

The South:
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TUESDAY AFTERNOON, Nov. 19.

THE CAUSES OF THE WAR.

The death of exciting news and the quietude now prevailing, doubtless soon to be broken in upon by the din of war and the clash of arms, has given us, however, a moment for reflection and some little time for philosophical consideration. The causes of the present war have been variously stated. Some have attributed its outbreak to the reckless ambition of the Southern leaders, some to the slavery question and the fanatical warfare waged by a portion of the people of the North upon the institutions of the South, and others to a desire of the part of the larger section of the late Confederacy to control the other and restrict its expansion, to the end that the North might have virtual possession of the Government, and so wield its power as to aggrandize the one section at the expense of the material interests and political importance of the other. These motives have, doubtless, contributed their share in bringing about the present unhappy condition of the country, but they have been rather adjuncts as distinguished from the primary cause of the strife, which lies much deeper, and is as old as the Government itself.

The question which has now been referred to the arbitration of arms, is the very same one which agitated the Convention which framed the Constitution, viz: Whether this is a league of separate and independent States or a great national consolidated Government. In the Convention the States Rights men had the best of it, and it was stipulated that "the powers not delegated were reserved to the States respectively." But with a view to reconcile conflicting views, there was a sufficient compromise made by the use of language lacking precision and not wanting in ambiguity, to satisfy the Federalists, and to give them an opportunity, as soon as the administration of Washington had terminated, of building a party upon their peculiar dogma. A fierce political contest succeeded, the Democrats contending for the doctrine of the Rights of the States and the Federalists pushing their centralizing and consolidating views to the furthest point deemed politic.

To sustain their theory of the Government, the Democrats pointed to the fact that the Colonies in their separate capacity and not as a mass, though mutually assisting each other, achieved their independence, and that the Colonies as independent and equal States, and not as one consolidated body of people, created the Constitution, by virtue of which the Union and the Federal Government existed. They claimed that Sovereignty resided in the people of the several States and not in the people of the United States, and that the power which was sovereign to create was equally sovereign to destroy. All these views were carefully and learnedly set forth in the Kentucky and Virginia Resolutions of 1798 and 1799.

The Federalists, on the other hand, contended that under such a theory the Union would be a mere rope of sand, and they advocated the idea of a strong Government, as one justified by the Constitution. The issue thus made up went to the people for judgment, and it is history that after repeated encounters the Federal party was annihilated. We will not drag our readers through a detail of the contests which have occurred since, for it will suffice to say, that whenever, in the intermediate period, Federalism has presented its head in any form, however distinguished, it has been speedily crushed by the power of the Democracy. Men have straggled about in positions during these struggles, but the result has always been the same. We simply record this as a fact.

The present war is merely a renewal of the old difficulty. The Southern States adhering to their former States Rights views have decided to resume their sovereignty for reasons which to them are satisfactory. The Federal Government resists the attempt, and proclaims the act unconstitutional and illegal. The sword this time, and not the ballot box, will decide the issue—the result lies with the great God of battles.

MARYLAND INSTITUTE SCHOOL OF DESIGN.

This department of the Maryland Institute will continue its regular sessions for gentlemen on tomorrow night, and we earnestly invoke the attention of the young mechanics to the importance of the branch of education.

There is no school in the United States which offers such facilities for acquiring a knowledge of designing and drawing in all their departments as are presented in the school of the Maryland Institute. The classes embrace the elementary, geometrical, mechanical, architectural and artistic, and there is scarcely a branch of industry comprised in mechanics in which one or more of these classes is not importantly and indispensably necessary to a successful prosecution of business in that connection. This theory is susceptible of the most convincing demonstration, and we should take pleasure in presenting the matter in that shape if the limits of our editorial department would admit of the treatise. It is sufficient in the general proof of the practical benefits of this feature of the Maryland Institute to say, from a personal knowledge of its operations, and in which we are sustained by the record, that the learning there acquired has placed many young men in the most honorable and lucrative positions, and has already enabled them to make marks of distinction in their respective branches of industry.

There is a greater number of mechanical engineers in the Navy of the United States from Baltimore than there is from any other city in the United States, and nearly all who have received appointments from this city were graduates of the School of Design of the Maryland Institute. In fact, so manifest have the advantages of this institution been to the young practical Mechanists, that not one of its graduates has appeared before the United States naval commission who has not passed an honorable examination before that body.

It is a matter of congratulation that, amid the vicissitudes of the times, the excellent managers of the Maryland Institute have, by their energy, been enabled to continue this school in operation, and we trust the young Mechanics of our city will not permit the opportunity to pass by without availing themselves of the benefit which are sure to accrue to the reform. We refer to the advertisement in this day's issue of the efficient and long tried chairman of the Schools of Design, Charles W. Beutler, Esq.

FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

The steamer *Louisiana*, Capt. Porter, arrived this morning at an early hour, and leaves us early in the dark as regards events now transpiring south of the James River. There was no communication yesterday with Norfolk, by flag of truce or otherwise, nor any information in reference to movements in the vicinity of the Fortress, or from the expedition to the Eastern Shore of Virginia.

We may soon expect an arrival from Fort Royal, as it has now been a week since any direct intelligence has reached us from that quarter. As we stated yesterday, General Wool has been busy for a day or two past in making preparations to receive an anticipated attack from the Confederate forces, and it was thought a fight would soon take place in the vicinity of Newport News or Great Bethel.

MISS CARLOTTA PATTI'S CONCERT.

We are informed that Miss Patti's Concert in Philadelphia last night was a complete success, and gave great satisfaction to the very large audience assembled. It is hardly necessary again to remind our readers that she will appear in Baltimore to-morrow night, and to urge upon our musical friends the propriety of according her a generous support. Although the majority of the choice seats have already been secured, some eligible positions can yet be obtained by application at Mr. Caffery's music store.

ADDITIONAL BY THE COSMOPOLITAN.

FURTHER PARTICULARS OF THE FIGHT AT SANTA ROSA ISLAND.

Mr. John Pettit, purser of the steamer *Cosmopolitan*, has furnished the N. Y. Express with some additional particulars of the last reported engagement on Santa Rosa Island, together with other general news of interest. Mr. Savage, U. S. Vice Consul at Havana, left Key West on the 9th for Havana, and just as the steamer was about leaving, a vessel came in from Fort Pickens with the news of the action on the island. The patrol, on going their rounds, discovered what seemed to them Confederate uniforms in the chaparral, some distance off. They landed and watched for some time, when it became apparent that there was a large force of Confederates secreted in the bushes. This was at a long distance from Fort Pickens, but convenient to the water, the Confederates having evidently been using the darkness of the night to transport their troops to the rendezvous. Information was dispatched to Fort Pickens without delay, and the commander resolved to send the fleet down to a secret camp, and give the unsuspecting soldiers of Seaside a good drubbing while in a position here they could do no harm to the national forces. Accordingly, several vessels were ordered to quietly proceed to the designated place, and after getting to a little additional trouble by the fact that the vessel was about to drop anchor, the order was executed with complete success. The ships, at night, anchored off the island, and within easy shooting distance of the Confederate camp, waiting until morning before opening the batteries. At the first approach of morning the various batteries opened a sudden and murderous fire, striking, it seemed, the very heart of the Confederate camp, and scattering confusion and death among its occupants. A precipitate rush was made by the surprised troops for their boats.

The merest accident discovered the secret and many believe that its discovery saved Colonel Wilson's camp from an intended surprise, although the *Zouaves* are kept on the alert, and their Colonel seems determined to be prepared in case of another attack. Havana has a full representation from the land of Dixie. The secessionists there are represented as laughing at the blockade. They are only put to a little additional trouble by it, and are only compelled to be more cautious—that is all. Fresh papers from Charleston and New Orleans were found in all the public houses, and their accounts of Confederate triumphs highly elate our Spanish enemies.

When Mason and Sibley arrived at Havana, there were general manifestations of joy, and the two ministers met with not only a cordial, but even an unusually enthusiastic reception at the hands of prominent citizens. A BARKER OF DESPATCHES FROM MEXICO—RECEIVED AT DETROIT.

Just before the *Cosmopolitan* left a bearer of despatches from Mr. Corwin, our Minister to Mexico, arrived in Havana, and handed his package to Mr. Sibley, the Consul. The purser of the *Cosmopolitan* offered to bring the bearer to New York, as his vessel was to sail three days sooner than the mail steamer *Columbia*. Singular to relate, the Consul refused to allow the despatches to come by the early conveyance, saying he would send them by the *Columbia*, which was to leave on the 15th. Mexico is said to be unusually agitated because of the great expedition now fitting out against her, and it is deemed unfortunate that the Government should be kept so long in the dark as to our position in the unfortunate republic.

The Spanish fleet off the Cuban coast is reported to be in almost complete readiness for service, and is only waiting for the vessels of the Spanish allies.

AFTER SICKLES—A Richmond letter in the *Charleston Courier* of the 9th, says: "From what has been told here in the most confidential way, there is reason to believe that a very pretty little foray will be made into Maryland ere long, by which Don Sickers and his fellow-professors will be made to suffer."

THE BORDER STATES.

The state of affairs in the border slave States is directly at variance with the hypothesis upon which the Federalists rely for the conquest of South. Consequently, the whole probability of re-establishing the Union depends upon the development of a Union sentiment in the Southern States, in which Federal arms may succeed in gaining a footing. The idea of federal subjugation, as a subsequent re-entrance of the South as a conquered country, is not entertained by sane Northern men. They rely upon the strength of the as yet undeveloped feeling in their favor throughout the South, and their policy is to present upon themselves the most favorable appearance in their military operations. The reports furnished by high Federal authority from Missouri and Kentucky, and the less formal but not less trustworthy intelligence received from Maryland, and the northwestern part of the States, are the almost insuperable difficulties with which Federalism has to contend in the localities most favorable to its interests.

In measuring the chances of secession, it has always been necessary to draw a distinction between the cotton States, the original members of the Southern Confederacy, and the other slave States. In the cotton States, the people created and controlled the movement; in the border States, the politicians are the originators, and the distances of secession, as in North Carolina and Virginia, was the product of intrigue rather than popular feeling. In the latter class of States, however, the politicians through persistent efforts to excite the Southern sentiment, relied for their justification and ultimate success upon the effects which war waged by the North would produce upon border feeling and opinion. Their expectation was the exact opposite of the result. They relied upon the tendency of a Northern war to stimulate the South as a unit to a resistance which shall end only in destruction. They calculated upon sectional and personal efforts to excite the Southern sentiment, and upon their willingness to make common cause with the secessionists in the struggle forced upon them.

Were our sources of information limited to the lying telegraphic messages and the distorted reports of the press, we should be compelled to suspend judgment upon the relative trustworthiness of these conflicting views. Fortunately, other channels of information have been opened; and whilst the fact that the Federal cause is characterized by an assurance that their statements are not needlessly unfriendly to the North, their uniform tenor shows that the secessionist politicians of the border States were more correct in their anticipations than are the Federalists who have been misled on the part of the North.

The Fremont squabbles led to a recent visit to St. Louis of the Federal Secretary of War, who was accompanied by Adjutant General Thomas for the purpose of investigating the condition of the Department of the Federal Army. The report of the Adjutant General, prepared officially for the information of the Washington Government, supplies a startling commentary upon the reports of the press, and is a severe rebuke to the demoralized and weak condition to which he has reduced a large and costly army; for though these are points to be considered in determining the probable result of the war, they are not the result of the Federal cause, but the result of the demoralized and weak condition to which he has reduced a large and costly army; for though these are points to be considered in determining the probable result of the war, they are not the result of the Federal cause, but the result of the demoralized and weak condition to which he has reduced a large and costly army.

Fremont's operations are all conducted under difficulties originating in this spirit. He receives no hearty help from the people amongst whom the army moves. The Germans are with him, but the overwhelming majority of the native Missourians are against him. Hence the necessity he encounters of conducting everything as though in the midst of a hostile country. He finds that he has no friends in the State, that the popular feeling runs counter to him in his plans, which are thus exposed to dangers against which only absolute military rule can successfully contend. (Continued on page 2.)

A new mode of lighting the stage of a theatre has been introduced into the Imperial Opera House at Paris. The burners of the footlights are placed below the floor, the products of combustion are carried off by tubes, and the light is thrown upon the scene by a double reflector, and is at the same time so screened by a plate of unpolished glass as to save the actor's eyes. This plan also avoids the danger of fire from footlights coming in contact with the dresses of incautious actresses.

The weather in New England, which has been unusually mild for the time of the year, is becoming more reasonable. A heavy frost fell in the vicinity of Boston on Saturday night, and the thermometer went down to 34 degrees.

The recent agreement made between Gen. Fremont and the Confederate General Sterling Price for an exchange of prisoners of war, has released a large number of officers and privates on both sides.

of, and the artery that supplied the rebellion cut straight through the North. A complaint was made of the want of arms, and on the question being asked, What became of the arms we sent to Kentucky? we were informed by General Sherman that they had passed into the hands of the Home Guards and could not be recovered; that many were already in the hands of the Confederates; and others refused to surrender them in their possession, alleging the desire to use them in defence of their individual and scattered property, which was in the hands of the army in Kentucky.

This is Northern testimony, be it remembered, associated with the Northern man, intimately acquainted with the Republican party, and enabled by his military position to survey the Kentucky ground carefully. If he says that the young men of the State are "rebels," and that its loyal inhabitants will not take an active part in the conflict, what becomes of the theory upon which Northerners pretend to conduct this war? Perhaps of all the border States, Kentucky is that in which Unionism is strongest. Before the war, devotion to the Union in that State amounted to more than a passion—it was almost a religion. Accepting General Sherman and Adjutant General Thomas as witnesses, it is clear that no such dereliction exists now. A Mr. Ho-we Guard, who was one of the speakers at a popular meeting in New York the other night, is another witness on the same point. He is for the North, but he is also for "a compromise with the slave power," which means a surrender to the party for which its leaders have contended. And his argument is equivalent to a confession that even in Kentucky the Union party are powerless except on a pro-slavery platform.

In Maryland things are still worse. Every lancehead by Federal power is a confession that Unionism is losing, not gaining ground. Admitting that to the Washington Government the military occupation of Baltimore is necessary, and all other things have been defensive, and, as the expressions of distrust, not to say fear. The arrest of the officers and principal members of the state legislature, to prevent the enactment of a secession ordinance, is a confession that the legislature is antagonistic to the Federal cause, and from the legislators may be inferred the bias of the constituencies. And now what will take place, and so strong is the feeling, that the Federal Government has resorted to drastic steps to prevent an expression of electoral opinion. Thus, Major-General Dix, commanding at Baltimore, has issued a proclamation declaring his intention to arrest any voter who may resist to the poll for the purpose of voting for secession candidates; a proceeding which renders the electoral franchise in Maryland a burlesque, and at the same time resists the concentration of Northern power at Washington, so far from strengthening Unionism in Maryland, has well nigh extinguished it; proving that there, as in other Border Slave States, the hypothesis upon which the prosecution of the war is founded is a delusion and a snare.

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