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INDIANA STATE SENTINEL.

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Political.

Sustain the Constituted Authorities.

The tone of a portion of the press of this city is well fitted to excite alarm. Hitherto we have been generally a law abiding people, and, with some slight exceptions, have recognized the legal and constituted authorities as the medium through which the public affairs were to be administered. Complaints have sometimes been made that oppression has been exercised through that medium, but until the present moment bold threats of revolution have scarcely ever been heard among us.

There is at this time, if we may judge from the tone of a portion of the press which supported Mr. Lincoln in the late Presidential election, and which has until lately sustained his policy, a tendency, if not a concerted purpose, to "supersede" the President in his official functions, and to place "some representative leader" at the head of a military force, which shall enable him to exercise the power of a dictator.

The complaint is, that Mr. Lincoln's administration is dilatory and inefficient; that his Ministers "parley with traitors," instead of arresting them, or sweeping them into the ocean. He is censured by the presses alluded to, for not concentrating a force at Washington with greater promptness; in short, for not being prepared, on a week's notice, for an attack which some of the same papers have told us the South would not dare to make, and which, until very recently, has been deemed by the Administration and its friends, highly improbable, if not impossible. It is now twelve days since the President issued his proclamation for troops; and without any of the facilities for concentrating them at a given point which are always at hand when a war has been fairly entered upon, it is complained that by a failure to be *now* prepared for the dangers which threaten the national Capital, he has proved himself incompetent and unfit for his position. In some cases doubt is thrown upon his patriotism and fidelity to the Union.

We are not responsible for the election of Mr. Lincoln to the Presidency. But we never questioned his patriotism, integrity, and sterling good sense. We see no reason to change our opinion in any of these particulars. Still less do we see any just ground for the denunciations which are leveled against him by a portion of the Republican press. Only a brief time has elapsed since either he or they became aware of the actual state of the country—since the dreadful fact broke upon them that either the Union must be sundered, or a civil war, and perhaps, also, a despotism, succeed to the freedom and prosperity which we have heretofore enjoyed. We have labored to prepare the public mind for this fearful alternative, but with indifferent success. Nor should it be forgotten that in his present trying position, the President has the advice and aid of the first military man in this country, perhaps in the world. We do not presume to set up our judgment in military affairs over that of Lieutenant General Scott, the President, the Secretary of War, the whole Cabinet, and the military science of the country.

On the contrary, we are honorably bound to believe, and we do believe, that since the condition of affairs came to be understood by the Administration, everything has been done which could be done to prepare for the emergency. The difficulties he has encountered have been extraordinary and unexpected; and it is not probable they have been anticipated by any one of his revilers. Yet, with one or two exceptions, the tone of the Republican press in this city is that of denunciation and abuse; of which not only the President, but Mr. Seward, Mr. Cameron, and General Scott, receive each their share. A proposition is made for a "representative leader," to supercede the President and usurp the functions of the constituted authorities. Men who, while differing from the Administration in its policy, nevertheless recognize the obligation of every citizen to obey the laws, and to abstain from whatever tends to obstruct their execution, are pronounced *traitors by those who suggest that the President be deposed, and the forms of constitutional government disregarded.*

We are among those who believe that the war might have been honorably avoided; but we are faithful citizens of the United States, bound and at all times ready to obey the laws, and to observe the constitutional obligations devolving upon us. Moreover, we believe that while the war lasts, and until a way is opened for an honorable peace, it must be prosecuted with vigor; and especially that the national Capital should be defended at all hazards. But the President can not create armies on the instant, or produce transportation and supplies on call. As the constitutional head of the Government, he is entitled to the support and co-operation of all good citizens. If, his political friends desert him—nay, whether they desert him or not—he will have the support of true Union, law-abiding men, in all constitutional and lawful measures he may adopt to defend the Capital and preserve the safety of the States remaining in the Union.

The present moment is one of great concern to the people of this city. It behooves all good citizens—merchants, bankers, every body who values the supremacy of the law, the preservation of social order, or the protection of property—to frown down the first indications of revolutionary action, and to support the Constitutional authorities in the discharge of their duties. The present is a crisis in our affairs which demands the utmost coolness and judgment, and the truest fidelity to the Government, whether its course accords with our own judgment or not. Now is the time to test the real sentiments and patriotism of the people.

Much has been said lately about the evils of anarchy; and they can scarcely be exaggerated. But if the possibility of incurring them is a valid argument against even a respectful opposition to certain measures of the Government, how much more is it a valid argument against any and every measure looking to the overthrow of that Government? Who does not know that President Lincoln could not be supplanted by a usurper, under whatever pretext, without the most frightful anarchy? Many of his political friends would rally around him with might and main. So would the Democrats and Bell-Everett men without exception. For, little as some of them may like Mr. Lincoln, they would prefer him, or almost any other man, constitutionally elected, to a military Dictator, or to a usurper of any sort. Of course, Americans would not yield to such an usurpation except by force, and *that* could only be made effective except through seas of blood. Beware, then, of the beginnings of evil. Stand by the Government, until it is regularly superseded, according to the forms of the Constitution.—*N. Y. Jour. of Commerce.*

The Law of the Case.

The law under which the President has acted in calling out the volunteer forces of the State was enacted as long ago as 1795, and was designed to meet the whisky insurrection of that year, when so large a portion of Pennsylvania was in arms against the Federal authorities. After that rebellion was quelled, no occasion arose for action under the law until 1812, when the second war broke out with Great Britain. It was then amended somewhat by Congress to meet the exigencies of the occasion, and among other things the term of service was extended from three to six months; but at the close of the war these provisions expired by their own terms, and the law thereafter stood and now stands just as it was enacted in 1795. The following is the provision under which the President acted, and it will be noticed that in his proclamation Mr. Lincoln uses almost the precise language of the statute:

"*And be it further enacted*, That whenever the laws of the United States shall be opposed, or the execution thereof obstructed, in any State by combinations too powerful to be suppressed by the ordinary course of judicial proceedings, or by the powers vested in the Marshals by this act, it shall be lawful for the President of the United States to call forth the militia of such State, or of any other State or States, as may be necessary to suppress such combination, and to cause the laws to be duly executed; and the use of militia to be called forth may be continued, if necessary, until the expiration of thirty days after the commencement of the then next session of Congress."

Other sections of the law provide that, when called out, the volunteer forces shall be under the same discipline as the army of the United States, and shall not be compelled to serve more than three consecutive months in any one year after their arrival at the place where they are ordered to rendezvous.

Position of Judge Douglas.

We gave on Saturday a full report, from the Springfield *Journal*, of the speech of Judge Douglas in the presence of the Illinois Legislature. By this time it has been widely read and thoroughly considered by the people of Illinois and Missouri. Those who, for any reason, have supposed that Senator Douglas had in such a manner changed his course as to partake of the revengeful and murderous feelings that have been so freely expressed of late against the people of the slave States, will find nothing in his speech to justify that conclusion. He counsels no destruction of cities, no burning of farm houses, no devastation of fields and plantations, no plans of starving out the women and children of the South, no scheme of recovering the revolted section into the Union by military coercion. On the contrary, we interpret his speech to be in opposition to any invasion of the constitutional rights or interference with the domestic institutions of the South or of the seceded States. We do not see that he has relinquished the idea, expressed in his speech last winter, that however the question of right might be decided by individuals, the Southern Confederacy is, to all intents, a government *de facto*. Neither do we understand Judge Douglas to have changed his position in reference to the enforcement of the laws in the seceded States, where there are no Marshals, Courts or Judges, who will serve. Nor yet has he given out that he is in favor of the absurd, impracticable, and wholly preposterous notion of marching down an army to recapture, hold, occupy and possess the Government places which have been seized by the revolutionists.

According to our reading of Douglas' Springfield speech, which, by the way, is the completest exposition of his views upon the present aspect of public affairs that has been made, we understand his position to be simply one of defense against any aggression made by the Government of the Confederate States upon our own. And we agree with our correspondent "Central," that if his premises are correct, his conclusions are irresistible. Judge Douglas evidently believes that there has been a deep-laid plot by the Rhetts, and Yanceys, and Walkers, and Slidells, of the secession schemers, to seize upon the Washington Government and drive the Administration now conducting it from power and authority. Although not insensible of the ambition and grasping disposition of these intriguers, we confess we have been loth to think that so infamous a conspiracy could command anything like general approval from the masses in the seceding States. There may be reason to suppose that since Mr. Lincoln's declaration of war, the machinations alluded to have gathered many proselytes, particularly in view of the questions of the right of territory arising from the position of Virginia and the possible course of Maryland, those States having originally furnished the local situation of the District of Columbia. But up to that time we had no thought the Capital at Washington in danger of any invasion or attack.

It has been repeatedly stated that even previous to the battle of Charleston, Mr. Lincoln had been put in possession of such information as led him to the conviction that a hostile demonstration upon Washington City was in contemplation by the secessionists. If, in his extraordinary proclamation calling for 75,000 volunteer troops, instead of assigning as a reason the ridiculous purpose of repossessing all the seized forts, arsenals and other government property, he had furnished evidence of this alleged design, and intimated a desire to act on the defensive only, we apprehend that all the border slave States, Virginia included, might have obeyed the call with promptness and alacrity. If now, when the utter impossibility of carrying out the programme set forth in that proclamation is as clear to all reflecting minds as the pure light of day, Mr. Lincoln will abandon this position—abandon what is considered by the whole South as an aggressive policy—we make no doubt that the trouble will quickly end. Tennessee, Arkansas and North Carolina, which are fast assuming an attitude to leave the Union, as would appear from the course of events in those States, could then easily be kept in, and would no longer threaten hostility to the Government. Judge Douglas, it appears to us, is laboring to bring the Administration to this point, and for ourselves we can not denounce him for doing so. That his friends in Illinois thus understand his position is to be inferred from the manly and noble speech of Mr. Shaw, a member of the House of Representatives of that State, which we printed in our last, as also from the reports of numerous public meetings in "Egypt."

As to restrictions upon the commerce of the Mississippi Valley, in reference to which the speech of Judge Douglas is very strong and pointed, the people of the West are almost unanimously of his opinion. His remarks upon this subject are predicted upon the understanding that the Southern Confederacy Government has placed obstructions upon the river trade at the dividing line between Tennessee and Mississippi, by the erection of a battery to enforce the payment of duties. There has been a report in circulation that such is the fact, but we are informed that it is a greatly exaggerated one, vessels not being molested in the free navigation of the river. At present, the strictures of Judge Douglas apply with most force against the policy of Mr. Lincoln's Administration relative to a blockade of the river and inland thoroughfares, as exemplified in recent proceedings at Cairo.

Upon the whole, we have seen nothing yet to justify the inference drawn by some that the distinguished Senator of Illinois has modified his views of the policy of coercing the South, or that he has become a sectional fanatic. Considering the tremendous pressure in the North, we are glad to find him so moderate and reasonable.—*St. Louis Republican.*

Union Meeting in New York.

The meeting held at Union Square on Saturday was attended by an immense number of people, and no doubt correctly represented so far as the expression of loyalty to the Government, and a disposition to stand by its flag goes, the sentiments of the great bulk of the people of this city. That sentiment is all but universal—perhaps we need make no exception—and we hope the same unanimity prevails respecting the fourth resolution in the series passed by the meeting, and published with the proceedings. That resolution declares:

"That when the authority of the Federal Government shall have been re-established, and peaceful obedience to the Constitution and laws prevails, we shall be ready to confer and co-operate with all loyal citizens throughout the Union, in Congress or Convention, for the consideration of all supposed grievances, the redress of all wrongs, and the protection of every right, yielding ourselves, and expecting all others to yield, to the will of the whole people, as constitutionally and lawfully expressed."

If this resolution, standing by itself, and separated from the others of the series, speaks the entire sentiments of the entire body composing the meeting, we have the most gratifying assurance that a favorable change has come over a portion of our citizens, a change which, had it occurred earlier, and been general throughout the North, would have averted the terrible calamity now resting upon the country. We hope that the leading men who have hitherto resisted all measures of conciliation and adjustment, will ponder well the pledge thus given, and be prepared, when the time for a restoration of peace shall arrive, to do with alacrity what duty, justice and honor called for before the dangers of civil war became imminent.

The speech of Ex-President Pierce, delivered at Concord on Saturday evening last, contains sentiments to which the friends of the whole country will very generally respond. The remarks to which we refer will be found in another column. *N. Y. Journal of Commerce.*

How to Guard Against the Heat.—As the heat of a Southern sun is one of the hardships our boys will have to encounter, permit an old soldier to state in what way the French army in Algiers guard themselves during the day when on the march or standing sentry: Take a yard of thin, white flannel, fold it together once and sew up one end, a ribbon or tape may be inserted to draw and tie it around the neck. This thrown over the cap or shako, and falling behind, completely shields the head and shoulders from the rays of the sun. Woolen is preferable to linen or cotton, is equally light, costs less than the former, and is easier washed and kept clean.

The Blockade.—The Government is taking most energetic measures to carry out the blockade of the ports of the seceded States. All the available war vessels are put into service. Mercantile steamers are also taken up, and such as are not used for purposes of transportation, are being fitted out as gunboats, to cruise off the coast and run up shallow waters. In a few days, therefore, the ports of the seceded States, from Baltimore to New Orleans, will be effectually closed. When this is done, and the line of the Potomac guarded by a strong corps d'armee of 100,000 men, the rebellion may be safely allowed to sting itself to death, unless more energetic means of crushing it be resolved on and carried out.—*N. Y. Herald.*

☞ We understand that five pieces of heavy ordnance arrived at Jeffersonville Saturday, and that engineers are now surveying the ground for a fortification of some kind. A rumor prevails in this city that 4,000 men have been ordered from Indianapolis. We give the rumors for what they are worth.—*Louisville Democrat.*

An Aggressive Policy.

The Cincinnati *Commercial*, after enumerating the losses of the government by "acting on the defensive," condemns the imbecility and cowardice of the Administration, and strongly urges an aggressive policy. In its issue of yesterday, it inquires—referring to the defensive policy of the Administration:

"Can anybody tell us what we have gained? We have gained the contempt or commiseration of foreign powers, and an ever increasing discontent and turbulence at home. The loyal have been discouraged, and the disloyal have been stimulated to new aggressions.

It is high time that this should cease. The people are up, and demand a leadership which is worthy of the emergency. They are arming their Government with all the sinews of war, and they do not expect it any longer to pursue the policy of peace. It is time for our Government to begin to pluck some laurels from the hitherto victorious brows of the Confederate traitors. They have hitherto enjoyed the immense advantage of being the aggressive party in the contest; now let the tables be turned, and let them be put upon the defensive.

Instead of our Government sitting and quaking in the White House at Washington, let it now go out and strike the enemy in his strongholds. The soldiers are ready at Mr. Lincoln's call; now let him use them. If the Government has a tithe of the energy and swiftness of the people it represents, it will crush out this great insurrection, extensive as it has become, in three months' time. The question now—is not, can Jeff. Davis & Co. take Washington? but can Washington take Jeff. Davis & Co.? The Government must strike right at the vitals of the usurpation. It must deal its blows thick and fast and heavy. Before the enemy has time to recover from one, it must follow it up with another. It will never do to make war on the principles of the peace society. The more blood there is shed at the start, the less there will be in the end. The more terrible and decisive the battles, the shorter the campaign. Let us have no more sentimentalism about "fratricidal strife," and "fraternal blood." We are dealing with public robbers and assassins; and were they forty times our brothers, we should be false to our country did we shrink from the severest stroke which can be dealt upon a public enemy. On their side is rancor, rebellion and remorseless hate; on ours is no hatred, but an enforced and final struggle against traitors, for a Government founded on liberty and law.

Now that we have taken up arms, let us carry the war into the enemy's country. Instead of suffering these audacious rebels to calculate whether Washington can be defended, let us set them to calculating whether Montgomery can be defended. Let our Government call forth the uttermost force of able-bodied and select soldiers the country can produce. Let it spare no money and no men, and, above all, *let it lose no time*. One decisive blow struck now is worth a hundred victories by and-by. It tells on both sides; it inspirits and kindles the loyal, and it discourages and disheartens the enemy. It decides the wavering on which side to give in their adherence. Let the Government only take possession of any of the strongholds of the usurpers, and it will not want for loyal citizens even there. The seceded States are full of patriotic men, cowed and overawed by this fierce, despotic, successful usurpation. Let it be overthrown, and that great mass of timid and conservative citizens who always side with the strongest party, will flock to the standard of the Government.

If we have begun the war with a surrender, let us not repeat the blunder by "acting on the defensive" any longer. We are strong enough to make the enemy feel our power. The Fabian policy of delay has been tried long enough. It can bring us nothing but loss, disgrace and ruin. Let us abandon it for the Napoleonic policy of swift and decisive action.

How to Keep the Mail Route open to Washington.

The Republican papers of New York have opened a fire in the rear of the President of their choice. They begin to find out he does not suit them, and some talk even of impeaching him and substituting a man of action in his place. Our readers are aware that Mr. Lincoln was not our candidate. We did not believe in a rail-splitter. We looked for a statesman to steer the ship of State when foaming breakers appeared ahead. We are not, therefore, responsible for the incapacity now displayed; but, on the other hand, we do not agree with the Republican journals that any such violent measure should be resorted to as that of impeachment, or superseding a constitutional President for a dictator. Mr Lincoln, we suppose, means well enough, and is not traitorous to the country. We can not, therefore, get rid of him; but he can very easily get rid of his Cabinet and appoint a vigorous administration in its stead. That is the legitimate course, and which ought to be immediately adopted.

During the last two days there is a painful and growing impression upon the public mind, and particularly among the chiefs of the Republican party, that "honest old Abe" is not equal to the emergency in which he is placed—an emergency sufficient to try the intellect and the courage of a Napoleon. The merchants of New York are dejected and dispirited, fearing, notwithstanding the sacrifices they are making, and the glowing enthusiasm which has been evoked at the North, that all will end in smoke, and the expedition to the South result in failure. They dread, not without some reason, the approach of Jefferson Davis and his able Lieutenant, Beauregard, and the subtle statesmanship of Stephens. They are, therefore, holding numerous secret meetings, as so many committees of public safety, each independently of the other, from the common instinct of self-preservation; and we understand that similar meetings are being held in Philadelphia, where the same distrust prevails as to the competency of the Administration. In both cities they speak of organizing a force at their own expense and upon their own responsibility, to keep the direct route to Washington open at all hazards. It is proposed to organize an army of 50,000 men in each city, to arm and equip them, to collect provisions, and send with them a comissariat for their sustenance.

The direct mail route to Washington is now closed by the act of Maryland, and the postmasters of New York and Philadelphia have a right to call upon their fellow citizens, with arms in their hands, to open and keep open the communication between the post offices in those cities and the General Post Office at the capital.

This is perfectly legal and constitutional. It is one of the powers enumerated in the constitution, as belonging to the general government, "to establish post roads," and when any power is conferred by the Constitution, the means of exercising it are necessarily included. Now, by concentrating the two armies of 50,000 each at Baltimore, the obstructions would be speedily removed, the highway to the Federal Capital would be opened, and kept open and safe, and at the same time Maryland would be brought to her senses. There is no necessity for any call of the President to carry out this measure. The postmasters have a right to summon all good citizens to assist in the execution of the Post Office laws, and all who are so disposed have a right to aid them.

The merchants of the two chief cities of the North have the means of organizing such a force, to be placed at the disposal of the two postmasters. Let them eschew red tape and circumlocution, and go at once into the work. Private enterprise, where there is the capital, can always outstrip even energetic governments in great undertakings; how much more in the case of an imbecile administration, without foresight or spirit or action. If some such vigorous measure be not adopted, we may expect very soon not only to see Jefferson Davis in possession of the Federal Capital, but taking up his quarters in Philadelphia and the city of New York.—*New York Herald.*

The Work to be Done.

The New York *Tribune*, of Wednesday, addressing the volunteers, thus carves out the work to be done in the war against the South:

Now that Washington is out of immediate danger, we can afford to do things more deliberately and send each regiment into the field thoroughly prepared for any emergency. And never fear that there will be nothing to do after you reach the scene of action. So soon as everything requisite can be prepared and supplied, there will doubtless be a force of two hundred thousand men sent to the relief of Fort Pickens, and it will march right through (not around) Baltimore, Richmond, Raleigh, Charleston, Savannah, Montgomery, and New Orleans, being joined at the last-named city by a like force which will have made its way down the Mississippi. They celebrate Christmas superbly down that way, and the defenders of the Union will be just about on hand. Be patient. for there are time and work for all.

☞ The *White River Gazette*, of Worthington, Greene county, contains an editorial reflecting upon our representative in Congress, Hon. D. W. Voorhees. The statements contained in the article are wholly without foundation and manufactured out of "whole cloth." They are calculated to reflect on the good order and decency of our citizens and are entirely unjust to Mr. Voorhees. He proclaims himself to be a Union man, heart and soul, and no one whom we meet asserts a stronger devotion to the government and the flag of our country.—*Terre Haute Express.*

From the St. Louis Republican.

Duties of the Hour.

There is always a class of men, who, holding a particular idea, would drive it onward to all consequences, regardless of circumstances. In religion, these men are fanatics; in politics, radicals; in revolutions, destructive. In all, false to goodness and truth, because they follow their own wills and not truth. Men are not mere space, nor mere subjects of the laws of geometry, as they have feelings, sense and passions. And thus, conclusions from premises will not always prove true with regard to men amid the ever varying circumstances of life. Duty does not depend upon mere commands, the doing or not doing of some abstraction, with no heed to actual things about us. Duty varies with the changing realities of life. The act which to one man is criminal may be a duty to another, and the duty of to-day may be the crime of the morrow, because other duties are presented. In the charge of battle, Cromwell had no time to hear prayers, and rightly threatened to cut down the fanatic or coward who wished to do what he had not been commanded to do.

But good men find a time for every duty, and because they follow principles as applied to human living and acting. To-day their duty is obedience to law and its constituted authorities, to-morrow their duty may be resistance to the powers that be, for the reason that these powers are trampling on law; for obedience to law is a principle unchanging and unchangeable, not obedience to law executors, who keep the form, but not the spirit.

At this time we would most particularly commend this duty of obedience to law as the true path for us to tread amid the perils of the revolution in which we are. Missouri now holds the vantage ground. Admitted into the Union amid the perils of a revolution which threatened destruction, but brought it not, she has ever been true and loyal to the Constitution—has ever been faithful to the duties she assumed when she became a sovereign State. There is no bar on her shield, no reverse on her ensign. As she threw it to the breezes of Heaven but two score years ago, so she waves it to day over with the same motto—*salus populi, suprema lex este*. As she came into the Union pledging herself to the Constitution which created that Union, and the laws enacted in pursuance thereof, and to no others, so she stands by that pledge, asking only the fulfillment of the reciprocal duties imposed upon her sister States.

The Constitution, as our fathers made it, is the instrument to which she subscribed her name, and she will leave that name still inscribed, with no blot or erasure, while she may. To all her sister States she says to-day, as said the Parliament of Arragon to their King, "we swear to obey while you observe the laws; if you do not, we do not." She says, the covenant we made we will keep, but, when broken, our motto is still unchanged—*the safety of the people is our supreme law.*

And now Missouri holds the vantage ground, with no blot on her escutcheon, no word breathed against her honor, she can claim to offer her services as mediator in this strife of contending factions. She has offended neither the North nor the South, she has broken no covenant obligation to either, she has made no war upon the Union, and she can say with force, why war ye one with another; why sacrifice the blessings ye hold on the altar of passion and war? The Constitution of our fathers provides for redress of wrongs by amendments to that instrument, either through Congress or a Convention of the States. Submit the questions in difference to the people of the States assembled in convention, and then, if reason has lost her power, if fraternal affection has no more influence, and mutual interest imposes no checks upon the fell spirit of party, then, and then only, make appeal to the god of battles, and God defend the right.

The citizens of St. Louis declared at one of the largest meetings ever held that there was no just cause why Missouri should at present withdraw from the Union. The people of Missouri ratified that declaration, and in Convention assembled reasserted that, for past causes, Missouri ought not to secede—to dissolve her connection with a Government which secured to her citizens perfect freedom of trade and intercourse throughout the length and breadth of the whole land; that Missouri, with her sister States of the South, had received both injuries and insults, was not denied, but revolution was not considered as the appropriate remedy therefor, at that time, more especially revolution by force—for secession is revolution and must be backed up by the mailed hand of war, unless sanctioned by the other confederate sovereignties of the Union.

Has ought occurred which requires Missouri to change her policy, and to unite with either side in civil war, in this strife of brothers of the same blood and lineage, who have so often given proof of courage that all must know that such a war must be bloody and destructive, and that the only end can be peace by compromise and conciliation, when both parties are exhausted by the struggle? Siding with either, Missouri must be the sufferer. Her very position places her under bonds to keep the peace. Siding with the Confederate States, she has a border of twelve hundred miles to protect from hostile invasion, and her importations of manufactured goods are cut off. She has no border on the great highway of nations, and the mouth of the Mississippi is under blockade. Siding with the North, her great trade with the South along the channel of the great Father of Waters is stricken, and she must bleed at every pore. Freedom of trade with any and every part of the country is the necessity of her life, and she can consent to its surrender only at the cost of her existence. Now, the foremost of the slaveholding States, with the promise before her of being within a few generations the foremost State on the continent, she claims part and parcel of the whole broad land. Nay, she looks forward to the day when her people, with the people of her many sister States can say,

"The whole boundless continent is *ours*."

And now, why should Missouri unite her destinies with the Confederate States, and join in war against the United States? Has she made preparation against the day of battle? Has she an armed force drilled and equipped for the contest? Has she her rifled cannon stored in her armories ready to deal forth their iron messengers of death? Has she manufactories of arms and powder to supply all the demands of a campaign, or a war that may last for years, or can she procure them at demand? Has she a revenue that can maintain a standing force of ten thousand troops, at a cost of five millions of dollars a year? Has she lines of internal communication, lines of railroad by which she can instantly send forward troops to any point of attack? The mouth of the Ohio is within her jurisdiction; can she send troops to protect it when Cairo is held by an armed force? Can she march an army to Arkansas, or can Arkansas or Kentucky give her assistance, with Illinois armed against her? With her unfinished railroads, she holds a strong defensive position, but a weak offensive one. With the railroads on her eastern border, large armies can be concentrated against her in a short space of time. Eight and forty hours could land fifty thousand troops at four different points on her eastern border, and she would be compelled to rely on her own strong hand alone to resist them, for she would be cut off from assistance from the Confederate States, by batteries controlling their only way of advance—the Mississippi river. Single-handed she would be compelled to oppose the advancing hordes of the prairie States. If compelled to this, she would defend her soil to the last man, and would repel the enemy from her border, for her position is strong for defense, and her people would be strong to war.

But have the Confederate States right and justice on their side that Missouri should cast her lot with them, and make war upon the United States? Did they seek revolution, to be released from the obligations imposed by the Constitution, in and through the forms of the Constitution? Did they exhaust all peaceable remedies before resorting to war? No, they passed ordinances of secession, united in a confederation, made a new government without the consent of their sister States, and threatened an attack upon Washington; threatened that if there should be war, it should not be upon their own soil, but upon the soil of the Northern States. Their Secretary of War, in a public speech, declared that by May the flag of the Southern Republic would wave in Washington, and that fifty thousand soldiers would march there under it. Is it any object of wonder that with such a brag, the Administration should see the bet and go twenty-five thousand better; and that the whole North should go its pile to defend Washington from attack and the North from invasion? That the President was a silly man, and issued his proclamation, not to defend the country or any part thereof from invasion, which he might legally have done, and in which all good men would have supported him, but to suppress insurrection and to retake the forts and arsenals in the seceded States, which he could not legally do, does not justify the Confederate States in resorting to force before exhausting all peaceable remedies. And now the whole country is suffering, because ambitious men could not patiently submit to seek the remedies afforded by the Constitution for the redress of grievances, but undertook to right themselves by force; and our American freedom is periled by the spirit of war now rife in our land, for laws are silent amid the clash of arms, and the Northern press is bounding on the dogs of war, to subjugate the South, and to wipe its people from the face of the earth, unless they submit, and military despotism may be upon us, and a consolidated empire may be over us, if Missouri stand not in her lot with counsels of moderation and wisdom, striving to appease the angry strife, and casting the oil of charity upon the stormy waters. The spirit of sedition and anarchy is abroad at the North, and the President is threatened with being *superseded* in his office, and some *representative leader* substituted in his place, if he run not with the mad current of war upon the South. The ark of our liberty is in danger. State life goes out if the spirit of the North prevails, and the nation's life expires, if every State may declare its independence of all the others. Missouri can submit to lose neither one or the other. She claims to be a sovereign State, a co-ordinate power of the Government; she admits the full power of the General Government within the sphere of its constitutional authority; beyond it she submits not at all.

That Missouri may perform her duty with the calm consciousness of power sanctified by right, it is necessary that she be prepared with the full power of a sovereign State, to defend herself from all invasion, and to maintain the soverignty of her laws over her own citizens. For this purpose let her be fully armed with the most improved weapons of war, let her citizen soldiery be drilled and taught war, so that she shall present a firm front to all assailants, and yet be ready to stretch forth the hand of peace. Kentucky is with her, and will aid in this generous purpose, and perhaps the peace, happiness and prosperity of this country for long years yet to come is poised upon the action of Missouri and Kentucky. Noble deeds are before her—nobly may she do them, and God defend the right. And may she nobly keep the promise she carries on her seal—"*Solus populi suprema lex esto.*"

The Situation of Affairs.

The course of the Administration at the present time appears to be of a vigorous and energetic character. Troops are being rapidly concentrated in the vicinity of Washington in such force as may change the original designs of the Southern leaders upon the Federal Capital. There can be no doubt, from the fact that all the Southern troops actually in motion are observed in every quarter to be advancing towards the North, and from the fact that large bodies of men are quartered in Richmond, Harper's Ferry and other points on the Southern border, that the intention of the secessionists was to make an attempt upon Washington, and, as preliminary measures, to seize the navy yard at Norfolk, the arsenal at Harper's Ferry, Fortress Monroe, which commands the entrance to the Chesapeake, and Portsmouth, which faces the Norfolk (Gosport) navy yard. If they had accomplished all these manœuvres and succeeded in making Baltimore the basis of operations against the Federal Capital, Washington would have been completely surrounded by hostile troops and cut off from all communication with the North.

But the rebels were foiled in this attempt. They were too slow for the prompt action of General Scott, and the capital is now secure with its garrison of 18,000 and the hordes of troops which are organized all over the North, ready to pour into it at the word of command. There are probably not less than a quarter of a million of men in the different Northern States enrolled at present, of whom about 68,000 are qualified for active service in the field. It is not over estimating the number to say that 15,000 troops, from all points of the North, are at this moment ready to march for Washington, independent of the men already there, and those guarding the railroad from Annapolis. That the Government is resolved to carry on the war vigorously, and to the bitter end, is evident from the fact that it has just decided to receive out of the 75,000 volunteers called for, 40,000 men to serve for three years, 25,000 for five years, and 13,000 out of the regular army to serve for five years, besides enrolling 18,000 sailors for the navy. An additional call has been made upon Pennsylvania for twenty regiments of infantry and one of cavalry, all of which have already been tendered to the Governor for the service of the United States Government.

Intelligence received from Harrisburg last night intimates that a prompt movement is about to be made from Pennsylvania at once which may result in the occupation of Baltimore by Federal troops within forty-eight hours. It is certain that troops are being hurriedly concentrated at Camp Scott and Chambersburg; to the latter point ten brass field pieces and a large quantity of ammunition were fowarded within a few days.

The Government has decided to establish an arsenal at once at Rock Island City, Illinois, in place of the Harper's Ferry Arsenal just destroyed. Rock Island City stands on the banks of the Mississippi, 182 miles south west of Chicago. It is situated at the foot of the Upper Rapids, which extend nearly fifteen miles, and in low stages of water obstruct the passage of vessels drawing a heavy draft. In the channel is an island from which the city derives its name, three miles in length, presenting a perpendicular front of limestone from twenty to thirty feet high; the channel to the east of the island has been dammed, so as to produce an immense water power above, and leaving a fine navigable channel on the west side. It is very probable that the arsenal will be located on this island, and its geographical position seems very favorable for the purpose.

Our dispatches from Harrisburg represent that city to be full of loyal Marylanders and Virginians, who have fled from the reign of terror in those States, many of whom are joining the volunteers in defence of the Union. It is said that the Baltimoreans are determined to resist the passage of the Pennsylvania troops through Maryland notwithstanding the reaction said to exist there, but on the other hand it is stated that the Pennsylvanians are ready for any emergency, and that if they are attacked, the city of Baltimore is doomed.

It is manifest from all the intelligence which reached us up to a late hour last night, that warlike preparations are being pressed on by the government in a vigorous fashion, which will astonish and may dismay the leaders of the Southern insurrectionists before many days are passed.—*N. Y. Herald, April 30.*

Target Shooting.

There are in this city about 30,000 target shooters. They are mostly young men, who have a taste for military matters, but have not the leisure or means to join the regular militia. They therefore form themselves into independent companies of friends and acquaintances, assume some very cheap style of uniform, borrow muskets, drill occasionally, and go out on a target excursion once or twice a year. Though this amount of practice does not, by any means, qualify them for actual service in war, yet it gives them a rudimentary knowledge of training and drill, and heighens a martial spirit in them. It is from the ranks of the target shooters that a large proportion of the New York recruits are drawn. Whole companies, or a majority of the members, have enlisted in the numerous volunteer regiments now in process of formation. As a general rule, their previous military discipline gives them the preference over persons who have never shouldered a musket. Among the most expert riflemen already enrolled are members of the "P. G." Guard, a veteran corps of sharpshooters, whose chief delight it was to join other target companies singly, or by twos and threes, and carry off the best prizes. Such is their reputation that, wherever known, they are sternly denied admittance to all other companies on any terms; since they are sure to "bag" the gold watches and silver cake baskets. The "P. G.'s" will doubtless be heard from in the course of the campaign. Nor will the thousands of other target shooters who swell the New York regiments, pull trigger in vain on the field of battle. *N. Y. Journal of Commerce.*

Artillery Equipment.

The estimated expense of a full equipment of Captain Fry's Artillery Company, is about $27,000. The items are as follows:

73 horses, at $125 each	$ 9,100
73 artillery saddles	900
70 artillery harnesses	1,500
400 Maynard revolvers	6,000
100 uniforms (gray shirts, blue pants, and soft hat)	300
5 brass 6lb. cannons	5,000
5 six horse gun wagons	1,500
5 Cassions (six horse)	2,000
Expenses of organization	500
Total	$27,000

No Boring with Gimlets.—It is proposed by some members of the Legislature to issue only *two millions* of war bonds which would be little more than a dollar to each inhabitant, with an interest of *six cents* per annum. The Empire State of the Northwest must do better than that. She must put her brawny shoulder to the wheel in downright earnest. Five millions is the lowest figure that should be seriously thought of. The magnitude of the contest, and the vital character of the issues involved, demand that Illinois shall put forth her strength. Let her set an example worthy of her greatness, resources and loyalty.—*Chicago Tribune.*

Price of Bunting.—Little or none of this material is manufactured in this country, and we are almost entirely dependent upon the English for the article. The market here is cleared of it, and orders have gone out by the last steamer which will sweep the English market. The New York *Evening Post*, of Monday, says the demand for flags has raised the price of bunting from four dollars and seventy-five cents to twenty-eight dollars, and book muslin, usually worth six to ten cents, now brings three dollars a yard.

Southern Sentiment.

To show the state of feeling at the South, we make the following extracts from our southern exchanges. The Richmond *Enquirer* says:

Not a Day too Soon.—The secession of the Cotton States and of Virginia, has not come a day too soon, to save us from the most galling and degrading yoke of despotism ever sought to be fastened upon a free people. The North, bloated and overgrown, having utterly discarded the doctrine of States Rights, the very basis of the old Constitution, has reached that point in its history, at which it becomes necessary to them to consolidate a despotism at home to control the radical and agrarian elements of Northern society. This despotism is to be upheld by bayonets, while the liberty-loving, orderly, and conservative South, is to be brought under the yoke as a conquered province, rich in resources, and necessary to the aggrandizement of this consolidated despotism. What a horrible perversion of the principle that majorities should rule in a Democracy, is it to attempt to rule without regard to Constitutional limitations by a majority of bayonets! Every act of the present despot at Washington, is a usurpation of power, and an invasion of Constitutional right. Underlying the slavery question, it is now manifest that a great contest is to be between Constitutional States rights liberty on the one hand, and unlimited despotic power on the other.

If the negro question were entirely out of the way, this battle would still have to be fought. The Southern States would have to fight for the assertion and maintenance of their equality with the Northern States. The North has no idea of States rights or Constitutional liberty—no idea of the reserved powers of a sovereign people to check the despotic excesses of a corrupt and dangerous Government. Maddened into phrenzy at the thought of losing the wealthy and fertile South, which has heretofore supported the Federal Government and built up the commerce and manufactures of the North, they are frantically endeavoring to compel her to pay tribute to Cæsar. Having over reached us in every compromise and arrangement for the last half a century, they have insolently thought there were no limits to their aggressions, or to our patient submission. Like the greedy dog, in the fable, crossing the stream with a bone, the North has dropped the bone and grasped at the shadow. In vain will they seek to recover their loss. The day of our deliverance is at hand. It may be that we shall attain it only through blood and suffering, but come it will and speedily. The fate of the old Government is fixed. Hereafter Republican constitutional liberty will exist only at the South, while military despotism and arbitrary power will reign supreme over the North. The authors of the "irrepressible conflict" having sown the wind, must now reap the whirlwind.

The Military.—All day yesterday, and up to a late hour last night, the streets were thronged with the gallant volunteers of Virginia, who are pouring into the Fair Grounds near this city in great numbers. Everywhere the gallant sons of Virginia are responding to the call of the Governor. As troop after troop, company after company, filed by our office, we were struck with the full ranks, the fine appearance and the soldierly bearing of the men. We can not particularize any company, where all appeared so well. The volunteer companies, as they arrive, are being mustered into regiments; and, from present appearances, before the week is out, we shall have an imposing army in camp before the city. Who can doubt that the glorious Old Dominion will put herself in the front rank of States in this second struggle for liberty, as she did in that which secured our independence of the mother country?

All honor to the true men who rush to arms at their country's call.

The Nashville *Union*, of Sunday, contains the following:

The North United.—In the hey-day of our prosperity—so long as we were willing to empty our bags of gold—the products of our rice and cotton and sugar and tobacco and wheat and corn fields into their laps; so long as we were content to minister to the pampered pride of wealth, and submit humbly to the lashings of a fanatical press, to the defamation of our good name throughout the world by those to whom we have paid tribute, to the amount of millions upon millions, we had *so-called* friends at the North. Now where are they? A few here and there we do not doubt. But in the storm of public fury their voices are hushed or unheard.

Democrats and Whigs, all, all are alike silent, or mingling their voices in the harsh, hellish cry for Southern blood. Douglas, Fillmore, Pierce, Dickinson, all have turned their backs upon us, although each and all have time and again declared that the policy of the Black Republican party would *drive* us to resistance, if indeed we were not ourselves prepared to be made slaves. How patiently Tennessee and the border States have waited for some sign of relenting on the part of the Administration; how anxiously they have conned over the givings-forth of Mr. Lincoln; how charitably they have been disposed to construe every word and deed, in hopes to find some honorable pretext for waiting the voice of the people once more before making the final plunge, all men know but too well. Our forbearance has only emboldened our enemies to strike at once, what they vainly hoped would be the final blow. We are not left the appeal which some had hoped to make—the ballot-box; it is the sword.

Well, the alternative is indeed a painful one, but with all the seeming odds against us, we accept it. Heaven grant us a *United South*, and we do not fear the result. That we shall suffer the calamities, always to a greater or less extent incident to war, must be expected. But if we will strike with one arm and one purpose, we shall yet bring our haughty foe to confess that the South is born to a higher destiny than that of a conquered Province, dependent upon the will and pleasure of a purse-proud manufacturing, fanatical aristocracy. Give us but a united South, and we fear no danger.

Tenders of Tennessee.—Governor Harris is daily receiving evidences of the devotion of our wealty citizens to the cause of Tennessee and the South, that proves how unconquerable are Tennesseans when engaged in a struggle for their rights, their honor and their hearth-stones. We have already mentioned the tenders made by him by Byrd Douglas, John Overton, General W. G. Harding, &c. It is our pleasure now to mention that John M. Lea, Esq., and Sterling M. Cockrill have approached the Governor in a similar spirit, and have unreservedly tendered him their credit and cash, whenever he calls on them, to any amount they can command, to sustain the independence and sovereignty of their State. Both of these gentlemen have very large estates, amounting in the aggregate to several millions, and their hearts are larger than their estates.

The New Orleans *Delta*, of Saturday last, says there is no middle ground, and remarks:

The fact is, the line is becoming distinctly marked between the two nationalities—the North and the South. There is absolutely no middle ground. The border itself, political separation once declared, will be perhaps the most intensely national of all parts of the South. The Gulf will be fathomless and impassable, so long as the North shall cherish the insane idea of subjugation—except for loathing, and hate, and warlike defiance and retribution.

We copy the following items from the telegraphic dispatches to the *Delta* from Alexandria giving Washington news dated the 25th:

There is, in the midst of all these accumulating difficulties, a visible lack of harmony and cohesiveness in the Administration. Lincoln appears to disregard altogether the counsels of his Cabinet, and to have yielded completely to the control of Jim. Lane, of Kansas, Cassius M. Clay, and Frank Blair.

These gentlemen have no hesitation in admitting that the war is to be prosecuted on the part of the North, not for the maintenance of the Union, but for the destruction of slavery. They declare openly that they intend to obliterate State rights, and establish a grand, strong Central Government, under control of the North, as a section.

The Foreign Ministers now here all sympathise with the South, and think Lincoln and his followers are insane.

The Government suppresses all Southern dispatches. They directed your correspondent to send all his dispatches to the State Department for supervision. This your correspondent respectfully declined. Hence he is compelled to telegraph from this point.

Lord Lyons was to have gone to Richmond today, with the intention of conferring with Vice President Stephens concerning Lincoln's proclamation of a blockade. The Foreign Ministers laugh at the proclamation.

☞ A male infant was left at the door of Mr. D. R. Ricketts, President of the Indianapolis Road, in Jeffersonville, on Sunday night last. The excellent gentleman took charge of the little foundling, and having no children has adopted it as his own, and is greatly elated with it, though not obtained in the usual way.—*Lou. Dem.*

Soldiers Quartered in the White House.—The White House has been converted into a barrack. The famous east room is occupied by a corps of volunteers, under command of Senator Lane, of Kansas. Seventy five men compose the company. One half do duty while the other sleep.

From the Cincinnati Price Current, 1st inst.

Financial and Commercial Summary for the past Week.

The leading disturbing feature in the money market, during the past week, was Kentucky bank currency; a more marked line of distinction having been drawn between it and the currency of the Ohio and Indiana State banks, than existed the previous week. Bankers now take it as a special deposit, consequently at the risk of the depositor, and in this way the burden or risk is thrown upon the latter, whilst the currency is kept in circulation and passes in trade in the city. It is being sent home, however, rapidly, and the indications are that the Kentucky banks will not be able to hold out such a run upon them, and therefore the fear is pretty general that they will be compelled to suspend specie payment, which would place their paper at a discount of 5 per cent. at once. As compared with the paper of the banks of this State and Indiana, it is now virtually at a discount of 2½@3 per cent., as exchange on New York can be bought at ½ prem. with the paper of these States, whilst it sells at 3@3½ prem. for Kentucky currency. Of course, the causes of the depreciation of the Kentucky paper, which has heretofore stood high, is the probability of the State seceding, and assuming a hostile position to the United States Government.

The indications last evening were that the Kentucky currency would be thrown out by the bankers to day.

The demand for exchange on the East has been but moderate. The quotations are as follows, at the close, as regards the selling rates:

	For Ohio and Indiana.	For Kentucky.
Sight on New York	½ prem.	3@3½ prem.
Coin	1 prem.	5 prem.

The buying rates are ⅜ prem. for Ohio and Indiana, and 2½ for Kentucky. We can not give quotations of checks on Baltimore or New Orleans. The market for Illinois, Wisconsin and Missouri money is very unsettled, and few disposed to buy it at the following quotations:

Missouri	15 dis.
Illinois	20 dis.
" " except discredited banks	60@70 dis.
Iowa	5 dis.
Virginia (Eastern)	20@25 dis.
Wheeling	15 dis.
Branches	20 dis.
Maryland.	
Baltimore City	10 dis.
Interior	10 dis.
Pennsylvania.	
Philadelphia	par.
Pittsburg, except Bk of Pittsburgh	5 dis.
Interior	5@10 dis.
Tennessee.	
Old	15 dis.
Stock	25 dis.
North and South Carolina, Alabama, Georgia	50@75 dis.
Indiana.	
Stock Banks	1 dis.
Except discredited banks	10@20 dis.
Canada	3 dis.
Louisiana	10 dis.
Michigan	3 dis.
Wisconsin	25 dis.
" except discredited banks	60@70 dis.

The fact is, the large decline in the State stocks upon which the issues of those banks are chiefly based, namely the stocks of the Southern States, renders their notes of very doubtful value. The progress in the Rebellion since our last, may be summed up in a few words—grand preparations for the dread conflict. Business in the general produce line, and indeed in all departments is thoroughly prostrated, shipments to the South from this port are totally prohibited, not by any law, but by the force of public sentiment. This is not the case at other points below here, and we understand that Madison, Ind., has been selling provisions largely to Louisville during the week; so has Evansville, and so has St. Louis, so that whilst shipments from this point are prohibited, the South has been furnished with a liberal hand by other places.

The receipts of flour have been quite light, and with a fair local and some export demand, prices are fully 25c. per barrel higher, the market closing firm at $4 50@$4 60 for superfine. There has been no important change in grain, except as regards rye, which has declined to 47c. Oats are 1c. higher.

Whisky very dull, though the receipts are not much over one-third the usual amount, yet they were in excess of the demand. The ruling price was 12½c, though some sales were made at 12c, but the distillers' agents are storing all they can not sell at 12½c, so that there is an accumulation of stock. The alcohol distillers have stopped generally, which, together with the cessation of shipments to the South, curtails the demand to a limited local one. The distillers are curtailing their business as much as possible, and as speedily, as the business now is a losing one, without any prospect of improvement.

The business done in the grocery market has been quite light, and the sales confined to small parcels to meet the present wants of the trade. Prices have not changed, though round lots of sugar could have been bought upon easier terms.

In consequence of the blockade of the Southern ports, rice has advanced to 6@7c, spirits of turpentine to 75@80c, and tar, pitch and rosin are held higher.

The Provision market has been very dull. Hardly any thing was done during the week, and prices are nominal at the close. There was some demand for mess pork in the fore part of the week, at $16 75@16 87, but this demand fell off at the close. Lard sold to the extent of 900 tierces, at 8⅞@9c., in the early part of the week, but there was no demand at the close. Butchers' lard declined to 7c., buyer furnishing barrels; but even at this rate it is not saleable at the close. Rough tallow has declined to 4@4½c, and dull. Bacon has been neglected, and could have been bought to some extent at 6@8c. Bulk meats dull, no demand, though offered at 5@7¼. Holders have pretty generally arrived at the conclusion that all articles in the provision line must be held for some time, and are making their arrangements to do this, so that there is not much pressing on the market.

Shipments to any of the slave States are now out of the question, and the Southern river trade has been abandoned, and the boats all laid up, as regards this city and points above; but not so as regards any point west of this, and consequently large shipments of provisions have been made from thence to the South during the week. The shipments from Louisville were so large that the people there became alarmed lest enough was not left for city use, and in order to pacify the popular clamor, it seems an account of stock was taken there Thursday, when the stock was found to be 23,000 bbls. mess pork, 4,500,000 lbs. bacon shoulders, 1,000,000 do. sides, and 3,000,000 do. hams, which we presume includes that in bulk. We notice, however, that the Louisville and Nashville Railroad Company has given notice that no more through freight will be received to go over that road. We presume the blockade proclaimed by the Government, will be extended to the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, and commerce upon them be suspended.

Hides dull and 2@3c. per lb. lower. Leather dull and prices nominal. There is no demand.

Business, in all departments except that connected with preparations for war, is almost suspended, which must lead to a general extension of credits. This seems to be inevitable. However, the state of affairs cannot be as bad as many apprehend, because there must be a large amount of the capital now lying idle, put into circulation in the way of expenditures for the war, and the amount will not be less than twenty million dollars during the next six months, so that business must be decidedly more animated shortly.

It seems quite probable that there will be a large demand for provisions, as soon as the warm weather sets in, as it will take a considerable amount to feed the half million of men which will be in the field soon, besides another half million in camp for the protection of the different States. The ninety thousand already enrolled in this State alone will require a large amount of salt provisions, so that we should not be surprised if high prices would be realized within the next sixty days, much higher than are now thought of.

Beef cattle and live hogs have been in light supply during the week, and the market ruled firmer, and prices of beef cattle are a shade higher.

"The True Issue."

The New York *Tribune* thus states the issue now before the country from a radical Republican stand point, and quotes the late message of Governor Morton to confirm its position:

The South—the poverty-stricken, the imbecile, the besotted South—little knows the retribution that awaits her in return for the long series of wrongs inflicted upon private citizens, for sectional aggressions, for hostile legislation, for contumely heaped upon Northern workingmen, for the studied insults and outrages visited upon Northern statesmen, for stinging imputations of want of courage and manliness in the Northern character, for all that for these thirty years she has endured without resenting, but now that she is moved to resent them she will do so with a triple vengeance, that she has endured so long. Not an item of that large debt has been wiped off as it accumulated, and the settling is the more serious that the whole score is to be paid up at once. It is time already that she fell upon her knees and prayed to God that in wiping out the debt we do not wipe her out also, and plant a new race in that pleasant country, cursed hitherto by slaveholders and slaves.

☞ Carl Schurz has gone to Washington, it is said, to take command of the German regiment from Minnesota.

What is Treason?

Judge Betts, of the United States District Court of New York, charged a special grand jury a few days ago, upon questions of piracy and treason. After explaining to the jury the extraordinary events which required their session, thus proceeded to define what constitutes the crimes which they might be called upon to investigate. He said:

The most atrocious national offenses are treason and piracy, (the latter involving war against mankind, equally with hostility against the country to which the offenders owe allegiance, and concomitant to treason,) the lesser but heinous crime of misprision of treason.

The latter is only second to treason in being negative in its character, in wilfully omitting to do what the duty of a faithful citizen requires he should do for the safety of the country. Our Constitution declares treason to "consist in levying war against the United States, or in adhering to their enemies, giving them aid or comfort." The law pronounces the penalty of death against every one convicted of the offense in any particular of its definition or description. Piracy consists in a forcible capture or robbery on the high seas of any vessel or her lading, by a vessel or her company, not authorized by a lawful commission from our government, and organized and acting under the law of nations, and is punishable by death, in any tribunal of all countries where the offense is triable.

Two witnesses to overt acts of treason are necessary to convict of the high crime, or a confession by the accused in open court. His admission of acts done by him, made in writing or verbally, are legal evidence, and become in judgment of law tantamount to the testimony of two witnesses. Giving aid or comfort to the enemies of the country consists in furnishing the military supplies, food, clothing, harbor or concealment, or communicating information to them, helping their hostilities against the country and its government.

It is most probable that complaints will be laid before you under this branch and definition of the crime. Within it will be included acts of building, manning, or in any way fitting out or victualing vessels to aid the hostilities of our enemies; sending provisions, arms, or other supplies to them, raising funds or obtaining credit for their service, indeed, every traitorous purpose manifested by acts committed in this district by persons owing allegiance to the country, will be acts of treason.

It is not necessary that the accused should have raised or created by his own acts; he levies war by acting with those who have set on foot, or by seizing or holding ports, or like acts of hostile aggression. The kindred crime of misprision of treason is this: If any person, owing allegiance to the government, has knowledge of acts of treason committed by others within the jurisdiction of the court, and does not make it known to the President of the United States, or one of the judges of the United States, or the Governor of the State, or a judge or magistrate thereof, he becomes guilty of misprision of treason, and subject to seven years' imprisonment and a fine of $1,000 for the offense, and it is the duty of the grand jury to present for trial therefor such offender, whatever may be his individual connection or relationship with the offender.

The belief of individuals in the right of resisting government, either individually or by States, on the claim of secession or otherwise from the authority of the government, affords no jurisdiction or palliation of the crime. Secession, however effected or sanctioned, is, under our Constitution and laws, nothing other than rebellion.

You perceive in this slight sketch, gentlemen of the jury, what vigorous provisions your laws have adopted for the protection of the Government and people from the perpetration of crimes of such magnitude, and how important to the well-being of society it is that your high functions in discovering and thwarting them should be fearlessly and vigorously exercised. The court will supply you with every aid the law affords to further and facilitate the performance of your great trust, and will, you may be assured, not fail on its part, to enforce rigorously the law against those you may present as having violated it.

You are, however, aware gentlemen, that lively distrusts and apprehensions agitate the public mind, and you will be cautious to discriminate, in the charges laid before you between those resting on a solid foundation of facts and those which may be colored through over zeal of accusers, or rest essentially on suspicions and apprehensions only; when the community is highly exasperated and excited, men are prone to exaggerate statements and surmises against persons suspected of crimes.

Whilst the citizen, whatever his personal consideration or worth may be, should be held strictly responsible for every act done in violation of the law, it is a right which should be sacredly preserved to him that he should not be exposed in life or character to the hazards of a criminal accusation and trial unless the grand jury are clearly satisfied there is reasonable proof of his guilt.

A Difference of Opinion.

The New York *Herald*, of Tuesday, thus defines the issues before the country:

The questions of anti-slavery and free soilism have nothing to do with the present contest. It is a struggle for the existence of the republic—for the maintenance of the Constitution as we inherited it from the revolutionary fathers. The Abolitionists of the North have declared that Constitution a league with hell, and the Secessionists of the South are in arms to abrogate and destroy it. The question admits of no patching up, no mediation of ex-Presidents or any one else. It must be settled by the people by force of arms. The law must be maintained and peace restored by the people, and not by the politicians.

Such is not the sentiment of the radical wing of the Republican party. That class look upon the present contest between the North and South as an issue between slavery and freedom. The last number of the Ashtabula *Sentinel*, the organ of Joshua R. Giddings, contains a letter from its editor dated at Columbus, Ohio, which professes to represent the sentiments of the Republican leaders of that State. Here is what they think we are now fighting for:

We have at least reached the fighting point, and Ohio is arming for bloody strife, in a contest upon the rugged issue. Our men, are coming in by hundreds, and preparing for the defense of a principle that they will yet learn to speak for with the same courage that they now propose to fight for it. There is nothing now left to think of but the issue between slavery and freedom, and those who look at it begin to use the right terms, and when they talk they talk of the battle they are called upon to fight for their homes, because they are invaded by slavery, they hesitate not to say that the cause must be removed. No expression is so common as that there will be a separation, and that slavery must end. Men who a short time since dared not say so, now boldly declare that this war must root out the cause of the trouble.

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I am struck, this morning, with the manifest absence of party spirit among all; and with the deep earnestness of the spirit of liberty with those more involved in the loan movement. The slogan on every lip is, "Down with slavery!" It is spoken apparently without thought, but with the depth of meaning that can not be mistaken. No expression as common as that we are to carry on this war till the institution is subdued. God grant that we may.

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Victory is ours. Before one year the damning curse of slavery will be wiped from our glorious country, and with it hordes of traitors.

A Slight Change.

The New York *Tribune* of *Sunday* last advocates the prompt invasion of Virginia. It says:

As to Virginia, which, next to South Carolina, is the most pestilent State below the Potomac; the war must be carried into her borders without unnecessary delay. Norfolk must be reduced. The Southern counties must be invaded. And Richmond, proud, hypocritical, treacherous Richmond, which, more than any other city in the country, is the foul nest of Nullification and Treason, must be taken and held till the war is over; and the terms of the peace which is to follow must be dictated from its Rebel Capital.

The same *Tribune*, in November last, uttered the following sentiment:

Whenever a considerable section of our Union shall deliberately resolve to go out, we shall resist all coercive measures designed to keep it in. We hope never to live in a Republic whereof one section is pinned to the residue by bayonets.

Position of Virginia.

The telegraphic dispatches to the New Orleans *Delta* from Richmond, dated April 25, gives the following information as to the position of Virginia, and it is stated that "Vice President Stephens" has telegraphed to that effect to "President Davis:"

The Old Dominion may now be regarded as a part of the Southern Confederacy, not only in feeling and purpose, but in form.

The State Convention sitting at Richmond has acted promptly in providing for the immediate union of Virginia with the other seceded States; and for this object has just passed an ordinance adopting the Provisional Constitution of the Confederate States.

As a consequence of this action by the Virginia Convention upon the Provisional Constitution, delegates will be sent to represent that State in the Montgomery Congress, which is to meet on the 29th of April.

☞ A State's prisoner, at Boston, whose sentence expires in eighteen days, wrote to [illegible] den, last week, that he did not care a dime about the time, but wanted to go and see his country immediately.