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A Brief Hint on the Present Crisis.

It is the duty of every patriot to do as much as in him lies to avert the present impending evil which threatens the nation. Every citizen who has the true National principle within him will feel pleasure in subscribing with heart and hand to aid in restoring peace to his distracted country. It is the theme of the Press throughout the land—the Pulpit lends its aid, and general sympathy is fully awakened—statesmen are holding conventions and the people mass meetings. But, does it not seem, from reports, that instead of thoroughly eradicating the evil, they intend merely to heal it upon the surface, leaving it to corrupt and break forth with greater force in time to come? concessions may be required, and, in order to conciliate, readily granted—a peace may be botched up for the occasion, supported only by the pillars of present expediency and a show of prudence; but no permanent peace can be established in this enlightened nation but that which is founded upon truth and honor—the only pillars that will support this noble and mighty fabric.

In the framing of the Constitution of the country, executed as it was in the best spirit that then dwelt in earthly tabernacles, the cause of the present evil was bound up therewith; but, being in the germ it was not known to be of a dangerous character. At that time nearly all were of one heart and one mind—the master and slave were united in one common cause, and they who held the principles of anti-slavery saw in the owners of slaves a friend and fellow soldier; so that though tares were sown among the wheat—slavery with freedom—yet, no evil was anticipated; for having fought in one common cause to the obtaining of a great victory, they never entertained the thought that there would be the least difficulty in establishing a permanent national peace—therefore, though the Constitution was framed in good faith, it was performed in the infancy of experience, consequently, the tares have preponderated, and the peace of the country is endangered. Embracing, under the Constitution, Freedom and Slavery, it seems rather unsuited to the times.

Those States that possessed the true American principle of liberty have shaken off slavery, not choosing to retain liberty for themselves and slavery for others. The two principles cannot dwell in the same breast, neither can the same government by the same laws defend both—a fountain cannot send forth bitter water and sweet at the same time. The question naturally arises as to why slavery should be continued in the southern States, and the only reasonable explanation appears to be that those States have been filled up by foreign emigration to a much greater extent than the Northern States; therefore, the people coming from the aristocratic nations of Europe retain in great measure the spirit of the country from whence they have come, and no doubt but they would like to have the trammels of royalty grandly displayed in their midst. These notions which ought to have decreased and disappeared from among them have increased and been fostered by many of them, and true American principles have never taken deep root within their minds—their love for the monarchial has produced self-importance, idleness and an insatiable desire to luxuriate in pleasures—being in a free country they follow their own course, not considering the rights of others. The condition of the negro, as a domestic slave, is truly

benefited by his connection with the people of this nation; but, as they are capable of obeying a moral law, there ought to be a national law by which they ought to be governed—bound to their duties, and at the same time be under government protection, and have uninterrupted access to the proper authorities to seek redress in case of need. No doubt there are very many humane slave owners, but, it is well known, they are not all so (some are scarcely human)—hence it is that the public minds of the southern States very much resemble, only more so, those of Turkey, and other heathen nations who traffic in human life. The fact is that the negro is looked upon by some as the farmer looks upon his stock, without distinguishing that the one is capable of becoming morally responsible, and the other is not. The negro is evidently adapted for nothing but servitude, but they ought to be, in all cases, used as human beings.

Should the Southern States secede, the probability is, that they will eventually return to the Union one by one, and adopt free instead of slave labor, and thus slavery will die out of the land. There will be great danger if the southern States should sever themselves from the Union, that the sable race will feel that they have an advantage in the movement, as they would not have so great a power to contend with, and may rise in revolution, make fearful havoc, and perhaps free themselves—such an occurrence is not altogether impossible. It is hoped by every one who wishes well to his country that such a calamity even as disunion may be averted, much more that an intestine war may never take place, and that the peace of the nation, instead of being only patched up for the present emergency, may be firmly founded on the immovable basis of integrity and truth.

Though these are trying times, yet, doubtless the ordeal will prove beneficial. That high wisdom and independent spirit of the nation will be called into requisition, and the true American character declared in the hour of need, when it is hoped it will be proven that there is a "balm in Gilead" and also "a physician there."

PEAKS VARIETIES.—There is little stirring at the present time, even hunting seems to have taken a temporary recess; a calm often precedes a storm, so it may be supposed that a busy time is coming. Our quietness is now and then interrupted by small companies from the Peak, and sometimes a team traveling up. An extra of the Western Stage Co. passed down loaded lately, the regular coach is generally well filled. Roads are very hard upon wheeled vehicles. The mantle of snow that last fell decreases very slowly, here and there patches of the road are seen. Sleighing is slightly patronized. Meetings for dancing, &c., are few and far between. Indians have not been seen down here since last summer. Next month is looked for as the beginning of an enlivening time, when the quietness of winter will have disappeared and gone into the newly discovered State—State of Forgetfulness. Horses and cattle that have been wintering out are looking well, and will be found ready for work when wanted. Small game show tracks in the snow, and it is presumed they would like to see the snow leave, and if so they have a number of sympathizers. Days, generally, are pretty bright; a very cold north wind visited here last week, lasted two days, it has passed away and the fine calm has again returned. A letter received from the mountains, reports that the winter up to the end of December was particularly beautiful, streams not frozen over. Health generally good. Flour very plentiful at Denver and in the mountains. Very extensive preparations for mining operations next season.

Special dispatches from Washington Jan. 29th, to the Cincinnati papers state:
The Senate devoted all its session today to the consideration of the Pacific R. R. bill but did not pass it. At last the bill had undergone so many changes as to materially retard its passage in the House. Instead of about thirty corporations as originally provided, one hundred and sixteen have been substituted, representing all the States yet remaining in the Union, the Southern route was repaired in the bill though the objection of South-western States was urged at some length as an argument against such extension.

An attempt was recently made on the life of Victor Emanuel by some infuriated female, upon the occasion of the review of the Sardinian troops at Naples.

A recent dispatch from Washington, says that Lieut. Ibric has challenged Gen. Harney to "mortal combat" and that the General has accepted. The cause of quarrel originated in Oregon several years ago.

Why is a man that carries twice the weight of a ship? Ans.—Because he has a second mate.

Summary of News.

St. Louis, Jan. 28, pm.
The following intelligence from Washington, Jan. 27th was received this noon:
The rumor was rife here to-day that General Scott had received new intelligence relative to designs on the capital by secession intruders, which causes him much anxiety.

Judge Robinson, who was dispatched to the Southern States by Virginia, to induce them to keep the peace, telegraphs that if the Brooklyn or destined for Pensacola his mission will prove a failure.

A dispatch to Senators Crittenden and Powell says the Legislature of Kentucky has appointed John F. Bell, J. B. Clay, Mr. Cadwall, ex-Gov's Moorehead and Wickliffe, commissioners to proceed to Washington on the 4th of February.

The Grand Jury have made three presentments of ex-Secy. Floyd—first, for mal-administration in office; second, for complicity in the destruction of bonds; third, for conspiracy against the Government. It is expected that the indictments will be ready for presentation of the Jury to-morrow.

The following sensational dispatch, under date of Jan. 27th, appears in the New York Herald from its Washington correspondent:
I learn from a gentleman who had an interview with Mr. Lincoln at Springfield, within the past week, that the latter, in discussing the state of affairs, expressed himself as follows: "I will suffer death before I will consent, or will advise my friends to consent, to any concession or compromise which looks like buying the privilege of taking possession of the forts of this Government, to which it has a Constitutional right, because, whatever I might think of the merit of the various propositions before Congress, I should regard concession, in the face of menaces, the destruction of Government itself, and the consent on all hands that our system shall be brought down to a level with the disorganized state of affairs in Mexico; but this thing will henceforth be, as it is now, in the hands of the people, and if they desire to call a convention to remove any grievance complained of, or to give new guarantees for the permanence of vested rights, it is not mine to oppose."

In this conversation Mr. Lincoln expressed no objection to the Border State or Eschschmied's propositions as a future basis of agreement, if the Republicans as a party desire it.

The most intense excitement exists in certain Congressional circles, in consequence of the fact looking out that the Howard Select Committee has positive evidence before it of a conspiracy existing in this city and vicinity to overthrow the Government—in which certain prominent officials and citizens at Washington and elsewhere figure.

SPRINGFIELD, ILL., Jan. 28.
It is now positively settled that Mr. Lincoln will depart for Washington, on the 11th of February. He will go hence via Lafayette to Indianapolis, where he will receive the hospitalities of the Indiana Legislature. Thence he will proceed by way of Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, Buffalo, and Albany to Harrisburg, and thence direct to Baltimore and the Federal Capital. But the tour to New York and Philadelphia is not impossible. Arrangements for special trains, all the way through are being made, no military escort will be accepted. The entire journey is expected to be made inside of ten days.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.
SENATE.—Mr. Seward presented a petition from the citizens of New York, remonstrating against any legislation by which any protection to slavery in the Territories. Also, a petition of 750 citizens of New York, praying for some adjustment of the difficulties.

Mr. Douglas introduced a bill amendatory of the act of 1793, and the act of 1850, in relation to fugitive slaves.

Mr. Robinson presented the memorial of Dr. Robt. Secretary of the Pacific Railroad convention, held in California in 1858-9, transmitting the proceedings of the convention, and the petition asking for the passage of the Pacific Railroad bill.

Numerous petitions were introduced in favor of the Crittenden Resolutions, and asking for a settlement of existing difficulties.

HOUSE.—Mr. Rice presented the petition of 4,360 citizens of Boston, of various political opinions, asking for a pacific adjustment of our national difficulties.

Mr. Grow moved a suspension of the rules to take up the Senate's amendment to the Kansas bill, which passed by 117 against 42. So the Kansas bill passed both Houses of Congress.

On motion of Mr. Stanton, the House, under a suspension of rules, passed the bill for more effectually organizing the militia of the District of Columbia, by 119 against 42, with much opposition from Democrats.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1st.
SENATE.—The President's message was taken up.
Mr. Latham made a Union speech.
The consideration of the message was postponed till Monday.
The Executive and Judicial appropriation bill (amended) passed.
HOUSE. Feb. 1.—Mr. Sherman, from the Committee on Ways and Means, reported a bill to authorize the President to borrow \$25,000,000 previous to the first of July, for the purpose of redeeming treasury notes.

Washington Jan. 30.

SENATE.—The Pacific Railroad bill came up and passed—yeas 37, nays 19. The bill to organize the Territory of Jefferson was considered and amended, changing the name to Idaho.

Pending the vote the Senate adjourned. **HOUSE.** 30th.—The Speaker laid before the House a letter from Mr. Cobb, stating that he had received a certified copy of the accession ordinance of Alabama.

The Speaker presented the proceedings of the Democratic State Convention of Ohio, in favor of a settlement of our difficulties, either by the Border States, or by Douglas and Crittenden's plan, and especially favors the calling of a National Convention.

A message from the President announcing his signature to the Kansas bill occasioned suppressed applause by Republicans.

The principal part of the day was consumed in the discussion of the report of the Committee of 33, without arriving at a conclusion.

Nashville, Tenn., Jan. 30.
Notwithstanding the recommendation of the Governor, that commissioners be sent to Montgomery, the Legislature today instructed those commissioners to go to Washington.

St. Louis, Jan. 31.—P. M.
Private accounts state that Alex. H. Stephens will be pressed for the provisional President of the Southern Confederacy, to conciliate conservatives.

The friends of the Pacific Railroad bill, judging from the vote of the Senate, feel sanguine of the President's approval. Amendments are yet to be acted upon by the House.

It is rumored that there is a serious disagreement between General Scott and the President, touching recent movements at Fort Monroe—the President expressing much annoyance at turning the guns of the Fortress inland.

The Commander of the Brooklyn is ordered to lay off Fort Pickens after landing supplies; and if he sees an attempt to attack the fortress, to hand his artillery men and bring the ship's guns to bear on the forces.

Intense anxiety exists at the White House to hear from Pensacola, as a collision is strongly apprehended.

It is understood that the messenger from South Carolina brings the resolution passed by the South Carolina Legislature, demanding the surrender of Ft. Sumpter. Col. Hayne will present the demand to the President; and if refused an attack will be made on Fort Sumpter.

The whole Massachusetts delegation, except Sumner, unite in urging the sending of delegates to the Border State Conference.

Private advices from the South, received to-night, indicate that there will be a fight in less than thirty hours.

Captain Meigs, commanding the Fort at Tortugas, informs the government that he is sufficiently re-inforced to repel any attack.

Col. Judge, Commissioner from Alabama, has arrived with power to negotiate for the Federal property situated in that State, including arsenals, forts, &c.

The Grand Jury found three cases against Bailey for treason, one joint indictment against Bailey and Russell, three indictments against Russell for receiving stolen bonds, and one joint indictment against Bailey, Russell, and Floyd for conspiracy to defraud the Government.

From the Blue River Mines.

From the Correspondence of the R. M. Herald.
Georgia Gulch, Jan. 16th,
Mining is prosecuted with vigor, and a majority of the claims worked are paying well, while some are paying largely. But little is done in Humboldt Gulch for want of water—what low are working, are using hand rockers, some of them yielding \$15 to \$20 per day. The discovery claim on Georgia Gulch is paying two to four ounces per day—one half day's run cleaning up \$35. Most of the claims in lower Georgia are worked, some of them paying \$100 to \$150 per day.

Galena Gulch is attracting considerable attention, and is undoubtedly as rich a gulch as there is in the mountains.

About forty men are at work in the gulch and are doing well. A \$300 nugget was recently taken but by Thompson & Co., from No. 3 below, and \$400 was taken from No. 4 below, and about six feet square of dirt—\$276 was the yield of about the same amount of dirt from No. 15 above, worked by Morgan & Co. Three days run from No. 8, was respectively \$50, \$72, and \$54, working but five or six hours per day.

French Gulch has been the scene of some little excitement of late in claim jumping, two or three districts have been jumped, and new organizations formed.

From one hundred to one hundred and fifty men are at work in the gulch, most of them building cabins, cutting tail ditches and doing other preparatory work to claim opening; while the work is pushed on in the claims opened in the fall indicates a satisfactory yield to the owners. A run of two and a half hours, by Brown & Co., six feet from the surface, with no signs of bed rock, yielded \$7.

The gulch is about ten miles long, with a large number of leads crossing it, and those acquainted with the gulch predict a larger yield of gold the coming season than was taken from California Gulch the past season. Our leads, and particularly those in the vicinity of and crossing French Gulch are well worthy the attention of mill men.

The Lincoln, Illinois, Norton, Wilson, German, Webber, Prospect and Galena leads, all prospect well, and abound in pyrites of iron—while the Barber, Robley, Roper, Chicago and Cary leads are considered rich in silver. Sixteen or a dozen men are at work in the Miner's District, Blue river, averaging \$8 to \$10 per day to the man. Some two or thirty men are wintering in Gold Run, all making wages.

There are now about four hundred men on this side of the range, and the number daily increasing by those returning from the valley.

There seems to be little danger of our starving at present, some twenty loads of provisions having come in in the last two weeks, and twelve or fifteen more on the way, which, added to the stock already on hand, has reduced the price so that living is as cheap here now as in the valley.

Flour is selling at \$15, and other goods in proportion. The snow is from three to four feet deep in the gulches and on the hill sides, and from six to eight feet on the range.

From Tarryall Mines.

HAMPTON, SOUTH PARK, Jan. 24.
The miners, as a general thing, are doing well, considering the many disadvantages under which they labor—scarcity of water, depth of the snow, &c. Georgia, French, and Galena gulches are expected to yield golden harvests in the spring. French Gulch is considered, and justly too, in my opinion, the richest discovery in the Southern mines, not excepting the famous Georgia Gulch, which has proved the richest so far.

A new discovery has recently been made in the vicinity of California Gulch, which is said to be very rich—five cents to the pan, two feet from the top. It is called California Flats.

We have lately heard good news from some of our Silver Lodes, and from good authority. The Plattville has been tested in Racine, Wis., and averaged \$1,500 to the ton, the Quandary \$2,400, the Mt. Sterling \$3,800. The Block Mountains, Lyon and Wilson were tested and yielded richly.

ARTESIAN WELLS.—A mill company of Missouri city, in the Mountains, finding their supply of water from the altus likely to fail them and occasion delay by having their mill stopped, set to work immediately to find the machinery and the workmen requisite to accomplish the task of boring an artesian well.

After encountering many difficulties and disappointments their object was at last accomplished, a well was bored and an ample supply of water obtained for all practical purposes, at a depth of one hundred and twelve feet below the surface and at a cost of about six dollars to the foot, or six hundred and fifty dollars for the job.

An investment that will prove more profitable in the end than that of another mill company, who instead of commencing at once upon an artesian well, expended about four hundred dollars in the construction of a ditch which has proven useless, and two hundred more on another which supplies them with plenty of water, but for which they are to pay fifty dollars per month, as long as they continue to use it.

From what has already been done, it is reasonable to conclude that water can be obtained, and that deep artesian borings will be entirely successful, in the mountain gulches, and all the mills supplied from an unfailing source with sufficient water for their purposes.

From South Clear Creek.

The weather in this vicinity has been very pleasant, until the last few days. Old Sol shows himself but a few hours in the day, and then does not appear to have the same warmth that he usually bestows on us. Parties have been sluicing on this bar all the winter, until the 7th of this month, and some of them have made it pay pretty well. Last season the water on the bar hindered the miners from working to the bedrock across the old channel. But this winter several shafts have been sunk, and I understand that they get big pay. Several lodes are being opened hereabouts, and some comparatively rich ones.

Messrs. Cottingham & Co., are sinking a shaft on the General Taylor lode, and have reached the pyrites of iron, which prospect well. Clear Creek is bound to be the great mining country, after a little while. Already parties are tearing down their mills in the vicinity of Gregory, and moving them here to this neighborhood, where they can get good mill privileges. Where are the mills in Gregory and the neighboring gulches going to get their fuel from, in two years from this time? The timber now, for miles around is all chopped off, where last spring the mountains were thickly covered with it. In a few years wood cannot be had for love or money. On Clear Creek is the place to locate, and I trust it will not cease to run to the South, though all the Southern States should secede.

MY WESTERN HOME.

O give me a home in the far distant West,
When earth is fair, healthy and verdure is dressed;
When woodlands re-echo songs merry and free,
And wild flowers are blooming o'er prairie and sea.
I love thy broad prairies, thy clear winding streams,
When soft o'er the landscape the moon pours her beams;
Or when the lingering rays of the sunlight fall
Through thy shady groves, and thy leafy halls.
O, a lovelier sight the eye hath never seen—
Than the rich, velvet mantle of many a green,
Which earth in her beauty has brightly adorned,
And garnished with flowers of azure and gold.

O give me a home in this land that I love,
Where the blue skies are leading so free
above;
Where the sweetest of birds in the world that are
Are sitting and singing from spray to tree.
O yes, 'tis a fairy spot, this prairie home,
With its carpet of green, and its glittering dew;
Where the timid deer bounds, glad and free,
O, a prairie home is the home for me.

Fort Sumpter is three and three miles from Charleston, one and three miles from Fort Moultrie, three miles to the nearest land, one and three miles to Fort Johnson, and two and three miles to Castle Pickney. The last named fort is one mile from the town, and Fort Johnson is two and three miles from the town. The measurements are correct being taken from the last surveys made by the United States coast survey.

A felicity that costs pain, gives trouble content.
The greatest truths are the simplest, so are the greatest men.
God hears the heart without words, but he never hears words without the heart.
Remember that the human constitution is one that cannot be amended by a two thirds vote.

There are few defects in our nature so glaring as not to be veiled by politeness and good breeding.
In all our calamities and afflictions, it may serve as a comfort to know that he who loses anything and gets wisdom by it, gains by the loss.

Men of a fervid imagination, having great command of language, and also enthusiasm of character, almost invariably become superior teachers.
Can anything be justly deemed little which is pregnant with eternal consequences? Are there any little things in a sound system of spiritual morality?

A writer has compared worldly friendships to our shadow, and a better comparison was never made, for while we walk in the sunshine it sticks to us, but the moment we enter the shade it departs.

Success in teaching is more dependent upon the capabilities of the master for teaching, than upon his technical requirements. Teaching power is not always associated with superior talents or acquirements.

Another mill company in Missouri city has commenced boring an artesian well in their mill, they have descended to the depth of eighty feet, and at last accounts were progressing finely.—R. M. News, Jan. 25.