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SANTA FE WEEKLY GAZETTE.

"Independent in all things, Neutral in nothing."

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JOHN E. RUSSELL, EDITOR.

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About Dissolution.

The indications now are that there will be a dissolution of the Union. The withdrawal of South Carolina clearly forebodes what will be the course of other Southern States which have not been behind her in expressing their dissatisfaction at the election of Mr. Lincoln and the nullification of the Fugitive Slave Law by many of the Free States. In all probability the next mail will bring us advice which will announce the secession of Mississippi, Florida, and perhaps of Alabama and Texas. In that event, the dissolution will have been effected beyond remedy, and the work of reorganization will be begun without delay.

In the new order of things, what is to be done with the Territories belonging to the United States? This is a question easily asked, but we presume will not be answered with equal facility. What will be their political status? Is another proposition that will prove to be difficult to solve, unless the members of the broken up confederacy shall, in some legal form, agree upon a plan for the disposition of the public domain and the liquidation of the national debt. Even in the case of an arrangement of this sort, it may well be considered doubtful if, in times of a revolution like this, the destinies of a dependent people, like those of a Territory, can be disposed of to suit the convenience or interest of States that once acknowledged the supremacy of the same Constitution that we acknowledge, but that have by their own acts annulled the Constitution and ceased to recognize it as the paramount law. If a general breaking up of the Government is to be the order of the day; if the States exercise their right to resume their original sovereignty, it seems to us that the dependent Territories will be entitled to assume an independent position, and decide for themselves what is best to be done to secure for them future tranquility and prosperity.

If, on the other hand, the withdrawal of six or seven States shall not produce an overthrow of the Constitution; if the remaining twenty-three or six States shall remain faithful to the original compact, then it is clear to our mind that the Territories will be, in duty, bound to continue in their present condition until they shall be formally admitted as States, the same as they would have been had there been no secession.

Whilst it is incumbent upon every good citizen to reflect seriously upon the condition in which he finds his beloved country now placed, and to have anxiety for the future of his Territory, it is at this time premature to be devising schemes for the regulation of Territorial affairs. "Sufficient to the day is the evil thereof," and it will be time enough for us to put our heads in order when the developments shall have been made sufficiently clear, to enable us to act with a clear understanding of all our rights. Precipitate movements may involve us in difficulties from which it will not be easy to extricate ourselves. A prudent delay can work no prejudice to our rights or interests, but may greatly facilitate us in the consummation of whatever policy it may be thought advisable to adopt, if the circumstances should be such as to require us to enter upon a new career.

A State Government.

The proposition which has been originated in the Legislative Assembly, looking to the establishment of a State Government to supersede our present imperfect and unsatisfactory system is one that interests all classes of our citizens, and should receive at their hands an impartial consideration. It is in no way connected with the fortunes of any party, nor should it be viewed as a party question. The magnitude of the interest involved raises it high above and far superior to any question of party politics that may now divide the people. If the project shall succeed, and the machinery of a State Government is put in operation, there will be abundance of margin within which party men and politicians can exercise themselves, and advocate their peculiar notions of policy, and support their favorites for various offices. The adoption of a Constitution will have the effect of giving the voters a wider range in the selection of public servants, and clothe them with full power to declare who shall, and who shall not, fill all the various positions, from the office of Governor down to the most insignificant placeman in the new Commonwealth. In this regard the power of the people will be unlimited, and in the exercise of that power it will be their own fault if they do not select men for office who will have the most watchful care for the welfare of the State.

For the time being, then, would it not be setting the part of wisdom to disregard party questions—to let them rest, whilst we are engaged in the determination of other matters that are to have so momentous a bearing upon our future? It is certainly would, and we think every true patriot, every man who has an eye single to the prosperity of his country, will look at it in the same

way. This is not an occasion for petty divisions among the people. Enlarged and enlightened views should predominate now, and after the noble work of erecting ourselves into the high position of a sovereign State shall have been accomplished, we will find ample time and numerous occasions for the settlement of all minor differences of opinion. Our opinion, therefore, is, that the question of State government, or no State government, should be tested singly and alone; that it should not be encumbered with side issues, that can have no pertinency whatever to the proper determination of the question. The minds of the people should be left free and unfeathered for the enlargement of their views, and the coming of the coming of irrelevant matters, with those which legitimately belong to a discussion of the propriety or impropriety of the suggestion which the Legislature has under consideration.

If our prominent men concur in the views above humbly suggested, many impediments to the formation of unprejudiced opinion among the masses of the people will be avoided, and probably, many discussions and bickerings will be suppressed that might otherwise exert a baneful influence upon the aggregate of public sentiment. May it not be hoped that the desired harmony in this behalf will prevail, and that all things will move along smoothly until a final decision shall have been made by the voice of the people, expressed in their sovereign capacity.

LATEST FROM THE STATES.

By way of Express from Denver we learn the following facts in reference to the progress of affairs in the States up to the 1st inst.

The South Carolina Commissioners had reached Washington and had an interview with the President.—Fort Moultrie was evacuated on the night of the 26th of December; the gun carriages burned and the guns spiked. Col. Anderson, with his forces, occupies Fort Moultrie.

Secy. Floyd has resigned. Genl. Scott was appointed as Secy. of War *ad interim* but in consequence of the dissatisfaction occasioned thereby his name was withdrawn. It is understood that troops will be sent to Charleston.

Mr. Benjamin made a speech in the Senate on the 11th in which he said: "We are not permitted to ignore the fact, that the determination to secede is not confined to South Carolina, far more weak Mississippi, Alabama and Florida will secede, and soon after Arkansas." The speech was received with applause.

All the propositions in the committee of 13 and 33 to do justice to the South were voted down by the Republicans.

The citizens of Pittsburgh resisted the shipment of guns, that the Secretary of War had directed to be sent South.

Several of the Army Officers have resigned.

A dispatch says that Russell of Russell, Major Waddell & Co. in jail in New York charged with defrauding the Government to the amount of \$500,000.

Free Pacific States.

Mr. Everett—Now, as there is a probability of the secession of several of the Southern States of the Union, an event spoken of as likely to happen by the Hon. Maj. Gen. Oakes, in a letter to Col. Collins, and published in the "Gazette" of December the 24th, recommending a confederation of N. Mexico, California & Oregon, to be called "The Free Pacific States" and assigned as a reason why we should disintegrate ourselves from the Atlantic States and fraternally embrace the Pacific States: "That our resources are similar to theirs, our interests therefore the same." I must confess that I do not understand the force of such profound reasoning, and I shudder to the subject in the hope that some person more capable than myself will further elucidate the subject, so that all may be satisfied that we should direct our commerce westwardly, instead of continuing it eastwardly, to a country whose resources are not identical with the same.

ENQUIRER.

The Prince of Wales at Home.

The arrival of the Prince of Wales in England was the occasion of great rejoicing among the people. Of his arrival at Windsor Castle the Herald says:

At six o'clock the Windsor Rifle Volunteers, under the command of Captain the Hon. Leese Ruyven, headed by their excellent corps of drums and fifes, marched from the town hall to the Great Western terminus, where a large concourse of the inhabitants had assembled.

Precisely at half-past six o'clock the royal train arrived at the station, and the prince was received with a royal salute from the Windsor Rifles, who had the honor of forming a guard of honor.

His royal highness the prince's escort came to the station to receive the prince. There were also on the platform to receive his royal highness, William Yarrant, Esq., M. P., the mayor, Henry Driver, Esq., the Rev. H. J. Elliott, Vicar of Windsor, the Rev. H. C. Hawrey; Henry Stevens, Esq.; Robert Blunt, Esq.; Captain Turner, &c. The youthful prince was accompanied by the Duke of Newcastle, Lord St. Germans and Captain Gray, equerry.

The prince proceeded to the castle amidst the hearty cheers of the inhabitants, the firing of a royal salute from the corporation ordinance, and the ringing of joyous peals from the bells of the Chapel Royal of St. George and St. John's church. The royal cortege was lighted through the High

street and Catholic hill by a splendid electric light from the house of Mr. C. F. L. Russell. The prince was in the best of health and spirits, and apparently under no fatigue whatever after so long a journey.

The cause of the delay arose from strong easterly winds setting in when the royal squadron had reached about the middle of the Atlantic.

In commenting upon the prince's arrival, the London press is very complimentary in its allusions to the Americans. The News of the 16th says:

If any thing could add to the public joy at the return of the Prince of Wales it would be the public admiration of his conduct and bearing during his sojourn among our Canadian false subjects, and our criticism of the great republic beyond the Atlantic. We know that a royal presence, so graceful, majestic and gentle, must win republican hearts, but perhaps we were hardly prepared for the hearty sympathy with which our American countrymen acknowledged the unadorned dignity, the unostentatious simplicity and the generous frankness of demeanor which distinguish the heir of the British crown. We believe that this auspicious intercourse will bear the kindest and happiest fruits for the old country, and the new. At no time could we desire more earnestly than we do now the close alliance of the great Anglo-Saxon family. The Prince of Wales brings home, we are permitted to believe, a heart thrilling with affection for that energetic freedom and a deep respect for that unshaken firmness and a deep respect for that unshaken firmness, which are the glory of the British crown. He brings home, too, an intellect sharpened and strengthened by contact with the vitality of a new civilization. He has tasted the life and energy of the New World in the prime, in the forest clearing, in the populous cities, where but yesterday the pioneer plowed his acre. He has seen a nation of millions without an army, civil order without a police, wealth, luxury and culture without a court or an aristocracy. He has learned to mingle with the busy crowd of men without the interference of chamberlains and courtiers; he found respect without ceremony, and honor without ostentation.

The Post, in an article upon the same subject, says:

The visit of the Prince of Wales to the United States is a great political event, from which the best results may be anticipated. It has swept away all sorts of prejudices and has removed equally all international jealousies. The people of the United States have recognized the great fact that a prince may have just claims to their admiration and respect independently of rank and position. On the other hand, the people of England gratefully acknowledge and highly value the kindness and affection which republicans America has shown to their future king. This, we believe, an alliance has been consolidated, which will endure for the mutual interest, not only of the two nations, but of the civilized world.

Letter from Hon. A. H. Stephens.

The subjoined letter was written by Mr. Stephens to a gentleman in the city of New York:

CHARLESTON, S. C., Nov. 25, 1860.

DEAR SIR—Your kind and esteemed favor of the 16th inst. is before me, for which you will please accept my thanks. I thoroughly agree with you as to the nature and extent of the dangers by which we are surrounded, and the impudence of policy to the part of our people, in the line of policy to be pursued.

I know also, that three breathes not a man in Georgia who is more anxiously alive to her rights, interest, safety and glory than myself, and whatever falls before us, I earnestly hope that we shall be saved from the worst of all calamities, internal divisions, contentions and strife. The great and leading object aimed at by me in the "Independent" was to produce harmony on a right line of policy.

It has worst come to the worst as it may, and our State has to quit the Union, it is of the utmost importance that all our people should be united especially in this course. This, I feel confident, can only be effected on the line of policy I indicated. But cannot compel you to say, that I am not without hopes that our rights may be maintained and our wrongs be redressed, in the Union. If this can be done, it is my earnest wish, I think also, that it is the wish of a majority of our people. If, after making an effort, we shall fall, then all our people will be united in making or adopting the last resort the "Ultima ratio regum."

Even in that case, I should look with great apprehension as to the ultimate result. When this Union is dissolved, if of necessity it must be, I see at present but little prospect of good government afterwards. At the North, I feel confident, that anarchy will soon ensue. And whether we shall be better off at the South will depend upon many things that I am not now satisfied that we have any assurance of. Revolutions are such a course started than controlled, and the men who begin them, even for the best purposes and objects, seldom end them.

The American Revolution of 1776 was one of the few exceptions to this remark that the history of the world furnishes. Human passions are like the winds; when aroused they sweep everything before them in their fury. The wise and the good who may attempt to control them, will themselves most likely become the victims. This has been the history of the downfall of all Republics. The selfish, the ambitious and the bad will generally take the lead. When the moderate men who are patriotic have gone as far as they think right, and proper, and propose to reconstruct, then will be found a class before them, governed by no principle, but personal objects, who will be for pushing matters further and further, until those who served the wind will find that they have reaped the whirlwind. These are my serious apprehensions.—They are founded upon the experience of the world and the philosophy of human nature, and no wise man should condemn them. To tear down and build up again, are very different things; and before tearing down even a bad government, we should first see a good prospect for building up a better. These are my views candidly given. If there is one sentiment in my breast stronger than all others, it is an earnest desire for the peace, prosperity and happiness of our people.—That peace, prosperity and happiness which a wise and good government alone can secure. I have no object, wish, desire or ambition beyond this; and if I should in any respect err in endeavoring to attain this object, it will be an error of the head and not the heart.

With great personal esteem and respect, I remain yours, truly,

ALEXANDER H. STEPHENS.

Indian troubles in Texas.

By the subjoined letter, which we find in the Texas State Gazette, it will be seen that our neighbors in Northern Texas are subjected to as much annoyance from the red skins as are our own people.

WEATHERFORD, PARKER COUNTY,
Wednesday morning, Nov. 28.

ENTON GAZETTE.

I drop you a line this morning, that the distressed condition of this frontier may be known. On Thursday last, a party of Indians came on Rock Creek, in Jack county, and went to the house of a settler at the place known as Dillman's Ranch. White saw them and started to the house of ———— Kauts for help. The Indians cut him off—surrounded him in the open prairie. While he had a six-shooter and double-barrel shot gun. His shot gun was heard to fire twice, no report was heard from the prairie. White was found naked and dead, and most brutally scalped, with arrows and spears. Some of his clothing was found on the trail. The Indians had gathered a considerable drove of horses.

On Monday last, the same or another party was seen near Jackborough, and a courier was dispatched to this place for horses, men and ammunition, as the county of Jack was about at the time destined. Before our citizens had time to act, another messenger came, bearing the most startling dispatch from the enterprise Capt. Hamme which was immediately sent to press in the "White Man" a copy of which is here enclosed. This dispatch arrived here at one o'clock Monday night. On yesterday morning (Tuesday) the town of Weatherford was in the utmost confusion and excitement. Amidst an intolerably cold, raw, wind, and rain, a company of 8 or 10 gathered up such arms as could be found about town and started out for Jackborough. Scarcely had they got out of sight when another courier came down the Belknap road under full speed crying for help, men and arms. He reported the Indians in Parker county, within 15 miles of Weatherford; had come to his father's house; saw them and counted them; was in the house at the time, within 10 yards of them; wife 28 in number; deliberately came to the house, threw down the fence and drove off the horses. He saw another party holding around which he thought about the same in number, from the hills.

One hour after this, a second messenger came down the Belknap road, shouting for help. The Indians were in large bodies, and within 16 miles of the country. In the night, a third came and reported that the Indians, at one hour by sun, were within 12 miles of Weatherford; had gone to the house of Sylvester Sherman, who was a short distance from his home stopping, and took his horses and all the rest of the night. And another messenger also came in last night from Bear's Creek, and stated that the Indians were in there, and murdering and plundering the citizens—had killed four families.

During the entire day, and up to twelve o'clock last night, our town and vicinity were under intense excitement and the utmost confusion. Companies of men to 25, as they could get horses and guns, were starting out from this place to meet the Indians. All day and all night they were collecting and starting.

I can give you no idea of the mischief that has been done, as no news has reached here since the couriers returned to the Indians have such a large drove of horses that they cannot travel fast, so I think the chances are that our boys will meet up with them.

The women and children in the neighborhood of the settlements here, I learn, been collected at the house of Richard Moss, and are there now under a guard and in great distress.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

Since writing the above, David Kelly has come in from the neighborhood of Rock creek, in Parker county, (there are two Rock creeks) after buying apparel for John Branan, who was killed on yesterday by the Indians, near his residence when on his return from the house of a neighbor. He was shot with two rifle balls, his nose cut off, his body cut to pieces, and scalped.

The wife of Sylvester Sherman has been found, one arm broken, her body greatly bruised, her head scalped, but she was not dead; she is now in the hands of a good physician and hopes are entertained of her recovery. The last she saw of her little boy, (the lost child) he was running through the brush and the Indians shooting arrows at him.

When in Brown's neighborhood, the Indians were about forty in number, and had about one hundred head of horses. Thirteen of Brown's horses returned this morning to Brown's house, by which it is supposed that our boys met up with them on yesterday evening and gave them a thrashing or a chase. Consternation pervades the country. Jack, Young and Palo Pinto counties will be depopulated and the citizens broken up.

TUESDAY EVENING.

Nov. 28th, 1860.

A. J. Baker has just arrived from Palo Pinto with a dispatch from Capt. Jack Carrington, Polk and others, calling for more men and arms.—He reports that on yesterday morning a group of fifty or sixty Indians passed Col. Whitley's place on the Weatherford and Belknap road, and within a few miles of the old Brown Agency, with a large herd of horses, making the trail so plain that one can run upon it, and that ten whites were within three hours of them and pushing rapidly—push on, on my boys, and may the gods be with you!

These Indians were going out of the settlements. The citizens remaining at Weatherford are now gathering to the court-house to raise men, powder and lead, pack mules, &c.

Mr. Baker brings further particulars as to the treatment of Mrs. Sherman; she is still living and has been able to detail the conduct of the savages, and which is too revolting to be read. May Heaven's bitterest curses rest upon them forever!

A meeting has just been holden in the court-house and 500 dollars subscribed by the few men present. On Saturday morning next they meet again, when the help will be forwarded to Colonel Whitley where the army will rendezvous and start on Sunday morning next. From the information I have, there must be several companies of Indians who have come down in different parts of the frontier, and who will, perhaps, after getting their booty, go out of the settlements and unite together. There are, from the best information, one hundred and fifty Indians in the country.

The foregoing I have written at detached times, and I could have opportunity, and is very irregular,

but I trust will afford you some information. I close to mail.

Respectfully,
JO. C. RUSHING.

LATER.

Parson Medaris with many others have just arrived on the square from the scene of trouble.—The road is lined with women and children coming in. The frontier is broken up. Parson Medaris tells me that twenty-two persons have been found in Jack county, killed and scalped by the Indians—six in Palo Pinto and one in Parker. Seborn Braden's wife and two of his children were carried off by the Indians from Jack county, Rock creek, and have not been heard from. Messers from the frontier are still coming, but I must close. The sun is down and the mail will leave.

Your paper is irregular at this office, sometimes three weeks. Look to it and oblige your friends here.

See the "White Man" of to-day for the Extra I refer to.

From the Meigs Times &c.

Heart-rending Murders.

Last Sunday night, between the hours of eight and nine, the door of the building in which Mr. Coulbert, Chas. Hampton and Col. Stierlen have been for some time confined on a charge of murder at Palo Alto, was broken open, and the two latter shot dead, and the former wounded in the right arm and breast. The person who was left in charge of the prisoners had chained them to a post and then gone down town for a few moments, supposing them perfectly safe. The murders, probably believing they had killed them all, led Mr. Coulbert, stimulated by fear and excitement, succeeded in breaking the lock with which he was confined, and leaving the building, proceeded in the direction of Mr. Lucas' house as fast as his unmanicured limbs and wounds would permit, and on the way met some individual to whom he gave information of the assault. A number of men soon collected around the house where the two prisoners lay dead and still in iron, and Dr. Black was called and dressed Coulbert's wounds. From some cause not clearly understood, the citizens soon dispersed, leaving two postmen in charge of the surviving prisoner, and the bodies of his companions. In a few minutes after, both the two men on guard came across the Plaza on the run, stating that the prisoner said his wounds pained him very much, and earnestly requested them to make all haste and get the Doctor. Considerable search was made for him that night, but no clue to his whereabouts could be obtained. The next morning Dr. Black, who resides in a house adjoining, stated that "his lady" heard the prisoner pass the street by their house immediately after the guard left, begging, the while, that his life might be spared; and that soon after he heard several shots fired further down the street, in the direction he was going. About 8 o'clock in the morning a Mexican from "California" stated that the prisoner was on that side of the Acquia Madre, in a *jerol*, badly wounded. On repairing thence, he was found at stated, and although suffering from several severe wounds, and the cold, was able to sit up and converse. He however appeared loth to say much regarding the unhappy affair of the previous evening; but since then, he has so far recovered from his fright and the excitement as to be induced to make some further disclosures in regard to this dastardly murder and outrage upon this community. He says he left the room at soon as the two men on guard started away, but had proceeded only a short distance when he was waylaid by two men who fired at him several times, two balls taking effect. He instantly fell as though mortally wounded, when one of the assassins, probably supposing him to be in the agonies of death, came up and kicked him, exclaiming, "D—n you, you are dead now," or in words to that effect, after which, having placed his hand on his temple to ascertain if he was still alive, quickly disappeared. As soon as he considered it safe, he got up and, though suffering from his wounds, hand cut and shattered, bubbled across the *acajocoy* and entered the *jerol* where he was found in the morning. Dr. Black was summoned, who had his manacles removed, dressed his wounds, and had him conveyed to his own house, where he still remains, though we believe it is the intention to remove him to Fort Fillmore soon, for surgical treatment and better protection.

Thus we have very briefly stated the particulars of a double murder of the most cold-blooded and dastardly character. The murder of the Mines, and for which the prisoners were in confinement, was horrible, God knows, but nothing in comparison with this. That, so far as these three prisoners were concerned, was probably done under the influence of excitement and the crazing effects of liquor; this was premeditated and accomplished by heartless men, before whose acts not hell itself would pale with horror, for no acts could be guilty of a crime so heinous.

Our citizens are very indignant, and take no pains to hide their feelings and opinions, though all appear cool and collected. May Wisdom guide their acts in our earnest prayer.

Good SECURITY.—(Street sweeping boy)—
"Please, sir, give me a crown!"
"Swell!"—"Sixpence is the only small money I have, my little lad."
"Boy!"—"Vell sir, I'll get your change; and if yer doubts my honor hold my broom."

A KERRY POINT SETTLED.—A cattleman in our vicinity, the other day tried to put down his opponent with this question:
"If Noah did send out a dove and it never returned, where did it go to?"
"Why," returned his antagonist, "I suppose somebody shot it!"

In an Irish provincial journal there is an advertisement running thus:—"Wanted, a handy laborer, who can plough a married man a protestant, with a son or daughter."

Although Leam provides a great many ladies' boots and shoes, all the brogue-Anns come from Ireland.

If a Rock of goss see one of their number drink, they will drink too. Men often make goss of themselves.

Why is an Englishman like nineteen shillings?
Because he is under a sovereign.

A western editor, in giving an account of a tornado, heads it as follows:—"Diagonal Thunder Storm."