...MERICAN UNION.

DENTON, MD.

H. EMERSON, EDITOR.



THE UNION RIGHT OR WRONG.

DENTON, THURSDAY DEC. 20, 1860.

THE PRESIDENT'S PROCLAMATION.—The President of the United States has issued his Proclamation, recommending that the 4th day of January next be set apart as a day of humiliation, fasting and prayer throughout the Union. This course the President recommends in consequence of our national sins and the threatened dangers to the Union.

The course of the President reminds us forcibly of the fable, where the driver and his team where stuck fast in the mud, and the driver without putting his own shoulder to the wheel or making an effort to go forward, called on Hercules for assistance. Mr. Buchannan has run the wheels of in the mire of secession, financial embarrassment and almost total ruin, and now calls upon the people to pray that these impending evils may be averted. Mr. Buchanan came into office four years ago with an overflowing treasury, every branch of business in a flourishing condition; our people on the high road to prosperity, now the Government is bankrupt, strife, secession, dissolution and revolution is rampant in one section of the Union, and threatens to dissever the Union: our financial difficulties are unequalled since the foundation of the government, and in the midst of all this trouble and embarrassment, the President of the United States calls upon the people to pray. And pray for what? Why, pray for a people who are deaf to reason, blind to their own temporal, moral, spiritual and national interests. A set of God-forsaken politicians, who, regardless of every interest that should bind man to his fellow man, and whose destinies should be linked with the Union, but are alike regardless of their own welfare or the welfare of unborn millions, are now ready to sap the foundations of a government that has made us a great and mighty people, whose prowess is acknowledged throughout the civilized world. They are now ready, in their wild infuriated frenzy, to wreck the hopes of millions now living, and of millions more who are to come after them. The President has brought the country to the brink of ruin, and now, as the last resort, when all hope is well nigh gone, he calls upon the people to pray for the preservation of the Union. If he had called upon the people of the United States to pray for *his national sins*; for the corruptions of Federal office holders and swarms of pampered minions, who have fatted at the "public crib" and eat out the "substance of the people,' we should have thought it all right and proper. They need the prayers of the people, and if such had been the objects set forth in the Proclamation, the whole nation, for one day at least, would have prayed fervently, and the burden of their prayers would have been—"O, Lord deliver us from the Buchanan administration." But to ask the Deity to correct the gross and flagrant errors, and the evils that have been entailed upon the American people by the Administration of Mr. Buchanan, is sacrilege against all that we hold high and holy in national affairs. It would be an insult to the intelligence of the American people—especially that portion of those who pray in "spirit and in truth," and whose prayers alone are acceptable in the sight of Him who answereth prayer.

Union Meeting at Philadelphia.—A large and enthusiastic meeting in favor of the Union was held at Independence Square, Philadelphia on Thursday last. The papers of that city speak of it as the largest meeting ever convened, and the estimates are that fifty thousand persons were present. The Ledger speaking of the meeting says:—

"It was composed of the solid and substantial portion of the city, the manufacturers and merchants, the tradesmen, and operatives of the city, all of whose interests are affected and involved in the issue which is now before the country.—The resolutions and speeches were in excellent tone and temper, and as the former appeared to be the unanimous sentiment of the vast concourse of people assembled in the Square, we may expect that some practical action will follow, to prove to the conservative men of the South that there is neither hostility of feeling at present existing in this portion of the Northern community, nor any desire to infringe upon the constitutional rights of the Southern States, or to maintain the government on any other principle than the perfect equality of all the States in the Union.

The most assuring fact in the resolutions is that which declares that the statute books of this State will be searched, to discover if any legislative enactment exists invading the constitutional rights of Southern States, and if so, that every effort will be made on the part of our citizens to have such laws repealed instantly. The references to the Fugitive Slave Law and its enforcement, to the unwise and unkind denunciations of Southern people and Southern institutions by intemperate orators, are all in a spirit of friendliness and of fraternity, and we believe express nothing but the honest feelings of the citizens of Philadelphia, as the pledges they make it their determined purpose to see them fulfilled.

The meeting also suggest that a Convention or Congress of the several States be held for the purpose of consultation, believing that suggestions from an assemblage of prudent and patriotic men, would be favorably received by the people of the States, and any propositions they might have to make in regard to changes in the organic law would be more readily adopted as necessary to the continued peace of the country. The meeting has given the Union movement the right direction, and if other portions of the country follow it in the same conciliatory spirit, the Union, under which as a nation; we have flourished for so many years, may yet be found strong enough in our common interests and our common pride, to hold us together until, as one people, we have covered the common territory now belonging to the Government, with flourishing and thickly populated States, enjoying the highest social political and moral advantages which a free, intelligent and enterprising people can establish for themselves when dwelling together in peace and security.

FIRE.—The dwelling on the farm occupied by Mr. Lewis Messick, and owned by Mr. Jas. R. Lofland, of Milford, Del., was entirely consumed by fire, on Saturday night last, together with all the furniture, &c., and about seventy-five bushels of rent corn which was stored in the house. Mr. Messick and family, also, lost all their clothing, and in this condition, with nothing upon them but their night clothes, were turned out upon the snow without shelter. They were, however, taken over to a neighbor's and kindly provided for. The only article saved was a feather bed. The fire broke out about half past nine o'clock, the family having retired for the night and being soundly asleep, awoke only in time to escape from the devouring flames. The origin of the fire is not known.

Central Lyceum—Will meet on Monday Evening Dec., 24th, for public discussion. The subject as follows:

Resolved, That the Central Lyceum cordialy adopt as their motto with reference to the present political crises.

"The American Union now and forever, one and inseparable.

The Speakers are H. Straughn, Daniel Orrell, J. T. Dawson and Wm. P. Ridgley.

The public are solicited to attend, and especially Mr. Editor.

THOS. M. REYNOLDS, Sec'y.

Three Persons Hung.—The three negroes under sentence of death at Georgetown, Del, were hanged on Friday last. Their names were, Levi Jenkins, aged 35, under sentence of death for rape upon a negro girl; John Cannon, aged 18, under similar sentence for the murder of a lovely white girl of fourteen summers, and a colored woman, of 18 years, for the murder of an innocent babe, of 14 months, suffered the penalty of the law.

In the presence of about sixty persons, comprising the Sheriff's jury, military guards, physicians, &c, in the jail-yard, (and hundreds without, crowding the trees, walls and roof-tops,) at precisely one o'clock, the drop fell, and all three were launched into eternity—two of them dying in one minute, and the third only showing some muscular contractions for about ten minutes.

The Rev. Mr. Hough accompanied them to the scaffold and offered up a prayer. This gentleman had previously visited them in their cells. Two of them seemed a good deal concerned, whilst the murderer of the girl was apparently careless and indifferent. Neither of them had anything to say.

GOV. OF SOUTH CAROLINA.—Mr. Pickens was elected Governer of South Carolina on Saturday last, on the seventh ballott. The vote stood—Picknes 82, Johnson 64, scattering 12.

The small pox is raging at Columbia S. C.

SNOW.—Snow fell here on Saturday last to the depth of three inches, and the sleighing was pretty good on Sunday. On Saturday night the Choptank, at this place was closed by the ice, impeeding navigation. The steamer Kent reached her wharf about 7 o'clock, but left immediately for Potter's Landing, five miles below. The Hugh Jenkins, on Tuesday, got within a mile and a half of town, but could get no nearer for the ice. At the present time, Wednesday noon, the ice is fast disappearing.

The editor of the Journal finding himself in a dilemma, with regard to our articles in reference to the Union meeting, held in this place sometime since, and being driven to the wall, and for the want of better arguments, first indulged in personalities, and then in last Saturday's issue, suddenly lowered the standard of editorial dignity by saying, that "he had no design of wounding his (our) feelings," and that what "we said merely in a mood of pleasantry," &c. This is in perfect keeping with the course pursued by the editor of that paper. He has on more than one occasion done the same thing—make a personal attack in the columns of his paper, and then by a little "*blarney*," attempt to salve over the wound. But the charge has been made, and we demand the proof. Here is the charge.

"We remember how our "Old Boss" tried to supplant us as a "jer," in the office of "Stewart's Journal," and how we were thereby forced into buying out the concern."

Now, the truth is, the now editor of the Journal, but then "*devil*" in the Pearl office, had worked at the business but a little more than a year, and if in the course of that time, he became a 'jer,' as he terms it, he must have advanced rapidly in the art and mystery of printing to have become a 'jour' in so short a time. But enough of this for the present We repeat it, we demand the proof of what he has here stated: But after making the charge, then, to declare it a "piece of pleasantry." Is the editors ignorant of the use of plain language and its true meaning?—If not, it is the coolest piece of impudence of which he has ever been guilty.

In reference to our written reply of which he speaks, and which he says was suppressed at the instance of others, we have only to say, that it was written and is still in manuscript, now on file and that we were advised to publish it, and only suppressed it for the present, intending if the personal attacks of the Journal was continued, then it should be produced in our columns. We yet may have occasion to use it, and we here beg to say, in advance, we hold ourself personally responsible for what we do say; that what we say we mean. The charges we make in that article, we hold ourselves in readiness to prove at any time. As to the meaning of "*ungentlemanly*," we reply, that we always aim to write ingelligibly, and if the remarks apply to him he can make the most of them.

As a reply to his remark, "the party to which its editor has so recently become attached," we will simply quote the old adage; "fools never change their opinions," and if we desired the advice of any one on political matters, we would never call at the Journal office, and if we should ever, through necessity, be compelled to do so, it would be in the editor's absence.

But he speaks of "Union saving," and says, "whenever this question comes up, "he shall insist on the Journal having a prominent place on the programme.' How long has he been a Union man? Let us see. Only a few weeks ago, speaking of the secession movement at the South, &c., he expressed himself thus:—

"Should it on the contrary be aggressive upon our rights and interests, we can then in the consciousness of *right*, strike a united and effective blow for separation."

A separation of what? Why, a separation of these States—a dissolution of the Union, cemented by the blood and toil of a patriotic ancestry. Are these not the principles advocated by the Breckinridge wing of the democracy, before and since the election? And again, but one week after, he delivered himself thus:—

"We are aware that the foregoing comments are indulged in at the hazard of our being classed among the extremists of the South. But about this we feel no particular concern. Purposing to deal with the subject upon its *merits*, we can see no reason why all the odium of public opion should be heaped upon the Southern States, and while deprecating their proposed precipitate action, and we are forced to the conclusion that their rashness is not without the semblance of a plausible reason."

He felt no uneasiness about being classed with the extremeists of the South.—No, none at all. He was dealing with the subject upon its *merits* Feeling chagrined at the defeat of the secession candidate, he must speak out the real sentiments of that party, and he was "forced to the conclusion, that their rashness is not without the semblance of a plausible reason." Now, he about face and insists on having a part in the programme, when "when anything in the shape of Union saving comes up." Verily, this is a great country.

But before we dismiss the Journal, we have a word to say of his neutrality, or as he terms it, independence. He says:—

"Between *neutrality and independence* there is a marked difference."

Is there a political newspaper in the whole country that does not profess independence? The only difference is this, instead of openly and boldly advocating the political principles they hold, independence is proclaimed as a *blind*, and what other papers do openly and outspoken, those journals professing *independence*, do secretly and under cover, by insinuations and otherwise. The most dangerous enemies we have are those who tack us in the rear or under the c... darkness, and they should be closely watched. But the following paragraphs from the Journal will show in what quarter the political "wind listeth" with the editor of that paper. The first two paragraphs are notices of political meetings, held in this place, during the late canvass. Read each one carefully and see the difference in the two. Here they are;—

NOTICE OF A UNION MEETING.

"Candor compels us to say that Mr. Ricaud is a dull, prosey, and uninteresting orator.

The Hon J. Dixon Roman was the second and last speaker. After a short exordium, he gave to sectional Republicanism a fitting rebuke, mildly censursed the present course of the Hon. H. Winter Davis, and dwelt at length and *with much severity* upon what *he termed* the corruptions, inconsistencies and *sectional* tendencies of the Breckinridge or Administration wing of the Democratic party."

DEMOCRATIC (BRECK) MEETING.

"The meeting of the Breckinridge wing of the Democratic party held in this place on Tuesday last was respectable, both as numbers, and as to the character of the gentlemen composing the audience. Messrs Griswold and Martin were the orators of the day. Mr. Griswold made the opening speech which occupied about an hour and a half. He very *able and eloquently* defended the Breckinridge Democracy against the charge of *entertaing disunion sentiments*—scathingly rebuked the tenets of Republicanism—*ridiculed the Bell and Everett party, and most unmercifully chastised Judge Douglas and "Squatter Sovereignty."* Mr. G. is a GOOD speaker, and at times during his address on this occasion, *was particularly happy.*"

Then, here is good Democratic doctrine, such as you usually find in the political journals of the day. It needs no comment:

"The great Democratic party, so long the efficient bulwark of the nation against the assaults of misled and designing demagogues, is now rent assunder by intestine feuds, and rendered powerless for further protection. It is not that their long established principles have failed to produce a healthy influence upon the body politic—not that their practical application to the workings of the Government machinery has failed of success, but it is attributable to the fact that the party has within its pale too large a proportion of seekers after place."

These are extracts from the columns of the *independent no-party Journal* of this county. If this is not *partyism* of the strongest kind, then there is no such thing as party. The Journal is already a party machine, the opinion of its editor to the contrary notwithstanding. We know he uses every effort to hide his political affiinities, but they will eke out now and then.

Southern Secession.—The mail continue to bring us the news of the secession movements at the South. We give below, a brief synopsis of the news from that quarter.

Senator Tombs, of Georgia, has just written a letter in reference to the fifth article of the Constitution. He says, that if the Constitution is amended, it should be such as would neither be evaded or resisted by the abolitionists:—Then, if the Republican party will vote for the amendment, or a majority of them in good faith, it could easily be carried through Congress. Final action should then be postponed until the Northern States could be called together for definite action or amendment. If the Northern States refuse, then he urges Georgia to secede.

The latest accounts from Louisiana are to the effect that it is now a fixed fact that this State will go out of the Union.

Many of the prominent men of Virginia coincide with the opinion expressed by Mr. Rives in his letter to Mr. Botetler that a firm and dignified demand by the South of their Constitutional rights would be considered by the North. The more general sentiment, however, is that a dissolution cannot be avoided, and that Virginia must go with the South.

GENERAL SCOTT ON SECESSION—FOUR DISTINCT GOVERNMENTS INEVITABLE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—General Scott has given the President an elaborate opinion in reference to the military defences of the county, and what should be done in view of possible contingencies. He deprecates secession, he begs his own State of Virginia to pause and bear the ills she has, rather than to fly to these the knows not of. But if secession occurs, he says, it will result not in the formation of two, but four distinct nationalites. These are, as near as I can recollect, as follows:—New York, New England, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa and Minnesota. Except what I will next mention, as one; the second will consist of Indiana, Illinois, Ohio, Western Virginia, and so along down the Blue Ridge, taking in Western Florida, Alabama Mississippi, Louisiana, Tennessee, Arkansas, Kentucky, Missouri and Texas. The third will consist of South Carolina, Georgia, East Florida, Eastern Virginia, and, perhaps, Maryland and Delaware. The Pacific States will constitute the fourth.

The General treats the exclusion of the grain ... the West from ... sippi, and will insist upon Pensacola as a naval depot.

The General also gives an elaborate statement of the disposition of the military forces of the nation, and the condition and needs of the fortified places. It is an important paper, and ought to published.

THE CRISIS.

Amendment of the Neutrality Laws—Reasons for the Resignatiou of Mr. Cass—His Successor.

Washington, Dec., 16.—Among other resolutions, which will be submitted to the House at an early day, is one of instruction of the Committee on the Judiciary, looking to the amendment of the neutrality laws, so as, in addition to preventing armed expeditions against countries with which we are at peace, to restrain volunteer military forces going from one State to another for the purpose of aiding resistance of the Federal laws.

A number of Congressmen have prepared speeches, several of which are strongly in favor of coercion, and of such a character as cannot fail to produce additional excitement.

Leading gentlemen of Missouri are privately discussing the question of a separate and independent government for that State, rather than be involved in the extreme secession movement.

The "Constitution," in noticing the resignation of General Cass, says:—"to avoid all misconstruction or misstatement of the reasons which caused this event, we have taken pains to ascertain the true cause: It is not that Gen. Cass differed from the President in regard to any portion of his late message On the great question of coercing a State to remain in the Union by military force, the President and Gen. Cass were perfectly united in opinion. The difficulty arose from the fact that General Cass insisted that a naval and military force should be sent immediately to Charleston, to reinforce the forts in that harbor, and that the President was of opinion that there was no necessity for any such measures, in order to secure the forts against attack. This being the President's opinion, he would not sanction a movement which might lead to a collision and blood shed, in the present excited state of feeling in South Carolina and the other Southern States at a time when every friend of the Union is using his best efforts to prevent its dissolution, or if that be not possible, to avert the adoption of any measures which would render its reconstruction hopeless.

The President has resolved to appoint Attorney General Black to the vacant Secretaryship of State.

Union Democratic State Convention.

The State Convention of the Douglas section of the Democratic party in Maryland, met in Baltimore on Thursday of last week, Col Wm. P. MAULSBY presiding, and adopted a preamble and resolutions. They rehearse the wrongs the South has suffered from the sectional action of the North, urgently demand as the terms of pacification the repeal of the Personal Liberty bills and the recognition of the rights of the South and in the Territories. Whilst thus maintaining the claims of the South to just treatment and an equality of rights, the resolutions are pervaded by a strong Union sentiment. They declare the attachment of Maryland to the Union, and affirm that they do not think secession or sectional revolution is the lawful, appropriate or adequate remedy for our situation. They recommend the formation of Constitutional Leagues in the States, and propose a National Convention, according to the provisions of the Constitution to which the devising of measures applicable to the crisis shall be entrusted.—To further this purpose they request the Governor, whenever in his discretion it becomes necessary, to convene the Legislature to secure the co-opration of the other States; deprecating, however, any other action on the part of the Legislature when thus convened than the calling of a State Convention believing that all other objects can best be accomplished by delegates fresh from the people and untrammelled by party obligations. The action of South Carolina is deplored and protested against as unconstitutional, precipitate and disorganizing, and she is warned that Maryland will not be dragged into secession at her bidding. The Convention in its resolutions adopted the title of the Union Democracy of Maryland.

Gen. Scott Recommends Sending Reinforcements to Fort Moultrie—The Committee of Thirty-Three.

Washington, Dec. 14.—There is but little, if any confidence reposed in the assurances that South Carolina will not resist the federal authorities during the administration of President Buchanan. They are regarded as mere promises to quiet apprehensions in official quarters.

Lieut. General Scott has expressed the opinion that additional forces should be sent to South Carolina for the protection of the public property. The President, however, is still opposed to such an increase, for prudential reasons, being apprehensive that it would but augment the present excitement.

There was an understanding among the select committee of thirty-three today that their proceedings, excepting as to results, shall be regarded as private, and therefore not to be revealed for publication. It is known, however, that several propositions looking to political conciliation were presented and read, but not acted upon.—Several gentlemen made speeches, and opinions were interchanged. The prospect of a reconciliation was about the same as it was yesterday. It was in order to afford time for consideration that the adjournment until Monday took place.

The publication of the manifesto of the southern members has produced a depressing effect among the conservatives, who say they are now satisfied that the former are opposed to any political compromise or accommodation whatever.

It is generally reported that Douglas' speech next week will be of a coercive character against secession.

Senator Wilson's letter addressed to Hon. Caleb Cushing will appear in tomorrow's National Republican.

Perham's people's Pacific railroad bill, embracing three routes, has been referred to the House special committee on that subject.

Paymaster John S. Cunningham has been ordered to the U. S. sloop of war Macedonian.

Important Manifesto of Southern Members of Congress.

An important caucus of the members of Congress form the farther South was held in Washington on Thursday evening, at the request of the Hon. Reuben Davis, of Miss., one of the members of the committee of "Thirty Three," They assembled at his rooms and drew up and signed the following "Southern Manifesto:"

"WASHINGTON, Dec. 13, 1860.

"*To our Constituents:*—The argument is exhausted. All hopes of relief in the Union, through the agency of committees, congressional legislation, or constitutional amendments is extinguished, and we trust the South will not be deceived by appearances or the pretense of new guarantees. The republicans are resolute in the purpose to grant nothing that will or ought to satisfy the South. In our judgment the honor, safety and independence of the Southern people are to be found only in a Southern people are to be found only in a Southern confedracy—the inevitable result of separate State secession. That the sole and primary aim of each slaveholding State ought to be its speedy and absolute Separation from an unnatural and hostile Union."

Signed by J. L. Pugh, David Clopton, Sydenham Moore, J. I. M. Curry, and J. A. Stallworth, of Alabama; Alfred Iverson, J. W. H. Underwood, L. J. Gartell and James Jackson, (Senator Toombs is not in Washington, but would sign,) John J. Jones and Martin J. Crawford, of Georgia; George S. Hawkins, of Florida. It is understood Mr. Yulee will sign it. T. C. Hindman, of Arkansas. Both Senators from that State, it is said, will also sign it. A. G. Brown, Wm. Barksdale, O. R. Singleton, and Reuben Davis, of Mississippi; Burton Craige and Thomas Ruffin, of North Carolina; J. P. Benjamin and John M. Landrum, of Louisiana. Mr. Slidell will also sign it. Senators Wigfall and Hemphill, of Texas, will also sign it.

Mr. Davis made the following statement to the caucus:

"Being a member of the committee of thirty-three, I state that the above witnessed dispatch was communicated to the committee this evening, and a resolution passed proposing no specific relief, eight northern States dissenting, avowedly intended to counteract the effect of the above dispatch, and, as I believe, to mislead the people of the South. From information derived from republican members of the committee and other northern representatives, I fully concur in the above dispatch.

"REUBEN DAVIS."

The manifesto was immediately communicated to the several constituencies of the gentlemen named by telegraph.

It appears the committee of 'thirty-three" were in session on Thursday, when they were informed of the above manifesto, and that they immediately suspended discussion and passed the resolution of Mr. Rust, published yesterday, declaring it necessary at once to adopt measures to effect a peedy settlement of the troubles between the North and South by granting all necessary guarantees to the latter.

This resolution Mr. Davis is said to have denounced as an attempted fraud upon the South, intended only to delay action, and even refused to vote one way or the other. Subsequently, at the Southern caucus, the resolution and proceedings of the committee are represented to have been condemned without a dissenting voice. These proceedings indicate that the following States are determined to seceded on the days named, unless the conventions in session until that of Georgia meets, which is on the 18th of January, when they will all go out together:

South Carolina—Convention meets December 17; will retire from the confederacy December 18.

Alabama—Convention meets January 7; retires January 10.

Mississippi—Convention meets January 7; retires January 10.

Florida—Convention meets January 3: and will probably retire with Alabama and Mississippi.

It is expected Arkansas and Texas will not be long behind them.

The New York correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger of Monday says that on Saturday a meeting of prominent citizens was held at noon, at the office of Mr. Richard Lather, for consultation upon the state of affairs, and to see if someteing cannot be done by New York to promote a reconciliation. All shades of parties were represented, and among those present were the venerable Ex-President Van Buren, Ex-Gov. Hunt, Hon. James T. Brady, Hon. Erastus Brooks, of the Express; Gerard Halleck, of the Journal of Commerce; Ex-Senator Beekman, Wilson G. Hunt, Collector Schell, and Edwin Crosswell, of the Albany Atlas.

The alarming condition of the country was freely discussed, and a multiplicity of suggestions were advanced. All seemed willing enough to do something, and to agree that something should be done, without delay.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEES.—Mr. Corwin, the Chairman, yesterday reported a series of resolutions, which it is understood are intended to meet the crisis. It is said that they meet the approval of a majority of the Republicans on the Committee. They are nearly as follows:

First—Pledging the faith of Congress against any attempt to abolish slavery in the District of Columbia.

Second—Against interfereing with the inter-slave trade between the States.

Third—The abolition of slavery in dock yards and arsenals in the slave States.

Fourth—In favor of any amendments rendering the Fugitive Slave act effective and satisfactory to the South.

Fifth—Against any discrimination by Congress against the slave States asking admission.

Sixth—Protecting persons and property in the Territories till they have thirty thousand inhabitants, when non-intervention by Congress shall be the law.

It is rumored that it is not improbable some plan will be proposed which will be satisfactory, and that the Committee may be able to report by the middle of the week, perhaps earlier

Heavy Failure—Messrs. Kirkland Chase & Co., extensive commission and shipping merchants, Nos. 83 and 85, Smith's wharf were compelled to stop business yesterday. The firm was engaged principally in the Rio trade, and, until yesterday, regarded as one of the most substantial mercantile establishments in the city. Their liabilities are stated to be $800,000.—*Baltimore Clipper.*

REPORTS FROM SPRINCFIELD.—The Hon. Edward Bates had an interview with the President elect to-day, and it is said was formally offered the Secretaryship of the Interior in Mr. Lincoln's cabinet. Mr. Bates is strongly opposed to secession, and that it is treason and must be put down, and the authority of the Government maintained at all hazards.

Rumored Resignation of Secretary Cass.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—There is good reason to believe that General Cass intends resigning his position as Secretary of State. Indeed, it is reported that the President has been so informed, but will endeavor to dissuade him from this course. There is no doubt that the Assistant Secretary of State, Mr. Trescot, has resigned and will return home to Charleston. The rumor of the resignation of General Cass is believed to grow out of the fact that Major Anderson, in command of Fort Moultrie, at Charleston, made an application for a reinforcement of troops and supplies, not because he believed the danger of an attack upon the fort by the South Carolina forces to be immediately imminent, for the assurances of leading secessionist have been received that there will not be a crisis of of this sort precipitated, but because when the secession ordinance is passed there is no security that a Charleston mob will not make a desperate onslaught upon the nearest federal possessions. The question of acceding to Major Anderson request was up before the Cabinet on Thursday, and it was decided not to grant it. Secretary Cass, it is asserted, strongly urged the propriety and the necessity of the opposite course.

[SECOND DISPATCH.]

WASHINGTON Dec. 14.—There is no doubt whatever but that General Cass has resigned his position as Secretary of State. Regret is everywhere expressed in consequence. The present indications are that Ex Gov. Dickinson, of New York will be his successor, though they are not considered altogether reliable.

A GOOD RESOLUTION.—At a meeting of the HOWARD ASSOCIATION, of Philadelphia, held in the "city of brotherly love," December 10th, 1860, It was

RESOLVED, that come what may of good or ill to our beloved Republic—Union or Disunion—the Howard Association will continue with undiminished zeal, its labors for the relief of suffering humanity, over the whole area of our common country, wherever the victims of disease and misfortune shall solicit its friendly aid.

Ten trout were found in the body of a snake killed at East Poultney, Vt., recently.

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