

the present time, and they have landed us where, from the whole tendency of their political doctrines, we might legitimately and properly be expected to be landed.

It has been said by the gentlemen from Prince George's, that the national party is responsible for this war; that Abraham Lincoln is responsible for it. If they had carried out their purposes, Abraham Lincoln never would have been in that chair. He would have been murdered in the streets of Baltimore on the 23d day of February, 1860. It was a conspiracy from the beginning; a conspiracy long since entered into. They had educated the Southern men. Whenever they saw a young man of talent and ability in the South, he was brought within the sphere of their infernal influence, and he was reared up so that all the powers which God and nature had given him were finally enlisted upon their side. They printed all the abominable abolition trash they could rake up in the North, in the Southern papers, for the purpose of firing the Southern heart. They preached the doctrine of States' rights from year to year, from January to December, in season and out of season.

[At this moment the hour having expired, the hammer fell.]

On motion of Mr. JONES, of Somerset, the rule was suspended, to allow the speaker to conclude his remarks.

Mr. NEGLEY proceeded. It was a deep laid conspiracy. It will be recollected that it was charged upon this party that while they promised to save the country they could not save themselves. They went to pieces at Charleston. Stephen A. Douglas was aware of their purposes; and he had power and influence enough to carry the Northern Democracy with him; but not to lead them. The old stagers of the political States' rights school did not go with him; but the great mass of the Northern Democracy went with him. They broke in two at Charleston like a stranded ship. They had separate electors for the Southern States and for the Northern States. It was asked of a Douglas elector at Richmond whether Douglas would regard the election of Abraham Lincoln as a sufficient cause for the dissolution of the Union. He promptly replied, with the assent of Douglas, that he would not. Then the Douglas elector made a similar inquiry, whether Mr. Breckinridge would regard the election of Abraham Lincoln as a sufficient cause for the dissolution of the Union; and you have never heard the reply to that interrogatory. Mr. Douglas knew the purposes of the prime movers and leaders in this conspiracy. He knew that their designs were, if they did not continue to have power, if they did not elect Breckinridge, they were determined to break up the Government.

The facts show that the whole infernal machinery of the so-called Confederate Govern-

ment was absolutely put in force and got under way before ever Abraham Lincoln took the chair of the executive department of the Government. The States had seceded; they had formed a Confederate Government at Montgomery; they had elected Jeff. Davis as the President of that government before even Abraham Lincoln went into the Presidential chair. While James Buchanan was still President his cabinet officers dispersed our navy over every sea, so that our ships should not be available. They transported all the arms at the disposal of the Federal Government down into Southern ports. They were absolutely taking away immense cannon from Pittsburg, when the people of that city became aware of the fact and rose up *en masse* and sent them back, determined that they would not permit these cannon to be used for the destruction of the Federal Government.

While James Buchanan was yet President, before this Presidential Administration had being, in point of fact, the following acts of civil war were openly perpetrated:

"On November 10, 1860, before the vote for President was fully known, hostilities were virtually inaugurated by bills for arming troops and denouncing the United States authority, passed in a Southern Legislature, and by open revolt, sedition and treason at numerous public meetings there.

"On the 20th of December, South Carolina, in State Convention, declared war by her secession ordinance.

"On the 25th, called upon the slave States to form a confederacy.

"On the 28th, tore down and trampled upon the Union flag; and by force seized the United States custom-house, post-office, and arsenal at Charleston, and also captured Forts Moultrie and Pinckney.

The gentleman from Prince George's, (Mr. Clarke,) told us the other day that if in the May following, there had been a proper executive officer in the State of Maryland, all these things could have been avoided; and yet months before, while the whole power of the Government was in the hands of the States' rights party, these acts of treason had been perpetrated.

"December 27th, the United States revenue cutter Aiken was betrayed into the enemy's power.

"In 1861, January 2d, Governor Ellis, of North Carolina, took Fort Macon at Beaufort, the barracks at Washington, and all the United States property at Fayetteville.

"Same day, Mississippi commenced war by setting up another government within this supreme Government.

"The same day, Georgians took possession of Forts Pulaski and Jackson, and the United States arsenal at Savannah.

"On the 4th of January, Fort Morgan at Mobile Bay, and the United States arsenal at