

NEW YORK HERALD.

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AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway, -DAMON AND PYTHIAN.

WINTER THEATRE, Broadway, -Afternoon and Evening -SALDINO & ROGERS' EQUESTRIAN TROUPE -MONSTER OF ST. MICHAEL.

WALLACE'S THEATRE, Broadway, -PAULINE -TOM NODDY'S SECRET.

LAURA KEENE'S THEATRE, No. 624 Broadway, -SEVEN SISTERS.

NEW HAVEN THEATRE, Bowery, -Afternoon and Evening -SHELL BEARD -SIX DRUMMERS OF CHINESE -LOVELEY TICKET.

BARNUM'S AMERICAN MUSEUM, Broadway, -Day and Evening -THE SEA OF ICE -ALFRED CROWLEY -LIVING CURIOUSITIES, &c.

BRYANT'S MINSTRELS, Mechanic's Hall, 472 Broadway, -BOLLEASONS, SONGS, DANCES, &c. -WARD UP.

HOOLEY & CAMPBELL'S MINSTRELS, Niblo's Saloon, Broadway, -ETHIOPIAN SONGS, DANCES, BOLLEASONS, &c. -HAPPY NEW YEAR.

CANTERBURY MUSIC HALL, 663 Broadway, -SONGS, DANCES, BOLLEASONS, &c.

New York, Wednesday, January 9, 1861.

The News.

The news from Washington is highly important. Mr. Thompson yesterday resigned his post as Secretary of the Interior. The despatch of reinforcements to Major Anderson at Fort Sumter by the Star of the West from New York is the cause of this step on the part of Mr. Thompson. It would seem that these reinforcements were sent forward without authority from the President. In fact, it is stated that the President directed the Secretary of War on Saturday to telegraph the commander of the Star of the West to land the troops at Norfolk or Fort Monroe, but the despatch did not reach New York until after the departure of the steamer for Fort Sumter.

The official confirmation of the report of the reinforcement of Major Anderson created intense excitement at the capital, and the secessionists there immediately telegraphed to Charleston to sink the steamer if possible before she lands her troops. The act is regarded by the Southerners as a declaration of hostilities, and news of the inauguration of a bloody civil war is looked for at any moment.

The brother of Major Anderson arrived in Washington from Fort Sumter yesterday, having been sent thither by the President to ascertain the state of affairs. He reports that Major Anderson has ample supplies, and is confident of being able to hold the fort against any force. He makes no requisition for reinforcements, leaving that matter to his superiors.

The government has chartered the steamer Joseph Whitney, at Boston, to convey troops and munitions of war to the forts on the Florida coast. She will sail on Saturday next.

Our Washington despatches state that news has reached there that the Mississippi State Convention yesterday adopted an ordinance providing for immediate secession from the Union. Our reports from Jackson, the capital of Mississippi, confirm this news, and state that the Committee on the Ordinance of Secession had adopted the ordinance unanimously, and that it will be adopted by the Convention to-day.

The Florida State Convention on Monday adopted a resolution, by a vote of 62 to 5, declaring the right of States to withdraw from the Union, and that the existing causes are such as to compel Florida to proceed to exercise that right. It is reported that the Governor of Florida has taken possession of the forts and other federal property in that State.

A committee of the Virginia Legislature have prepared a bill providing for holding a State Convention. The election of delegates will be held on the 7th of February, and the Convention will meet on the 15th of that month. Our correspondent at Richmond is of opinion that Virginia will secede from the Union about the 20th of February. In order to meet contingencies growing out of secession, the Legislature have before them a resolution appropriating ten millions of dollars in defence of the State.

One of the most important measures of the South, in connection with the secession movement, is developed in our Washington telegraphic correspondence. The State of Georgia has appointed a Commissioner to proceed abroad, to obtain from foreign Powers the recognition of the seceding States as governments de facto. He will also be charged with the duty of negotiating a basis of credit and exchange, by which the cotton crop can be hypothecated in Europe and moved for joint account. The most important duty of the Commissioner will be in regard to the question of revenue. If the federal government shall make arrangements to collect the revenue of Southern seaports, it is arranged that the cotton States will pronounce for free trade and direct taxation. They will proceed to raise the revenue for the South by direct taxation, giving notice to foreign governments that Southern ports are open to the importation of their merchandise free of duty, and that the imposition of duties by the United States government is unlawful and unauthorized. The question would, therefore, become a foreign one, and England and France will be left to decide between a Northern alliance and free trade with the South.

In the Legislature yesterday the Senate unanimously adopted a resolution to present a sword of honor to Major Anderson. The subject was warmly discussed in the Assembly, but no definite action taken. Several important local matters were presented, and will be seen by our despatches. On motion of Mr. Robinson, of Chemung, the House ordered the appointment of a select committee of nine on the subject of Federal Relations, to which all resolutions on the subject were referred. The Senate will probably order a similar committee, to act with that of the House.

The Pennsylvania Legislature yesterday elected Edgar Coan, republican, of Westmoreland county, United States Senator, in place of Mr. Bigler, whose term expires on the 4th of March next.

The anniversary of the battle of New Orleans was celebrated in this city yesterday by a banquet at Tammany Hall, and a ball at the St. Nicholas Hotel. Both are fully described elsewhere in our columns. Salutes in honor of the battle, coupled with similar demonstrations in honor of Major Anderson, were fired yesterday in places too numerous to mention.

The steamship Palestine, which left Liverpool on the morning of Christmas day, arrived at this port yesterday. She brings two days late news. The most important part of the intelligence is that relating to China. The terms of the treaty of peace, which we publish in our news columns, were to be put into operation at once. The indemnity to be paid by China has been fixed at eight millions of taels, or about twelve millions of dollars, in addition to which half a million of dollars are claimed for the families of the English officers who were murdered.

The death of Mr. Alfred Bunn is announced. In Italy the bombardment of Gaeta was continued. There were rumors that Napoleon intends erecting Southern Italy into a kingdom, of which Victor Emmanuel is to be the ruler. Rome continued to be agitated by conspiracies and intrigues. A circular of the Austrian Ministry proposes important reforms in the empire. The Palestine brings \$167,109 in specie. There

are no market reports by this arrival, business having been suspended during the Christmas holidays.

Affairs in the United States continue to attract great attention. By the arrival of the British war steamer Gladiator below New Orleans we have news from Mexico of the highest importance. It is to the effect that Miramon was routed on the 24th ult., where it is stated that he fled from the capital on the 24th, and that the liberal army marched in and took possession of the city on the following day. Puebla had capitulated. President Juarez was to leave Vera Cruz for the capital on the 3d inst. The war is supposed to be at an end. Typhus fever has been raging for some time in the unfortunate city of Guadalajara, adding to its other miseries, and among those who perished there, victims of that disease, we find the names of General Vanderlinde, Colonel Cheeseman and Colonel Puel, all of the liberal army. Colonel Cheeseman was a native of the United States, and had distinguished himself on several occasions during the civil war in Mexico. Colonel Puel was a young Frenchman of great promise. Vanderlinde, who had the title of general, was a doctor by profession, and fell at his post while attending the sick in Guadalajara.

We have received files of papers from Bermuda to the 31st ult. They contain no news. The Bermuda comes to us in mourning for the death of its editor and proprietor, Mr. J. M. Washington, who died on Christmas day.

We are also in receipt of files from Caracas, Venezuela, to the 7th ult. No important events of a military character had taken place since our last dates of a fortnight previous. The citizens of Calabozo, in the province of Guayrico, had forwarded a very lengthy petition to the President, asking that the present Commander-in-Chief, lately appointed, be removed, and that important office be bestowed on Gen. Paez. It is said other cities will follow in the same course. Commerce is said to be slightly improving. A locomotive for the Eastern Railroad had arrived at Caracas, and the work on the road had been vigorously recommenced. The Legislature of Barquisimeto had decreed honors to the memory of General Brito. The Minister Plenipotentiary to Spain had been officially received by the government at Madrid.

Our correspondent at Port au Prince, writing on the 17th ult., says the long and anxiously expected government steamer Geffard has arrived from Brest, after a long passage of three months. She brought the cadets who had been sent to France for their military education. The dry goods market is in a very bad condition, being flooded with English goods. There is much competition and investment in the coffee market. Besides the vessels in port, many more are expected from the North. Until their arrival the demand will exceed the supply.

The second meeting of the new Board of Councilmen was held last evening. The inside of the bar was crowded by ex-members of the Common Council, while the lobby was literally jammed by spectators anxious to witness the permanent organization of the Board. Soon after five o'clock, Mr. Gross, President pro tem., called the Board to order. On motion the reading of the minutes of the first meeting was dispensed with, and they proceeded to resume balloting for permanent President. The result of the first ballot was: Morgan Jones, 12; Abraham Lent, 11; Fred. Repper, 1. Thirteen votes being necessary for an election, a second ballot was had, resulting the same as before, except a blank instead of Mr. Repper's name. After taking twenty-three ballots, without choosing a President, a motion to take a recess till half-past seven was carried. The Board did not meet till after eight o'clock, when another ballot was taken, which resulted the same as before. Motions to adjourn till Wednesday and Thursday were made and lost, and as there seemed to be no probability of electing a President, they adjourned to meet on Wednesday at four o'clock.

The Police Commissioners yesterday received the resignation of officers Dugan and Heinsman, of the New York force, and appointed ten new men, whose names could not be ascertained. The death of Sergeant Stewart, of the Fourth precinct, Brooklyn, was reported, and a resolution passed requesting the Superintendent to investigate the charge made against Sergeant Deyo by the police magistrate of the Third police district.

There was a meeting of the bar held yesterday to express the sympathy of the profession at the death of ex-Judge Kent; but in consequence of the absence of several important members of the bar, the meeting was adjourned to meet on Saturday at one o'clock.

The cross-examination of Henry Botton, in the Blankman case, was resumed yesterday in the Surrogate's Court, but the evidence was of little interest or moment.

The cotton market was active and firm yesterday. The sales embraced about 6,000 bales, 3,000 of which were in transit. We quote middling uplands firm at 12 1/2c. The receipts at the ports since 1st September last have reached 1,750,000 bales, against 2,501,000 in 1860, and 1,931,000 in 1859. The exports have reached 1,651,000, against 1,231,000 in 1860, and 1,065,000 in 1859. The stock on hand amounted to 807,000, against 990,000 in 1860, and 770,000 in 1859. The receipts at the ports are 528,000 bales less than those at the same time last year. The exports are 190,000 below last year, and the stock on hand 383,000 below that of last year at this period. Flour was heavy, and common grades were easier, while good extras were unchanged. The sales were moderate. Wheat was dull and lower for spring and common grades, while both good red and white were unchanged. Corn was dull, and closed in favor of purchasers. Pork was in good demand and firmer, with sales of new mess at \$16 3/4-31 1/2, new prime at high as \$18. Sugars were steady, with sales of 1,000 hds. of Cuba, and 5,200 bags Calcutta, the latter at 5c. Coffee was steady and prices unchanged, with sales of 615 bags Rio, with some parcels Maracaibo and Java, the latter at 16 1/2c. Freights were steady, with fair engagements.

The President's Message To-day-The Southern Revolutionists. It is expected that Mr. Buchanan will submit a special message to Congress to-day, setting forth the difficulties of his position in reference to the execution of the laws of the United States in South Carolina, now claiming the sovereign powers of an independent nation; and that he will also refer to the recent revolutionary proceedings in other Southern States, and call upon the two houses for such legislation in the premises as may be best calculated to prevent war and to re-establish the Union.

The President is bound by his official oath to "take care that the laws be faithfully executed;" and these laws comprehend the protection of the property of the United States and the collection of the federal revenues in all places designated for this purpose by Congress. This public property, thus placed under his supervision, includes the federal fortifications of Charleston harbor; and this duty of collecting the federal revenues covers the seaports of South Carolina. In his annual Message to Congress, however, Mr. Buchanan, anticipating the secession of said State, presented to the two houses the embarrassments which would follow this proceeding in the execution of the federal laws, and called for advice and assistance, in view of the difficulties which have since come to pass.

Meeting with no response from Congress, the President, between his execution of the laws and the maintenance of peace at Charleston, has had to steer between the rock Scylla and the whirlpool Charybdis. He has, to the

last extremity, forborne any violent collision with, and has avoided everything calculated to provoke a collision from, the local authorities of South Carolina. He has made every possible concession for the sake of peace. He has fallen back to the end of his tether. He can retreat no further without express authority from Congress. He must collect the revenues from foreign imports arriving in Charleston harbor; but it is now apparent that the attempt to execute this law there will precipitate a collision with the armed forces of the State. He cannot now with safety abandon Fort Sumter, except by authority from Congress; and yet he cannot keep the United States flag flying over it without provoking a hostile assault.

What, then, is the course of wisdom in this matter? Peace being the first necessity, and the first warlike collision between federal and State troops being the immediate and only formidable danger to be feared, the first duty devolving upon Congress is to come to the assistance of the President in the maintenance of peace. But how can Congress relieve the President of his responsibilities touching the execution of the laws? That is the question, and we will endeavor to answer it. Congress, for example, may authorize the evacuation of the federal forts in South Carolina; Congress may repeal the several laws establishing ports of entry in that State, and may suspend within her borders the operations of the Post Office Department. We submit, too, that between these extremities and the alternative of a civil war the course of wisdom is clearly indicated. Let the powers of the federal government, its property, its offices and its benefits, be suspended within the limits of South Carolina and of every other seceding State for a limited time, and the fires of secession, for lack of combustibles, will soon go out.

The deliberate Southern contumacy leaders in these secession movements desire, above all things, a war with the federal government; because they feel assured that the beginning of such a war will be the end of the Union, and the establishment of a Southern confederacy. The first necessity, then, to the Union is peace. Let peace be maintained a few weeks longer, and we shall have a reconciliation, a compromise, and the restoration of the Union. The New York Tribune, the leading republican organ of coercion, is seriously alarmed that coercion is giving way to compromise in the republican camp at Washington. That journal of yesterday, in a conspicuous editorial pronouncement, says: "Concession and compromise are again at work, and with more vigor than before, to induce the republicans in Congress to support some policy that shall humble the North and make shipwreck of our party and its creed;" and so this inexorable man of war, Horace Greeley, calls upon his party to "speak through their local journals, and by letters and other means of communication, so that their Senators and representatives may have a clear knowledge of the tone of public sentiment at home."

From this alarm of Greeley we derive encouragement. It is an alarm which shows that reason and common sense are beginning to operate among the republican party in Congress. We do not, therefore, despair of saving the Union; but there is no time to be lost. If war be avoided in the meantime, before the end of Mr. Buchanan's administration we may still secure the Union, and on the basis of a permanent peace. To accomplish this, however, the people of the North must act upon their representatives. The conservative element of the nation must arouse itself. The President elect and his Premier, Mr. Seward, must take their stand for compromise and the country.

The News Yesterday-Resignation of Secretary Thompson.

The news from the South yesterday is of the most important and exciting character. It announces the fact that the Star of the West has actually gone to Fort Sumter with reinforcements for Major Anderson; that intelligence of her departure from New York, and of her destination, had reached Charleston; that the authorities there had telegraphed to Mr. Secretary Thompson to ascertain the truth of the report; that Mr. Thompson had called upon the President to make the inquiry, and that, on being informed of its accuracy, he immediately resigned his position as Secretary of the Interior, at the same time advising the officials of Charleston of the result of his inquiries. These facts constitute the most important and critical phase of the crisis thus far, although other advices received yesterday from Virginia and Georgia, and other parts of the South, indicate that the republic is on the very brink of destruction.

The resignation of Mr. Thompson is the fourth that has taken place in the Cabinet within the last five weeks. Each time the resigning member gave as a reason for his withdrawal that he was dissatisfied with the course pursued by the President; while the fact was that he attempted to dictate to Mr. Buchanan, and to use his position in the government for the purpose of aiding and abetting the schemes of the politicians of the South. Now, however, that Secretary Thompson is gone, we believe there is only one left who has no business to be in the Cabinet, and it would be much better for the country if he would retire to-day. But out of this movement of Secretary Thompson, as well as that of General Scott-for it appears that the latter is now an active and efficient member of the administration-out of both these movements we may within twenty-four hours have a civil war precipitated upon the country. If Col. Thomas, who has gone in command of the troops in the Star of the West-of which Capt. McGowan is master-should not succeed in landing the reinforcements for Major Anderson by a coup de main, and if he should not have arrived off the port at night, which is not unlikely, and succeeded in putting his troops and supplies by ships' launches in Fort Sumter from the outside of the port, we may expect to hear some time to-day of an attempt being made by the authorities of Charleston to sink the steamer as she passes up the harbor to effect a communication with Major Anderson.

Should such be the result the whole of the cotton States will be thrown into such an excitement that the next advices may announce the secession of nearly all, as the Conventions of Florida, Alabama and Mississippi are now in session. It will be seen from these telegraphic despatches that there is no time to be lost by the people of the whole country in having the question promptly settled. It is clearly time for the conservative republicans, for Senator Seward, for the President elect, and others, to take some immediate steps for the pacification of the nation, as, according to the aspect of things in the Virginia Legislature, which

may be considered indicative of the feeling in most of the border States, the whole fifteen Southern States will be out of the Union by the 4th of March, and then the matter will be more difficult of settlement than ever. Now is the time for action.

Circulation of the Herald-The Post Office Advertising.

In accordance with the established custom of advertising the letters enclosed for in the Post Office-which the law prescribes shall be done in the paper having the largest circulation in the city-we responded to the call of the Postmaster, as usual, for the unprofitable privilege of crowding our columns with matter which of course does not pay, but which we have published for some years because it is a portion of news interesting to many of our readers.

This year we had but one competitor, none of the other papers having a circulation which would warrant them in applying for the Post Office advertising. According to the sworn statements of the two papers, the Herald showed a daily circulation larger by twenty thousand than its competitor, and larger by ten thousand within the prescribed limits-that is, below fifty-fourth street-so that the Postmaster had no difficulty in deciding between us and the Sun, the only penny paper published in the city. The letters will therefore be advertised, in the Herald as heretofore.

To show the extent of our circulation, we append the following table for the month of December:-

Table showing circulation statistics for the month of December, including total circulation of the New York Herald, comparing December 7, 1860, and ending January 3, 1861. Columns include dates and circulation figures.

This list does not include our Sunday circulation, as the Postmaster has decided that the issue of that day should not be included in our statement; but in order to show what our Sunday circulation is, we give the number of papers issued since the 3d inst., which was as follows:-

Table showing Sunday circulation statistics for January 5, 6, 7, and 8, 1861, including circulation figures.

Total Daily average

Thus it will be seen that the circulation of this journal is unprecedented, and without parallel throughout the entire world. The only other large metropolitan journal which approaches us in circulation-the London Times-falls short of the New York Herald some twenty-five thousand daily, and in point of readers is still far below the mark, in consequence of the system adopted in England of hiring out the paper at so much per hour; and we may here say that the daily circulation of the Herald exceeds the combined circulation of all the other city papers, exclusive of our Post Office competitor. Assuming that every copy of the Herald is read by five persons-which is a fair calculation-see speak to four hundred thousand people, perhaps we might say half a million, every morning throughout the entire year, with the exception of two days-the 2d of January and the 5th of July-when no paper is issued. This immense mass of people cannot be reached at the same time by any other human means, and hence the vast influence which the Herald exercises upon the public mind upon all affairs of interest or importance.

The progress of this journal has now reached a point beyond which it is difficult to go with the machinery at our command; and even now we find it hard enough to supply the demand upon our presses. Very often we are compelled to leave out important news in order to enable us to get to press in proper season in the morning. In this inventive age, however, we do not despair of seeing some appliances to the machinery of the printing office whereby greater rapidity may be acquired and time better economized.

HONORS TO OLD HICKORY'S MANES.-Yesterday was celebrated as the anniversary of the decisive battle of New Orleans-decisive not only because the British invaders were driven back, but because it brought before the American people a man who was not only a great military chieftain, but a practical common sense statesman-one whose indomitable will crushed out lumbering monopolies and ground rotten banks to powder; one who originated and executed reforms of the most important character in the teeth of the most vigorous opposition which the annals of political history recount. Such a man was Andrew Jackson, the Hero of New Orleans, the slayer of the Bank Monster, the President who left to us a legacy, the rallying cry of all true patriots-"The Union must and shall be preserved."

It is good to know that the people have not forgotten this man and his teachings, and that in the midst of a terrible crisis in the affairs of the country the friends of the Union should again rally to honor his memory and to express anew their adhesion to his principles. As will be noticed by our news columns, the day was very generally observed throughout the North. In this city the braves of Tammany assembled in large numbers and had a grand festival. At the St. Nicholas Hotel a large number of our most prominent citizens of all parties participated in a ball given in honor of the day. In as many as fifty interior cities and towns salutes were fired; and it is curious to note the fact that in Massachusetts, where Jackson's party was in his day a mere corporal's guard, the people seem to be the most enthusiastic about him. Thirty years ago, to be a Jackson man in Boston was to be made the target of the most savage personal attacks; and the same feeling predominated all over New England. The present Governor, Andrew, comes from the old anti-Jackson stock, and is a rabid republican; but he directs salutes to be fired in honor of a man whom he would be opposed to and nail while alive. We might follow out this parallel as far as the home of Senator Seward, and bring it perhaps very near to this city; but the mere mention of such a wonderful change in public opinion will suffice. Now that our republican friends have burned their Jackson powder, let us see if they can give us some of Jackson's principles. The old hero would never have approved of the nullification of the Fugitive Slave act, any more than of the action of South Carolina upon the Tariff act.

Terrorism in Revolutions-Deploable Excesses of the South.

On the 5th of May, 1789, when the States General of France were opened by the King at Versailles, for the first time in one hundred and seventy-five years, and the Hersi-Club, led by Mirabeau, assumed the title of National Assembly, such rejoicing thrilled through the enlightened heart of Europe as only could have been produced by the opening scenes of a revolution which should result in the overthrow of despotism and the enthronement of the sacred idea of popular liberty. Four years later a furious populace had sacrificed a king and queen to their fury, and the terrors of the guillotine had established the most hideous tyranny that the world has ever witnessed. The next downward step was into perfect anarchy, out of which the iron hand of Napoleon carved an empire which deluged Europe in blood for fifteen years. A century and a half earlier republicanism in England developed; but similar excesses led to misrule and regicide, with the final establishment of the autocratic sway of Cromwell, who was succeeded by a more capricious tyrant than the father who died on a scaffold at Whitehall. In like manner the revolutions of 1848 were pushed by mob ascendancy to the extreme which raised Louis Napoleon to the throne, and established monarchy throughout Germany; and there menaces the present hopes of Italy no federal extravaganza of those ultraists who are already undermining the constitutional fabric which the efforts of Victor Emanuel, Count Cavour and Garibaldi have erected with so good pains.

Past history should teach the important lesson to the people of the South that every step beyond the bounds of moderation must be disastrous to their own interests, and accomplished by their own hands, the objects of their enemies. The aggressive political propaganda of abolition at the North has placed the slaveholding States upon a vantage ground of principle, which, properly understood, could never have been shaken. Thus the first steps of resistance and maintenance of constitutional right were hailed with joy by every good citizen in every section of the country. It was proper to withstand the onward progress of an "irrepressible conflict," ready to march over "the rice fields of South Carolina and the cotton and sugar plantations of Louisiana," and to insist upon their being cultivated by free labor. It was just to demand that the remedy of the Father of his Country should be adopted in a great national crisis, and "that the constitution should be changed by an explicit and authentic act of the whole people." The recognition of property rights everywhere; the needful concessions which abolition intolerance had previously denied; full liberty to carry slaves into common territory, and the recognition of universal toleration of opinion respecting slavery as a social institution in the several States of the Union, were rational requirements, which, properly put forward, would have been responded to by the people of New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey, and by the great West and Northwest.

Instead, however, of the dignified, majestic stand at the South of patriots, what have we beheld? The frantic mountebankery of a South Carolina mob could have been forgiven. Thirty millions of citizens could have afforded to overlook and forgive the antics of a handful of individuals, more injurious to themselves than to others, and sure to end in repentance and submission. Premature secession, the seizure of Fort Moultrie, the Charleston Custom House, Post Office and Arsenal, and the arrogant pretensions of the Commissioners sent to confer with the administration of Mr. Buchanan, might have been smiled at with compassion, and full allowance made for the effervescence of vanity, selfishness and demagoguism which caused apparent local unanimity in sanctioning these illegal and hostile acts. But it is evident, from the intelligence received within the last few days, that a wild contagion of belligerent, disunion unreason prevails throughout the whole country. Seizes upon Fort Pulaski, the most strongly fortified defence on the defenses of Mobile; Mississippi beckoned to cross-question a member of Mr. Buchanan's Cabinet respecting reinforcements at Fort Washington; the powerful fortifications at the Balize are menaced by Louisiana; Maryland and Virginia, headed by Governor Wise, are organizing condottieri to march upon the District of Columbia and prevent the inauguration of Mr. Lincoln; another Cabinet Minister resigns because supplies and reinforcements are sent to Major Anderson; and in our very midst, at the North, we hear the Union given up as a nuisance, and the recommendation made that this metropolis should rend itself asunder from the rest of the State, and contribute its quota to disunion. A political epidemic prevails which, if permitted to run its course, must prove most disastrous to the nation.

Yet, while the South is rushing headlong from folly to folly, and States are vying with each other in suicidal madness, there never was a moment when the conservative element in the land was more strong than it is now. At no previous time has it been so possible for the slaveholding States, by prompt, energetic, but at the same time legal and constitutional action, to recover all they have lost, and to exact "to the utmost farthing" the liberties and rights of which abolition fanaticism has attempted to deprive them. Five out of six of the voters of the Northern States can be demonstrated, by the closest analysis of the late Presidential suffrage, and a due consideration of the reaction that has since taken place, to be arrayed on the side of concession and the preservation, at any cost, of the integrity of the Union. The unmistakable love of the masses of the population of the United States for their institutions, and their determination that they shall remain unimpaired, become more evident every hour; and neither abolition fanatics nor fire-eating mobocrats and time-servers can quench the patriotic fire which was kindled ninety years ago. The South has only to ask for reasonable guarantees in a reasonable manner, and it will be proved within a month how readily they will be granted. The excessive agitation in the Southern States is deplorable in its character, and to the last degree ungrateful in its manner towards those who have "borne the heat and burden of the day," for years, in fighting their battles.

Instead of wildly rushing to arms, uttering vain threats and indulging in perilous military display, let the people speak in an authorized

and dignified manner. Let State Conventions in the North and the South approximate the wishes of the different sections; and, especially, let a Southern Convention propose such amendments to the constitution as the exigencies of the time demand. The horrors of civil war, the destruction of commerce, trade and manufactures, the impoverishment of the agricultural districts, and general depreciation in the value of property, may be averted, and the confederation be restored to its pristine glory and prosperity. There is no time to be lost in abandoning the system of terrorism which unwise individuals have lately initiated, and in readopting those measures of peace through which alone the heresies that have infected the republic can be swept away.

Triumph of the Liberal Cause in Mexico-The Capital in Possession of the Constitutionalists.

When the news of the capture of Degollado, Beriozabal, Tracosis and Lando, at Toluca, reached this city, we stated that the fact gave us some hope of the liberal cause. The news just received by the British war steamer Gladiator, and which appears in another column, fully bears out these surmises. No sooner is the evil influence of the captured liberals removed than success crowns the arms of the constitutionalists. On the 22d ult. Miramon was encountered and completely routed by them, and, after returning alone to Mexico, fled on the 24th. On the following day the liberals occupied the capital, when President Juarez was immediately sent for, and was to leave Vera Cruz on the 3d inst. to exercise there the powers of the general government.

Whether Miramon will make a fresh effort to maintain himself in the field remains to be seen. His conduct for some time past would indicate that he was preparing to abandon the country definitely. It has been alleged that he has transmitted to the West Indies and the United States large sums of money, in view of the disaster which has now overtaken him. He will probably soon retire to Paris, spending lavishly, like so many of his predecessors, the money which he has acquired at the expense of the blood and sufferings of his countrymen.

The restoration of the capital to the constitutionalists will be a severe blow to the French and Spanish diplomatists, who have labored so hard to sustain the church party. They recognized the government of Miramon to promote certain selfish objects of their own, and to counteract by it the legitimate influence of the United States. The result has justified the policy which Mr. Buchanan's administration has pursued in regard to Mexico, and it is to be hoped that the Senate will no longer postpone the ratification of the treaty concluded by Mr. McLane. Should Great Britain persevere in her intention of extorting by force an indemnity for the sums plundered from her bondholders, we shall be in a better position to act as mediators, and to afford support to the Juarez government, in the event of a seizure of territory being contemplated, if our own relations towards it are satisfactorily defined.

We wish that we could see in the present triumph of the liberal cause in Mexico an assurance of the permanent restoration of peace and order in that distracted country. Unhappy, the experience of the past and the sordid nature of the Mexican character do not warrant us in indulging in any such hope. We fear that Mexico is destined to pass through another long series of revolutions before her affairs can be administered by men whose personal honesty and capacity will inspire confidence at home and abroad.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT FROM MEXICO.

Miramon and his Forces Completely Routed.

The Liberals in Possession of the City of Mexico.

CAPITULATION OF PUEBLA.

Juarez to Proceed to the Capital.

New Orleans, Jan. 7, 1861.

The British war steamer Gladiator, from Vera Cruz bound to Pensacola, touched at the Southwest Pass to-day with despatches from Captain Aldham, of the British ship-of-war Valorous.

Miramon was completely routed by the liberal army on the 22d, and, after returning alone to the capital, fled on the 24th. The liberals occupied the capital on Christmas day.

Puebla had capitulated. Juarez had been sent for, and would leave Vera Cruz on the 3d inst. for the capital.

The city of Mexico was tranquil, and the war is supposed to be ended. Private despatches from Vera Cruz say that the liberals took the city of Mexico on the 25th. Miramon finding no support at once resolved to capitulate.

The schooner Alphonse has arrived from Yucatan, 25th. The new government had proclaimed the constitution of 1857.

The New Administration.

SPRINGFIELD, Jan. 8, 1861. The explosion of the Cameron bubble is a source of great relief to the many leading republicans now congregated here. Their evident delight furnishes conclusive evidence of the unpopularity of his appointment.

A delegation from Iowa is in town to-day urging the claims of Fitz Henry Warren for the Postmaster Generalship. Their visit developed the fact that Col. Curtis, from the same State, is up for Secretary of War.

Mr. Judd is strongly pressed by certain Illinois politicians for the Interior Department, but his claims are also actively opposed by home influences.

Mrs. Lincoln is expected to start for New York to-morrow.

Non-Arrival of the Bremen and Glasgow. SANNOY HOOK, Jan. 8-11 P. M. There are no signs as yet of the steamers Bremen & Glasgow. Wind north and light, weather cloudy and very dark.

Non-Arrival of the Nova Scotia. FORTLAND, Jan. 8-11 P. M. There are no signs of the Nova Scotia, now fully due at this port on Monday's date of Dec. 29.

The New War Steamer Pensacola. WASHINGTON, Jan. 8, 1861. The steamer Pensacola arrived at the Navy Yard at this place to-day. She was towed up the Potomac from Norfolk by the steamer Northampton. She is brought here to receive her machinery, now on board at Pensacola, in two thousand tons burthen, and reached Norfolk from that port under sail. She is a fine model, and is reported to be a fast sailer. It will be three or four months before her machinery will be on board and in working order.

Electron in Toronto. TORONTO, G. W. Jan. 8, 1861. J. G. Brown was to-day elected Mayor of Toronto over M. C. Cameron.