

Western Reserve Chronicle.

HAPGOOD & ADAMS.

A Weekly Family Journal, Devoted to Freedom, Agriculture, Literature, Education, Local Intelligence, and the News of the Day.

\$1.50 PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE.

VOL. 45, NO. 18.

WARREN, TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1860.

WHOLE NO. 2306.

COME !!!

BARNUM'S HARDWARE STORE,
At Warren Trumbull Co., Ohio,

IS now filled with ample stocks, and
replete with the latest styles of HOUSE TRIM-
MINGS and most desirable colors for painting blinds.

Barnum intends to supply Paints,
Oils, Varnish, &c., inclusive of A. No. 1. Tip Top, Tip
Erie Dry and Oil; also, a superior quality ground
in White Varnish, for Parlor use.

BARNUM will sell Merchants at
Jobbing rates, and defies competition to make outside
of New York, and he herewith sends his compliments
to dealers that he is prepared to duplicate the prices
of New York houses, including the transportation
only these classes of goods where it forms a great
percentage of the cost. Now on hand and shortly to
arrive—Hose, Sashes, Blinds (not Dutch), Sashes
Stones, Rubbers, Rides, Rakes, Knives and Forks,
Spirits, White Lead, and Oil.

BARNUM keeps a fresh stock of
SADDLERY. Notice this job who want to buy goods
low: Harness Trimmings sold low—Patent Leather
saddles—Bridle Bits sold low—Carriage Trimmings
and Harness sold low.

BARNUM has some fine Pistols,
Fire Arms, Shotguns, Rifle Cartridges, Locks, Triggers
and a general list of Gun Trimmings.

BARNUM would make further
mention of the Saddle trade, by remarking that he
has had in the entire stock of that class of goods from
the head fenders and importers, and he will sell every
thing in that line at lowest rates.

BARNUM invites attention to his
Card herewith annexed:—

ROLLA H. BARNUM,
SIGN OF THE "ANVIL," WARREN, O.
DEALER IN
Hardware, Nails, Paints, Oils, and
SADDLERY!
N. B. JOB HEAVILY IN EVERY DEPART-
MENT, AFFORDING MERCHANTS GREAT
FACILITIES FOR FILLING UP CHEAP.

On hand and to arrive—
75 sets Brass Springs,
82 sets Axes,
4000 lbs. Dandy Tire.

BARNUM IS SELLING HOUSE
TRIMMINGS CHEAP.

G. B. BROOKS, is at the Anvil.

56 sets Brass and Silver Bands,
60 sets Door Locks,
1600 " " Latches—old and new styles,
75 " Tip Top Sashes,
40 " Good Hand Rakes,
100 " Good Hand Forks.

AT THE SIGN OF THE "ANVIL,"
PAINTS ARE SOLD LOW.

100 sets Assorted Nails,
30 " Spikes,
4 " Red Irons,
150 " White Lead,
120 " Best Zinc.

BE SURE AND BUY YOUR
IRON OF BARNUM.

BY GLASS AT THE "ANVIL,"
BUY YARNISH AT THE "ANVIL,"
BUY SPRINGS AT THE "ANVIL,"

100 sets Brass Hinges,
100 " Brass and Irons,
50 " G. & T. and Table Spoons,
100 " Good Big Iron Spoons.

ALWAYS IN THE MARKET,
ALWAYS READY TO SELL LOW,
ALWAYS HAVE A BIG STOCK,
ALWAYS KEEP CHOICE STYLES.

Warren, O., May 26, 1859.

Go Hardware Buyers—

Desires of selling up and maintaining a heavy
hardware trade, I shall ever be found ready to sell
goods at fair prices, and intend to keep choice styles
of goods that your customers will be fully satisfied,
that, as regards cheapness, quality and assortment of
styles, their purchases at the Sign of the "Anvil"
cannot be excelled by any rival establishment on the
Reserve.

ROLLA H. BARNUM,
SIGN OF THE "ANVIL,"
WARREN, TRUMBULL COUNTY, O.
Dealer in NAILS, PAINTS, &c., &c.

PERMANENTLY, W. F. BARNUM, SENIOR.

WOODBURY & SMITH,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
FOR THE SALE OF
BUTTER AND CHEESE,
NO. 14, WATER STREET,
NEW YORK.

REFERENCES:
W. T. CARR & CO., PITTSBURGH, PA.;
BARNETT, BARNES & CO., PITTSBURGH, PA.;
DREYER,
SHEPHERD & DILLON, PITTSBURGH, PA.;
INDIAN & MORGAN, WARREN, O.
(Aug. 29, 1859, 6m)

WATCHES & JEWELRY
NEW STOCK AT
Vautrot's Jewelry Store.

THE SUBSCRIBER has just returned
from the East, with a large stock of Jewelry and
National time he ever brought before, and has also re-
ceived a large case of Watches from Switzerland, of
all prices. Among these are a few Little Chronome-
ters not \$175; also some very fine Silver Watches
cost from \$20 to \$150. Having made arrangements to
receive \$5000 worth of Watches, Jewelry, and being
possessed of a large stock of all kinds of Jewe-
lry, Rings, Bracelets, &c., that I will sell at low
prices, and on very easy terms. I have also a new lot of American Watches and other
Jewelry. Please call and see my stock.

Warren, June 8, 1860. J. VAUTROT

REMOVAL.
THE NEW YORK BOOK STORE
has been removed to the new building on Main
St., where the subscriber would be happy to see all
his old friends again, he has on hand a good assort-
ment of School Books and Stationery.
(August 1, 1860.) W. N. PORTER.

Poetry.

For the Chronicle.
THROUGH THE STORM.

BY E. J. ADAMS.

Thro' the full drifted vale, o'er the tempest
swept hills,
For full many a long league to-day,
Since the first early dawn, have I wearily
toiled,
All alone, on my desolate way.
But still happy was I, for my heart was un-
chilled.

Altho' wildly the merciless storm
Sent the blinding drifts thick in my face, as
I rode,
And beat rudely my shivering form;
For some fond hearts there are that go over
with me,
And they keep me warm as I roam;
And some faces that shine, like the stars, thro'
the storm,
To illumine my pathway toward home.

Now the night, cold and dark, has closed over
the plains,
From the height sweeps a still fiercer blast;
But I'm now almost there, for the line of hills,
And the dark gloomy hollow is past.
And I'll cheerfully on; and the first light
glance

Thro' the windows along by the way,
Though it to the chilled wand'rer shine tempt-
ingly bright,
Shall not cause me a moment's delay.
For I know that my wife waits the supper for
me.

Ever anxious and sad while I roam;
And my dear little children impatiently watch,
To be first with their fond welcomes home.
From this point on the hill I can plainly be-
hold,

Just ahead, through the darkness, the light
That gleams out, through the beauteous
glance
Like a beacon, far into the night.
Now my dog's friendly bark and they welcom-
ing neigh.

My poor steed, tell me we are quite near,
And, with certain uplifted, a fair face looks
out,
And what laughing and shouting I hear,
As a group of young forms rush in haste to
the door;

Sure 'tis almost a pleasure to roam,
When we always are certain, upon our return,
To receive such a fond welcome home.
VERD, O.

THE ROCK OILS OF OHIO.

The last Report of the Ohio State Board
of Agriculture contains a valuable paper on
this subject, from Prof. J. S. Newberry, of
Cleveland. We clip the following extract:
The mineral oils which have of late at-
tracted so much attention in different parts
of our country, and have assumed so im-
portant a place in the resources of Ohio,
are not new substances to science, the arts,
or even commerce. Under the names of
"Seneca Oil," "Barbadoes tar," "Naphtha,"
&c., the different forms of Petroleum have
long been known, and extensively employ-
ed, especially in medicine, and will be found
described in most treatises on chemistry
and mineralogy.

In larger or smaller quantities, Petro-
lum has been found in most countries, but
hitherto in the greatest abundance in Cal-
ifornia, Trinidad, Persia, Circassia, and
India. A district a few miles in extent in
the latter country contains over five hun-
dred wells, which yield more than 400,000
barrels of oil annually. It is there used
for fuel, light and painting.

In the United States, oil springs were
discovered in many localities by the first
settlers; and the existence of those on Oil
Creek, in Pennsylvania, and those of North
Ohio, which have recently become so
famous, has been well and widely known
for half a century. It is only lately, how-
ever, that the value or abundance of the
material which they supply has been sus-
pected.

Already the amount of petroleum daily
drawn from the wells bored to procure it
in Pennsylvania and Ohio, may be safely
estimated to be at least five hundred bar-
rels; and the business of raising it is only
in its infancy.

Covering so wide a range of uses as this
oil does, and produced so cheaply, it seems
destined to supersede a large part of the
oils both animal and vegetable, now con-
sumed in the country, and to become a
most important element in the resources of
our State and the revenues of our people.

As such it claims something more than the
historical notice I have given it; and even
demands a full description of its charac-
ter, uses, modes of occurrence, and pro-
cess of manufacture, as may be given in
the present state of knowledge—such, in-
deed, as will best enable our people to dis-
cover and make available all the deposti-
ries of this useful article which exist with-
in the limits of our State. Nothing like a
full exposition of this subject can be com-
piled, however, into the space which prop-
riety assigns to this article, and the cir-
cumstances of its publication. I shall con-
fine myself, therefore, to the briefest pos-
sible sketch of it under the different heads
enumerated above.

NATURE AND ORIGIN OF PETROLEUM.

Petroleum is the common name for min-
eral oil, whatever its color or consistence.
These vary greatly; sometimes it is dark,

viscid, and tar-like; from other localities,
almost transparent, very fluid and volatile.
More generally it has an oily consistence,
a brown or greenish color, and a strong
characteristic odor. It may be regarded
as a compound of several of a large group
of bituminous substances, which differ much
in their physical characters, while they
present a striking similarity of chemical
composition. Of these, the two extremes
—Asphaltum, a hard, black solid, and
Naphtha—an exceedingly light, volatile and
transparent fluid, exhibit a marked con-
trast of form, yet they, as well as all the
intermediate members of the series, are
composed almost entirely of carbon and hy-
drogen. These hydro-carbons are consid-
ered by all chemists to be of organic ori-
gin—that is, to be derived from the decom-
position of vegetable or animal matters.

Ordinary coal, which may be included in
the same category, is of purely vegetable
origin, while some canals and bituminous
shales contain a portion of animal matter.
Petroleum has usually been produced from
bituminized plants, but those varieties of
it which are obtained from rocks filled with
animal remains—as highly fossiliferous lime-
stones—and which have a peculiar
strong and disagreeable odor, in virtue of
the sulphur and nitrogen which they con-
tain, are probably for the most part of animal
origin.

The precise process by which petroleum
is evolved from the carbonaceous matters
contained in the rocks which furnish it, is
not yet fully known, because we can not in
ordinary circumstances inspect it; but it is
fairly infer, however, that it is a distilla-
tion, though generally performed at a low
temperature.

These changes in the hydro-carbon solids
are but necessary preparatory steps in the
process of their combustion. By the
application of heat we produce them at will,
and rapidly. They also take place sponta-
neously but slowly. Barbedret hydrogen
is rapidly produced from bituminous
substances by artificial dry distillation.

So it is evolved in nature, at low tempera-
tures from submerged (and doubtless emerg-
ed) vegetable matter. It is also thrown off
in immense quantities by the spontaneous
distillation of bituminous coal in mines.—
Doubtless the same is true of the liquid
hydro-carbons. Though less observable
than the gases I think they may often, if
not always, be detected among the products
of decomposition of submerged vegetable
tissue. This, at least, we may safely af-
firm: that their spontaneous production on
a large scale in nature may generally be
traced to extensive accumulations of bitu-
minous vegetation from which they have
been derived. From this they are evolved
by a kind of distillation, which differs from
our artificial process in wanting (in many
cases at least) the condition of high tem-
perature, but including the perhaps no less
potent elements of time and pressure.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF PETROLEUM.

A knowledge of where and how rock oil
occurs in nature, will be a useful guide to
the repositories of it, which, without doubt,
exist, though still unknown, within our
State limits. I have already briefly allu-
ded to its general distribution over the
earth's surface, and to the great quantities
of it obtained from the shores of the Cas-
pian sea, the banks of the Irrawaddy, &c.

It is also found in various parts of Europe,
where it has been long made an article of
commerce. The New World furnishes it
in still greater abundance, and the most
remarkable accumulations of petroleum and
asphaltum known are those of the Island
of Trinidad, West Indies, and of the south-
ern coast of California. In Canada West
Islands are springs from which enormous quan-
tities of petroleum issue, of which, however,
the value is impaired by its almost insup-
portable odor. Within the limits of the
United States, it occurs on the shores of
Seneca Lake, N. Y.,—where the name,
"Seneca Oil," which has been given it, in
Albany, Cayuga, and several other coun-
ties in the same State—in many localities
in northwestern Pennsylvania, western
Virginia, in Kentucky, Illinois, &c.—In
Ohio, it has already been found in No-
ble, Adams, Franklin, Medina, Lorain,
Cuyahoga, Trumbull, Mahoning, and other
counties, and will doubtless be hereaf-
ter discovered in many places where it is
not now known to exist.

Petroleum occurs in the sedimentary
rocks of all ages, from the drift deposits to
the base of the fossiliferous series; where-
ver, indeed, there is carbonaceous matter
from which it could be formed. In Gincis
and Mica slate it is also sometimes discov-
ered, but only in such as are evidently of
metamorphic character. The great bitu-
minous springs of California and the West
Indies issue from Tertiary rocks, which al-
so contain beds of lignite. Here volcanic
agencies have, at a recent period, been in
intense action, and the bitumen is appar-
ently distilled from the lignites by subter-
ranean fires. In our more immediate vicin-
ity, the oil springs are mostly confined to
the upper Devonian rocks, and in Ohio
this is emphatically the oil horizon.

THE OIL ROCKS OF OHIO.

I have said that the Waverly series—or
the Chemung and Portage rock—is the
oil rocks of Ohio. By this I mean that

they are the principal repositories of oil—
the source from which we are mainly to de-
rive the millions of gallons which will be
annually used in or exported from the State
—the geological level along which we must
look for new discoveries of petroleum.

That the oil originates in this group of
strata, is, however, by no means certain.
On the contrary, it seems more probable
that it merely accumulates in them, as a
convenient reservoir, when flowing from an-
other source. These rocks are mechanical
sediments, which are in Ohio, generally
destitute of organic remains whether ani-
mals or plants. They are, however, often
quite porous, and strong currents of water
flow through them. The Hamilton Shales,
on which they rest, contain an amount of
carbonaceous matter probably equal to all
that included in the coal measures. Here,
I suspect, most of the oil originates. From
this bituminous mass, as distilled by na-
ture's process, it would rise through every
fissure by the pressure of the incumbent
rocks, or water, which is, specifically, heat-
ed. A few layers of the Waverly series
are highly charged with the debris of veg-
etable and marine shells, and these may
generate some oil, but for the most part
they contain it of foreign origin.

The source to which I have referred it is so en-
tirely sufficient, both as regards its posi-
tion and character, that it seems unneces-
sary to look farther. Over nearly all the
northern part of the State, where the Por-
tage and Chemung rocks are exposed, petro-
leum may be found exuding there in
greater or less abundance; but it is only at
comparatively few points that it is found
in a "paying" quantity.

The Oil Creek region in Pennsylvania is
one of these series of oil centres. There
the wells are sunk from 70 to over 300
feet—often to, and sometimes apparently
through, the Portage group. The oil oc-
curs at all depths. It is frequently found
saturating the surface deposits, and the
deepest bore has not reached beyond it.

It flows in fissures with water, and that
from neighboring wells differs much in
quality: all of which facts seem to indicate
that it is derived from a somewhat remote
source below. The oil of Titusville is
very thin, varying shades of brown in color,
and has a specific gravity of 35° to 40°
Beaume.

Not very far distant from the Oil Creek
region is that of Mecca, Trumbull county,
Ohio. Here some 200 wells are being bor-
ed, and a dozen or more have been success-
fully pumped. The geological level of the
Mecca wells is the same as that of Titus-
ville, but they are generally less deep; vary-
ing from 50 to 200 feet, while most are
about 50. The rock is a soft, bluish-white
sandstone, with partings of clay shale,
sometimes quite saturated with oil. The
yield of the wells is from 5 to 20 barrels
each per day. The oil is much thicker
than that of Pennsylvania, has a greenish
brown color, and comparatively little odor.

Its specific gravity is from 28° to 30°.
For many miles around Mecca, signs of oil
are found—in the wells sunk for water, on
the surface of streams, &c., and the aggre-
gate production of oil from that district
will unquestionably be very large.

USES OF PETROLEUM.

1. **As an Illuminator.**—The lighter
varieties of rock oil may be burned with a
proper lamp in their natural state, but all
yield on distillation from 50 to 85 per cent.
of burning fluid, which affords a remark-
ably powerful, and at the same time, soft
and pleasant light. No lamp, as far as I
am aware, has yet been invented in which
it can be well burned without a chimney;
but those now so generally used for coal
oil, are equally well adapted for its use.

In these it burns with a brilliancy fully
equal to that of the best oil distilled from
coal, with less tendency to smoke, and
with no offensive odor, and lasts as long.
Its light is superior to that of the pure
sperm oil, and at present prices costs less
than half as much. Affording so brilliant,
so portable, and so safe a light, at so small
a price, it possesses every requisite for a
popular illuminator, and must ultimately
supersede all those now in use except gas,
which though more expensive, is less trou-
blesome, than any lamps can be, and hence
will continue to be used to some extent
in towns.

2. **As a Lubricator.**—The rock oils,
which like those of Mecca and Grafton,
have in their natural state, a thick and
oily consistence, and not a very offensive
odor, are excellent lubricators for machin-
ery as they come from the wells—not be-
ing liable to "gum," and retaining, to a
great degree, their fluidity in the coldest
weather. Care should be taken in the use
of the crude oil as a lubricator, to see
that it is free from fine sand, which is some-
times mechanically mixed with it as it is
pumped up. It is even probable that all
such oils would be improved by subjecting
them to a hasty distillation to rid them of
any foreign matter they might contain.—
The Mecca oil, when thoroughly washed,
has been used by a number of engineers,
and so far as I heard, to their entire sat-
isfaction. In the process of refining, all
the varieties of petroleum yield a portion
of heavy lubricating oil. The quantity of
this is proportionate to the specific grav-

ity of the crude oil and its fluidity will de-
pend on the quantity of burning fluid ab-
stracted from it. Among the crude or
manufactured petroleum, then, we may
obtain, at a comparatively small price,
lubricators of any degree of consistence,
from that of lard to the finest oil, which,
if properly prepared, will not gum nor
corrode metal, and will keep journals cool.

The consumption of petroleum for this
purpose must be immense. There are some
railroad companies whose annual ex-
penses are more than \$25,000 for lubri-
cators alone. A single manufacturer in
England (Young) testified in Court to hav-
ing manufactured and sold over 400,000
gallons of lubricating oil in one year, at
about one dollar per gallon. This oil was
from coal. The "white oil" of New York,
and several patent lubricators used in this
country, are sold in large quantities for
a dollar or more per gallon, while the mix-
ed lard, fish and coal oils, largely employ-
ed; and, indeed, all the lubricators in
general use, command a price fully double
what an equally good article made from
petroleum can be furnished for.

3. **As a Paint Oil.**—Petroleum has
as yet been used for painting in this
country, but to a very limited extent, and
the experiments made, though very satis-
factory, as far as present appearances go,
have not had the test of time applied to
them. In the old world the rock oils have
been quite extensively employed in paint-
ing, and have served a very good purpose
in that connection. The Mecca oil, in its
natural state has been used in painting
several houses, outside and within, white
and brown, and apparently with entire
success. The oil was boiled with "dryen,"
precisely as linseed oil is treated, and
mixed with lead and other pigments. It
formed a good body, covered the wood
well, dried rapidly and perfectly; and now
seems smooth and hard, and has no odor.
All that can be asked is that it shall hold
out as it has begun.

The lighter petroleum—as that of Titus-
ville and Lowellville—are not as well suit-
ed to painting, as they come from the
wells being too thin, like spirits of tur-
pentine; the heavier portion of them, how-
ever, when separated by distillation, may
be, and indeed, has been successfully ap-
plied to that purpose. It is highly prob-
able, therefore, that some portion of the
rock oil raised from our wells will find a
market as a painting oil.

4. **As a Fuel.**—Should petroleum ever
be produced in such abundance as to glut
the market, and the price be reduced to
fifteen cents a gallon, it will be used as fuel
on steamboats, locomotives, and else-
where—wherever, indeed, a highly con-
centrated, portable and manageable fuel is re-
quired. The superiority of oil over coal for
generating steam consists in: 1st. Its
greater heating power, pound for pound.—
2d. Its more complete oxydation in the
furnace. 3d. Its combustion in immedi-
ate contact with the surface of the boiler
and flues.

PRODUCTS OF DISTILLATION.

As yet, the attention of refiners of coal
oil and petroleum in this country has been
confined to the products most readily de-
rived from them, viz: burning fluid, lubri-
cating oil, and paraffine; but the European
manufacturers have demonstrated that the
process may be profitably carried much
farther, and that other and more valuable
secondary products may be derived from
these first mentioned. By the re-distilla-
tion of the "light oil," they obtained: 1st.
Benzole, worth from 10 to 20 cents per
pound. This is extensively used as a sol-
vent for India rubber, gutta percha, &c.,
and for extracting oil from wool before
dyeing it, grease from clothing, carpets,
gloves, &c. 2d. Nitro benzole, which has
the taste and smell of oil of bitter al-
monds, and is used for the same purposes.
This is worth one dollar per pound. 3d.
Aniline, a dye used for producing the fab-
ricable color Mauve—\$5 to \$8 per pound.
4th. Pure violet Aniline powder, \$250 to
\$325 per barrel.

There are two questions which will hard-
ly fail to suggest themselves to any one
who shall read what precedes: These are—
1st, what will be the relation of supply
and demand in regard to the rock oils in
the future; and 2d, will the oil wells be
individually permanent?

These questions are of not only high
scientific interest, but of such practical
importance that thousands of dollars would
be cheerfully paid for full and truthful
answers to them. Unfortunately, however,
such answers cannot now be given by hu-
man wisdom; all the knowledge hitherto
gained, and all the experience of the past
being insufficient to enable any one to pre-
dict with certainty the issue of a case like
the present, in some respects without a
precedent.

The supply of rock oil is evidently de-
clining, for the present, at least, to be large,
so large that the business of raising it
must come down from a speculation to a
common sense practical business.

The market, though prospectively al-
most unlimited, is for this product, not
only new, but in great measure yet un-
tested. Time must elapse before the sub-
stitution is made by society of this article

for that now in use. Meantime, and per-
haps permanently, the supply will so fully
meet the demand, that only those who are
favorably situated, who have wells which
furnish a good article in large quantity,
and pay little or no rent, will make large
sums of money by them.

When we reflect that some 50,000,000
of gallons of oil, of various grades, are used
annually in the United States, for pur-
poses which may be as well and more
cheaply secured by rock oils, and that Eu-
rope offers a still wider market for them,
quite as good as our own, we shall see
that there is little prospect of the rock oils
becoming wholly valueless, even if every
well should continue to flow with its max-
imum yield, and their number should be
greatly multiplied.

Whether each well will continue to yield
a constant quantity of oil it steadily pump-
ed through a series of years, is a more dif-
ficult question than that of the market
or the aggregate supply. Its solution
must be a matter of experiment.

The wells of India, and the banks of the
Caspian, have afforded a very large and
constant supply of oil for several hundred
years. The Petroleum springs of Hit,
from which the ancient Babylonians took
the imperishable cement for their Cyclo-
pean walls, still continue to flow; and the
same may be said of the oil springs of Zan-
te, mentioned by Herodotus. They yield
apparently as much to-day as they did
2,500 years ago.

The steam pump may, and probably
will, drain local reservoirs, and its power
of suction may exceed the generative ca-
pacity of limited areas. We must expect
that some wells will fail, but the history
of those largest and most successfully pump-
ed in the oil region so nearly constant in
their yield, and affecting each other so lit-
tle, gives satisfactory evidence that there is
no ephemeral function, and has inspired
a confidence in the permanence of oil wells
which is stronger than ever before.

GEN. JACKSON ON SECESSION.

When South Carolina threatened se-
cession nullification, &c., in 1834, Presi-
dent Jackson issued a proclamation which
placed a sudden and effectual quibus upon
the traitorous attempt. From it we ex-
tract the following:

The Constitution of the United States
then forms a Government, not a league,
and whether it be formed by compact be-
tween the states, or any other manner, its
character is the same. It is a government
in which all the people are represented,
which operates directly on the people in-
dividually, not on the States; they retained
all the power they did not grant. But the
state having expressly parted with so many
powers as to constitute jointly with the
other States a single nation, cannot from that
period possess any right to secede because
such secession does not break a league,
but destroys the unity of a nation, and
any injury to that unity is only a breach
which would result from the contravention
of a compact, but it is an offence against
the whole Union. To say that any State
may at pleasure secede from the Union,
is to say that the United States is not a
nation; because it would be a solemn con-
tract that any part of the nation might
dissolve its connection with the other parts,
to their injury or ruin, without committing
any offence. Secession, like any other re-
volutionary act, may be morally justified by
the extremity of oppression; but to call it a
constitutional right, is confounding the
meaning of terms, and can only be done
through gross error, or to deceive those who
are willing to assert a right, but would
pause before they make a revolution, or
incur the penalties consequent upon a fail-
ure.

"Because the Union was formed by com-
pact, it is said the parties to that compact
may when they feel themselves aggrieved,
depart from it; but it is precisely because
it is a compact that they cannot. A com-
pact is an agreement or binding obligation.
It may by its terms have a sanction or
penalty for its breach, or it may not. If
it contains no sanction it may be broken
with no other consequence than moral guilt;
if it have a sanction, then the breach in-
volves the designated or implied penalty. A
league between independent nations gener-
ally has no sanction other than a moral
one; or if it should contain a penalty, as
there is no common superior, it cannot be
enforced. A government, on the contrary,
always has a sanction, express or implied;
and in our case, it is both necessarily
implied and expressly given. An attempt
by force or arms to destroy a government
is an offence, by whatever means the con-
stitutional compact may have been formed;
and such government has the right, by the
law of self-defence, to pass acts for punish-
ing the offender, unless that right is mod-
ified, restrained or resumed by the consti-
tutional act. In our system, although it
is modified in the case of treason, yet
authority is expressly given to pass all laws
necessary to carry its powers into effect,
and under this grant provision has been
made for punishing acts which obstruct
the due administration of the laws.