

BY D. W. CRAIG.
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-A Weekly Newspaper, devoted to the Interests of the Laboring Classes, and advocating the side of Truth in every issue.-

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No. 48.

For the Argus.
Time.
There has a myth for those alone...

Why Major Anderson did not protect the "Star of the West."
The Tribune correspondent says: "As Maj. Anderson's correspondence with Gov. Pickens has been subjected to some comments, it is proper that certain important facts should be known to the public."

Wonders of the Microscope.
Leuwenhoeck tells us of animated insects seen with the microscope, of which twenty-seven millions would only be equal to a mile.

The Chicago and Milwaukee Board of Trade visited the President, Mr. Seward, and others, to-day.
The President said in the interview: "If Mr. Lincoln shall in my opinion be a happy man."

Millenism Redivivus.
Millerism, we learn by a private letter from the East, has taken a fresh start in New England, particularly in New Hampshire, where the number of believers is becoming every day more numerous and noisy.

Distance of the Forts from Charleston.
Fort Sumter is three and three-eighths miles from Charleston, one and one-eighth miles from Fort Moultrie, three quarters of a mile to the nearest land, one and three-eighths miles to Fort Johnson, and two and five eighths miles to Castle Pinckney.

The historian Bancroft calls Baltimore, Cincinnati and St. Louis, "the triad of cities which are the fortresses of the Union—the breakwater against which the states of secession shall dash, only to be driven back."

Democratic Measure Repealed.
The Republican Legislature of Rhode Island has repealed the Personal Liberty law, which was passed by Democrats eleven years ago.

A weaver in Scotland has invented a machine for weaving Brussels and velvet pile carpets and table covers, which it is predicted will cause a revolution in these branches of manufacture.

Gen. Shields.
This gentleman proposes making California his home, and has formed a law partnership with Lewis Seazer, in San Francisco.—Sec. Union.

A Dig at Spiritualism.

The London Lancet has the following dig at Spiritualism:
"There is one transparent proof of imposture or hallucination: the utter barrenness and uselessness of all these degrading superstitions. What good does it do to make a table dance? It is not the proper function of a table. At sea, lest tables should indulge in inconvenient vagaries of this kind, they are lashed to the decks."
Of what use is it to know what Shakespeare's ghost thinks upon a given question in history or morals? Why pay a medium to be told what is contained in a sealed envelope, when you have but to break the seal and know with absolute certainty?—Your medium is impotent to see more than other men where the question is to benefit himself or society. Not a fact, not a discovery, do we owe to the brotherhood of visionaries. Can they who read with the umbilicus, see through a mahogany door, and converse with spirits, tell us who is the murderer of that poor child at Road?

"We have adverted to this subject with a reluctance that amounts to loathing. It is a lamentable task to be called upon to notice seriously a moral epidemic, even upon a limited scale, which implies such an utter defect of reasoning power—such a debasing superstition; and that, too, in men and women who claim to belong to the educated classes. In our self-conceit, we deplore the ignorance of our forefathers who hanged and drowned witches. But where lies the difference between the witches of old and the mediums of to-day? They do the same thing, by similar pretended agency, and what they do is of equal value to society. We do not propose to hang mediums, but, in the name of common sense, and for the credit of the nineteenth century, let them starve, or find honest livelihood."

What was Learned from the Late Eclipse.—The solar eclipse of July 18, 1860, was more thoroughly observed than any other that ever occurred. In addition to the great number of trained observers who were scattered along the line of its path, from the State of Oregon to Egypt, the new art of astronomical photography lent its powerful aid toward obtaining a complete history of the phenomena. In former total eclipses, when the sun was completely hidden by the moon, while still brighter objects, appearing like protuberances, were seen extending into the corona, there had been much discussion among astronomers in regard to these appearances, some believing that they were produced by the action of the earth's atmosphere on the sun's light, others attributing them to the moon, and others still to the sun. Hopes had been for some time entertained that the eclipse of this year would afford observations which would settle these questions. These hopes have not been disappointed. The corona is a luminous atmosphere of the sun, brighter than the face of the moon, gradually becoming fainter as the distance from the sun increases, till it fades away in the sky without any defined limits, but visible at least 500,000 leagues from the body of the sun. The red protuberances are numerous floating clouds, floating in the shining atmosphere, all of them pretty near the surface of the sun.—It is a curious fact, that some of these clouds impressed their image on the photographic paper, though they could not be seen through with powerful telescopes.—This fact is explained on the supposition that they may have emitted a deep violet light composed mostly of chemical rays.—The application of photography to the observation of the heavenly bodies, was first made by our American astronomers, a fact admitted by the English and French.

Marching Feats of U. S. Troops.—The present is a fit time to recall to memory the prodigies performed by our regular troops in the time of peace: A large portion of the Seventh Regiment marched from Camp Floyd, U. T., to Fort Buchanan, New Mexico, traveled 1,000 miles, and spent 140 days on the road. This is one of the most lengthy military journeys recorded. It is not generally known that the longest march of infantry ever accomplished was successfully completed about a year ago by an American Regiment—the gallant old Sixth—which left Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, for California, a distance of 2,800 miles, and was 190 days on the road, of which 162 were actually passed in marching. The march was nearly twice the length of that of Hannibal's troops, going from Spain to Italy, and more than twice as long as that of Xenophon's Ten Thousand, and much longer than Napoleon's perilous journey to Moscow. The Sixth suffered severely all the way. At Carson Valley the snow fell for three days, and at the end of that time lay on the ground eighteen inches deep. Recently several companies of a fine regiment, on a journey over the plains, passed over seventeen days without meeting water, being thus thrown on the scanty supply of their wallets.

An editor, some years ago, in attempting to compliment Gen. Pillow as a "battle-scarred veteran," was made by the types to call him a "battle-scarred veteran." In the next issue, the mistake was so far corrected as to style him a "battle-scarred veteran."

The Threatened Seizure of the Capital.

All accounts from Washington represent the Government to be well prepared to give the secession seceders a warm reception, should they attempt to take possession of the Capital and prevent the inauguration of Lincoln. Gen. Scott has given orders to have three companies of flying artillery concentrated in or near Washington, and a regiment of infantry, a squadron of dragoons, and several companies of riflemen. He has also requested Toney, Secretary of the Navy, to place three or four men of war in the river adjoining the arsenal, ready for action. He has had Capt. N. Stone appointed Inspector General of the militia of the District, and set him to work organizing and drilling the volunteer companies of the city, and filling up their ranks. The members are directed to keep their arms at home, in order that seizure in their respective armories may be prevented. Chief Justice Taney declared that he would administer the oath of office to Mr. Lincoln on the 4th of March, if he had to go to Springfield to do it.

The Washington correspondent of the Chicago Tribune writes thus:

"Any attempt to seize the Capitol and the archives of the Government, or to prevent the inauguration of the President elect, will be resisted by a million of men in arms. Thousands of letters received by members of Congress within a few days indicate the firm resolve of the masses to put down any mob violence on this Capital. Let the telegraph flash the news that the rattle-snake ensign is flying over the Capitol, and a hundred thousand armed men will be here in three days to tear it down, and shoot, bayonet, and hang any rebel found in the District. The moral effect on the whole country of Lincoln's public inauguration from the Capitol of the nation, must not be lost by having him take the oath of office in a corner. Let the ceremony be performed in due and ancient form. The North and West respond aye. Let the South vote no, at their peril. The proposition of the New York Legislature, moved by a Democratic Senator, to raise ten millions of dollars, and arm 200,000 militia to defend the integrity of the Union, support the Constitution, and enforce the laws, has been an eye-opener to the secessionists. It means business. It is talking out in meeting. It contrasts rather largely with that \$400,000 forced loan of South Carolina. There are individual citizens in the Empire State who will take \$400,000 stock in that loan, if ever wanted, without over-checking their current bank account. Wm. B. Astor, A. T. Stewart, and several others who might be named, can either of them raise more money and equip more men to thrash the Tories of South Carolina than the whole Palmetto nation can raise to fight the Union."

Speaking of Buchanan's Cabinet, the same writer says:
"Stanton is the backbone of the Cabinet. He is a resolute, clear-headed, devoted Union man, from the Buckeye State, though he has resided in this District for a couple of years, practicing law in the higher courts. So long as he remains in the Union, it will have one true friend and defender. The active, vigorous measures being taken by Gen. Scott for the defense of this District, are mainly owing to the influence of Attorney-General Stanton—the law officer of the Government. The refusal of the President to recognize the South Carolina envoys in any other light than private citizens, was his immense disgust, was also the work of Stanton. The return to them of their insulting letter to the President, with marks of contempt, was also done on Stanton's advice as the only proper way to treat such a mission, emanating from such a source."

Curious Discovery.—It is said that Mayor Tienan, at his paint factory in Manhattanville, New York, has accidentally made a discovery which threatens to revolutionize floriculture. One of the factory hands having thrown some liquid green paint of a particular kind on a flower bed occupied by white anemones, the flowers have since made their appearance with petals as green as grass. The paint had in it a peculiar and very penetrating mixture, which Mr. Tienan has since applied, with the colors, to other plants—annual, biennial, and of the shrub kind—the result being invariably that the flowers so watered took the hue of the liquid deposited at their roots. By commencing experiments early in the year, during seed-time, and applying different colors, we will no doubt soon be enabled to "paint the lily," which was Solomon's ambition.

No New Tricks.—The National Intelligencer quotes the language of Keitt in relation to secession. "I have been engaged in this movement ever since I entered political life," and of Bllett, who says, "The secession of South Carolina is not the event of a day. It is not anything produced by Mr. Lincoln's election, or by the non-execution of the fugitive slave law.—It has been a matter which has been gathering head for thirty years"; and advises the border States to beware how they suffer themselves to be led off by South Carolina, as she is not endeavoring to meet a new and startling emergency in our civil history, but is only making complaint of present difficulties a cloak to hide the matured plans of thirty years.

LETTER FROM MAJOR ANDERSON.—The following letter from Maj. Anderson in reply to one addressed to him by C. G. Childs, communicating to him, as Chairman, a resolution unanimously adopted at a meeting of prominent citizens of Philadelphia, without distinction of party, held at the hall of the Board of Trade, on Jan. 8th, will be read with interest:

Fort Sumter, S. C., Jan. 19, 1861.
SIR: I thank you for the complimentary terms in which you were pleased to communicate the resolution unanimously adopted at a meeting of the citizens of all political parties, held in the hall of the Board of Trade, in your city, on Thursday, Jan. 8, 1861: Such an endorsement, from such a source, is a compliment which I feel most deeply—a compliment, I know, not highly bestowed, and therefore more to be prized. Would that I could express to each of my fellow-countrymen, who have thus honored me and my little band, the feelings which now fill my heart. Our beloved country is, I fear, rapidly drifting towards a dangerous reef. I pray God that He may be pleased to bestow understanding and wisdom on our rulers, and that He will safely guide us through the stormy sea in which we are now adrift.

I am, sir, very respectfully your obt. servt.
ROBERT ANDERSON, Major U. S. A.
C. G. Childs, Chairman, etc. Phila.

France.—The Emperor is really in earnest in once more proclaiming the liberty of the press. A late report of the Count Persigny contains the following:—"Oblivion of the past will be a new token tendered by the generous policy of the Emperor, which aims at the reconciliation and union of all the intelligence of the country. I have invited the press to use great freedom of discussion. But against those who may attack the State my conscience will be so much the freer and stronger, because in effacing the past, his Majesty offers to writers an opportunity of displaying their patriotism." The Emperor is tolerably safe in thus restoring to the press the freedom of which he had deprived it, especially as the feeling of opposition has been nearly eradicated, and those writers who are most to be feared will find opportunities of venting their spleen in spite of imperial edicts and suppressions.

A Formidable Fortress.—Fort Monroe (Old Point Comfort, Va.) is now said to be rendered one of the most formidable fortresses in the country. Its armament has been improved in many respects, and looks truly formidable. The number of guns mounted is no less than two hundred and eighty-five, which throw twelve thousand four hundred and seventeen pounds of iron. There are, besides these, ten mortars and five siege howitzers. The new fort, commonly known as the Rip Rap, will, when perfectly completed, have one hundred and eighty-eight Columbiads, and fifty-four forty-two guns, all casemated; and eight ten-inch Columbiads, and forty-six nine-inch ditto, all en barbette. Nothing that could be done to perfect the ensemble of the battery has been neglected.

A Short Catechism.—It is said that the following catechism is now used in all the Sunday schools in South Carolina:
Teacher.—Who is God?
Little Boy.—South Carolina.
Teacher.—Who is King?
Little Boy.—Cotton.
Teacher.—Who is President of the United States?
Little Boy.—South Carolina.
Teacher.—From whom did Howell Cobb, late Secretary of the Treasury, learn his trade of light-fingered financiering?
Little Boy.—From Bailey of South Carolina.
Teacher.—Where was Gov. Floyd (late Cabinet officer) going to send all the arms?
Little Boy.—To South Carolina.
Teacher.—Who took Fort Moultrie and Castle Pinckney after they had been abandoned?
Little Boy.—South Carolina.
Teacher.—Who did not take Fort Sumter?
Little Boy.—South Carolina.
Teacher.—Who did take Fort Sumter?
Little Boy.—Maj. Robert Anderson, God bless him.

Et Cetera.—AN EXCITING GAME.—South Carolina and James Buchanan against Maj. Anderson and Gen. Scott.
South Carolina deals and turns up the ten of spades (niggers); Gen. Scott passes; James Buchanan, having the best hower, assists South Carolina. They play, and the old General having a good hand, draws J. B.'s best hower, and, taking three tricks, he catches them.

Maj. Anderson now deals, and turns up hearts; James Buchanan passes; Gen. Scott says he cannot assist the Major; South Carolina passes; Maj. Anderson turns down hearts reluctantly; James Buchanan passes again; Gen. Scott passes again; South Carolina passes; Maj. Anderson makes clubs trumps, and says he plays it at one. The hand is played, the Major makes a march, and South Carolina and James Buchanan are skanked.—Boston Atlas.

Frederick William IV. King of Prussia, is dead. As a sovereign, he has been virtually dead for more than two years, his mental decay having been pronounced incurable in 1858. On the 22d of October, 1858, his brother William took the reins of government as Prince Regent, now succeeds to the throne as King.

The following paragraph from the Charleston (S. C.) Courier, concedes the alleged fact that many of the best families of the State are fleeing from it as from the plague, in consequence of the lawless tyranny now exercised by mob rule there. That paper of Jan. 12, says:
"The removal of many excellent families from the capital is regretted, but nobody proposes to stop them from managing their own domestic affairs in their own way."

The South Carolinians took Fort Moultrie and Castle Pinckney immediately after the evacuation of them by Maj. Anderson. And now why don't they take Fort Sumter? Are they waiting for anything in particular?—Premier

Worse than Heathenism.—A Woman Tattered and Feathered!

In a late number of the N. Y. Illustrated News, we find the following particulars of a diabolical outrage recently committed in Alabama. The News illustrates the proceeding by a large wood-cut. We hope, for humanity's sake, it may not be true:

In the State of Alabama, one of our Northern ladies—a young and beautiful girl—whose name and birthplace we withhold for the present—has been brutally outraged by these savages, and she is here to demand justice for her wrongs. She went out to Alabama as a school teacher, and was universally respected by all who knew her for her talent and character.—During the present distracted times she fell under suspicion for her humane sentiments, and without accusation or trial of any sort, she was seized by a gang of ruffians, who acted under the sanction of the Common Council of the city where the outrage was committed, was stripped naked, tarred and feathered, and ridden on a rail to the depot, escorted thither by a committee appointed by the Common Council. And, as if she had been some dangerous and powerful enemy, the same Council ordered her to be strictly guarded till after she passed Mason's and Dixon's line. Incredible as all this may appear, it is, nevertheless, strictly true, and we only keep back the names and dates from reasons of policy.

We present our readers to-day with a sketch of this foul scene and its dastardly actors. We have no words to express our indignation and horror at it, but we fear that such scenes are likely now to become all too common; for we hear daily of hangings and burnings by these brutal mobs, and there seems to be no law, either of man or God, to prevent them.
The Tribune, speaking of these scenes, says that the letter vouching for their truth, has been laid before the editor of that journal, who in his turn vouches for the honor and character of the writer. We also have seen the letter, and what we have stated above respecting the lady in question, was taken from it without gloss or exaggeration; although the Tribune omits all the details of the barbarous and inhuman proceeding.

The Speech of Senator Baker.—The speech of Senator Baker in the Senate Chamber has disappointed all parties. His reputation was that of an orator whose fancy was fascinating, whose declamation was superb, and whose power consisted chiefly in splendid outbursts of rhetoric, calculated to captivate a popular audience, but not to weigh much in the deliberations of a Senate. But the gentleman from the far distant region "where rolls the Oregon," had the exemplary discretion not to make a gaudy stump speech. He discarded the glittering generalities, and, sobering his imaginative temperament, reasoned from the facts with a simplicity like that of a really great lawyer, stating propositions dispassionately, and with mathematical precision. Only in two or three passages did he become warm, and his periods rounded with the luxuriant and musical swell and sweep of a mind enriched with literature, as well as disciplined to work out political problems with geometrical exactness. Baker was replying to the most dangerous antagonist in the Senate, Benjamin, and was frequently interrupted by him. It is high praise to say that he was not placed at a disadvantage in this combat, but parried and thrust like a gladiator, displaying great skill in fencing, as well as pluck, and a "wrist of iron." So Baker's speech was a success, though not such a one as was anticipated.—Cincinnati Commercial.

Patriotic Reply.—Capt. Whiting, of the Steamer Marion, which sails between New York and Charleston, when leaving the latter port, raised the flag of his country over his vessel; and soon after arriving in New York, received a letter from Charleston, enquiring whether on his departure he "hoisted at his ship's peak the American Ensign, or the Palmetto Flag?" To which Capt. Whitney tartly replied: "I was born under the Stars and Stripes, have always sailed under them, and, with the blessing of God, will die under them."

Witty and Severe.—The Rev. A. S. Laurie had occasion to exchange pulpits with the Rev. E. H. Chapin, of New York. Many members of Mr. Chapin's congregation have an idea that nobody else can preach a sermon as well as their pastor, and when they enter their church and find a stranger occupying his place, they are apt to go out. So it happened on this occasion that not a few persons departed, and others were on the point of doing so, when Mr. Laurie arose, hymn book in hand, and gravely remarked: "All those who came here to worship E. H. Chapin will have an opportunity to re-visit, and those who came to worship the everlasting God, will please unite in singing the following hymn!"

The assessed valuation of all the property in California, in 1860, was \$148,193,549 02, of which San Francisco furnished \$35,967,499.
—There are fifteen quartz-crushing mills and ten saw mills up and at work in Carson city, Washoe, and more being erected. Besides this, a penitentiary, court-house, and mammoth hotel are ordered.
—Mrs. Jane Dale Fauntleroy, only sister of Robert Dale Owen, died at New Harmony lately. She was the widow of a United States army officer. This celebrated family is now reduced to two brothers, Robert Dale and Richard.
—Judge Jones, of the U. S. District Court, at Mobile, Jan. 11, announced from the windows of the court-room in the custom-house building, that the United States District Court for the Southern District of Alabama, was "adjourned forever!" He has resigned.

RATES OF ADVERTISING:
Our square (twelve lines, or less, brevier measure) one insertion..... \$ 3 00
Each subsequent insertion..... 1 00
Business cards one year..... 20 00
A liberal deduction will be made to those who advertise by the year.
[?] The number of insertions should be noted on the margin of an advertisement, otherwise it will be published till forbidden, and charged accordingly.
[?] Ordinary notices will be charged half the above rates of advertising.
[?] JOB PRINTING executed with neatness and dispatch.
Payment for Job Printing must be made on delivery of the work.

[From our Extra of Saturday.]

4 DAYS LATER FROM THE EAST.

Hope for the Union!
By the stage from the South this afternoon, we received the following intelligence from the East, in the Red Bluff Independent, to which paper it was telegraphed from San Francisco. The news is of a more hopeful character:

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 21.

The Pony Express arrived at Fort Churchill at half past 12 o'clock this morning, bringing telegraphic dates from St. Louis, via Fort Kearny, to the 9th inst.

Nothing important has occurred since the telegraphic dispatch by the last Pony Express.
The Union men have carried the Virginia Convention triumphantly. The secessionists elected only about thirty or forty members.

It is understood that a great majority of those elected stand on the Crittenden amendments, or as equivalent, an ultimatum, if this is not conceded, they will go for submitting the question to the people.

The Union Convention is still in session with closed doors. No decided steps have yet been taken.

Ex-President Tyler, on taking the chair as President, made a highly conservative speech, which gave great satisfaction to the Republicans, and strengthened the hopes of the Union men.

Several additional States have sent delegates to the Convention, which is increasing in popular favor.

The organization at the North, against any concession, is becoming more sensible, and the Union feeling is extending, since the result of the Virginia election is known.

Secession movements go on in the South, without any excitement.

Texas has passed her secession ordinance by a large majority.

No collision has taken place anywhere. All is quiet at Pensacola, where a truce has been concluded, and the State troops withdrawn.

Charleston is quiet also. Fort Sumter has not been reinforced.

Col. Hayne and Lieut. Hall have left Washington.

The ultimatum of South Carolina has been presented, and responded to.

The President says that he has no power to negotiate for the surrender of Government property, which he is bound by law to protect.

The public are waiting to see what Gov. Pickens will do.

Congress has done nothing towards a settlement.

Several crisis speeches per day are read off by Southern members.

It is rumored that Johnson, of Tennessee, and Wigfall, of Texas, are going to fight a duel.

The Montgomery (Alabama) Convention is in session, but has made little progress. Howell Cobb is President.

More revenue cutters have been seized at New Orleans, and some forts in Arkansas are reported as having been taken by the State troops.

Massachusetts sends commissioners to the Peace Congress at Washington.

The President elect will leave Springfield, for Washington, on Monday next.

Black's name has been sent to the Senate for Daniel's place on the U. S. Supreme Court Bench.

The bill, suspending Mail service in the seceding States, has passed the House by a large majority.

Miscellaneous.

The French press is attaching great importance to American affairs. The Monitor of the 20th of Dec., publishes the President's Message in large type, and at full length. The French press teems with articles on American affairs.

Seven thousand Polish Jews recently passed through Posen, on their way to the United States. The German papers say that such an exodus of the children of Israel has not been witnessed since that out of Egypt.

Prof. Morse has just received from the King of Portugal, the Cross of Chevalier of the Order of the Tower and Sword, being the fifth of that character which has been bestowed upon him by European sovereigns for his invention of the telegraph.

The celebrated Lola Montez died in New York on the 17th Jan. She latterly had given much of her time to religious meditation and the teachings of spiritualism.

—It is proposed to construct in Paris a magnificent Polish mosque and a Turkish hotel or caravansaray.

The loftiest artificial structure in the world is the great pyramid of Egypt—480 feet. The Washington National Monument, if ever completed, will be 518 feet in height.

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