Who Began the War?

The following chronicle of important events relative to the organization of the "Southern confederacy," is taken from a copy of a secesh almanac, for 1862, published by the board of publication of the M. E. Church, South, at Nashville, Tenn., just before Buell's advance upon that city. It will serve to show our readers whether Mr. Lincoln, as the South and their Northren allies assert, or Jeff. Davis and his coadjutors are responsible for the inauguration of the war. We consider it about as able a vindication of the Federal Government on this point as we have ever seen:

Dec. 20, 1860—Sudden evacuation of Fort Moultrie, by Major Anderson, United States Army. He spikes the guns, burns the gun carriages, and retreats to Fort Sumter, which he occupies.

Dec. 27—Capture of Fort Moultrie and Castle Pickney by the South Carolina troops. Captain Coste surrenders to the revenue cutter Aiken.

Jan. 3, 1862—Capture of Fort Pulaski by the Savannah troops.

Jan. 3—The arsenal at Mount Vernon, Ala., with 200,000 stand of arms, seized by Alabama troops.

Jan. 4—Fort Morgan in Mobile Bay, taken by the Alabama troops.

Jan. 9—The steamship Star of the West fired into and driven off by the South Carolina batteries on Morris Island. Failure of the attempt to reinforce Fort Sumter.

Jan. 9—Mississippi seceded; vote of the Convention 84 to 39.

Jan. 10—Fort Jackson, St. Phillips and Pike, near New Orleans, captured by the Lousiana troops.

Jan. 11—Alabama seceded; vote of Convention, 62 to 29.

Jan. 11—Florida seceded; vote of Convention, 62 to 29.

Jan. 14—Capture of Pensacola Navy Yard, and Fort Barancas and McRea. Major Chase shortly afterward takes command, and the siege of Fort Pickens commences.

Jan. 18—Surrender of Baton Rouge arsenal to Lousiana troops.

Jan. 19—Georgia seceded; vote of Convention, 203 to 87.

Jan. 26—Lousiana Seceded; vote of Convention, 113 to 19.

New Orleans Mint and Custom House taken.

Feb. 1—Texas seceded; vote of Convention, 166 to 7—submitted to the vote of the people February 23; the act took effect March 2.

Feb. 2—Seizure of Little Rock arsenal by Arkansas troops.

Feb. 5—Surrender of the revenue cutter Cass to the Alabama authorities.

Feb. 7—Southern Congress met at Montgomery Alabama.

Feb. 8—Provisional Constitution adopted.

Feb. 9—Jefferson Davis, of Mississippi, and Alex. Stephens, of Ga., elected President and Vice President.

Feb. 16—Gen. Twiggs transfers public property in Texas to the State authorities. Col. Waite, U. S. A., surrenders Antonia to Col Ben. McCulloch and his Texan Rangers.

Feb. 18—Inauguration of President Davis, at Montgomery, Ala.

Feb. 27—Peace Congress adjourned at Washington, having accomplished nothing.

March 2—The revenue cutter Dodge seized by the Texas authorities.

Now observe *every one of these acts of treason and war, occurred under James Buchanan's Administration*, and before Mr. Lincoln went to Washington; yet fools and traitors say that Mr Lincoln began the war!

But we quota another batch of facts, as found in this secesh almanac, beginning the day after Mr. Lincoln's Administration.

March 5—Gen. Beauregard assumes command of the troops besieging Fort Sumter.

March 12—Fort Brown, Texas, surrendered by Captain Hill to the Texas Commissioners.

March 13—Alabama ratified the Constitution of the Confederate States, vote of the Convention, 87 to 6.

March 16—Georgia ratified the Constitution of the Confederate States; vote of Convention, 101 to 7.

March 25—Texas ratified the Constitution of the Confederate States; vote of Convention, 68 to 2.

March 30—Mississippi ratified the Constitution of the Confederate States; vote of the Convention, 78 to 7.

April 3—South Carolina ratified the Constitution of the Confederate States; vote of Convention, 149 to 29.

April 12-13—Battle of Fort Sumter. After 34 hours' bombardment the Fort surrendered to the Confederate States.

April 14.—Evacuation of Fort Sumter by Maj. Anderson.

On this day, the 14th of April, President Lincoln called out 75,000 men for the purpose of putting down the rebellion.

Incident of the War.—After the battle at Bean Station, East Tennessee, the rebels were guilty of all manner of indignity toward the slain. They stripped their bodies, and shot all persons who came near the battle-field to show any attention to the dead. The body of a little drummer-boy was left naked and exposed. Near by, in an humble house, there were two little girls, the eldest but sixteen, who resolved to give the body a decent burial. They took the night for their task. With hammer and nails in hand, and boards on their shoulders, they sought the place where the body of the dead drummer-boy lay.—From their own scanty wardrobe, they clothed the body for the grave. With their own hands they made a rude coffin, into which they reverently put the dead boy. They dug the grave, and lowered the body into it and covered it over. The noise of the hammer brought some of the rebels to the spot. The sight was too much for them. The stillness of the night—the story so eloquently told by the heroic labors of the little girls. Not a word was spoken; no one interferred, and when the sacred rights of burial were performed, all separated; and the little drummer-boy sleeps undisturbed in his grave on the battle-field. Such tenderness and heroism deserve to run along the line of coming generations with the story of the woman who broke the alabaster box on the feet of the Savior, and with her who of her penury cast her two mites into the treasury.

Good Conduct to be Recognized.—General Alexander Hays has issued the following order:

Headquarters 3d Division, 2d Army Corps March 13.—Hereafter, in all engagements with the enemy, or on special service, the commanding officers in each regiment or detail is required to forward to these headquarters the name of at least one enlisted man, more distinguished for good conduct than his fellow soldiers.

This recognition must be supported by evidence, and upon its meritorious services, will be recommended for promotion in the individual.

By order of Brigadier-General Alex. Hays, Commanding Division. J. S. SULLIVAN.
Lieut. A. A. G.

The Lesson of Nations.

There is no consequence more inevitable in the affairs of nations as of individuals, than the retribution which follows the perpetration of wrong by the infringement of natural and moral laws. A neglect of the simplest physical duty entail the permanent loss of physical health, or precipitate sudden disease and death upon the human system. Nations cannot escape the penalties of wrong doing any more than individuals. Egypt, Greece, Rome, were distinguished for their prosperity, and their decadence was equally remarkable; but if we trace the history of causes and effects which governed the life of those states, we shall discover the plain laws violated by each, and the positive punishment that followed every dereliction of duty. The story of the Jews, as related in scripture, is a lesson for all ages and countries. Every departure from the pure system given to their first Law-giver on the Mount of Zion, was sure to bring upon them a visitation of some dire misfortune. When murmuring and discontent arose, the march of the nation towards Canaan was extended forty years; when rebellion broke out, through ambition and jealousy of leaders, a righteous judgement overtook the guilty. When the foolish multitude demanded a King, they obtained their wish, but with it was compelled to endure tyranny and civil strife. When the people forsook their altars, and yielded to idolatry, the heathen whom they imitated were permitted by God to become the instruments of His vengeance on the apostate Jewishites. Thus, through all phases of Hebrew nationality, we behold the natural consequences of retribution for wrong, and the inevitable suffering and degradation that were begotten by contempt of Almighty laws.

Israel thus stands as an example, and all other nations, according to their deserts, have been judged and punished by the same inexorable rule of right which governed the affairs of God's chosen people. Our own Republic, far from being an exception, appears to present a closer illustration of the connection that exists between human short-comings and divine dispensations. As we have been blessed above all other lands, and displayed, as it were "like a city set upon a hill, which cannot be hid"—as we have partaken of the largest bounties of Heaven, and been clothed, not with curses, but with blessings, "as with a government;" and as, in spite of all the goodness of Providence we have "walked far" like Jeoharum of old, only to "kick against the Lord"—so, at length, we are smitten, we are visited with condign punishment, we are skaken and scourged as with rods, for the transgressions involved in our selfishness, and money greed, our political corruption, and our neglect of that golden rule for communities, as well as individuals—"do unto others as you would that others should do unto you!"

That the judgement is just we must own, while we submit to it. That it will beget reflection and repentance we hope and trust. We must abide the evils which we did not avert by timely political and moral amendment. But, let us cherish the faith that, under the workings of Divine Mercy, as well as justice, our Republic will emerge from the pressure of its afflictions, like "thrice refined gold," worthy to shine and to be valued in the crown of God's sovereignty on earth; worthy to be (as heretofore all patriotic souls have prayed that it might become,) a grand national exemplar of the power and conformity of mankind to serve its maker by governing and cultivating itself under that Maker's immutable laws.—*N. Y. Weekly.*