confederation.

In striving to arouse the South to the fatuity of the policy, which may be perpetrated under the Confederate States Constitution, by a two-thirds vote of future Congresses, we have already noticed the gross ignorance of the people of the North in regard to the true principles of republican government. Having no adequate conception of those wise and needful restrictions upon absolute power, whether vested in one man or many, by which alone the rights and liberty of all are protected, they substitute for free government a many headed tyranny, shifting, irresponsible and limitless, and hence are utterly unfit for political connection under a common government with those

who would avoid mobocracy, agrarianism and anarchy.

In addition to their false and low views of republican government, we have spoken of the error of their idea of a general government for a confederation of republics. They mistake the creature for the creator—the agent for the supreme ultimate authority, and would make a consolidate nation, with unlimited power, out of a union of States, under a compact of powers, carefully delegated. They are, therefore, most dangerous confederates for those who would avoid a central despotism and escape the troubles and difficulties of another moral struggle with such anti-States rights tendencies.

Besides their mobocratic and consolidate political heresies, we have alluded to the radical hostility of the Northern people to the South and her institutions, in the great, vital question of slavery. Anti-slavery is a sentiment and a doctrine so thoroughly embedded in their moral, religious and political nature, that its eradication within many generations is a hopeless expectation. Hence they cannot but be domestic foes, aliens, and unsafe confederates for those in this section who would live in peace, beyond the reach of such inimical influences.

There is however, still another potent reason for repudiating all future connection with Northern States, under a common government. The whole history of their past union with the South is stamped with rapacity, selfishness and bad faith. Their course on almost all the great questions that have agitated and disturbed the American States, proved them to be a people of shrewd, practical, utilitarian and material views, but, with individual exceptions, destitute alike of elevation of sentiment and character. Immediate interest swallows up and absorbs all other considerations. To the requirements and exigencies of this controlling motive, everything has been obliged to yield—whether justice, consistency, honor, or patriotism. From the DOUGLAS swindle, back to the war of 1812, and the Alien and Sedition laws, the tale is the same.

The Kansas-Nebraska Compromise was violated just as soon as in the case of Kansas, it became an object to violate it. The Missouri compromise was set aside just as soon as, in the case of California, the North were not to gain by it. The Mexican war was unpopular at the North, because it was a Southern war; and yet the South was excluded from the territory acquired. The acquisition of Texas was important to the security of the South; and yet it was with great difficulty, after one rejection, brought into the Union only from the apprehension that British goods from Texas would interfere with Northern interests. The

tariff compromises of... was grossly violated just so soon as, in accordance with its terms, the Northern people were to give up their plunder of the South. The tariff of 1816, with its compromise reductions, prospectively made to save Northern manufacturers from alleged ruin, was set aside the very moment the South were to obtain the advantages for which they had acquiesced in temporary protection. The war of 1812, waged in behalf of Northern shipping, showed a people unpatriotic, selfish and treacherous. The Alien Law manifested an unscrupulous disposition to use power to gratify rapacity at the expense of the emigrants coming to our shores, whom they would now use against the South in filling up the territories for new Free-soil States. The Sedition law exhibited their pragmatical and selfish tyranny—being an attempt by penalties to muzzle the press and prevent all opposition to measures of the government. Their systematic refusal to carry out the provisions of the Constitution, for the return of fugitive slaves, is a piece with these special instances mentioned. Their disregard of the Fugitive Slave Law compromise of 1850, for which the Border States acquiesced in the California swindle, if not of such duration, is as notorious as the other. It is needless to multiply examples.

The people of the Northern States obey a law ... than any which can be made in Constitutions and Congressional enactments by the peoples of the Southern States. The law which interest, ambition or fanaticism may, at any time, and on every occasion, suggest, is the law to which they are obedient and true. We ask the people of the South whether, with all their experience of the treachery and bad faith of those unsound and inimical aliens, they can entertain the idea of again admitting them into full fellowship as members of the same Confederate household? In our opinion, it would be madness.

Our Montgomery Correspondence.

MONTGOMERY, March 25.

It is a matter of some pride here, at the capitol, to know that the new government loan of five million dollars has been taken, or at least the money has already been tendered, and is now waiting the time when the bonds can be issued from the Treasury Department. Although Congress authorized a loan of \$15,000,000, if that sum was needed, early in the session, it was only last week that proposals were advertised for, to raise one third that amount, enough for present wants. The advertisement asked for \$5,000,000; giving, as security, the bonds of the Confederate States, bearing interest at ten per cent. and payable in ten years; and, at the same time, briefly stated the means of obtaining the money for the ulti-

mate payment of this debt. Notwithstanding the loan has been only a few days before the public, more than double the required sum has been tendered to the Secretary of the Treasury, and offers are continually coming in from all sections. Hardly a day passes but letters are received by editors and others, asking for information on the subject; the writer stating invariably that he has a few thousand dollars which he wishes to place at the disposal of the Confederate States. I have a case in memory now which illustrates the popular feeling in regard to this matter. When the announcement was first made that Congress had authorised a loan, and before proposals were solicited, a Mississippian placed \$5000 in the hands of his bankers, made subject to the draft of the Treasurer of the Confederacy. This gentleman was not alone in his patriotic tender of money at the time it was supposed the Government was in need of it; for similar offers came from other States. I learn today that one man has offered \$200,000 and another \$80,000, to Mr. MEMMINGER, for which sum no interest is required. It is well known here that offers of money have been received from New York, Philadelphia, New Orleans, and other cities in the United States and in the Confederate States, to an amount that would cover the entire authorized loan. Mr. MEMMINGER has concluded—and very wisely too—that the citizens of the Confederate States are entitled to the preference in this investment, and the bonds will be scattered among the, as equally as possible. When it is remembered that the bonds of the old United States have been for some time a dead weight in the market, the facts above stated will be rather surprising, even when we know the investment to be as good as any that could be offered. As I have said before, it is very gratifying to us here to see how rapidly the credit of the new government is rising in the financial world, and I hope the Republican prophets, who croaked so dismally of our bankruptcy a short time ago, will put the fact in their pipes.

We are looking daily toward Pensacola with great anxiety, and news is eagerly sought for, but as there are no professional letter writers at that point, we get but little of general interest except the items in the local papers. I am informed by a gentleman who returned from there on Saturday, that Gen. BRAGG is very industrious, and is now engaged in erecting batteries to bear upon the weak points of Pickens. Upon these batteries the guns from Fort McRee are to be mounted, as it is well known that fortress is in poor condition to withstand a heavy fire. Three ten inch columbiads have been already put in position, and ten more of the same caliber will be mounted next week. Lieut. SLEMMER is also engaged in putting his bar-bette guns in order, and seems to be preparing for a

desperate defence. Since the order issued to the citizens of Warrington, preventing them from sending supplies to the fleet or to the fort, increased vigilance is being used to prevent any communication with the shore. This looks a little more warlike, and quite in contrast with the free and easy two months ago. The Wyandotte is no longer allowed to go up to the Navy Yard, or even to run under the guns of Barrancas, but is kept outside the harbor. She generally lies in her old anchorage, just beyond the point of Santa Rosa island, and close under the guns of the fort. Gen. BRAGG thinks he now has increased facilities for an attack, and wishes to make one as soon as the troops ordered there shall arrive. Companies of the Provisional army go through this city every day or two, and it is supposed that in a few weeks five thousand men will be concentrated at Pensacola.

There are but few items of interest to write you from this city. The Departments are still busy organizing, and I believe are getting along more rapidly than was anticipated. The Government has procured a suitable building for the Postoffice Department, and I am informed by Mr. REAGAN, it will be taken about the 15th of next month. This will obviate one difficulty he now has to contend with - that is want of room. The new building... is situated on Bibb street, and will be capacious enough for the purposes of the Department. The "White House" is now nearly ready for the President and it is expected that he will take possession early next month. It is situated upon the brow of the hill opposite the Capitol, and from the terrace around it a most delightful bird-eye view of the city is obtained.

Mr. OLNEY, one of the editors of the New York Day book, is in this city, but whether on business or as a correspondent for his paper, I am unable to say. He is a Carolinian, and is exceedingly well informed upon all matters relating to our new government, both political and statistical. He will meet with a good reception from the members of the press here.

The weather for the past few days has been delightful, beautiful summer like days and dreamy moonlight nights. For sometimes hardly a cloud has dimmed the sky, except a few small spots here and there which hang from the heavens lie the lichens from the old elms and cypresses in our Southern swamps. Under the bright sunlight the deciduous trees are rapidly putting forth their leaves and buds, and all nature seems anxious to proclaim the genesis of summer.

TROUT.

DIARY OF A YANKEE IN THE PATENT OFFICE

THURSDAY 28

A nice spring day, bright & pleasant. We had a Comr in the office today, and a "green" Board of Appeal. The Pat office seems to be running into the ground under raw leaders. Took walk after dinner with wife and on our return found Chas & Miss Woodward who staid till 9 o'ck. Maj Davidson called and staid an hour or two. US. Senate Adjourned today. The Flying Artillery were practicing or rather exercising near us on Franklin Square. Julia & the boys went to see them. 1/2 past 10.

March 29, 1861

NEW YORK HERALD

The News.

In the United States Senate yesterday Mr. Trumbull offered a resolution declaring that in the opinion of the Senate the true way to preserve the Union is to enforce the laws of the Union; that resistance to their enforcement, whether under the name of anti-coercion or any other name, is disunion; and that it is the duty of the President to sue all the means in his power to hold and protect the public property of the United States, and enforce the laws thereof, as well in the other States of South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana and Texas, as within the other States of the Union. Mr. Trumbull desired to have a vote on the resolution, and the democratic members expressed themselves in favor of an immediate expression of opinion on the subject. The republicans, however, would not come up to the mark, but preferred an executive session for the apportionment of the offices. A motion to that effect was carried, and the Senate confirmed a large number of nominations. Subsequently, the President having no further communication to make, the Senate adjourned sine die.

A list of nominations confirmed by the Senate yesterday may be found in another column. The only New York city appointments confirmed are those of Hiram Barney, for Collector, and Thomas McElrath, for Appraiser.

The English papers continue to denounce the Morrill tariff, and declare that if the law goes into operation the blunders of the statesmen will be rectified by the hardihood of the smuggler. We reproduce this morning an important article upon this subject from the London Times of the 12th inst. We also publish an article from the London News, the organ of Lord John Russell, upon the policy of the British govern-

Skedaddle

ment relative to the recognition of the Southern confederacy.

This being Good Friday, the law courts will not hold their sessions.

TRI-WEEKLY ALAMO EXPRESS

San Antonio, TX

Another Stirring Incident.

On Thursday morning two more companies of regulars passed through our city. One company under command of Maj. Shepherd, halted on the Main Plaza, where a crowd of people had spontaneously gathered, and played "auld lang syne" with fife and drum, receiving the enthusiastic cheers of people; from the Plaza they marched down Main street to that good old tune Americans delight in, "yankee doodle" which will do to whistle, play and sing, and just the thing for fighting. The people carrying an American flag accompanied the troops to the edge of town, presenting them with the flag. This is a pleasant surprise to the troops and an evidence that patriotism still swells among us in spite of tyranny and usurpation.— God speed the day that will bring back the army to us.

DIARY OF A YANKEE IN THE PATENT OFFICE

FRIDAY, MARCH 29, 1861.

A pleasant warm day, which has passed off much as others do when nothing in particular occurs. The office is thronged with expectants for office, and it puzzles the "heads" to find places for even a small portion of the applicants. Went down to the Express office this evening, Julia went with me for a walk. We called no where else except for the NY Papers. We are all very well. My own health never was better. We read the papers till I was left alone & I went to bed at 11 o'ck.

March 30, 1861

NEW YORK HERALD

The News.

From our Washington despatches, it appears that Col. Lamon, the President's envoy to Charleston, declined to exercise the discretionary power with which he was clothed, and issue the order to Major Anderson for the evacuation of Fort Sumter. He returned to Washington and reported the facts respecting the straitened condition of the garrison to the President, who yesterday at an early hour summoned

the Cabinet to hold a consultation on the subject. Their deliberations led to a confirmation of the determination of the government to abandon the fort. The order will be communicated to Major Anderson, and the garrison will evacuate Fort Sumter as soon as the vessel to convey them away arrives in Charleston harbor. At last accounts the garrison had supplies sufficient for a few days only.

Contradictory reports as to the designs of the government with reference to Fort Pickens have been circulated for some days past. The republican journals assert that the fort is to be reinforced—indeed it is announced that both troops and supplies have already be landed. Our correspondents from Washington, however, state that the Southern commissioners, and also conservative men of the border States, have been assured that no attempt would be made to relieve the fort—that the military status of that post would not be disturbed. It is further more stated that the reports in the republican journals are put in circulation solely for the purpose of influencing the coming election in New England.

Orders have been received at the Brooklyn Navy Yard from the Department at Washington to get the storeship Release ready for sea immediately. Accordingly yesterday provisions and stores of all descriptions were being put on board with all despatch, and her rigging was undergoing the necessary overhauling. It is not yet known who are to be her commander and officers. The same secrecy is observed in regard to her destination; but it is believed she is being sent to convey supplies to the Gulf squadron.

The steamships Star of the West and Coat-zacoalcos, from New York, were seen on the 23d inst., within a day's sail of Indianola, Texas, for which port they were bound.

Aristocracy North and South.

The republican papers are continually representing that the slave owners of the South are all aristocrats, and comprise an odious oligarchy, while all the democracy of the country is to be found at the North. If the possession of wealth constitutes an aristocracy in the owners thereof we think that there is far more of it to be found in the Northern than in the Southern States. All the bankers and financiers, the rich merchants and ship owners, and more especially the mill owners and manufacturers, according to this rule, form a vastly more numerous body of aristocrats and oligarchs, and a more mischievous one, too, as far as the interest of the masses are concerned, than the Southern slaveholders. The truth is that there does exist a kind of pretentious aristocracy in the country, whose rank is based on wealth; but is scattered all over

the country, in every quarter, and is peculiar to no particular section. It comprises, for the most part, persons who have come into the possession of large fortunes, but who have very little intellect—whose breeches pockets vastly outweigh their brains—but all this will be equitably settled in about the third generation. It is absurd to locate this class at the South, while the fact is notorious that there is hardly a more potent oligarchy existing anywhere than in the manufacturing districts of New England—a body which controls almost the souls and destinies of the operatives as completely as the cotton lords of Manchester.

STANDARD

(Clarksville, Texas)

The Flag of the Confederate States.

Mr. Howard, of the firm of Howard & Burchardt, showed us this morning a neat silken model of the Flag of the Confederate States of America; originated by the Congressional Committee, and adopted unanimously. It is as follows:

Blue union, with seven white stars; three horizontal stripes, red, white and red. The first red and white extending from the union to the end of the flag, and the lower red stripe extending the whole length of the flag, occupying the whole space below the union. The stripes are all of equal width.

The new flag was hoisted on the Capitol at Montgomery, on the 4th inst.—Galveston News.

HARPER'S WEEKLY

General Sam Houston.

THE accompanying portrait of General SAM HOUSTON, Governor of Texas, will be recognized by all who know the old hero. Even those who remember him as he was two years ago, when he wore a heavy mustache, will readily recall the noble brow and the fierce eye.

Probably no man in this country has led so adventurous a life as Sam Houston. Born, sixty-eight years ago, in Rockbridge County, Virginia, he lost his father when very young, and removed with his mother to the confines of the forest in Tennessee. Here he grew up as best he could, associating much with Indians and imbibing a fondness for their rude mode of life. As he reached manhood he tried to earn a living as a school-master, and then as a clerk in a country store. But neither pursuit pleased his fancy, and in 1813, when General Jackson called for volunteers to fight the Creeks, Sam Houston responded to the call. He won credit during the campaign; when it ended,

he had risen to the rank of lieutenant. But as there was no more fighting to be done then, he laid down the sword, studied law at Nashville, and soon rose to be a prominent lawyer and politician. In 1823, he went to Congress from his district in Tennessee; in 1827, he was elected Governor. In 1829, a fit of restlessness seized him. He resigned his post as Governor; tried life a while in Arkansas, where the frauds practiced by the Government Agents upon the Indians disgusted him; went to Washington, to endeavor to have his red friends righted, and found himself involved in no end of lawsuits with the rogues whom he sought to expose; became a good deal disgusted with every thing and every body, and finally migrated to Texas.

Texas was then about to be admitted as a State of the Mexican Union. It was in a miserable condition. Its people comprised among them the worst vagabonds and scoundrels in the world. When a man was so infamous and hopeless that he could not ship on board a whaler, he went to Texas. There was no money in the country, no trade, no industry, very little judicious agriculture. The whole State was overrun by wild bands of Indians, Comanches, Apaches, etc., who regarded the white man as an invader and robber, and shot him whenever they could. This was the condition of Texas when the people met, adopted a Constitution, and asked admission to the Mexican Confederacy—the American Sam Houston being elected as their first Governor.

Santa Anna refused, Texas declared its independence, and war was begun. The Texans organized a militia, and elected General Austin Commander-in-Chief. Austin soon gave way to Houston, and after a brief campaign he met Santa Anna at San Jacinto, in April, 1836, and totally routed him. The Mexican President was taken prisoner, and in the agony of defeat was forced to acknowledge the independence of Texas.

For eight years, during which General Houston was twice President, Texas was an independent nation. But its independence was intolerable. There was still no money, no credit, no commerce, no industry, no peace, no safety in the country. There was no means to pay the interest on the bonds issued by the Texan Government for the war of independence. Wars with the Indians never came to an end. Foreign nations treated the new State with contempt. Desperadoes only sought it as a home. These miseries becoming at length too grievous to be borne, the leading men of Texas, with General Houston at their head, sought admission to the Union, and after a long struggle carried their point. The last act of President Tyler's career as President was to sign an Act admitting Texas to the Union. This Act bound the United States to pay

the Texan debt—some \$10,000,000; to keep the Indians in check, at a cost of some \$2,500,000 annually; and to take the further measures which brought on the Mexican war. In return, Texas agreed to enter the Union as an independent State, with the reservation, however—which was not suspected at the time—that she would secede when she pleased.

In the year 1844, when Texas was admitted, General Houston was chosen to the United States Senate. He held his seat in that body some fifteen years, and was always a useful member, not given to long speeches, and scrupulously tender of his colleagues' feelings.

Two years ago he was elected Governor of Texas. He fills the post still; and, if the newspaper reports are to be credited, he is by no means the facile tool of the disunionist Convention which seems to have been expected. An irrepressible conflict between him and the secessionists seems to be impending; if it comes on, we may rely upon it Governor Houston will give a good account of himself.

Governor Houston is a man of very simple habits and genial manners. He eats no flesh and drinks no wine. His ordinary dinner is a plate of oranges or other fruit, and a glass of milk. One of his many peculiarities, which used to form the subject of conversation at Washington, was his habit of whittling. When he took his seat in the Senate, a page always appeared bearing a fagot of small pine sticks, which he laid respectfully beside the hero of San Jacinto. One of these the Senator soon seized, and began unconsciously to whittle. If the debate was dull the Senatorial knife traveled slowly, and exquisite little images were carved out of the stick to serve as mementoes to lady friends. If, on the contrary, the debate waxed warm, the knife worked nervously and quickly, and stick after stick fell in their shavings around the desk, until the whole fagot disappeared. Very few Senators were so personally popular at Washington as Senator Houston.

The Biggest Gun in the World.

We publish... an accurate drawing of the great Fifteen-inch Gun at Fort Monroe, Virginia; and also a picture, from a recent sketch, showing the experiments which are being made with a view to test it. It is proper that we should say that the small drawing is from the lithograph which is published in MAJOR BARNARD's "Notes on Sea-Coast Defense," published by Mr. D. Van Nostrand of this city.

This gun was cast at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, by Knapp, Rudd, & Co., under the directions of Captain T. J. Rodman, of the Ordnance Corps. Its dimensions are as follows:

| | |
|--------------|-------------|
| Total length | 190 inches. |
|--------------|-------------|

| | |
|--|------------|
| Length of calibre of bore | 156 " |
| Length of ellipsoidal chamber | 9 " |
| Total length of bore | 165 " |
| Maximum exterior diameter | 43 " |
| Distance between rimbases | 48 inches. |
| Diameter at muzzle | 25 " |
| Thickness of metal behind the chamber... | 25 " |
| Thick. at junction of bore with chamb. | 16 1/2" |
| Thickness at muzzle .. | 5 " |
| Weight of gun | 49,100 |

This gun is usually loaded with 35 pounds of large-grained powder, which projects shells of 305 to 335 pounds weight. A solid shot for a gun of this size would weigh 425 pounds. The following table will show the range of the gun with the shells above-mentioned, at various elevations:

At 6° elevation (and 35 pounds powder),
2017, 1937, 1902, 1892, and 1873 yards.

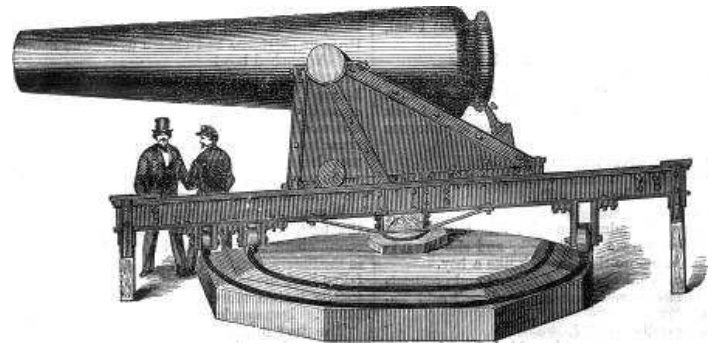
At 10° elevation (and 40 pounds powder),
2700, 2900, 2754, and 2760 yards.

At 28° 35' elevation (and 50 pounds powder),
5298, 4950, and 5375 yards.

Major Barnard thinks that at 39° elevation, and 40 pounds powder, a range considerably beyond 4 miles might be attained.

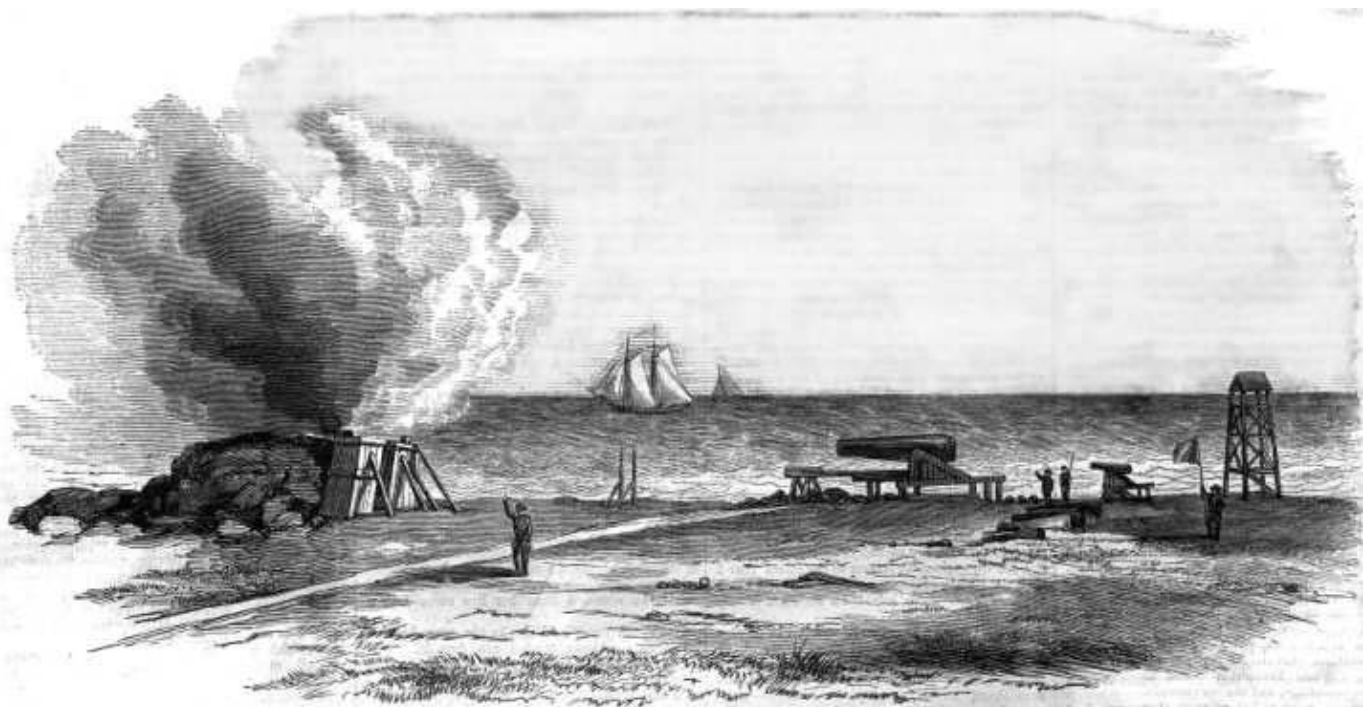
The events of the past few weeks have unfortunately directed no small share of public attention to the subject of coast defenses, and Major Barnard's able refutation of Sir Howard Douglas's fallacies in relation to land fortifications have been much discussed. The state of the controversy may be briefly summed up. The Crimean War proved the worthlessness of

wooden ships as opposed to land-batteries, when properly manned and worked. Accordingly, at the conclusion of that war, fighting nations began to think



of arming their vessels of war with iron plates: the result of that movement is to be seen in the new iron-clad ships *Warrior* and *La Gloire*, of which we published engravings in a recent number. It is demonstrated that the old cannon carrying 24-pound, 32-pound, and 42-pound balls and shells produce no impression upon vessels of this class. But it is also admitted that even such iron-clad vessels as *La Gloire* and the *Warrior* could not withstand shots fired from 10, 11, and 15 inch guns. Hence it follows that, if our forts are to be placed in a condition to resist the assault of iron-clad ships, they must be armed with cannon of the class which we now illustrate. To convince the public of this truth has been a constant effort with such distinguished soldiers as Major Barnard.

One difficulty with regard to big guns has arisen from the fact that guns beyond a certain calibre (found by experience to be 10 inches) are deficient in



strength when cast in the usual way —viz., in one single piece, and afterward bored out. This difficulty was obviated by Captain Rodman, in the case of the 15-inch Columbiad at Fort Monroe, by casting the gun hollow, and cooling it from the interior by introducing a stream of water into the core. In England, the new guns of great calibre are cast in several pieces.

It is to be hoped that no time will be lost by our Government in acting upon the successful experiments of the past, and in providing our forts with guns which can overmatch the iron plates of the navies of foreign nations.

DIARY OF A YANKEE IN THE PATENT OFFICE

SATURDAY 30

This has been rather a busy day in the office for me as I had to make out the monthly account, or Report. Some removals among the subordinates today. Many are trembling expecting decapitation. I think that the removals so far have been generally judicious and such as ought to have been made. The day has been windy and dry, and consequently very dusty. Went down to the Ave and got the NY papers. Came home with Julia from Mr Woodward's, read the papers till it is now high time to bed 1/2 pst 11.

March 31, 1861

NEW YORK HERALD

The News.

The steamship Daniel Webster, from the Rio Grande via Key West and the Tortugas forts, with United States troops, arrived at this port yesterday. She left Brazos on the 19th, Fort Jefferson on the 24th and Fort Taylor on the 25th of March. She landed two companies of troops at Fort Jefferson, and also two companies at Fort Taylor. The steamer Gen. Rusk also landed two companies at each of these forts on the 24th. Fort Taylor is now on a complete war footing, amply garrisoned and furnished with supplies of all sorts for one year.

When the Daniel Webster left Brazos there were one company of artillery and two of cavalry at Fort Brown, and two companies of infantry were daily expected to arrive. Since the secession of Texas from the Union the military posts in the upper part of the State have been abandoned by the United States troops. All along the frontier the savages had renewed their depredations, killing the settlers, running of stock and committing great havoc. In addition to the attacks of the Indians the Texas were menaced on the Rio Grande by the Mexican robber chief Cortinas. He is

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reported to have a large force in readiness for a foray upon the Texans as soon as the United States troops are withdrawn. From all the indications, it is likely that before many weeks the Southern republic will find ample employment for a portion of its army in repelling the Camanches and Mexican bandits from the frontier.

The steamships Star of the West and Coat-zacoalcos, from New York for Brazos, passed Key West, the former on the 20th and the latter on the 21st inst.

The President and Cabinet were yesterday again engaged in discussing the question of abandoning Fort Sumter. The administration moves very slowly in this disagreeable business. Meantime the Charlestonians are growing dangerously restive. Our correspondent at Charleston telegraphs that if the evacuation does not speedily take place the fort will be attacked and captured.

The Financial Position of the Government - The Real Difficulty at Washington.

The predominant power just now at Washington is Wall street. The question of money is one that this government as well as all others must look squarely in the face. Money has been aptly defined as the sinews of war, and it is very certain that the Lincoln administration is now bound hand and foot by this ugly spectre which has ruined so many splendid schemes and thwarted so many magnificent ideas of brilliant theoretical statesmen. It is all very well for the radical republicans to demand that the principles of Garrison, Phillips & Co. shall be carried into effect without regard to the cost; and it doubtless sounds well to Southern ears when Mr. Memminger offers to borrow fifteen millions for the purpose of putting the Confederate States upon a war footing. But the question for the people of the North and South to settle is, whether or not they will impoverish themselves in going to war upon an abstract question which cannot be settled by the sword. As it appears to us, both governments—that at Washington and that at Montgomery—are equally powerless.

Davis & Co. have, however, the advantage over Lincoln & Co. The government of the Southern confederacy is plucky and clever in its personnel. The Lincoln administration is cowardly, mean and vicious, without the power to carry out its designs. So far from being in a condition to make war—the most expensive luxury wherewith a government can indulge itself—the administration has not sufficient money for the ordinary expenses of the departments. Mr. Dix borrowed eight millions at twelve per cent. Mr. Chase wants eight millions more, and will probably get it from the

brokers, who have done well with the Dix loan. In a very short time Mr. Chase will be obliged to call for nine millions and then our national debt will reach the disagreeable figure of one hundred millions of dollars.

In the event of war this debt would be very much increased. One item will indicate how much. The last Congress authorized the building of six steam sloops of war. To construct, equip and keep this fleet in commission during twelve months would cost three millions of dollars—In the event of war the revenues of the government would be entirely cut off, and the expenses increased from seventy to one hundred millions per annum; a time would arrive when loans could not be effected, and direct taxation would be resorted to. This with the burden of State and city debt, added to the general suspension of business and prostration of all industrial interest, would soon reduce the republic to a condition of anarchy and distress heretofore unparalleled in the history of the civilized world. In the South, where the population is comparatively thin, and where few people live hand to mouth, things would be easier, but not much. Laying an export duty on cotton was a measure of dire necessity, and must be only temporary. Otherwise the impost will be evaded in a hundred ways. And the stern fact of the case is that the men in power in both sections of the country are altogether unequal to the emergency they have brought us into. And, notwithstanding all this, they have the sublime impudence to ask us for money with which to perpetuate their odious policy. The Cabinet at Washington plays with the gravest questions. One day they intend to reinforce Sumter and Pickens; the next they purpose to withdraw the troops. What they really intend to do is a mystery. This course is pursued in order to obtain money. We verily believe that if Lincoln & co. had a handsome surplus in the treasury they would immediately precipitate the country into civil war. Now the only way to prevent such a calamity is to refuse the supplies. The government should be made to understand that unless it openly declares in favor of a peace policy the people will not loan it a dollar. There is a double reason for reticence. First, to avoid war, and second, because, in the event of bankruptcy, the United States bondholders would have no security for their money. The public lands

have been given away by the Homestead and railway grant bills, and the public property would be at the mercy of the strongest hand.

It is the duty of statesmen to look forward. Progress is the rule everywhere except in this country. Here our public men retrograde, and this country, once a Power in Christendom, is now an object of ridicule and contempt. 'Poor, effete old Spain' sneers at us, and even Peru insults us with impunity. Our flag is no longer a symbol of strength; it is the ensign of imbeciles, outlaws and fanatics. And now we say again that the only way to bring the politicians to their senses is to stop the supplies. Withdraw the troops from the Southern forts, send the naval vessels to the coast of Africa or anywhere else, disarm the Southern militia, vacate the commissions of the generals, colonels and what not—in fact, put everything on a peace footing—and then we can negotiate either for the reconstruction of the Union—a result which is not altogether out of the question—or the recognition of two confederacies, never to return their arms against each other, but always ready to resist the interference of European Powers upon this continent. That is the platform for all men of common sense, and in six months a great party might be built upon it. In the meantime stop the supplies.

DIARY OF A YANKEE IN THE PATENT OFFICE

by Horatio Nelson Taft
SUNDAY 31

Went out to church this morning. It was cold enough to wear my cloak. Family wer[e] all out but Julia who is unwell. She went with Miss Sallie to "St Mathews" in the afternoon. Chas and Sallie came up about dark from "Vespers" and spent the evening. Miss S. performed on the Piano and the passersby might have heard in some of the pieces anything but Sunday music. I took a walk down 12th St to the Ave & back, quick step. It took me twenty minutes.

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