

BY D. W. CRAIG.

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For the Argus.

Life.

Mysterious life, this we live,
So chequer'd and so changing—
The world both good and ill doth give,
While through it we are ranging.

This life both gleaming rays of joy,
And many shades of sorrow;
And pleasures, that will wane and ebb
Before the coming morrow.

And there are hopes, all dimmed with fear,
And tears, dispersed by smiles;
And smiles are changed to falling tears,
And hearts, to funeral piles.

Many a sunny face at morn
Is clouded ere it is night—
And blossoms, that "sweet home" adorn,
Their radiance yield to blight.

And hearts caress with tender bliss
The love that's filling them up;
But, ah! how soon doth merriment's kiss
O'erflow with anguish their cup!

To live, then, lose—to laugh, then weep—
Sins, then pray and strive—must live;
Then, blasts of death must sweep us,
Sum of what this life doth give.

Miscellany.

By private letters from New Orleans, it appears that the Union feeling is daily on the increase there. One of our journals says that its correspondent there, whose long and extensive acquaintance with that city and the State of Louisiana leads it to place entire confidence in his statements, gives positive assurance that if an election should now be held, the State would go for the Union by 5,000 instead of 500 majority. On the occasion of Washington's birthday, Cutbert Bullet, a Kentuckian by birth, and a merchant of long and distinguished standing in the city, decorated his house with American flags, and the busts of Clay and Webster, interspersed with strong Union sentiments. Contrary to his expectations, the loyal display called forth plaudits from the entire procession as it filed past.

—One hundred and fifty men have been, for a long time past, and are yet, busily engaged, at the Watervliet arsenal, Troy, making gun carriages, preparing cups, etc. Thousands of tons of war material have been sent off from that station to Forts Pickens, Jefferson, Tortugas and other fortifications. Shell, canister and grape shot are to be sent off to a fabulous extent, and heavy gun carriages to mount the forts have also been quite plentifully sent away. The Southern forts have never been fully mounted before, but they are now in a fair way of receiving a supply of ammunition sufficient to exterminate the country in the section which the material is sent.

—George M. Dallas, American Minister at the Court of St. James, writes very eloquent letters to his friends on this side of the Atlantic, deploring the present condition of political affairs in the United States, and expressive of the disgrace which the madness of a portion of our people, and the pitiable attitude of the government, has reflected upon the American name. Public men of England in high station condole with him upon the state of his country, and his intended kindness he feels to be a reproach and humiliation.

—One of the small States of Germany having, on account of the unsettled appearance of the European horizon, determined to put its army upon a war footing, resolved, as a means toward that end, to purchase the most improved weapons of war, accordingly procured an Armstrong gun upon trial. Having got the gun, a great difficulty arose—they had no place to put up the target. Their own space of territory was not large enough; and as none of the neighboring States were willing to allow it to be put up in theirs, the trial had to be foregone.

—It has been discovered as the result of a protracted scrutiny in the Land Office, that a number of warrants for several thousand acres of land had been abstracted. Some of them were sold in Baltimore. A clerk who resigned some time ago, and one recently dismissed, are suspected. The whole public service here and elsewhere is demoralized, and defalcations and robberies may be expected until it is thoroughly purged.

—John Johnson, of Ohio, 86 years of age, was found dead in his bed, in Washington recently. He was one of the companions of the immortal Daniel Boone, and when the remains of that celebrated hunter were, a few years ago, removed and consigned to a final resting place, the Legislature of Kentucky sent for Johnson to act as one of the pall bearers, and follow him to his last grave.

—The Cherokees have caught the fever and seceded. They have seized Fort Gibson, and will doubtless send a commissioner to Washington, to demand that all the land they have ever owned be returned to them, the seizure of the Capitol and a grand war-dance in the White House being the penalty which they will exact for a refusal.

—Since the first of January, 1857, there has been paid of the State debt, of Illinois, besides meeting the interest semi-annually, \$2,959,746 80. The public debt, November 30, 1860, amounted to \$6,549,167 89; the canal debt, \$3,557,230 25.

—Count de Flahaut, the new French ambassador at London, was the bearer of the letter of Napoleon I. to the captain of the "Bellerophon," to whom he surrendered.

—A New England woman declares in print that "Fanny Fern" has done more to injure her sex and make men disrespect them, than any female writer since the world began.

—President Felton, of Cambridge, asserts that the continued use of steel pens paralyzes the nerves of the arm. He advocates a return to the use of quills.

—The difference between private and public opinion is, that the former may be that of a wise man, while the latter is necessarily that of a vast number of fools.

The Oregon Argus.

—A Weekly Newspaper, devoted to the Interests of the Laboring Classes, and advocating the side of Truth in every issue.—

Vol. VI.

OREGON CITY, OREGON, APRIL 6, 1861.

No. 52.

Inaugural Address of President Lincoln.

Fellow Citizens of the United States:—In compliance with a custom as old as the Government itself, I appear here to address you briefly, and to take, in your presence, the oath prescribed by the Constitution of the United States, to be taken by the President before he enters on the execution of his office. I do not consider it necessary at present for me to discuss those matters of administration about which there is no special excitement. The apprehension seems to exist among the people of the Southern States, that, by the accession of a Republican Administration, their property and their peace and personal security are to be endangered; but there has never been any reasonable cause for such apprehension. Indeed the most ample evidence to the contrary all the while existed, and was opened to their inspection. It is found in nearly all the published speeches of him who now addresses you. I do but quote from one of those speeches, when I declare that I have no purpose, directly or indirectly, to interfere with the institution of slavery in the States where it exists. I believe I have no lawful right to do so. I have no inclination to do so. Those who nominated and elected me did so with the full knowledge that I had made this and many similar declarations, and had never recanted them, and more than this, they placed in the platform for my acceptance as a law to themselves and to me the clear and emphatic resolution, which I now read:

"Resolved, That the maintenance inviolate of the rights of the States and especially the right of each State to order and control its own domestic institutions according to its own judgment exclusively, is essential to the balance of power on which the perfection and endurance of our political fabric depends, and we denounce the lawless invasion by an armed force of the government of any State or Territory, no matter under what pretext, as among the gravest of crimes."

I now reiterate these sentiments, and in doing so only press upon the public attention the most conclusive evidence of which the case is susceptible—that the property, peace and security of no section are to be in any wise endangered by the now incoming Administration—I add, too, that all the protection which consistently with the Constitution and the laws can be given, will be cheerfully given to all the States, when lawfully demanded, for whatever cause, as cheerfully to one section as to another.

There is much controversy about the delivery of fugitives from service or labor.—The clause now read is as plainly written in the Constitution as any other of its provisions:

"No person held to service or labor in one State, under the laws thereof, escaping to another, shall in consequence of any law or regulation therein be discharged from such service or labor, but shall be delivered up on claim to the party to whom such service or labor may be due."

It is scarcely questioned that this provision was intended, by those who made it, for the reclaiming of what we call the fugitive slaves, and the intention of the law given is the law. All members of Congress swear their support to the whole Constitution, to this portion as much as to any other. To the proposition then, that slaves whose cases come within the terms of this clause shall be delivered up, their oaths are unanimous. Now, if they would make the effort in good temper, could they not with nearly unanimous frame and pass a law by means of which to make good that unanimous oath? There is some difference of opinion whether these clauses should be enforced by national or State authority, but surely that difference is not a very material one. If the slave is to be surrendered, it can be of but little consequence to him or to others by what authority it is done; and should any one in any case be content that this oath shall be unkept, or merely unsubstantial controversy as to how it shall be kept? Again, in any law upon this subject, ought not all the safeguards of liberty known in all civilized and human jurisprudence to be introduced, so that a freeman may in no case be surrendered as a slave; and might it not be well at the same time to provide by law for the enforcement of that clause in the Constitution which guarantees that the citizens of each State shall be entitled to all the privileges and immunities of citizens in the several States? I take the official oath to-day with no mental reservations, and no purpose to construe the Constitution and law by any private rules; and while I do not choose now to specify particular acts of Congress as proper to be enforced, I do suggest that it will be much safer, both in official and private stations to conform to and abide by all those acts which stand unrephealed, than to violate any of them, trusting to find security in having them held to be unconstitutional. It is seventy-two years since the first inauguration of a President under our National Constitution. During that period fifteen different and greatly distinguished citizens have in succession administered the Executive branch of the Government, which they have conducted through many perils generally with great success. I now enter upon the same task for the brief Constitutional term of four years, under great and peculiar difficulty. Disruption of the Federal Union, heretofore only menaced, is finally attempted. I hold, then, in contemplation of universal law and the Constitution, the Union of the States is perpetual. Perpetuity is implied, if not expressed, in the fundamental law of all national Governments. It is safe to assert that the Government proper had a provision in its organic law for its own preservation. Continue to execute all the express provisions of our national Constitution and the Union will endure forever, it being impossible to destroy it except by some action not provided for in the Con-

stitution itself. Again, if the United States be not a government proper, but an association of States in the nature of a contract merely, can it be a contract be peaceably unmade unless by all the parties who made it? One party to a contract may violate it—break it, so to speak—but does it not require all to lawfully rescind it?

Descending from these general principles, we find the proposition that in legal contemplation the Union is perpetual, confirmed by the history itself. The Union is much older than the Constitution,—it was framed, in fact, by the articles of association in 1774. It was matured and continued by the Declaration of Independence, in 1776. It was further matured on the faith of all the then thirteen States, who expressly pledged and engaged that it should be perpetual. By the articles of Confederation, in 1777, and finally in 1789, one of the declared objects for ordaining and establishing a Constitution, was to form a more perfect Union by all or a part only of the States. Possibly the Union is less than before the Constitution, having lost the vital element of perpetuity.

It follows from these views, that no State, upon its own mere motion, can lawfully go out of the Union; that resolves and ordinances to that effect are legally void, and that acts of violence within any State or States against the authority of the United States, are insurrectionary and revolutionary, according to the circumstances. I therefore consider, in view of the Constitution and laws, the Union is unbroken, and to the extent of my ability shall take care, as the Constitution itself expressly enjoins, that the laws of the Union be faithfully executed in all the States. Doing this, I deem it only a simple duty on my part, and shall perform it so far as practicable, unless my rightful master, the American people, shall withhold the requisite means, or in some authoritative manner direct the contrary. I trust this will not be regarded as a menace, but only as a declared purpose of the Union, that it will only defend and maintain the Constitution itself. In doing this, there need be no bloodshed or violence, and there shall be none, unless it be forced upon the national authority. The power confided in me will be used to hold, occupy, and possess the property and places belonging to the Government, and collect duties on imports; but beyond what may be necessary for these objects, there will be no use of force against or among the people anywhere. Where hostility to the United States, in any interior locality, shall be so great and so universal as to prevent competent resident citizens from holding Federal offices, there will be no attempt to force obnoxious strangers among the people for that object. While the strict legal right may exist in the Government to enforce the exercise of those offices, the attempt to do so would be irritating, and so nearly impracticable withal, that I deem it better to forego, for a time, the use of such officers. The mails, unless repelled, will continue to be furnished in all points of the Union—so far as possible, the people everywhere shall have that sense of perfect security, which is most favorable to calm thoughts and reflection. The course here indicated will be followed, unless current events and experience shall show a modification or change to be proper; and in every case and exigency, my best discretion will be exercised according to circumstances actually existing, with a view and a hope of a peaceful solution of the national troubles and the restoration of the fraternal sympathies and affections. That there are persons in one section or another who seek to destroy the Union at all events, and are glad of any pretext to do it, I will neither affirm nor deny; but if there be such, I need address no words to them. To those, however, who rely on the Union, may I speak before entering upon so grave a matter as the destruction of our national fabric, with all its benefits and its hopes.—Would it not be best to ascertain previously why we do and will hazard so desperate a step, while there is any possibility that any portion of the fly from have no real existence? Will you, while the certain flies fly to are greater than all the real ones you fly from, risk the commission of so fearful a mistake? All profess to be content in the Union, if all constitutional rights can be maintained. Is it true, then, that any right written in the Constitution has been denied? I think not. Happily the human mind is so constituted that no party can reach to the audacity of doing this thing. If you can offer a single instance in which a plainly written provision of the Constitution has ever been denied—by the mere force of numbers a majority shall deprive a minority of any clearly written constitutional rights—it might, in a moral point of view, justify such a decision. It certainly would, if such a right were a vital one. But such is not our case; all the vital rights of minorities and individuals were so plainly assured by theorizing affirmatives and legislative guaranties and propositions in the Constitution, that controversy never arose concerning them; but no organic law can be framed with a provision specifically applicable to every question which may occur in practical administration. No foresight can anticipate, nor any document of reasonable length contain, express provisions for all possible questions.

Shall fugitives from labor be surrendered up by national or State authority?—The Constitution does not expressly say.—May Congress prohibit slavery in the Territories? The Constitution does not expressly say. May Congress protect slavery in the Territories? The Constitution does not expressly say. From questions of this class spring all our controversies and we divide upon them into majorities and minorities. If the majority must rule or the government must cease, there is no other alternative for continuing the government but acquiescence on the one side or the other. If a minority in such case will secede rather than acquiesce, they make a precedent which in turn will divide and

ruin them. For instance: why may not a portion of a new confederacy a year or two hence arbitrarily secede again, precisely as portions of the present Union now claim to secede from it? All who cherish disunion sentiments, are now being educated to the exact temper of doing this. Is there such perfect identity in the interest of the States to compose a new Union as to produce harmony only, and prevent renewed secession? Plainly the central idea of secession is the essence of anarchy. A majority held in restraint by Constitutional checks and limitations, and always changing easily with deliberate changes of popular opinions and sentiments, is the only true sovereign of a free people. Whoever rejects it, does of necessity fly to anarchy and despotism. Unanimity is impossible.

The will of a majority as a permanent arrangement is wholly inadmissible; so that, rejecting the majority principle, anarchy and despotism in some form is all that is left. I do not forget the position assumed by some, that constitutional questions are to be decided by the Supreme Court, nor do I deny that such decisions must be binding in any case upon the parties to a suit as to the object of the suit, while they are also entitled to every respect and consideration in a parallel case, by all other departments of the Government; and while it is obviously possible that such decisions may be erroneous in any given case, still, the effect of following it being limited to that particular case, with the chance that it will be overruled and never become a precedent for other cases, can better be borne than could the evils of a different practice. At the same time, the candid citizen must confess that if the Government, upon vital questions affecting the whole people, is to be irreversibly fixed by the decisions of the Supreme Court, the instant they are made in ordinary litigation between parties in personal action, the people will have ceased to be their own rulers, having to that extent practically resigned their Government into the hands of that tribunal. Nor is there, in this view, any assault upon the Court of Judges. It is a duty from which they may not shrink, to decide cases properly brought before them; and it is no fault of theirs if others seek to turn their decisions to political purposes.

One section of the country believes slavery is right, and ought to be extended; while the other believes it wrong, and ought not to be extended. This is the only substantial dispute; for the fugitive slave clause of the Constitution, and the laws for suppression of the foreign slave trade, are just as well enforced, perhaps, as they can ever be in a community where the moral sense of the people supports the law itself. The great body of the people abide by every legal obligation in both cases. After the separation of the two sections, the foreign slave trade, now imperfectly suppressed, would be ultimately revived without restriction in one section, while fugitive slaves, now only partially surrendered, would not be surrendered at all by the other.

Physically speaking, we cannot separate, cannot remove our respective sections from each other, nor build an impassable wall between them. The husband and wife may be divorced and go out of the presence or beyond the reach of each other, but the different parts of our country cannot do this. They cannot but remain face to face, and an intercourse either amicable or hostile must continue between them. Is it possible then to make that intercourse more advantageous or more satisfactory after separating than before? Can aliens make treaties more easily than friends can make laws? Can treaties be more faithfully enforced between aliens than laws among friends? Suppose you go to war? You cannot fight always, and when, after much loss on both sides, there is no gain, your causes to fight the old identical questions as to terms of intercourse are again upon you. This country, with its institutions, belongs to the people who inhabit it. Whenever they shall grow weary of the existing government, they can exercise their constitutional right of amending it, or their revolutionary right to dismember or overthrow it. We cannot be ignorant of the fact that many worthy, patriotic citizens are desirous of having the National Constitution amended. While I make no recommendation of amendments, I fully recognize the rightful authority of the people over the whole subject, to be exercised in either of the modes prescribed in the instrument itself, and I should, under existing circumstances, favor rather than oppose a fair opportunity being offered the people to act upon it. I will venture to add, the constitutional mode seems preferable, inasmuch as it allows the amendments to originate with the people themselves, instead of permitting them to take or reject a proposition originated by others not specially chosen for the purpose, and which might not be preferred, or such as they would wish to either refuse or reject.

I understand a proposed amendment to the Constitution—which amendment, however, I have not seen—has passed Congress, to the effect that the Federal Government shall never interfere with the domestic institutions of the States, including that of persons held to service. To avoid misconception of what I have said, I depart from my purpose to speak of particular amendments so far as to say that, holding implicit constitutional views, I have no objection to its being made express and irrevocable. The Chief Magistrate desires all his authority from the people, and they have conferred none upon him to fix forms for the separation of the States. The people themselves can do this only, if they choose; but the Executive, as such, has nothing to do with it. His duty is to administer and preserve the Government as it came to his hand, and to transmit it unimpaired by him, to his successor. Why should there be a patient confidence in the ultimate justice of the people? Is there any better or equal hope in the world, in our present difficulties? Is either party without faith being in sight of the Almighty Ruler of nations with His eternal truth and justice on every side? Some people have wisely given their public servants but little power for mischief, and have with equal wisdom provided for the return of what they have to their own hands; and while the people retain their virtue and vigilance, no administration, in any extreme of wickedness or folly, can very seriously injure the Government in the short space of four years.

My countrymen, one and all, think well and favorably upon the whole subject. Nothing valuable can be lost by taking time. If there be an object to hurry any of you in hot haste to a step which you would never take deliberately, that object will be frustrated by taking time; but no good object can be frustrated by it. Such of you as are now dissatisfied still have the old Constitution unimpaired, and on the sensitive point the laws of your own framing under it; while the new Administration will have no immediate power, if it would, to change either. If it were admitted that you who are dissatisfied, are on the right in the dispute, there still is no single good reason for precipitate action. Intelligence, patriotism, Christianity, and a firm reliance on Him who has never yet forsaken His favored land, are still competent to adjust, in the best way, all our present difficulties. In your hands, my dissatisfied countrymen, and not in mine, is the momentous issue of civil war. The Government will not assault you. You can have no conflict without being yourselves the aggressors. You have no oath registered in heaven to destroy the Government, while I shall have the most solemn one to preserve, protect, and defend it. I am loath to close. We are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies. Though passion may have stained, it must not sever our bonds of affection. The mystic chords of memory, reaching from every battle-field and patriot's grave, to every loving heart and hearth-stone all over this broad land, will yet swell the chorus of the Union, when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

SEVEN DAYS LATER.

The Pacific arrived on Friday evening, with Eastern news to March 12. The following constitute the new Cabinet:

Secretary of State—William H. Seward, of New York.
Secretary of the Treasury—Salmon P. Chase, of Ohio.
Secretary of War—Simon Cameron, of Pennsylvania.
Secretary of the Navy—Gideon Welles, of Connecticut.
Postmaster General—Montgomery Blair, of Maryland.
Secretary of the Interior—Caleb B. Smith, of Indiana.
Attorney General—Edward Bates, of Missouri.

The new Administration is proceeding harmoniously.

It is said that Mr. Lincoln has stated to Southern gentlemen that his inaugural meant peace.

Crittenden, in response to a serenade, urged his friends to stand by the Union.—The people alone can settle the question.

Douglas considers the message one of peace, and approves its tone, but will not support the Administration.

Southerners at first generally looked on the inaugural as meaning war—but in a few days they became more assured, and things are rather quiet.

The Cabinet is considering the propriety of withdrawing the forces from Fort Sumter. Either this must be done, or reinforcements must be furnished. It is said that Gen. Scott advises the withdrawal of the troops. Republicans in Washington are divided as to the true policy to be pursued. The Cabinet had arrived at no conclusion. It is thought by many that if the troops be withdrawn, secession will receive its death-blow.

Texas has adopted the secession ordinance by a large majority.

The returns indicate that the Unionists have succeeded in North Carolina.

The Arkansas Convention has elected Union officers.

Jeff Davis has not been in Charleston at all. Seward, in a short speech to the Illinois delegation, said that the battle of freedom had been fought and won; henceforth, all influence must be given to save the Union. The way to maintain the integrity of the Republican party was to maintain the Union.

It is understood that the action of the Border States will be withheld until a correct understanding is obtained of the policy of the new Administration. If not coercive, there is no doubt that every one (of the Border States) will stick to the Union; but if coercive, it will be a doubtful matter.

Crittenden is spoken of for the United States Supreme Court, but is opposed by Trumbull.

In the U. S. Senate, March 9, Foster offered a resolution to expel Wigfall, of Texas, because he had declared himself a foreigner, and owed no allegiance to this Government. Wigfall not being present the resolution was laid over.

Gov. Houston has issued a proclamation declaring Texas out of the Union, though he refuses to take the oath of allegiance to the new Government.

The nominations made by Lincoln of his Cabinet were handed into the Senate by his Secretary in separate communications, each one signed by the President. When the Senate went into Executive session they were read.

Senator Mason, of Virginia, said that he should make no objection to appointment of northern men, but he did object to the nomination of Blair and Bates, and on the vote to confirm their appointment he voted no, together with Senators Bragg and Clinman, of North Carolina, and Mitchell, of Arkansas. These four were the only negatives.

The confirmation of Seward, Chase, Cameron, Welles and Smith was unanimous.

Hemphill and Wigfall left for Montgomery to-day, to take seats in the Southern Congress.

Maj. Anderson and Col. Sumner are spoken of for traitor Twigg's place. The Army interest opposes the promotion of Maj. Anderson.

Floyd has arrived at Washington to stand his trial.

Cold in the head isn't half so common as cold in the heart; but it is a great deal oftener complained of.

In the time that men waste in bewailing the perverseness of their fortune, they could gain a competency.

RATES OF ADVERTISING:
One square (twelve lines, or less, brevity 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.

127 The number of insertions should be noted on the margin of an advertisement, otherwise it will be published till forbidden, and charged accordingly.

128 Obituary notices will be charged half the above rates of advertising.

129 Jos PRINTING executed with neatness and dispatch.

Payment for Job Printing must be made on delivery of the work.

The New York Press on the Inaugural.

Mr. Lincoln's Inaugural is, of course, just now the exciting topic of discussion in our daily journals, and in all political, business and social circles as well. Among the masses there is apparent a disposition to be well satisfied with the President's sentiments, and in some directions, where genuine fears were entertained that the Inaugural would counsel nothing but coercion and blood-spilling, a very agreeable disappointment was experienced at the kind and conciliatory tone of the document.

In their comments upon the Message, our journals follow, of course, their political biases. The Tribune, unexpectedly to many of its readers, is greatly pleased with the whole of it and thinks it cannot fail to have a happy influence upon the country.

The Times, as was to have been anticipated, is highly gratified with the performance, especially with that portion of it which declares the President's purpose to hold, occupy and possess the property and places belonging to the Government and to collect the duties and imposts. "Anything less than this," says the Times, "would be utterly and plainly incompatible with the existence of the Federal Government."

A like spirit of unqualified approval pervades the comments of both the World and the Courier and Enquirer. The latter journal seems to have borrowed, for the occasion, the Herald's italic man, and allowed him to spread himself over at least one-third of the Message.

The Sun, recently a Democratic, but now a professedly neutral journal, records its unqualified assent to the positions of Mr. Lincoln. The message, it believes, "will reanimate public confidence, no less by its resolute tone than by its moderation and conciliatory spirit, and that they who shiver with apprehension at the firmness with which the President undertakes to execute the laws, and to hold and possess the property belonging to the Government, are of that weak and effeminate class of minds whose judgment is utterly scared out of them in a crisis."

Old Plum is, of course, dissatisfied.—Bennett characterizes the address as a weak, unsatisfactory, hypocritical and war-declaring document, with the latter of which characterizations he is at least ought to be fully satisfied, and even jubilant.

The Journal of Commerce is no better pleased than the Herald, but its comments are rendered in a spirit of gloomy despondency, as if it really believed in its own predictions, and trembled at their anticipated judgment. The message, it contends, "will fail to recompense that great wish of every patriotic heart—the restoration of peace and harmony and union between all the States, and it predicts that the attempt to collect revenue and exercise jurisdiction over the territory covered by the Confederate States will be followed by a disastrous, bloody and desolating war." The Journal's specific grief would seem to be founded in the fact that Mr. Lincoln did not, in the face of the world, acknowledge that he, and his party, and the whole North, have all along been entirely in the wrong, and, in the spirit of such a confession, offer to concede everything the South asks as the price of her allegiance.

The Daily News, Democrat and Fernando-Woodish in its politics, speaks of the message as an able and statesmanlike document—courtroom, considerate and conciliatory in its tone, but at the same time as exceedingly ambiguous and carrying, it fears, a concealed thing under its plausible language. "Coercion," it says, "could not have been put in a more agreeable frame. It reads like a challenge under the code, in which an invitation to the field is veiled under the most satisfactory syllables."

U. S. FINANCES.—Secretary Dix entered the Treasury to find requisitions for \$1,900,000, with \$450,000 for fishing bounties and \$350,000 treasury notes; these have all been paid. The accounts have been stated, in expectation of Mr. Chase's entrance on his duties, and they show a balance in the hands of the Treasurer and disbursing officers, applicable to the current expenses of the Government, exceeding \$6,000,000; this, with the current receipts from the customs, amounting to about \$80,000 per day in coin, it is believed will enable the Administration to sustain itself without calling for further loans for a considerable length of time.

FUNNY.—Fargo of Alameda, (Republican,) made a speech, in the California Legislature, on the Union resolutions, and had it printed; Laspeyre of San Joaquin (Breck.) did likewise; but in the printing office the forms got fused and just half of Fargo's speech as printed was taken body and soul from Laspeyre's, and thus Fargo franked them to his constituents, and kept franking until one of them took it into his head to read it, whereupon he discovered Fargo abusing the Republicans at a terrible rate, and asked him what he meant by it. Then Fargo looked at the document himself, and caused the unfranked portion of the batch to be destroyed.

The number of United States forts in slaveholding communities (secession or other) is thirty-three, which cost \$18,765,403; while the total cost of fortifications in Northern waters amounts only to \$8,320,018. The fortifications on the Pacific coast cost \$2,450,000. The fortifications on the Northern frontier \$730,250. Grand total United States fortifications, \$30,176,971.

Gentleman.—Is Mrs. N. in?

Servant.—No, sir; she is not at home. Gentleman.—Well, I am sorry, as I owe her some money, and have called to pay it!

Voice from over the balustrades.—Oh! I am in. Too sure I am! Why, Sally, didn't you know that? Ask the gentleman to walk in!