msa_sc2901_scm1621-0222 copyright Maryland State Archives

The Kent News.

PLUMMER & USILTON,.. Editors.

Chestertown:

Saturday Morning, Dec. 14, 1861.

The New State Project.

The proposition of the Secretary of War to form a new State of the Eastern Shore of Maryland, Delaware, and the Eastern Shore of Virginia, does not meet with much favor in Maryland. So far as our observation has extended, the press of the State, with a single exception, repudiate the proposition, while the mass of the people are equally decided in its condemnation. From the cold reception which it has met in the Legislature, and its general unpopularity, we apprehend that, in this State at least the subject will be laid on the table for the present. On the other hand, the project, as might be expected, meets with almost universal approval in Delaware. That little State is very naturally desirous of adding to her contracted domain so prosperous and productive a section as the Eastern Shore of Maryland.

As this subject has engrossed the public mind to a considerable degree, and will probably furnish a theme for discussion for months to come, we will give a few facts and figures, showing the extent of territory and the population of the proposed new State. Delaware contains an area of 2,120 square miles, the Eastern Shore of Maryland 3,330, and the Eastern Shore of Virginia 800—making a total of 6,250 square miles. According to the census of 1850, the population of the same sections, including whites, free blacks and slaves, was as follows: Delaware 91,532, Eastern Shore of Maryland 128,504, and the Eastern Shore of Virginia 25,338—making a total population of 245,424, which, however, may now be reckoned at 275,000.

In regard to the boundaries of the new State there could be no serious objection. Nature, it would seem, designed this whole peninsula to form one commonwealth. A glance at the map will show that, with the exception of a small strip on the northern border, it is wholly isolated from every other section—the Delaware Bay on the east, the Atlantic Ocean on the south, and the Chesapeake Bay and the Susquehanna River on the west. While we do not desire to be understood as favoring the proposition, especially at this particular juncture in our complicated national affairs, it will not be denied that the Chesapeake is an expansive body of water to lie almost directly in the heart of a comparatively small State like Maryland, and that it would more appropriately serve as the dividing line of States than of counties.

The general impression prevails, and in this we feel inclined to share, that the Secretary has, in making the suggestion, departed from the strict line of his constitutional obligation, which public officers are prone to do, and that it should have originated, if at all, with the people composing the States to be affected by the proposed change. It is clearly a matter belonging to the States themselves, with which neither the Government nor its officers have primarily anything to do.—It is the duty of Congress to affix limits to territories, and to admit new States; but when the boundaries of a State are once definitely marked and settled, we consider its jurisdiction in that particular at an end.

A "SECESH."

A report was circulated through the newspapers and by word of mouth, about ten days ago, that the Confederates had captured Fort Pickens and its garrison. We asserted at the time that it was a secession sensation story, gotten up to keep from collapsing the failing and falling hopes of the anti-Unionists in Kent. It now turns out that only one man was killed in the Fort, and six wounded. The Fort remained uninjured. The rebels lost eleven killed and a larger number wounded. We suppose that those who frequently circulated the report will never be able to correct it. Is it not time to raise another fabulous reported victory over the Government? The patients' pulse require some artificial stimulant to keep them up! The Secessionists had better begin to manufacture and sow.

A BATTLE ON THE POTOMAC.—The Norfolk Day Book, of the 9th inst, says that a battle is immediately expected on the Potomac, and the sutlers are removing their stores to safer quarters. War rumors were abundant and the war fever very high.

Virginia and her Unionists.

We are permitted to make the following extract of a letter from a gentleman residing in Morgan county, Virginia, to a relative in Chestertown. The letter was written at Hancock, on the Maryland side of the Potomac, whither he had escaped to elude impressment into the rebel army. The writer, we are credily informed, is a gentleman of unquestionable veracity, and his statement may be relied upon as strictly correct. It is a striking commentary upon the infamous conduct of these rebels who, in attempting to make men fight to uphold and maintain a movement which they honestly detest, utterly ignore every principle of patriotism and honor. It is, however, in perfect keeping with all the other acts of secessionism, which, originating in plain violation of the first principles of the Constitution and laws, is perpetuated and fostered only by resort to the most arbitrary and unjustifiable measures.

"We have extra and *brisk* times here. We have been running and dodging ever since harvest, and they have not caught us yet. The Secesh brought armed men from Winchester into Morgan to catch the Union men; but some would hide in the woods, and others would come over to this (Maryland) side. They have been all over the county, and have stolen all the horses they could get. They are in Morgan now, hunting up the balance of the men and taking the corn. I was notified to go to Winchester on the 4th of July, but instead of going there I came to this side. I stayed about a week and then went home and cut my harvest and made my hay, and then had to leave my family again. I have been here nearly all the time.

There are a great many Virginians in Maryland at this time. There is not much work to be had there. There are about one thousand secesh soldiers now in Morgan county; they have taken about one thousand bushels of wheat from Mr. Graflin's mill, and also about one thousand dollars worth of goods from his store. I expect they will strip the county of everything that will be of any use to them."

Report of the Secretary of the Navy.

The report of the Secretary of the Navy is an extremely interesting document. It fully approves the conduct of Capt. Wilkes in capturing Mason and Slidell, and pays a merited compliment to the commanders of the fleets who were so brilliantly successful at Hatteras and Port Royal. It also devotes considerable space to a discussion of the rebel privateers.

The rapid increase of the naval force is one of the most marvellous events of the war. There is now a total of 264 vessels, 2,557 guns, and 218,016 tons, the aggregate number of seamen in service now is 22,000; last year there were but 7,600 men, 42 vessels, and 555 guns. It contains a number of important recommendations in regard to the policy to be pursued in reference to fugitive slaves and other subjects. The following estimates are given of the expenses of the Navy Department for the year ending June 30, 1862:

For the Navy proper,	$31,096,530 25
For the Marine Corps,	1,105,656 77
Navy yards, hospitals, &c.	2,423,478 00
	$44,625,665 02

Report of the Secretary of War.

The Report of the Secretary of War sets out with a statement of the entire estimated strength of the army, both volunteers and regulars, as follows:—Three months' men 77,875, and for the war 640,637—aggregate 718,512. Maryland is put down at 7,000 for the war. The strength of the regular army, including new enlistments under the July act of Congress, is estimated at 20,334, making an aggregate of volunteers and regulars for the war of 660,981. The several arms of the service are estimated as follows: Infantry 568,383, cavalry 59,398, artillery 24,688, rifles and sharpshooters 8,495, engineers 170.

The numerical strength of the cavalry force is now greater than is required, and as it can only be maintained at a great cost, measures will be taken for its gradual reduction.

Congress at its late extra session authorized the acceptance of 500,000 volunteers and appropriated $500,000,000 for their support; but so numerous were the offers of volunteers it is believed 1,000,000 men could have been obtained, had there been authority to accept their services. It will, says the Secretary, be now for Congress to say whether the army shall be further augmented, with a view to a more speedy termination of the war.

The report speaks in high terms of the efficiency already shown by the volunteers; refers to the wonderful strength of our institutions in the people so readily gathering together such an immense army, without resort to conscriptions, levies, drafts, or other extraordinary expedients.

☞ It appears that the Hon. Benj. C. Howard, the Peace candidate for Governor at the late election, resigned his situation as Reporter of the Supreme Court of the United States as early as the 13th of September last. This is one of the most lucrative offices in the country, and its resignation for the purpose of running for Governor, is a remarkable instance of political infatuation, and shows that he little understood the sentiments of the people of Maryland upon the vital issues at stake.

Ex Minister Faulkner has been released from Fort Warren on his parole. He goes to Richmond to endeavor to exchange himself for Congressman Ely.

CONGRESS.

A debate arose in Congress a few days since on a motion submitted by Mr. Pendleton, of Ohio, to have the memorial of the Police Commissioners of Baltimore referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Bingham, of Ohio, replied that all his colleague had just said, or could say, had been fully and satisfactorily answered by the argument of the Attorney-General heretofore submitted. Notwithstanding the ability of his colleague, he (Pendleton) had not been able to disguise the fact that the time had come which was contemplated by the words of the Constitution for the suspending of the writ of *habeas corpus*. It was important that some power should do so.

If this be conceded, then his colleague's argument had destroyed itself. It implied a censure on the House in not discharging the duty long ago, as required by the oath which they had all taken to support the Constitution. His colleague's position was that Congress alone can suspend this writ, while conceding that the time has come for its suspension.

When rebellion has lifted up its head over a large section of this country, and essayed to shake down the pillars of the Constitution, and had drenched the land in fraternal blood, it was no time to be splitting hairs as to whether Congress or the President should first exercise the power. Did his colleague contemplate a general jail delivery, or wish to confine his sympathies to the rebels and conspirators of the city of Baltimore? Had he no sympathy for those confined in the old capitol?

Why should they not also be discharged? Assuming his colleague's position to be right, then his colleague was derelict in his duty in not moving a suspension of the writ in accordance with the oath he had taken to maintain, protect and defend the Constitution. The laws are to be executed, and not only executed by force, but by the sword, against the powers of rebellion. It did not lie in the mouths of the memorialists to claim the benefit of the Constitution, every provision of which they had trampled under foot.

On motion of Mr. Bingham the whole subject was laid on the table, by a vote of 108 yeas against 28 nays.

THE LEGISLATURE.

On Monday the Speaker announced the Standing Committees of the House, as follows:

Committee on Elections—John A. J. Cresswell, Wm. Price, James Bowie, W. A. Willis, Wm. H. Harrison, John H. T. Jerome, Henry F. Dunbar.

Committee on Ways and Means—Thos. Donaldson, Michael Warner, A. B. Davis, James M. Coale, J. H. T Jerome, Hamilton Morton, George B. Westcott, Francis P. Phelps, Sr., John F. Dent.

Committee on Claims—Wm. S. Reese, Thomas Hammond, Richard B. McCoy, John V. L. Findlay, John S. Given, J. Q. Leckie, Thomas A. Carrico.

Committee on the Judiciary—William Price, Edward Hammond, T. S. Alexander, George A. Pearre, Reverdy Jonnson, R. Stockett Mathews, James M. Coale, J. A J. Creswell, G. W. P. Smith.

Committee on Pensions—Thos. Hammond, Warren L. Little, Jacob W. Hugg, Chas. W. White, Robert W. Dougherty, Charles McCollister.

Committee on Internal Improvements—George A. Pearre, Edward Hammond, Robert P. Dunlap, John V. L. Findlay, Edmund Wolf, Dorsey F. Herbert, David Kerr, Jr.

Committee on Education—Francis P. Phelps, Sr., George Pearson, Steptoe B. Taylor, John B. Pearce, Somerset R. Waters, Hiram H. Gunby, B. G. Harris.

Committee on Militia—J. V. L. Findlay, James Stockdale, Levi Duncan, G. W. P. Smith, George Everhart, Andrew McIntire, Elisha Lewis.

Committee on Agriculture—Allen B. Davis, John B Pearce, Henry R. Harris, James Bowie, Thomas H. Kemp, W. T. Purnell, John Walton.

Committee on Corporations—John T. Ensor, Michael Warner, H. Morton, Wm. S. Reese, Thomas Johnson, William F. Smyth, Hirum H. Gunby, R. B. McCoy, Peregrine Davis.

Committee on Inspections—G. W. Duvall, N. Christopher, A. McIntire, Sam'l Rohrer, C. McCollister, James Stockdale, George W. Nutwell.

Committee on Colored Population—W. F. Smyth, Thomas King Carroll, Wm. T. Purnell, N. Christopher, M. Dove, Thos. Johnson, John Bowie, Sr.

Committee on Lotteries—R. B. McCoy, Robert W. Dougherty, Lloyd Lowe, S. R. Waters, F. Dorsey Herbert, Henry F. Dunbar, B. D. Bond.

Committee on Library—R. S. Mathews, Thos. S. Alexander, John J. Thomas, H. Buhrman, Jos. Wright, W. L. Little, A. Chamberlain.

Committee on Printing—G. W. P Smith, John S. Given, R. S. Mathews, Andrew McIntire, James Stockdale, Thos. H. Kemp, George W Nutwell.

Committee on Insolvency—Geo. Everhart, John Turner, Joshua Biggs, J. W. Hugg, M. Dove, W. A. Willis, J. F. Dent.

Committee on Engrossed Bills and Resolutions—John S. Given, Levi Duncan, Samuel Rohrer, Steptoe B. Taylor, C. W. White, John Q. Leckie, David Kerr, Jr.

Committee on Expiring Laws—R. E. Hardcastle, M. Dove, Lloyd Lowe, Thos. S. Alexander, Henry R. Harris, Robert W. Dougherty, D. R. Magruder.

Committee on Federal Relations—Reverdy Johnson, R. Stockett Mathews, T. Donaldson, J. V. L. Findlay, George A. Pearre, J. A. J. Creswell, D. R. Magruder.

Committee on Currency—Michael Warner, Thomas Donaldson, G. B. Westcott, G. W. Duvall, A. Chamberlain, John J. Thomas.

Committee on the Contingent Fund placed at the Disposal of the Executive—T. King Carroll, R. P. Dunlap, William S. Reese, John H. T. Jerome, Jos. Wright, Elisha Lewis, John Bowie, Sr.

Committee on Roads and Highways—Thomas H. Kemp, John Turner, Joshua Biggs, George Pearson, Wm. F. Smyth, R. E. Hardcastle.

In the Senate, on Wednesday, on motion of Mr. Goldsborough, the Committee on Judicial Proceedings had leave to report a bill providing for taking the sense of the people on the expediency of calling a convention to form a new Constitution and to provide for the election of delegates.

In the House, on Wednesday, a petition to pass an act authorizing an increase of the number of constables in the Fourth District of Kent county, was referred to the Kent delegation.

ESCAPING SLAVES.

In the Senate, on Tuesday, Mr. Bayne, (Union) of Prince George's, submitted the following preamble and resolutions:

Whereas, Maryland, in her recent election, has dispelled the incubus which has been impending for some months past, and by her verdict through the ballot-box has defined her political status beyond controversy, and has placed herself in a prominent position among her sister States, we therefore deem the present an appropriate time to adopt some legislative action indicating the popular sentiment in reference to the subject of fugitive slaves. Some parts of Maryland, and particularly the western border counties, in close proximity to the grand army located along the Potomac river, have sustained severe losses in consequence of escapes into the line of said army. We believe this fratricidal contest in which we are now engaged is for the vindication of the Constitution and the restoration of the integrity of the Union; an adverse policy would, we also believe, not be in accordance with the dictates of military prudence or political expediency. A war waged for the extinction of slavery would lead to the annihilation of the Union party in the Border Slave States and add to the catalogue of deplorable events.

Resolved, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That a joint committee, to consist of three members of the Senate and three members of the House, be appointed by the presiding officers of the respective Houses, and that the said committee proceed to headquarters at Washington and request an interview with Major General McClellan on this momentous question, and solicit the adoption of some plan to prevent the admission of fugitive slaves within the lines of the army.

Resolved, That the present position of Maryland entitles her to protection of property in slaves.

The resolutions were referred to the Committee on Federal Relations.

The News.

The steam transport City of New York arrived at New York on Wednesday from Port Royal, which place she left on the 6th inst. Beaufort had been occupied by the Federal troops. A force had also been sent to occupy Tybee Island. Cotton picking and preparing for shipment was going on actively on the plantations within the Federal lines.

Major General Halleck has issued an important order to his commanding officers in Missouri, directing them to arrest and hold in confinement every one found in arms against the Government, or those who, in any way, give aid to the Rebels; and ordering that all persons found within the lines of the army, in disguise as loyal citizens, and giving information to the enemy, and all those taken from the ranks of the Rebels in actual service, shall not be treated as prisoners of war, but as spies, and shall be shot. He further orders that the Provost Marshals of St. Louis shall take in charge the numbers of Union families who are crowding into that city—having been plundered and driven from their homes by the Rebels—and quarter them upon avowed Secessionists, charging the expense of their board to them, on the ground that, although they have not themselves plundered and driven forth these unfortunate people, they are giving aid and comfort to those who have done so.

Mr. Crittenden was serenaded at Washington on Saturday night. He spoke in favor of an onward movement to Tennessee, where, he predicted, our armies would be within ten days. He pledged Kentucky as unalterably for the Union and its maintainance at any cost.

The New York *Tribune* says that a gentleman who came by the Africa had an interview with our Minister, Mr. Adams, before leaving London, who informed him that he had had a correspondence with Lord John Russell upon the subject of the sailing of the Adger for the purpose of arresting Mason and Slidell, and stated that the law officers of the Crown admitted the right of the Adger to make such an arrest. Mr. Adams looked upon the Nashville matter as much the more serious of the two. The person making these statements is the London resident partner of a banking house in New York, and is entirely trustworthy.

Hon. Garrett Davis has been selected by the Kentucky Legislature as U. S. Senator to fill the vacancy occasioned by the treason of Breckinridge.

The Secessionists have taken possession of all Judge Catron's property near Nashville, amounting to $90,000. The venerable magistrate has been driven from his home in Tennessee under threats of personal violence, and his loss of property will fall heavily upon the gallant old hero.

Captain Wilkes has addressed the Secretary of the Navy, stating as his reason for not seizing the Trent, when he arrested Mason and Slidell, not that he doubted his right to do so, but refrained from considerations of policy, and the inconvenience and delay which would have resulted from bringing her into an American port.

The Secretary of the Navy has despatched one of the fastest and most powerful vessels in the navy, and a swift gun boat, to intercept the rebel steamer Nashville on her return trip. The Nashville is lightly armed, and if the U. S. steamers fall in with her, she will be easily taken.

MAMMOTH OX.—The Cecil Whig says that Mr. Wm. Moore, near Vinegar Hill, has one of the largest steers that was ever fed in that county, weighing at the present time 3,000 pounds. The animal is a mountain of flesh.

Local Matters.

COUNTERFEITS.—One dollar notes altered to $5's on the Farmers' Bank of Wilmington, are said to be in circulation.—These altered notes have the words Farmers' Bank' printed in a semi circle over the top with a large figure 5 in the right and left hand upper corners. On the genuine five, the words Farmers' Bank, are printed in a straight line through the centre. The one dollar notes on the Farmers & Merchants' Bank, of Baltimore, which were reported here to be counterfeit, prove, on inquiry at that Bank, to be genuine. Counterfeit $5 notes on the Commericial & Farmers' Bank, of Baltimore, are reported to be in circulation.

VACANCY.—We understand that there is a vacancy in the Baltimore Female College, (N. C. Brooks, Esq., Principal,) of the place for the Pupil from Kent county. The duty of making a selection devolves by law upon the Judges of the Orphans' Court. The tuition and books are free. Board is moderate, and the only item of expense. The institution is of high character and is patronized by the State.

VENDUES.—Wesley Wiley, Esq., as administrator, will sell at public sale on Thursday next, the 19th inst., all the personal Property, stock, farming utensils, &c., of the late Rev. N. Wiley, on the farm of the said deceased.

Messrs. John W. & A. L. Corey, executors of T. S. Corey, dec'd, will sell all the personal property of the said deceased, consisting of stock, farming implements, household and kitchen furniture, &c., on Monday, the 23rd of December, inst.

The property on the farm of the late Ezekiel C. Wickes, near Jones' Mill, consisting of stock, farming utensils, &c., will be sold at public sale on Friday, the 27th inst.

See advertisements in another column.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.—The new board of County Commissioners have qualified and entered upon the discharge of their duties. Jos. P. Ireland, Esq., was elected President of the Board, and Chas. T. Lusby, Esq., Clerk.

All the county and district officers have also qualified and are duly installed and ready for business.

HOG KILLING.—During the past week, the squealing of "porkers" has been quite frequent. We have heard of several large hogs being killed in town, the heaviest belonging to Mr. Wm. H. Palmer, which weighed 422 lbs; another belonging to Mr. J. E. Journey, weighed 419 lbs.

☞ Lines "To Annie E." from Camp Vickers, received at a late hour, will be attended to next week.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.—We would call the attention of our readers to the large assortment of Christmas Presents now offered for sale at low prices by A. M. RUSSELL. 2‡

A SHOOTING AFFAIR IN THE SECOND MARYLAND REGIMENT.—The Balt. American gives the following particulars of the shooting of Lieut. David Whitson, in the camp of the Second Maryland Regiment, at Mt. Clare, near the line of the Balt. and Ohio Railroad, by a private named Koons:

The facts are as follows: About half-past three o'clock, the regiment assembled for the usual afternoon dress parade, and Col. Sumner was about assuming command when one of the privates of Company I, named Charles Koons, stepped from his tent, and seizing his musket, advanced a few paces toward the parade ground, and deliberately taking aim at Lieut. David Whitson, Jr., fired. The load took effect upon the right breast of the officer, and falling upon the ground, he soon expired. The cause of the shooting seems to have originated from the shooting, about two weeks since, of a private named Gardner, by the deceased. Twice Gardner had run the lines, and on attempting it a third time, after being ordered to stop, was fired upon by the deceased and killed. Soon as as Koons heard of it he declared that upon the first opportunity he would kill young Whitson, and he has too fearfully accomplished his purpose.

ENGLAND AND THE UNITED STATES.—The New York Express of Monday says:

The English news, per Africa, has given new spirit to Wall street, in all departments of finance. It is known certainly that Mr. Adams has been in correspondence with the British Government in relation to such action as was contemplated by the James Adger, in arresting Mason and Slidell. The answer by the British authorities was all that could be desired, and the act of Com. Wilkes will be considered as wholly justifiable.

Western Virginia Legislature.

WHEELING, Dec. 11.—In the Legislature yesterday Mr. Stewart offered a resolution requiring all persons in this State who take out license to transact business, to first take the oath to support the Constitution of the United States and the restored Government of Virginia.

CAPTURE OF A REBEL GUERILLA BAND IN MISSOURI.—*Glasgow, Mo.*, Dec. 11.—The notorious marauder, Capt. Sweeny, and his band of robbers, who have for some time past, kept this section of the country in terror, were captured at Rogers' Mill, near here, by a detachment of cavalry under Capt. Merrill. Sweeny's pickets were surprised and captured, and his whole band taken without firing a gun.

FROM FORT PICKENS.

NEW YORK, Dec. 11.—A private letter from on board the steamer Richmond, which took part in the fight at Fort Pickens, dated Nov. 23d, states that the vessel commenced bombarding Fort McRae at 10 o'clock on the morning of the 22d ult.—The writer states that he had been complimenting the captain of one of the guns on the accuracy of his aim, when a shell bounded through our bulwarks and took the captain's head off and wounded six men. The shell, in exploding, raised the ship out of water and made her stagger like a drunken man. Another shell burst some six feet below the water line, causing a bad leak, but the steam pumps kept the vessel free. The firing continued all day and was resumed by the enemy next morning, when the Richmond moved out of range.

Fort Pickens had up to the date of the letter lost but one man killed and seven wounded.

Fort McRae is much damaged, but we cannot destroy it with our smooth bore guns, as they are no match to the enemy's rifled cannon.

The bombardment, says the writer, was to be renewed the next day, with a determination to whip or be whipped.

The letter from which the above was taken was received per steamer Columbia from Havana.

LATER FROM MEXICO.

FEELING OF MEXICANS AGAINST THE SPANISH INVASION.

New York, Dec. 11.—Per steamer Columbia from Havana, advices to the 6th inst., have been received.

Charles Anderson and family arrived here in the Columbia from Havana. He is a brother of Gen. Robert Anderson.—He escaped from the hands of the rebels at San Antonia and walked to Monterey, Mexico. He was treated with great kindness by the Mexicans at Monterey and Tampico, whence he sailed on the British steamer Clyde to Havana. He reports that British subjects were violently indignant at the seizure of Messrs. Mason and Slidell on the steamer Trent.

The Clyde met the Spanish fleet within thirty-six hours sail of Vera Cruz, with fine weather. The Mexicans were daily expecting the arrival of the allied fleet.—The general feeling appears to be hatred of Spain—all feuds giving way to the sentiment of mutual resistance to the common enemy, and a frequent remark was that if the Spaniards came alone they would be warmly welcomed. No resistance, however, would be made at Vera Cruz or Tampico. The guns of the Castle of San Juan De Ulloa were being carried inland, and if any Mexican symptoms can be trusted, a most determined resistance will be made to the army of Spanish invasion.

The Secession Agents in Paris.

[From the Paris Presse.]

Since it began pleading its case before Europe, the Southern Oligarchy has assumed every form and taken every tone that could tend to put it in a favorable light before the tribunal of public opinion—a tribunal which it well understood must exercise a decisive influence over the issue of the great conflict it has raised. At first haughty and inflexible, it would not hear of its cause being called in question; and, carrying high its banner, announced to the world that slavery was a sacred institution, destined in the end to become the fundamental and respected basis of every social system. By degrees this proud arrogance has been toned down. Europe did not bow the knee before the sovereignty of King Cotton, on the contrary she has looked with more amazement than anger on the aberration of an aristocracy which, having lived outside of the movement of the age, presents the sad spectacle of the madness into which the human mind falls when once it loses the counterpoise of the sentiment of justice and respect for right.

Now, however, the champions of the Southern Oligarchy present an altogether new version of the conduct of their patrons. *It is no longer a question of Slavery; to hear them talk, the Southern lords have greater sympathy with the negro than the Northern philanthropists who talk so much in his favor.* If, say they, the Oligarchy has precipitated the South into secession, it is because *great pecuniary and moral interests are involved.* And to prove their new position, these official advocates accumulate facts and statistics, which have but one fault, namely: that they are false.

The reason of their zeal does not lie in the motives they give. European commerce itself will be at a complete stand-still until the present state of war is ended, that is *until the restoration of the Union;* but there is one great fact that bothers them, and which they are using their best efforts to get rid of. *They uphold disunion because they know it would be the death of the Republic, and that the moment the young Colossus ceases to form a whole, the succession will be open, and its magnificent patrimony will serve to form two or more monarchies.*

May the sentiment not displease its enemies, *but the great republic of the United States will not yet perish.* People will think twice, we may hope, before attacking her. We have got beyond the time when Polish partitions could be made.—Oligarchic factions may for a season throw a country into confusion, but they can neither sell nor irredeemably ruin it. Nations now belong to themselves, and are not to be governed except on condition of listening to and working towards their interest, that is to say, except on condition of realizing democracy. A war with America, whatever might be the pretext, would be disastrous to all who should take part in it. It would for a long time be the total ruin of all international commerce with that country, *and America would find in the very reverses that might at first befal her arms a new stimulus that would energetically push it to seek out and bring into play the immense resources she possesses. By obliging her to know herself better and to use the forces she has, we should strengthen instead of weakening America.*