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Ephraim Maxham

Daniel Ripley Wing

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ceased in the extension of this anomaly and privilege to all the new States without objection, and almost without a murmur. And if we intend to preserve the Union, we must expect to acquiesce in it.

Severe Insurrection.—By the Constitution, the general government is obliged to protect each State, on the application of the State, from domestic violence. It is to aid, if required, in putting down insurrections against the law of State, whether that law be slavery or any other law; and whether the insurrection be of whites or blacks, of free men or of slaves. The right to require this aid in case of slaves, is not because it is slavery, but because slavery is the local law, and the right is bound up indissolubly with the right of every State to require the aid in all cases of invasion or domestic violence.

On this point there are honest fears among the Southern people. Although these fears have been cruelly played upon, for political effect, by the revolutionists at the South, and the opponents of the Republicans at the North, yet they do exist, and must be respected. It is, indeed, a strange thing—here, among the granite hills of New Hampshire, to speak of our government, precluded by the Declaration of Independence, interfering to put down an insurrection of slaves for their freedom. But unless we except slavery from all other State laws, refuse to recognize it as a *de facto* law of a State, within the limits of the State, we cannot do otherwise. And if we do make that distinction, we dissolve the Union by our own act.

But there are considerations—it is our duty to reflect upon and give weight to. What is an insurrection of slaves? Not a question between freedom and money, as in the case of a fugitive. It is a war of the races. When that war begins slavery ends or is suspended. It is a struggle for supremacy by the sword, not of regulated war, but of massacre, of epidemic violence, and the horrors of a general uprising of millions of inorganic, exasperated men, subject to no law and control. If they are defeated, as they would be, their condition is not improved. If they could be successful, the superior, enlightened white race would be exterminated or banished—reduced to slavery it cannot be—and those vast regions given up to such a condition as four millions of unenlightened and scarcely civilized negroes will bring it to. Such a conflict no man ought to provoke. Such a catastrophe all men may well join to avert. In such a conflict, for myself I may say that not only my technical duty under the Constitution, but my sympathies, would be with my race.

If any legislation is necessary to prevent the instigation of such violence by men in the free States, I think it should be granted; not obtruding freedom of speech and the press, or infringing on State rights. And, on the whole subject, especially since the affair of John Brown, there is a duty of explicit speech on the part of the North.

The Rendition of Fugitive Slaves.—Our ancestors of New England, who have taught the world the great lessons of freedom, did yet make this compromise with local slavery: the fugitive was to be restored—not to be sure as property, as things—for that claim they would not recognize—but as persons owning service and labor by the law of the State. On that point the Constitution admits of no other honest construction. The fugitive from service is to be returned, although that service be slavery.

Let no man attempt to exaggerate the horrors that may attend the rendition of the fugitive. I know that the law cannot discriminate between the good master and the brute, the old and ignorant and repulsive slave, and the intelligent and the beautiful. I know that the slavery to which the fugitive is returned is just such slavery as the controlling race has chosen to prescribe hereafter. I believe that a Union with slave States could not now be formed, for the first time, as an experiment, on that concession. It would be rejected. But it is not now a question of adopting or rejecting. It is a question of perseverance in the Union, or its dissolution. Our ancestors made the compact, and if the Union can be preserved, we need to it. It cannot be justified on grounds of material advantage to the North. It must stand on large moral considerations, or it ought not to stand. If we could erase it, and preserve the Union, we should do so at any cost. If we can commute for it, we should do so at any price. If not, then, as moral beings, we must judge of the Union as a whole, as of every human work and every human being. The Union is the preserver of the peace of a continent. It will, under our auspices, subdue the continent to free labor, and civilize by free institutions. It is beneficent for the world, beneficent for the white race, and not less beneficent, perhaps more so than disunion, for the blacks, even with the rendition of the fugitives, and the suppression of insurrections. This reasoning satisfied the men the world delights to honor, and may satisfy us.

But, if the South desire to efface this clause, they must propose such laws as can be enforced. The present law cannot be enforced. The present law cannot be enforced. With proper laws, requiring diligence, establishing limitations of time, allowing commutations, providing guarantees against abuse, the right can be enforced as well as can be reasonably expected of a right of that character, as well as we can enforce extreme and odious rights of our own among ourselves. They must not expect any man to give them voluntary aid, to betray a fugitive or to aid in his capture. They must be content with a perfunctory, official performance of a painful duty by official persons. The magistrates will do their duty, and the juries there. The executive officials will perform theirs, as they perform the duties of the scaffold and the cell. Mobs will be put down, and forcible rescuers punished. The fugitive will have the best of counsel, gratuitously if need be, at the expense of the State; and I hope that my own State will never repeat that humane provision, but I trust, for the credit of the bar, the provision will be unnecessary.

The Territories.—When the Constitution was adopted the territories were all consecrated to freedom. Acquisition of territories was not contemplated. But they have been acquired, to a vast extent, all on the side of the South; and changing the entire character of the government and the balance of power. The slave power has advanced from refusing to extend slavery as matter of convenience, to claim the right to extend it as matter of conscience. Until lately the North has not held its own on this question. Every department of the government has been against freedom in the territories, and all its policy. Now, the tide is turned. Of the existing territory, slavery has probably got all it will ever get. The popular vote has declared for their freedom, and the issue of the Kansas struggle is probably decisive, so long, certainly, as we can keep an administration that shall be acting on the side of freedom.

But, at this moment, the defeated party is seeking action, under the threat of secession, which no victory could have established—a change in the constitution, establishing slavery

south of 36 30 in all present and future territories. Mr. Crittenden's original proposition was to that effect, and the amendment was only to put its meaning beyond dispute, and was accepted by him as merely declaratory. It is too far into the night for me to argue these propositions now. It is enough to say that we cannot accept any of the propositions which grant new powers to slavery, whether from Mr. Crittenden or Mr. Guthrie, or from whoever else, for two reasons. First—They are offered as the terms on which they will forbear revolution, and the people may be permitted to carry on the government. Second—They grant new rights and powers to slavery.

As these proposals will take new forms daily I ask leave to suggest a few plain propositions with which to meet them.

First. We will concede no new right, power or recognition of slavery, whether political or territorial, whatever may be the consequences of refusal.

Second. We will not buy the right to carry on the government, whatever may be the terms of the purchase.

Third. Any measures not justly liable to either of these objections, but addressed to those fears and suspicions which do exist at the South and are the sustenance of the revolution, it is our duty to offer.

Fourth. Our recognized duties to slavery under the present Constitution must be faithfully performed.

We will not bargain for the right to carry on the government, because it is a right that cannot be bought and sold. It perishes in the transfer. We will not bargain for it, because the terms they demand are the surrender of some great rights of freedom which are not ours to give, but which we hold in trust for a vast people now living and hereafter to live. We will not bargain for it, because it will leave us no government if we pay the price. We shall have only a Constitution, which will be a government, indeed, when wielded against us, but only a voluntary league when sought to be wielded in our favor.

We will grant no new right, power or recognition to slavery, whether political or territorial. Are not the concessions of the present Constitution quite as much as the moral sense of the North can sustain? quite as many as can be executed? If we make more, we shall be voluntarily and willfully sinners against right and duty, and with the additional ignominy of doing it either from fear or from the mercenary motive of an undue love of material prosperity. But even that would be a delusion. We are at a time when we may say, without irreverence or a tempting of Providence, the duty is ours, the results are elsewhere. We know that the course of honor will be the course of ultimate good policy, and we hope it to be the course of immediate safety and peace.

We will do all we can do for conciliation, and to remove fears and suspicions. Above all, we may and must avoid an unrestrained speech. Mere denunciation of slavery, where not necessary for the subject in debate, and for practical purposes of legislation, are not to be defended in such a confederacy as ours, made with slave States, recognized as such. I have never been willing, when abroad, to accept a compliment at the expense of my country, and of truth, as one entirely disconnected from slavery. No man who acts under our Constitution, whether as a voter, or an officer, in State or national affairs, has a right to that position. We are, to a limited and defined extent, and in a qualified manner it is true, yet we are complicated with slavery. Our government is to put down insurrections and return fugitives, and to allow a slave basis of representation, and to recognize and enforce slave laws within the slave States. We ought, manfully, though with regret, and with full admission of the evil and the wrong, to accept our share of the responsibility and the reproach. But we ought, the rather, and with the more right and title, to refuse all further compromises and concessions, and to take our share of the responsibility of refusal. I expect to take the share that falls to me.

Gentlemen, citizens of New Hampshire, you are soon to have an election, and this I understand is the last of a series of meetings to prepare for a glorious triumph. Let the trumpet that calls from the hills the first note after the inauguration of our President, give no uncertain sound! May you sustain, by a cheering approval, your Senators and Representative who have deserved so well at your hands! When Democracy meant Republicanism, you were its Gibraltar at the North. Now that Republicanism is the name for Republicanism, be its Gibraltar still!

CHUNK WORDS.—Said a Baptist minister to us once, 'Bro. Watson, what is your chunk word?' We replied that we did not know the meaning of the phrase. He then explained that in case a minister run around, it was usual to have some favorite word or phrase to use as teamsters do chunk when they place their hand behind the wagon wheels when ascending a hill to prevent the wagon's running to the bottom of the hill.

The idea being new to us, we were not prepared to speak in regard to it. Our brother claimed his 'chunk word' to be, 'My Brethren.' This, he said, could be used at any stage of his discourse.

Since that conversation, we have noticed our brethren's chunk word; they are various, some of them are innocent, some expressive, and others odd, not to say ludicrous. Some chunk by clearing up the throat, spitting, folding the handkerchief, turning the leaves of a book, etc. One old minister's chunk word in life, was, 'Brethren suffer me to remark.'—Another's, 'And so forth, and so forth.'

A minister in Missouri ran around while on an elevated height—he remained some time in perfect stillness, not knowing which way to turn. The meeting over, an old lady said to the minister, that she admired his sermon greatly, but most of all did that well-timed and solemn pause, produce a powerful effect upon her mind!

TREASON AT THE NAVY DEPARTMENT.—By the report of the Select Committee of the House of Representatives at Washington, upon the recent special message of the President, it appears that at the time of the appointment of the committee in January, the entire naval force available for the defense of the whole Atlantic coast consisted of but two vessels—the steamer Brooklyn of twenty-five guns and the Store-ship Relief of two guns—the one of too great draft to enter Charleston harbor and the other under orders for the coast of Africa. To all intents and purposes the whole Atlantic coast was left without defense. Several vessels were sent to distant stations after the present troubles commenced. The committee justly denounce this disposition of the naval force of the country at such a critical time as most extraordinary, and the failure of the Secretary to make any provision for protecting the national flag and property as without justification or excuse.

Other irregularities, in connection with the acceptance of the resignations of the naval officers who have deserted their flag, are commented upon at length. It appears that the

resignations of these traitors were accepted at once and without inquiry, even after some of them had actually arrayed themselves against the government. So eagerly, as it would appear, were these resignations responded to, that even the telegram was used to release officers from an allegiance which had become irksome. The course pursued by the Secretary of the Navy has thus resulted in furnishing those engaged in an attempt to overthrow the government with the skill, experience and discipline which education at the expense of the government and long service in the navy have conferred upon our own officers. The report concludes with a resolution declaring that the Secretary of the Navy has committed a grave error, highly prejudicial to the discipline of the service, and injurious to the honor and efficiency of the navy, for which he deserves the censure of the House. No one who reads the report impartially can resist this conclusion. [Boston Journal.]

The Eastern Mail.

RPR MAXHAM, DANIEL WING,
EDITORS.

WATERVILLE, FEB. 28, 1861.

AGENTS FOR THE MAIL.

S. M. PETERSON & CO., Newspaper Agents, No. 10 State Street, Boston, and 119 Nassau Street, New York, are Agents for the Eastern Mail, and are authorized to receive advertisements and subscriptions, at the same rates as required at this office. S. M. PETERSON & CO. (successors to Y. H. Palmer), Newspaper Advertising Agents, No. 130 Broadway, Court Street, Boston, is authorized to receive Advertisements at the same rates as required by us.

Advertisers abroad are referred to the agents named above.

ALL LETTERS AND COMMUNICATIONS, relating either to the business or editorial department of this paper, should be addressed to 'MAXHAM & WING,' or 'EASTERN MAIL OFFICE.'

WATERVILLE FARMER'S CLUB, Tuesday evening Feb. 26, 1861.

Club met at the house of Reuben Eaton. Called to order by the President, H. Percival, and H. H. Eames chosen Secretary.

Subject for discussion, 'What general System is best calculated to make Farming pay?'

O. T. Gray, Esq., being called upon, delivered a brief but interesting address which was listened to with attention by the few present. Mr. G. advocated cultivating large farms, and employing more help than is customary in this section; also advocated the establishment of institutions especially adapted to the education of the farmer. In order to carry on farming successfully it is necessary for the farmer to understand the soil he cultivates.

Gen. J. Robinson considered raising stock most profitable, where land was cheap; thought it advisable to keep a large proportion of sheep. Saw no reason why we might not do as well dairy-farming here as in Massachusetts and Vermont, where it is pursued with profit and on a very large scale.

E. Maxham thought it an absurd idea that our feed was not as good as that of Vermont, with such similarity of soil and climate. We only need a more thorough knowledge of this branch of business.

A promiscuous discussion here ensued upon the dignity of farming. Farmer's thought too little of their own employment, and then complained of outsiders for thinking the same. The President said if a farmer had a particularly bright boy he must fit him for one of the professions, while if he had a 'mutton-head' he would 'do well enough for a farmer.'

Speaking of the dairy, the President thought we were improving in cheese making. Gave as evidence, the fact that while New York cheese, only a few years ago, sold readily at two cents per pound more than ours, home made cheese is now preferred.

G. E. Shores advised keeping sufficient stock to consume the products of the farm, rather than sell all except the hay.

Col. I. Marston argued with Mr. Gray that we should employ more help, and consequently be able to make more permanent improvements.

It was decided to leave the question open for discussion at the next meeting, and after appointing G. E. Shores President, the Club adjourned to meet at the residence of Homer Percival on Tuesday evening, March 5th.

GRAPE IN MAINE.—S. L. Goodale, of Saco, one of the best cultivators of fruit in the State, gives a statement of his experience with some of the best hardy sorts of grapes, in his recently published Report of the Maine State Board of Agriculture. He has some sixty or seventy sorts under cultivation, a part of which have proved unworthy, and have been rejected. The following are more particularly commended, and we give, in a condensed form, the substance of his remarks:

HARTFORD PROLIFIC.—One of the best for market—fair ripening very early—vigorous and productive. Bears too much, requiring thinning. Apt to drop when grown in the shade, not when exposed to sun. Too late to ripen in some localities—vine hardy—bunches large and handsome—very good when well ripened.

DIANA.—vigorous grower—good bearer—fruit delicate. Needs a warm situation, dry soil, and careful protection—sometimes fails.

DELAWARE.—decidedly the best grape for open culture—fruit has improved in size and early ripening during the four years of bearing.

BRISACOLA.—has given the best satisfaction on dry warm soils—in heavy wet soils, wood does not ripen. Clusters too late to ripen in some localities—vine should hang late, and its harsh flavor changes to vinous and rich.

UNION VILLAGE.—bunches very large and handsome, a prodigious grower—late to ripen, and so as to endure the winter. Rather earlier than Isabella.

LOAN.—very hardy and productive—nearly as large as Isabella—very good—one of the earliest.

CAROLINA.—resembles Isabella—earlier—hardier.

ISABELLA.—colors, but never ripens.

NORTHERN MARCANDINE.—one of the best of the Fox class.

CADWY.—August—good; medium size; hardy, prolific, earlier than Isabella.

TO-NIGHT, Thursday, at Town Hall, the Panorama of Palestine! Admission 15 cts. It is said to be a very fine work, and the moral effect good. Go and see it, every body!

'SECESSION AND COMPROMISE.' Our correspondent 'Wills' sends us a well written article, discussing these subjects; but as we have recently gone over the same ground, and touched upon the same points, both in original and selected articles, we take the liberty to lay his communication aside, lest our readers should complain of getting too much of a good thing.

OUR TABLE.

THE AMERICAN ALMANAC, and Repository of Useful Knowledge, for the year 1861. Boston: Crosby, Nichols, Lee, & Co.

The character of this work is so well known among professional and business men, that a long enumeration of the items of information to be found in its pages would be superfluous. The task of the editor has this year evidently been performed with unusual care and fidelity; and the variety and amount of valuable information which the number contains, over and above the almanac matter proper, in relation to the nation at large, the individual states, and the countries of Europe, is truly wonderful. In addition to the valuable statistical matter, two lengthy articles, of great scientific value are given, which will command the attention of the best class of readers. One of these treats of Meteorology, and the other of 'Pneumo-Pneumonia.'

The work is for sale at Matthews.

LOVE AND PATENTAGE. By O. S. Fowler, Practical Phrenologist. N. York: Fowler & Wells.

This work has been long before the public, and the philosophy it teaches has become too well known and too widely approved, to need our commendation. The name of its author is a guarantee of the healthfulness of its influence upon society. This and all the other works of Prof. Fowler may be had of O. T. Gray, Esq., of this place, who has their agency and takes an interest in their circulation.

THE ATLANTIC MONTHLY.—Having had time to read but little of the March number, we borrow the following notice—appreciative and honest, no doubt—from a Boston contemporary:—

'It contains a good variety of valuable and attractive articles. The first on 'German Universities,' gives much interesting information and makes several suggestions of importance to those in pursuit of knowledge. Of Mr. Higginson's paper on 'Gymnastics' we have already spoken. If the author rides a hobby, he does it very vigorously, and all will admit that the hobby is essentially a good one. 'Two or Three Troubles' is the beginning of a lively story; and 'The Man who Never was Young' has some powerful passages. 'Harbors of the Great Lakes' is the continuation of a former valuable paper. 'The Men who Schreyer' discloses the character of such a man as William Tell very ably. 'A Nook in the North' is a bit of Canadian sketching, well done. 'Diamonds and Pearls' is an interesting treatise on those precious jewels. 'The Professor's Story' draws near its completion—that is, in the magazine, for two beautiful volumes attest its completion in the book world. The Literary Notices, including Southern French literature, Motley's and Parton's new works, are written in a very readable style. We observe that Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe will begin her new story, 'Agnes of Sorrento,' in the May number.

Published by Ticknor & Fields, Boston, at \$3 a year. STUDENT AND SCHOLAR.—Among the good things in the March number of this delightful little juvenile will be found a continuation of 'The Young Travelers,' an interesting sketch by Gail Hamilton, entitled 'Barbara's Tooth'; 'The Stolen Doves,' a story by Paul Cretton; No. 2 of 'Excursions about Paris,' by Jacob Abbott; and numerous other stories, &c., with a piece for declamation, a dialogue and a piece of music. A series of 'Conversations on Business Matters,' is in course of publication in this little work, which will be of great value to the young man perused with much profit by many who have come to man's estate. We shall copy some of these for the benefit of our readers. Published by Gale and James & Co., 15 Cornhill, Boston, at \$1 a year.

EDINBURGH REVIEW.—The contents of the January number are of a sterling character. The titles of the articles are as follows: Church Expansion and Liturgical Revision; Japan and the Japanese—a very readable paper on a profitable and ever interesting theme; The Victoria Bridge—being an interesting account of the rise, progress and completion of that enterprise; Political Ballads of England and Scotland—an entertaining collection of mementoes of partisan politics; Ocean Telegraphy, Autobiography of Dr. A. Carlyle; Motley's History of the United Netherlands—a very complete and very timely notice of that great work; Forbes and Tyndall on the Alps and their Glaciers; The Kingdom of Italy: Naval Organization.

BLACKWOOD'S EDINBURGH MAGAZINE.—The March number of this rough but genial old Tory organ has the following table of contents: School and College Life. Carthage and its Remains. Spontaneous Generation. The Trans-Atlantic Telegraph—Island Route. Part 12 of Norman Sinclair, an Autobiography. Biographical Dramatic. Judicial Puzzles—Eliza Fenning. The Foreign Secretary.

The four great British Quarterly Reviews and Blackwood's Monthly, are promptly issued by L. Scott & Co. 64 Gold Street, New York. Terms of subscription—For any one of the four Reviews \$3 per annum any four Reviews \$8; Blackwood's Magazine \$3; Blackwood and three Reviews \$9; Blackwood and the four Reviews \$10—with discount to clubs. In all the principal cities and towns, these works will be delivered free of postage. When sent by mail, the postage to any part of the U. S. will be but 24 cents a year for 'Blackwood,' and but 14 cents a year for each of the Reviews.

Reviews of all the Reviews and Blackwood's commences with the January number.

YOUTH'S CASSET AND PLAYMATE.—The February number of this little magazine commences a volume it contains three capital stories for the young—'Wishy and Wokey,' 'Be Contented with your Lot,' and 'A Fair of Ghosts.' There is also an amusing dialogue by Epos Sargent, entitled 'The Cloud and the Sunbeam,' and much other good reading. Published by William L. Gould & Co., 169 Washington St., Boston, at \$1 a year.

ANOTHER 'GOOD TIME COMING.'—We are requested to say that the Ladies of the Congregational Society of this village will hold a Levee at the Town Hall, on Thursday and Friday evenings, March 7th and 8th. Refreshments, &c., as usual. Of course a right good time may very reasonably be anticipated.

'CLICK! CLICK! CLICK!'—Those having sewing to be done are referred to a notice of 'Sewing Machine Work,' in our advertising columns.

WATERVILLE CONTRIBUTION FOR KANSAS.—The amount raised in this village for the relief of Kansas was \$191.37, which sum has been forwarded to Gov. Washburn by the soliciting committee.

THE WEATHER.—We have seen a man who saw a man who had just come out of the woods, who says there is an old fellow up there who thinks March will be a hard month!—Well, it may be—but we are having fine weather now.

MISSOURI.—The Union majority, in this State, as shown in the recent election, is at least 100,000.

Arkansas gives about 5000 majority in the same direction.

SEWARD ON TOBACCO. When Senator Collamer proposed to raise the duties on Havana cigars as luxuries, Seward said, 'I desire to know of the Senator of Vermont if I correctly understand him that he regards cigars as luxuries; because I have come to regard them as a necessary of life.'

We are indebted to Hon. S. Coburn, M. C., for a copy of the 'Reports of the Select Committee of Thirty-Three on the Disturbed Condition of the Country.'

DEAD.—The Maine Son of Temperance, of Portland, W. G. Hobbs' paper has ceased to exist, for want of a paying list of subscribers.

Matters National.

The people all over the country were somewhat startled to learn that on Thursday night, President Lincoln, abandoning his intention of visiting Baltimore and other places, had suddenly and secretly left Harrisburg for Washington. Various and contradictory rumors were abroad as to the reason of this sudden and unlooked for movement—some asserting that a plot for his assassination had been discovered, and others that the peril of the country imperatively demanded his immediate presence in Washington. Be that as it may, he suddenly and unexpectedly appeared at the Capital, where he was gladly welcomed by Republicans and Democrats, and where his presence, it is said, has produced a good effect upon all parties. He is now where he can take counsel with the leading men of the nation for the extrication of the country from its present perilous condition.

In addition to what we copy elsewhere, a few of the later items of intelligence—personal and general—will be found below:—

The most reliable report relative to the construction of Mr. Lincoln's Cabinet is as follows: Seward, Secretary of State; Bates, Attorney General; Gilmer of North Carolina, Secretary of the Navy; C. B. Smith, Secretary of the Interior; Wells, Postmaster General; Cameron, Secretary of the Treasury.

It is the general belief that the Peace Congress will adopt the proposition of Mr. Franklin of Pennsylvania, with amendments virtually restoring the Missouri line, and prohibiting the existence of slavery Northward. In territory South of that line the status of slavery shall not be changed, nor shall Congress or the Territorial Legislature pass laws prohibiting the taking of slaves there, or impairing rights arising from slavery; but the same shall be subject to the judicial cognizance of the federal Courts, according to common law; the States that may be formed north or south of the line to be admitted with or without slavery, as their constitutions may provide. This proposition was passed in the full committee on Saturday by a decisive vote.

It is rumored that if the Peace Congress adopts measures satisfactory to the Border States, George W. Simmons, a prominent Virginia Whig, and Mr. Gilmer of North Carolina will accept places in Mr. Lincoln's Cabinet. Mr. Cameron's friends are confident.

General Twiggs has surrendered to the secessionists all the government property in Texas.

The Administration has been officially informed that no foreign government sympathizes with the secessionists, but all express solicitude for the maintenance of the entire Union.

THE PLOT AGAINST MR. LINCOLN.—The correspondent of the *Tribune* says:

'The change in Mr. Lincoln's programme of travel from Harrisburg to Washington was induced solely by an official communication from General Scott, predicated upon sufficient information which he had received of the danger of a riot at Baltimore, and probably of a desperate determination at assault on the route. That intelligence was communicated by a special messenger sent from here on Thursday, and it was confirmed by the report of detective police officers who had been employed by other parties. While Mr. Lincoln entertained no apprehensions for his own safety, he did not feel justified in hazarding the public peace. His decision was, therefore, made in respect to the judgment of the War Department, and upon a state of facts of which he could have no personal knowledge.'

Per contra, the correspondent of the *Advertiser* telegraphs as follows in regard to Mr. Lincoln's sudden appearance at the Capital: 'Do not credit the stories of a plot against his life! He hastened hither to consult friends here, and to escape bores.'

Already Mr. Lincoln's arrival has exploded the pretence of a quarrel between himself and Mr. Seward. He sat in the latter gentleman's pew at church to day.

Congress will pass the force bill, but Mr. Buchanan will certainly veto it. There is a probability that the Senate will recede from its amendment to the tariff bill imposing duties on tea and coffee, and reducing the duty on sugar, in which case the bill will become a law.

Private advices from Montgomery say Commissioners from the Southern Confederacy will be soon accredited to the new Administration, and in the meantime no measures will be taken to dialogue the Federal forces in Southern forts.

MAINE LEGISLATURE.—A resolve has been passed, giving a township of land to be equally divided between the following academies:—Limington, Monmouth, Corinna, and Monson. The Aroostook Railroad Bill, presented at this session, appropriates the net receipts of the Land Office in aid of the road, and also assigns in its favor all the claims of Maine against the Federal Government, amounting at the least to three hundred thousand dollars, and possibly reaching to three times that sum. There is about an even chance that the bill will pass.

On Friday, the 23d, the two Houses met in Convention and listened to a patriotic address from Gov. Washburn; after which the Farewell Address of Washington was read and the glorious old Ode of America was sung, a national salute being fired as the assembly broke up.

A re-apportionment of the State this year having been pronounced constitutional by the Supreme Court, this duty will have to be attended to, which will lengthen the Session.

The question of removing the seat of Government came up yesterday by assignment, and probably received its quietus.

The Personal Liberty Law will no doubt be repealed.

On Saturday, a bill for the better protection of sheep, &c., from dogs was presented in the House and ordered to be printed. On the same day, resolves for the gradual emancipation of slaves in the Northern Slave States were indefinitely postponed; also the resolve in aid of Kansas. The inhabitants of Palmyra, petitioners for an act of incorporation as a town insurance company, had leave to withdraw, as it would involve unconstitutional powers. Petitioners for alteration of the boundaries of Kendall's Mills village had leave to withdraw on Monday.

L. R. 'References' perfectly satisfactory. Three cheers for the Union.

The following extract of a letter from a lady in Galveston, Texas, to a friend in Thomaston, we think tells its own story, and we leave everybody to make their own comments upon its revelation of the state of things at the South. Our Democratic friends must not regard this letter with suspicion, thinking it of Republican origin, for we assure them that it is copied from Smart's organ, the *Rockland Free Press*, in which it is innocently published as something very damaging to the dominant party.

GALVESTON, Jan. 4, 1861.

MY DEAR AUNT:—How are the times with you since Lincoln's election? They are just as bad here as they can be—everybody is failing—hard times and poverty looking many people in the face—all in consequence of the election of a Black Republican President. I sincerely hope every person who voted for him will starve; they just deserve it for bringing ruin and bloodshed over this prosperous and beautiful country. The United States never was in so prosperous a condition as before the election.

I paid taxes for my negro to the value of \$2,000, and now I can't get \$500 for her; and other property has depreciated in nearly the same ratio. The South will not be governed by a black republican, so there is every prospect of a civil war of the worst kind. Is it not dreadful to think of brother fighting against brother? The abolitionists of Massachusetts, New York and Ohio send men here into Texas and all through the South, with knives, firearms and poison to give the slaves to free themselves with. They are paid regular salaries for doing so, and some of these men come among us in the form of Methodist ministers, school teachers and book peddlers. Oh, what Christianity, what religion! what is the world coming to! I think the North will have much to answer for. If they would only let the South alone and attend to their own business, all would be well; but they must go to work in that mean, deceitful, Indian like way, to accomplish their hellish purposes! Don't be astonished, dear aunt, if you hear of our whole family being murdered in their beds, for I feel that we are at no time safe. If I wake in the night at any time, and hear any strange noise, I think, well, now, the negroes have arisen in a body headed by some abolitionist, and are going to murder us all. The negroes talk about these things among themselves and think that on the 4th of March they are all to be free, and the President will support them the remainder of their lives, and they are to have white men for husbands, ride in their carriages, and their lives are to be one grand holiday. They have no sense nor reason. They are to kill off all the white women, saving only a few for servants to wait on them. There was a planter near here who ordered his horse saddled; his negro man told him to do it himself, that he was just as free as his master. The gentleman took his gun and shot the negro on the spot—the most valuable negro he had. There were about thirty who stood ready to join this one, but this silenced them. They had made a mistake thinking they were free because Lincoln was elected, when they should have waited till the 4th of March. I suppose we will separate from the North, and then postal arrangements will stop, and there will be no way of sending letters after that time, so you must write me before that time.

WHAT IT WAS PROPOSED TO DO IN MISSOURI.—The *St. Louis Evening News*, in view of the triumphant Union victory in Missouri, suggests that the State Convention meet and adjourn *sine die*, forthwith, on the ground that there is no occasion for considering even the secession of Missouri, and adds:

'This course would be hailed with extravagant demonstrations of joy by the Union citizens of Missouri, who would thereby escape heavy and needless expense, and much irritating debate from fire eating disunionists.'

If the people of the State of Missouri had been allowed to vote on the holding of a State convention, as Tennessee they would have rejected it by forty thousand majority.

It is proposed, however, and we believe it will be seriously considered, that if the convention take any action at all, it abolish the present State government, organize another, and order a new election for Governor and Lieutenant Governor, so as

