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## THE ARMY AND THE CRISIS.

Since the doctrine of secession has taken such deep root in the land, there has been considerable marching and counter-marching of certain portions of the army of the United States from place to place, mostly in the direction of the Chesapeake and the city of Washington, where it seems there is a probability of military force being needed at some time not far distant, if revolutionary principles continue to progress as fast as they have during the last three months. Some of the garrisons on the frontiers have been reduced to a mere corporal's guard by the movements that have been made to furnish a few troops to guard the capitol, and garrison the forts near the sea-board, where danger is anticipated in the event of collision between the secessionists and anti-secessionists, which now seems very probable at no distant day, and perhaps before the fourth of March next.

It is well known to those who are properly versed in the history of the United States, that the army, at best, is but small, and if consolidated, would not constitute a very effective military force, even if the officers and men were united in sentiment and ardently devoted to the government they have sworn to serve. It is equally well known that the spirit of disunion, which prevails throughout the length and breadth of the country known as the United States, also exists among the officers of the army, and perhaps to some extent among the rank and file, though the enlisted men, being principally of foreign birth, may not be expected to care much for anything but their pay and rations either in peace or in war.

Under such circumstances, it certainly cannot be expected that the army will be of any particular benefit to the party professedly adhering to and supporting the constitution, in any belligerent exigency that may arise between them and the seceding States; for if it was formidable before the north and the south became divided it is not so now, and if war be determined upon, it would be by far the safest course for the dominant party to pursue, to disband every corps of the army, and not rely on any portion thereof, as now organized, to sustain them in the bloody conflict that will be sure to follow a resort to arms. The concentration of the fragmentary portions of the army scattered over the Atlantic slope, may possibly be tending to that end, and if so, that portion of it stationed in Utah ought not to be forgotten, and should either be disbanded here at once, or ordered eastward as soon as the season will permit.

Rumor says that Col. Cooke has received orders to have all things in readiness to march at a moment's notice, but we know not how much truth there may be in the report, but from corroborating circumstances we are inclined to the belief that it is not wholly untrue.

A gentleman who has had good opportunities for obtaining correct information in relation to what is transpiring at Fort Crittenden, informs us that on the 23th inst., all the employees at that post and at Fort Bridger, are by order of the war department, to be discharged, which of course is significant of some contemplated movement or change in relation to the small force stationed in this Territory. The most reasonable conclusion is, that the disbanding of the troops here, is anticipated soon, as being the most practicable and effective way of disposing of the remnants of that portion of the army sent hither at an expense of millions, for the payment of which, in the absence of money in the treasury vaults, "acceptances" were substituted to an indefinite amount. Such funds cannot be used to defray the expense that would accrue in marching the troops back to the Atlantic States from whence they came, nor in marching them to the Pacific; neither can they be sustained here on "promises to pay."

Several of the officers serving in the department of Utah, are of southern extraction, and have, as reported, expressed their determination to resign their commissions and return home immediately on the commencement of active hostile demonstrations between the two opposing factions, to aid their countrymen in the impending war. The defection of some of them to the government of the "United States," is said to have been, on more than one occasion, within the last few months, unreservedly expressed; and as soon as the spring opens, should civil war be determined upon, if the troops here are not disbanded, they will of course carry out their resolutions by quitting a service which has ceased to inspire them with the hope of glory expected to be achieved by some, when ordered hither three years ago.

It is very generally understood, that the troops remaining here have not the means of effecting a complete removal, if that course should be resolved upon, instead of discharging, which last would certainly be the most politic plan. In either event, if determined upon in season, material aid might be extended to them, if desired, by those going to the frontiers the coming spring for merchandize, and even the teams that are to be sent down for the poor who wish to immigrate to this Territory, might, to some extent be engaged, to assist them in their exodus from these valleys where no laurels have been won by officers nor men, and from which we have no doubt, all wish to retire. If all the government property in the Territory cannot be removed in the event the army is ordered elsewhere, and even, in the case of disbandment, it shall all be left here, we have no hesitation in saying, that if properly stored it will be safe and secure, much more so than if removed to any post either on the Atlantic or Pacific slope.

It may be surmised by those not fully advised in the premises, that the people of Utah would like to appropriate the government forts and property in the Territory to their own use. If such had been their desires, they might, in imitation of the seceding States, have taken possession of every military post in the Great Basin long ago. But they are not so inclined, as all know who have resided here any length of time, neither do they entertain any ill will or unfriendly feelings towards the officers nor the men under their command, as members of the army, but have ever sympathized with those who have been made the tools of a corrupt administration, and suffered much in consequence of having been required to serve in the most unjust, ill-advised, expensive and disastrous expedition, ever undertaken by a nation professing civilization, since man dwelt upon the earth.

To evince the sentiments and feelings thus entertained and so often expressed towards the unfortunate beings who became the intended instruments of destruction, as plotted against the people of Utah, by the out-going administration, which has by malfeasance, profaned the constitution, overthrown the government and disrupted the Union, they have ever been and still are ready and willing to extend to them any aid and comfort, not in violation of the constitution which they, as citizens, so much revere and ardently support.

## News Items by Mail.

The mail which arrived here on the evening of the 11th inst., brought broken files of exchanges from Jan. 1st, to the 26th, containing much news that would have been considered important, if it had not been to some extent anticipated by the "pony." The proceedings of Congress, of the State legislatures, of the secession conventions, and of many of the public meetings held in various parts of the States to give expression to sentiments in favor of or against the revolutionary movements that are distracting the country; or for devising ways and means to preserve, or overthrow the government, would no doubt be read with interest by many, had we space for their insertion; but in consequence of the delay of the mail for nearly a month, it will now be impossible to give the details of the proceedings of Congress as we had intended; and many important things connected with the history of the secession movements so rapidly progressing in the country, once known as the United States, will, of necessity, have to pass unnoticed, if we continue to give our readers the latest news, which we presume will be most acceptable to them.

The telegraphic dispatches received by "pony" have seemingly given very correct outlines of what had transpired in relation to the secession movements, and other matters, in which the people were deeply interested, affecting their rights as citizens of the States, as well as their "unalienable" right to enjoy "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness," but the details of passing events as exhibited by the public journals, show up things in a darker hue than expressed by the condensed, and often disconnected reports, conveyed by the wires. The truth is, the distress and perplexity that has come upon the people, is very great; thousands are out of employ, and have not the means of procuring for themselves and those dependents upon them, the necessities and comforts of life. Money is scarce, mercantile and manufacturing firms are constantly suspending, and a general smash up of everything connected with the social, political, and financial affairs of community generally, is evidently anticipated by a large majority of the people in the northern, and by many in the southern States. All efforts to stay the march of revolution have thus far been unavailing; and if there is any hope entertained by those who profess adhesion to the Union, that the breach that has been effected between the North and South, will or can be patched up and cemented again, we do not know the reasons they may have for such expectations, as they have not been definitely stated. There are certainly no apparent reasons that would justify any person who has made himself acquainted with the history of the human race, and particularly with the downfall of nations, in entertaining such opinions.

The 4th of January, according to Mr. Buchanan's proclamation, was very generally observed by the people in the northern and in the border slave States, as a day of fasting and prayer. The intercessions for the preservation of the Union in many sections, are reported to have been very fervent, but up-to-date no favorable response had been made. Prayer meetings also continued to be held in New York, in the Methodist Episcopal churches, for missions, and the conversion of the world, with no signs of the intercessionists being heard.

There were great doings on the 8th of January in the States, where the national fast was observed, in commemoration of the battle of New Orleans; and in all the principal cities and towns, one hundred guns were fired in honor of General Jackson, Major Anderson, and the Union.

The South Carolina secession convention adjourned on the 5th of January, to meet again on the call of the governor. Before the adjournment was taken, the chair and the appurtenances used on the night of signing the ordinance of secession were ordered to be placed in the State house at Columbia.

Mr. Russell was set at liberty on bail, on the evening of January 9th—the amount of bail required having been reduced to \$100,000 was obtained in the District of Columbia.

The high price obtained for coal at Charleston had induced persons in Philadelphia to attempt sending a ship load of it there, but ship owners refused to take it, though five dollars a ton freight was offered.

Two or three clergymen are reported to have committed suicide, during the month of January. One of them, Rev. A. Baine, who had never drank liquor before in his life, became accidentally intoxicated, and in his mortification soon after ended his life by poison, at Citronelle, Alabama. Another, the Rev. R. C. Rice, of Eminence, Ky., shot himself at the Spencer House, Cincinnati, the next day after his arrival there from Philadelphia.—He had been an eminent theologian, and was one of the stars in the Campbellite division of christians.

The weather in the Eastern, Middle and Western States had been exceedingly cold, and deaths from freezing had been numerous. On the 13th of January, the thermometer in Albany and other places in New York stood at 18 deg. below zero.

The Legislature of Nebraska adjourned Jan. 11, without having done much legislative business.

The fires and other calamities occurring from January 1st to the 26th, in various States and in the British North American provinces were exceedingly numerous. The amount of property destroyed and the number of lives lost was very great.

## LATEST BY TELEGRAPH

AND

## PONY EXPRESS.

FROM THE ATLANTIC STATES.

The Eastern Pony Express, with Washington dates up to the 8th of February, arrived in the city at 11 o'clock on the forenoon of Saturday.

A Pensacola dispatch of the 2nd, states that a truce had been concluded, but who with, the dispatch says not. The Mississippians returned home and the Alabamians remain till relieved.

The North Carolina Legislature leans more and more to the South. The House passed a resolution unanimously, that in case reconciliation fails, the State goes into the Southern confederation.

Governor Brown, of Georgia, had demanded of Governor Morgan, of New York, the restoration of the arms taken on board the steamer "Monticello" as she was about leaving New York for Savannah.

The New Orleans Custom House was opened formally on the 5th, under the government of Louisiana.

The Montgomery or Southern States Convention met on the 4th. Howell Cobb was chosen permanent president by acclamation, and Johnson F. Hooper was appointed Secretary. One delegate only absent.

The Senate of Virginia disclaimed against any intention on the part of that State to attack the capitol or seize any federal property in the District of Columbia, and therefore all preparations of defense were uncalled for.

The Louisiana Convention passed the military bill on the 5th, for the organization of two regiments, one of artillery, the other infantry, in all 1,700 men.

Massachusetts had at last sent commissioners to the Virginia-Washington Convention.

The great meeting in Faneuil Hall, Boston, was very enthusiastic. A letter was read from the Hon. Edward Everett, who stated that Congress was unable to heal the breach, as the members were bound by party ties, and the only alternative was union or a bloody strife. He concluded with recommending that the cry go out from Faneuil Hall:—The Union must and shall be preserved. Seward and Adams were sustained, and an appeal was made to Virginia and the border States to be faithful to the call of patriotic duty. A compromise on the basis of the Crittenden resolutions was approved.

The steam frigates Colorado, Mississippi and Minnesota now at Boston, and the Roanoke at Brooklyn, were to be immediately put in order for service connected with the collection of revenues at places where the federal officers were opposed in their duties.

While the President's message was before the Senate, on the 5th, Mr. Johnson of Tennessee made a stirring speech against secession, and attacked the position taken by Senator Benjamin on the right of Louisiana to leave the Union. A motion to adjourn stopped the Senator, and a message from the President was received, accompanied by resolutions from Kentucky calling for a national Convention.

On the same day, Mr. Taylor presented the Louisiana secession ordinance in the House. Mr. T. was frequently interrupted, till his colleague, Mr. Bouigny, begged gentlemanly courtesy, as it was Mr. T.'s last speech. The seceding member continued and was again attacked by Mr. Sickles, who inquired if war had not already been initiated by Louisiana in seizing the mint and other property of the Government. Mr. T. justified the action of his State and, in reply to another member's opposition, stated that, on the first attack on the South, the whole people there would come to the rescue, including Virginia, Tennessee, North Carolina and Missouri, and civil war would be the result. He then bade the House farewell.

Mr. Bouigny, from the same State, made explanation for remaining in the House. He had not been sent to Congress by the Convention, but by the people, and when they called for his resignation, he was ready. He claimed to be regarded as a thorough Union man, and was going to stick to it, in or out of Congress.

Ex-President Tyler was elected President of the Convention at Washington, which is now dubbed the Peace Congress. The proceedings