The Abbeville Press.

DEVOTED TO LITERATURE, THE ARTS, SCIENCE, AGRICULTURE, NEWS, POLITICS, &C., &C.

TERMS—TWO DOLLARS PER ANNUM,] "Let it be Instilled into the Hearts of your Children that the Liberty of the Press is the Palladium of all your Rights."—*Junius.* [PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.

BY W. A. LEE AND HUGH WILSON, JR. ABBEVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA, FRIDAY MORNING, JANUARY 18, 1861. VOLUME VIII.---NO. 38.

RHODES'

SUPER-PHOSPHATE!

PLANTERS seeking Manures, will recollect that RHODES' SUPER PHOSPHATE is the only Manure the late eminent analytical Chemist, Professor Bickell, of Maryland, pronounced

Standard!

and which has been confirmed by every section into which this Manure has been introduced.

This Manure is sold under a legal guarantee of

Purity and Freedom

FROM ALL ADULTERATION!

from the eminent manufacturing chemists, Messrs. Potts & Klett, under whose personal supervision RHODES' SUPER-PHOSPHATE is manufactured. This Manure has been used in South Carolina for several years past, with great success in the culture of Cotton and Corn, and is now thoroughly established for these important staples. Do not let the present season pass without the experiment.

Read the annexed letters from gentleman who have tried it the past season.

J. A. ANSLEY & CO.,

NO. 300 BROAD ST.,

AUGUSTA, GA.

ATHENS, GA., Nov. 22, 1859.

Dear Sir: Rhodes' Super-Phosphate has been applied by me this year, on a small scale, to both Corn and Cotton. The result exceeded my expectation, although the experiments, for many reasons, were not, and could not be conducted with due caution; yet I am entirely satisfied, that the growth of weed, in both instances, the fruit in corn, and the number of bolls of cotton, were fully double the yield in the portions unmanured, and this when only a table spoonful of the Super Phosphate was applied as a top-dressing to each hill of corn, and a tea spoonful to each stalk of cotton—and the last as late in the season as the 18th of July. Some of the weed grew to nine feet high, with six feet branches, covered with bolls, while the unmanured was not half so good. It is my intention next year, to test it more fully.

Very Respectfully,
Your most ob't serv't,
(Signed) M. C. M. HAMMOND.

UNION POINT, (G. R. R.) Nov. 28, 1859.

Messrs. J. A. ANSLEY & Co.:

Gents.—I bought a ton of Rhodes' Super-Phosphate in Baltimore, last Spring, Mr. H. D. Leitner, of Berzelia, to test its value as a manure. I put about 125 lbs. on an acre of cotton, in the drill, on land that would not make over 75 to 100 lbs. of seed cotton per acre, without Manure. The result is entirely satisfactory. I have made at least from 450 to 500 lbs. to the acre on this very poor land. I expect to purchase from 5 to 8 tons for my Spring crop. My Overseer wishes me to put his name to this also.

Yours, in great haste,
(Signed) P. W. PRINTUP,
WILLIAM FOSTER.

De. 24, 1859 34 tf.

MANIPULATED GUANO.

No. 83 SECOND STREET,
BALTIMORE *January* 28, 1859.

REPORT OF ANALYSIS

OF

ROBINSON'S MUNIPULATED GUANO

FOR

FRANCIS ROBINSON, ESQ.,

BALTIMORE CITY.

A SAMPLE of the above which was taken at your Mills, was found, upon analysis, to be capable of producing of

Ammonia, - - - 8.31 per cent.
And to contain of
Bone Phosphate of Lime 45.82 " "

The above proportion of Ammonia and Bone Phosphate of Lime is known to be most proper for concentrated manures. Both theoretical reasoning and the results of numerous practical experiments have approved of it. An application of 200 lbs. of this article article per acre will supply more of Bone Phosphate of Lime than is required by any crop—thus leaving a considerable surplus of this valuable nutriment incorporated with the soil after cropping, and will furnish a sufficient quantity of ammonia to to set as a nutriment and stimulant.

CHAS. BICKELL, Ph. D.

REPORT ON

MUNIPULATED GUANO,

FOR

FRANCIS ROBINSON,

THE sample analyzed was taken by myself from the bags in the mill where the guano was manipulated.

It contained of

Ammonia, - - - 8.24 per cent.
Phosphoric Acid, - - 21.98 " "
Equivalent to
Bone Phosphate of Lime 47.59 " "

It is therefore an excellent manipulated guano, containing enough ammonia to produce a rapid and vigorous growth, and sufficient quantity of phosphates to prevent exhaustion of the soil

A. SNOWDEN PIGGOT, M. D.
Analytical and Consulting Chemist.

FOR SALE BY

J. A. ANSLEY & CO.,

NO. 200 BROAD ST.

AUGUSTA GA.

REMOVAL.

DR. D. S. BENSON would inform his patrons and the public generally that he has removed his Office to the Brick Building adjoining Mrs. Dendy's residence on the Public square, where he may be found at all times when not professionally engaged.

Dec. 12th, 1860, 38-3m

THE ABBEVILLE PRESS.

BY LEE & WILSON.

ABBEVILLE S. C.

Two Dollars in Advance, or Two Dollars and Fifty Cents at the Expiration of the Year.

All subscriptions not limited at the time of subscribing, will be considered a indefinite, and will be continued until arrearages are paid, or at the option of the Proprietors. Orders from other States must invariably e accompanied with the Cash.

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The Proprietors of the Abbeville *Press* and Abbeville *Banner* have established the following rates of Advertising to be charged by both papers:

Every Advertisement inserted for a less time than three months, will be charged by the insertion at **One Dollar** per Square, (1¼ inch—the space of 12 solid lines or less) for the first insertion, and **Fifty Cents** for each subsequent insertion.

1 square 3 months,	$5;	6 month $8;	1 year $12
2 squares 3 "	$8;	6 " $10;	1 year $20
3 squares 3 "	$10;	6 " $14;	1 year $25
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5 squares 3 "	$15;	6 " $25;	1 year $35
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One column, one year $85.

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Exceeding one square, or twelve lines, will be charged for, as advertisements.

Marriage notices solicited.

All Communications not of general interest will be charged for.

Announcing Candidates Five Dollars.

All advertisements not having the number of insertions marked on the copy, will be published till forbid and charged accordingly.

Money for Job Work and Advertising from any except regular patrons will be considered due as soon as the work is done.

Subscribers and others, in debt so us, are urgently requested to send us the amount of their indebtedness immediately.

THE GREAT ENGLISH REMEDY

SIR JAMES CLARKE'S

Celebrated Female Pills.

PROTECTED LETTERS BY ROYAL PATENT.

This invaluable medicine is unfailing in the cure of all those painful and dangerous diseases incident to the female constitution.

It moderates all excesses and removes all obstructions, from whatever cause, and a speedy cure may be relied on.

TO MARRIED LADIES

t is peculiarly suited. It will, in a short time bring on the monthly period with regularity

CAUTION—These Pills should not be taken by females that are pregnant, during the first three months, as they are sure to bring on Miscarriage; but at every other time, and in every other case they are perfectly safe.

In all cases of Nervous and Spinal Affections Pain in the Back and Limbs, Heaviness, Fatigue on slight exertion, Palpitation of the Heart, Lowness of Spirits, Hysterics, Sick Headache, Whites and all the painful diseases occasioned by a disordered system, these Pills will effect a cure when all other means have failed. Full directions in the pamphlet around each package, which should be carefully preserved.

A bottle containing 50 pills, and encircled with the Government Stamp of Great Britain can be sent post free for $1 and 6 postagestamps

General agent for U. S., Job Moses, Rochester

Sold in Abbeville by Donald McLauchlin, Dr. I. Branch, and C. H. Allen, and all Druggists everywhere. Van Schack & Grierson, Charleston, Wholesale Agents. 7, 13t

SPLENDID FOUR-HORSE

STAGE LINE

FROM

Abbeville to Washington, Ga.,
AND FROM
Ninety Six, S. C., to Augusta, Ga.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES.

Leaves Abbeville at 9 o'clock, a. m., on MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS and FRIDAYS on the arrival of the down Passenger Train from Greenville, and arrives at Washington same day at 8 o'clock.

Leaves Washington at 8 o'clock, a. m., on TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS & SATURDAYS on the arrival of the Cars from Atlanta, and arrives at Abbeville same day at 4 o'clock.

Leaves Ninety-Six at 9 o'clock, a. m., on TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS & SATURDAYS on the arrival of the down Passenger Train from Greenville, and arrives at Augusta same day at half past 9 o'clock, connecting immediately with the Wainsboro and Georgia Railroads.

Leaves Augusta at 8 o'clock, a. m., on MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS and FRIDAYS, and arrives at Ninety-Six same day at half past 8 o'clock.

For further information apply to L. H. RUSSEL, Agent. Office at the Marshall House, Abbeville C. H., S. C., for Washington Line; or to N. W. STEWART, Ninety-Six, S. C. Agent for the Augusta Line.

J. P. POOL & CO.

Jan. 12, 1860, 37 1y.

NEGROES

WANTED.

THE Subscriber will at all times be in the market for Young and

Likely Boys and Girls,

from the age of 12 to 25.

Persons having negroes for sale will address me at Greenwood, S. C.

J. T. PARKS.

Feb. 1st, 1860, 12m.

Letter from Gov. Wise.

We find a long letter in the Richmond *Enquirer*, from which we take the subjoined extracts. After asking the question how our rights are to be defended in the Union, he says:

"I answer, that Virginia, when she adopted the Federal Constitution and ratified the same, *expressly reserved the right to resume* the powers granted under the Constitution "*whensoever the same shall be perverted to her injury or oppression.*

"I would then advise the call of a State Convention immediately, and by that body of the sovereignty of the State declare that certain essential and vital powers granted under the Constitution, having been perverted to the injury and oppression of herself and other States and their citizens, she does resume the powers so granted.

"I would especially advise that she resume the cessions of all places for forts, arsenals, dockyards, light houses, &c., and take immediate possession of them; making first formal demand of the Federal Government for delivery of possession, and if that is not done, then to take them, if necessary by force. No injustice could be complained of in this, when we remember that Virginia can never obtain a recession of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Michigan—the whole North west territory.

"I would advise, in the meantime, that the Legislature make instantly every preparation for defensive war, under the 3d clause of the 10th section of the 1st article of the Constitution, permitting a State to keep troops and ships of war in time of peace and to engage in war, when actually invaded, or when in such imminent danger as will not admit of delay." Now the 4th of March is near at hand—we have been and are invaded actually, and our danger of further aggression is imminent.

"In this attitude of *resumed powers, and of preparation against imminent danger, I would not declare ourselves out of the Union, but would suspend all relations with offending States*, until they accede to such ultimatum as our Convention may submit.

To all this it has been objected that our citizens may be tried for treason. The answer is that they would have precisely the same plea, on trial, that citizens would have in case of secession: the plea that they had obeyed the orders of their sovereign State, to which they owe primary allegiance. If the sovereign State may cover them with her regis in the one case, she may in the other. Black Republicans will claim, be it remembered, that the States are not sovereign to cover their citizens in either case; and the result in either case would be the same—a revolution and war. The only difference would be, that in the way of resistance proposed by me, we would not shock the pious attachment of our people to our Union and our flag and we would unite them heartly in defence of their dearest interests and honor: we would still be in covenant and co-operation with such of our Northern friends as are still faithful confederates; and we would be a warlike wall to resist and prevent operations to coerce our Southern sister States; be a power to force our enemies to recede, and a nucleus, with the blessing of God, with good courage and good conduct, to draw back to us the seceding States, after honorably saving our Constitution, our Union, our country, our all! This I believe can thus be done, if we act at once with firm purpose, manly courage, and prompt, unhesitating decision. I am ready to stake my all on the trial.

We are told that the remedy is not in our hands, but is with the North. That, too, is an error, which will, if adopted, lead us into a false step. We have a remedy which needs only to be actively applied, to be effectual. No remedy is with the North, except to secede. That they will not do, if ever, until they are convinced we are in earnest. Our remedy is *defence*—theirs is the part of aggression. No aggressor remedies his own aggressions until he is compelled. The defence is ours, and we must make it or submit in shame. The less we hesitate, one way or the other, the less will be the shame of submission, or the less will be the sacrifice of resistance. There is a command, if given by Virginia, which in a short time would still the tumult and hush the storm. It consists of but two words; "To Arms!" Let her bravely stand, mocking courage, challenging alms the border slave States will never permit the use of force to coerce the seceding States, instead of leading the van of resistance to it too, at the very front and face of whom *you* are standing, and who, at this very moment, are entreating and coercing *you*! [illegible] to extreme remedies when our action gets the machinery of Government into its own exclusive control, to the injury of another, then it is time for us to resume original powers, when one section, for the purposes proclaimed in a Chicago platform and in the speeches of the President elect, has got the machinery of the Federal Government into its hands, by electing Lincoln, to the end of changing every lever and cog-wheel in it.

As to obtaining new securities, if we do not compel the observance of the old, we will not obtain any new worth getting, and will not even *intend* to compel *their* observance in turn.

I will not discuss the question, to which section the State of Virginia ought to attach herself. When she comes to that, I shall be detached from her. It is not a question with me whether, belonging to the North, she will become "*all negro*," or belonging to the South, would in time become the white man state of a Southern section. I leave that to time and natural causes; sufficient unto this day are its own double troubles. And if Virginia takes up that question which the Frederick meeting hopes she will deliberate upon, I at least for one of her sons, will not follow her lead, but I will rush to South Carolina or some other heroic commonwealth of the South, and implore the use of her arms to save my mother State from ineffable disgrace.

But I cannot believe that her degenerate sons will be driven from her household in order to save it. If we are not a majority to control her destiny, we are a minority who will not submit to see her dishonored. It is apparent now that we cannot expect a united South, nor a Union of border States, nor a united people in Virginia. As I said at Norfolk, I repeat here, that we must cease to expect all to act together. *Let us then begin to take sides and act apart. Let the friends of the South and resistance look to each other alone* in their meetings, resolves and acts; and let each State leap into the breach by herself. There is no other way to force or to lead a successful and honorable struggle.

The rumor of the press is that our own Executive will oppose even the call of a Convention, in his annual message. If he does, then I appeal to the friends of the South, as they would save Virginia from humiliation and shame, to rally themselves together at Richmond in a spontaneous Convention, and resolve to petition the Legislature to overrule the Executive's recommendation; and whatever that body does, to determine for themselves, alone and apart, what side they will take in this unnatural war. Let them be firm and determined and devoted, and they can drag dishonor into revolution here, or follow the foe into other fields, where the honor of themselves at least may be saved.

There is one other danger of which I would warn you. If Virginia will not, and does not, wield her sovereignty now and effectively to defend and protect property in slaves, *the abolition at once will find advocates among our own citizens*, who are now slaveholders, and eagerly demanding redress and security. Many, who are now demanding to be protected by State sovereignty, whilst fighting in defence of slave property, if they cannot obtain it, will at once resolve not to own property in a state where it cannot be protected. They will be too proud to pretend to be masters of slaves whilst they are slaves themselves. They cannot consent longer to give orders to a man-servant or maid-servant, whilst they themselves have masters in Massachusetts, Ohio, Vermont or Iowa, allowed to domineer over and disgrace them in Virginia. An abolitionized slave commonwealth is the weakest of all bodies politic. For honor's sake, let us be either masters our slaves, or free the soil at once of negro-slaves! Let us not consent to be mongrels. The issue hanging on the moment is: *Shall we be masters or shall we be slaves?* No power on earth shall decide that question for me. I am ready for the worst that may come—and am sure that the best way to avert the worst and to secure the best is for all who do not mean to submit to wrong, *to hold council among themselves alone, to act in concert, and to act at once, and lead into action* [illegible] *better than some.*

Aid to Florida.—We understand that it is very likely that a proposition will be introduced into the State Legislature, offering aid of troops and money to the State of Florida. Florida does not possess very ample resources; nor is she laden with "the spoils of the Federal Government." Her population is very sparse—not amounting to 150,000. Of course this population could not be able to arm and notify the State, however patriotic her citizens might be. It is but right, therefore, that the other Southern States should tender some aid to "gallant Florida" in thus preventing her secession ordinance from becoming too deeply dyed with blood.—*Charleston Mercury.*

It is a little thing to speak a phrase of common comfort, which, by dint of use, has lost its sense; yet, on the ear of him who thought to die unmourned, 'twill fall like sweet music.

OVERT ACTS.

The following recapitulation of the outrages and aggressions of the North against the South, and the equality of the States, and the Federal purity of the Union, is given by the Hon. Henry A. Wise, of Virginia:

It obtained its own compromise in the Constitution to continue the importation of slaves, and now sets up a law higher than the Constitution to abolish property in slaves which it sold to its neighbors.

In 1819–20 it deprived us of equal settlement in more than half the territory then just acquired from France.

It seized upon Texas North of 36 degrees 30 minutes, and carved out of Texas, 44,000 square miles of slaves territory South of 36 degrees 30 minutes.

It seized upon all the territory acquired by common conquest from Mexico, and deprived slave labor of the privilege of operating in the wealthiest mines on earth—the gold mines on earth—the gold mines of California.

It has bribed a slave state with ten millions of common funds to sanction a prohibition of slavery in New Mexico.

It claims to abolish slavery in the districts, forts, arsenals, dockyards and other places ceded to the United States. To abolish the inner slave trade, and thus cut off the Northern slave States from the profits of production, and the Southern from their sources of supply of labor.

It claims to forbid all equality and competition of settlement in the common territories by the citizens of slave States.

It repeals all further admission of new slave States.

It has nullified the Fugitive Slave Acts in fourteen States of the Union. It has denied extradition of murderers and marauders and other felons in several others.

It has caused and shielded the murder of masters or owners in pursuit of fugitive slaves.

It has refused to prevent or punish by State authority the spoliation of slave property, but on the contrary, it has made it a criminal offence in the citizens of several States to obey the laws of the Union or the protection of slave property.

It has advocated negro equality, and made it the ground of positive legislation hostile to Southern States.

It opposes protection to slave property on the high seas, and has justified piracy itself in the case of the Creole.

It has kept in our midst emissaries of incendiarism to corrupt our slaves and induce them to run or excite them to rebellion and insurrection.

It has run off millions of slave property by a system of what is called "underground railroads," and has made its tenure so precarious in the border slave States as nearly to have abolitionized two of them—Maryland and Missouri; and it is making similar inroads constantly upon Virginia and Kentucky.

It is incessantly scattering firebrands of incendiary appeals in our midst.

It has extended fanaticism in our own borders.

It has invaded a territory by arms furnished by Emigrant Aid Societies, under State patronage, and by funds furnished by foreign enemies in Canada and Great Britain.

It has invaded Virginia and shed the blood of our citizens on her own soil.

It has justified and exalted to the highest honors of admiration and respect the horrid murders and arsons, and rapine of the raid of John Brown; and has canonized the felons themselves as saints of martyrdom.

It has burned towns and poisoned the cattle, and formed the midnight conspiracy for the depopulation of Northern Texas.

It has proclaimed to the slaves the horrid motto: "plain to the slave, fire, to the dwellings, poison to the food and water" of slaveholders.

It has published its plan for the abolition of slavery everywhere. To rescue slaves at all hazards—form associations—to establish presses to use the vote and ballot—to raise money and military equipments—to appeal to non-slaveholders and detach them slaveholders in slave States—to communicate with the slaves—to encourage anti-slavery emigrants to the South and West—to seize other property of slaveholders to compensate for the cost of running off their slaves—to force emancipation by all means, especially by lighting, hatching and fermenting upon slavery in every mode and form, and finally by the Executive, by Congress, by the post office, and in every way to agitate without ceasing until the Southern States shall be abandoned to their fate, and worn down, shall be compelled to surrender and emancipate their slaves.

It has repudiated the decisions of the Supreme Court.

It assails us from the pulpit, the press, in the school room. It divides all sects and religions as well as parties. It denounces slaveholders as degraded by the lowest immoralities, insults them in every form and holds them up to the scorn of mankind.

It has already a majority of the States under its domination, has infected the legal as well as State judiciary, has a majority of the House of Representatives of the Congress of the Senate certainly will obtain the chief Executive power of the United States.

It has announced its purpose of total abolition to the States and everywhere, as well as Territories and Districts, and other places ceded. And,

It has proclaimed an "irrepressible conflict" or higher law with the Federal Constitution itself.

A FRAGMENT.

BY FELICIA HEMWOOD.

A bird, a song, a dream, a flower,
How sweetly they will come,
And cheer us in a lonely hour
With thoughts of those who roam.
Perchance they are not far AWAY,
But if they are not here,
We love the golden memories
That bring them still more near.

From the Charleston Mercury.

Attempted Reinforcement of Fort Sumter, &c.

The first gun of the new struggle for independence (if struggle there is to be) has been fired, and Federal power has received its first repulse.

About seven o'clock, yesterday morning, our citizens were startled by the firing of heavy guns in the direction of Sullivan and Morris Islands. It was at once surmised that the steamship *Star of the West*, which had been reported by the special telegraphic correspondent of the *Mercury* as having left New York with reinforcements and stores for Major Anderson, had attempted to pass the battery on Morri's Island. Our reporters were immediately despatched to the entrance of the harbor, and after visiting all the fortifications now occupied by our troops, the following facts were elicited:

PARTICULARS OF THE AFFAIR.—Yesterday morning, shortly after "reveille," the sentries on Morris' Island reported a steamship standing in for the ship channel. The long roll was immediately called and all the troops were promptly under arms, Lieutenant-Colonel J. L. Branch, of the Regiment of Rifles, commanding. These comprised the Vigilant Rifles, German Riflemen, Zouave Cadets and a detachment of forty from the Citadel Cadet Corps. The last named body were at once marched to the battery, commanding the ship channel, which at this point passes within from one-half to three quarter of a mile of the beach. At 7 o'clock, when the Star of the West had reached a point within range of the guns, Major Stevens fired a shot across her bows, as a signal for her to heave to. After waiting three or four minutes, no diminution in the speed or change in the course of the steamer could be noticed. A moment after, the United States flag was run up at her foremast. The Star of the West continuing thus defiantly to pursue her course towards Fort Sumter, the order was given to the men at the Morris Island guns to open fire. Five rounds were accordingly discharged in quick succession. Two of these are reported to have taken effect; one forward and the other abaft the wheel. At the sixth discharge, the Star of the West rounded to and steered outwards towards the bar. At the same time, the ensign which she displayed immediately after the warning gun, was lowered. Three more shots were fired from Fort Morris and three from Fort Moultrie; one of these after, it is thought, took effect.

A gentleman on the Island reports that after the Star of West had cleared the bar and proceeded a considerable distance be[illegible] you[illegible] from propeller, of about 350 tons burthen, joined her, apparently as a tender, and they steamed off together in an E. N. E. direction.

Thus terminated the first attempt of the Federal Government to reinforce the great stronghold of coercion in our harbor. The approach of the Star of the West to Fort Sumter, taken in connection with the facts that her clearance was for New Orleans, and that her troops were smuggled aboard outside the harbor of New York, proves clearly enough that the President has chosen the coercive policy, and that his officials will not hesitate to promote its success.

THE NEGOTIATIONS.—About 10 o'clock, a boat bearing a white flag came from Fort Sumter towards the city. On its arrival at the wharf it was found to contain Lieut. Hall, of the garrison of Fort Sumter, with despatches for the Governor of the State. The presence of this officer in the city being known in the course of the morning, gave rise to considerable excitement, and speculation was rife as to the object of his visit. Hurrying in interview with the Governor the public curiosity rose to the highest pitch, but it was two o'clock before the purport of his communication was made public. When the people learned from Major Anderson had sent to inquire whether the firing at Morris' Island was sanctioned by the Governor, that the Governor had replied in the affirmative, and that Major Anderson had thereupon signified his intention of cutting off all communication by water between the city and the fort, the expressions of indignation were loud and universal. The most active measures were immediately set on foot to strengthen the forces at the various points about the harbor, and people were everywhere discussing how the threatening affront and injury should be resented. On his return to his boat he was escorted to his boat by Chevalier and Lieut. Gibbes.

This matters stood, until half past 4 o'clock when the white flag was again seen coming from Fort Sumter. This time the communication of Major Anderson brought by Lieut. Talbot, was of a [illegible] character. It briefly stated that [illegible] deferring for the present the course indicated in his note of the morning, until the arrival from Washington of the instructions he might receive from his Government, and asked safe conduct for his bearer of despatches. The highly interesting correspondence between Major Anderson and Gov. Pickens will be found as follows:

Correspondence between Gov. Pickens and Major Anderson.

MAJOR ANDERSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

To His Excellency the Governor of South Carolina.

SIR: Two of your batteries fired this morning upon an unarmed vessel bearing the flag of my Government. As I have not been notified that war has been declared by South Carolina against the Government of the United States, I cannot but think that this hostile act was committed without your sanction or authority. Under that hope, and that alone, did I refrain form opening fire upon your batteries. I have the honor, therefore, to respectfully ask whether the above mentioned act—one I believe without a parallel in the history of our country or any other civilized Government—was committed in obedience to your instructions, and to notify you if it be not disclaimed, that I must regard it as an act of war; and that I shall not, after a reasonable time for the return of my messenger permit any vessel to pass within range of the guns of my fort. In order to save, as far as in my power, the shedding of blood, I beg that you will give due notification of this, my decision, to all concerned. Hoping, however, that your answer may be such as will justify a further continuance of forbearance on my part, I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

(Signed.) ROB'T ANDERSON.
Major 1st Artillery, U. S. Army, Comd'g.

Fort Sumter, January 9, 1861.

THE GOVERNOR'S REPLY.

STATE OF S. C. EXECUTIVE OFFICE.
Headquarters, Charleston, Jan. 9, 1861

SIR: Your letter has been received. In it you make certain statements which very plainly show that you have not been fully informed by your Government of the precise relations which now exist between it and the State of South Carolina. Official information has been communicated to the Government of the United States that the political connection heretofore existing between the State of South Carolina and the States which were known as the United States, had ceased, and that the State of South Carolina had resumed all the powers it had delegated to the United States, under the compact known as the Constitution of the United States. The right which the State of South Carolina possessed to change the political relations which she had held with the other States, under the Constitution of the United States, has been solemnly asserted by the people of this State in Convention, and now does not admit of discussion. In anticipation of the Ordinance of Secession, of which the President of the United State had official notification, it was understood by him that sending any reinforcements of troops of the United States in the harbor of Charleston, would be regarded by the constituted authorities of the State of South Carolina as an act of hostility and at the same time it was understood by him that any change in the occupation of the forts in the harbor of Charleston, would in like manner be regarded as an act of hostility. Either or both of these events occurring during the period in which the State of South Carolina constituted a part of the United States, would clearly justify, to the President of the United States as an act or acts of hostility, because either or both would be regarded and could only be intended to dispute the right of the State of South Carolina to that political independence which she has always asserted and will always maintain.

Whatever would have been, during the continuance of this State while a member of the United States, an act of hostility, became much more so when the State of South Carolina had dissolved all connection with the Government of the United States. After the secession of the State of South Carolina, Fort Sumter continued in the possession of the troops of the United States. How that fort is at this time in possession of the troops of the United State, it is not now necessary to discuss. It will suffice to say that the occupancy of that fort has been regarded by the State of South Carolina as the first act of positive hostility committed by the troops of the United States within the limits of this State, and was in that light regarded as so unequivocal that it occasioned the termination of the negotiation then pending at Washington between the Commissioners of the State of South Carolina and the President of the United States. The attempt to reinforce the troops now in Fort Sumter, or to retake and resume possession of the forts within the waters of this State which you abandoned, after spiking the guns placed there, and doing other work much damage, cannot be regarded by the authorities of the State as indicative of any other purpose than the coercion of the State by the armed forces of your Government. To repel force by force is immediately a duty we owe to the State. And while defending the fortresses the authorities of the State have not attempted to molest the affairs of the State Government, nor even necessary for its defence, should lead to a premature shedding of life. Special agents, therefore, have been sent