SECESSION AND THE U. S. NAVY.

WHERE THE SHIPS ARE.

Resignations of Rebel Officers.

SECRETARY TOUCEY CONDEMNED.

The following is the Report from the Select Committee of the House of Representatives appointed to inquire into the condition of the Navy. It was presented in the House on Thursday:

The Select Committee to whom was referred the Message of the President of the United States, of date January 8, 1861, with special instructions, in partial discharge of the duties imposed upon them, further report:

That they were instructed among other things to inquire "where the ships of the United States are now stationed, in what command, and under what orders." The result of this inquiry, together with such observations as the peculiar circumstances under which it is instituted suggest, they now respectfully submit for the consideration of the House. The entire naval force of the country, in commission and under orders, on the 16th of January, 1861, together with the name of the commander of each vessel, and the station to which each had been before that date assigned, appears by evidence furnished the Committee by the Navy Department, to consist of the following vessels:

LIST OF THE VESSELS OF THE UNITED STATES NAVY IN COMMISSION ON JAN. 16, 1861.

East India Squadron.

Hartford, steam sloop, Capt. Charles Lowndes; cruising on the East India Station.
John Adams, sloop, Com. J. M. Berrien; cruising on the East India Station.
Dacotah sloop, Com. Wm. Radford; cruising on the East India Station.
Saginaw, steamer, Com. J. F. Schenk; cruising on the East India Station.
Vandalia, sloop-of-war, Com. S. P. Lee; on the way to the Station.

Brazil Squadron.

Congress, frigate, Capt. L. M. Goldsborough; cruising on the Station.
Seminole, steam-sloop, Com. E. R. Thompson; cruising on the Station.
Pulaski, steamer, Lieut.-Com'g W. H. Macomb; cruising on the Station.

Pacific Squadron.

Lancaster, steam-sloop, Capt. John Rudd; at Panama, Jan. 3.
Saranac, steamer, Capt Robt. Ritchie; at Panama, Jan. 3.
Wyoming, steam sloop, Com. J. K. Mitchell; at Panama, Jan. 3.
Narragansett, steam-sloop, Com. T. A. Hunt; on the South American Coast.
Cyane, sloop-of-war Com. S. B. Bissell; at Panama, Jan. 3.
St. Mary's, sloop-of-war, Com. W. D. Porter; at Panama, Jan. 3.
Levant, sloop-of-war, Com. Wm. E. Hunt; at Hilo, Sept. 3.

Mediterranean Squadron.

Richmond, steam-sloop, Capt. D. W. Ingraham; cruising on the station.
Susquehanna, steam sloop, Capt. G. W. Hollins; cruising on the station.
Iroquois, steam-sloop, Com. J. S. Palmer; cruising on the station.

African Squadron.

Constellation, sloop-of-war, Capt. J. S. Nicholas; cruising on coast of Africa.
Portsmouth, sloop-of-war, Com. John Calhoun; cruising on the coast of Africa.
San Jacinto, steam-sloop, Capt. T. A. Dornin; cruising on the coast of Africa.
Mystic, steamer, Lieut.-Com. Wm. E. L. Roy; cruising on the coast of Africa.
Sumpter, steam-sloop, Lieut.-Com. J. F. Armstrong; cruising on the coast of Africa.
Mohican, steam-sloop, Com. S. W. Godon; cruising on the coast of Africa.
Saratoga, sloop-of-war, Com. Alfred Taylor; cruising on the coast of Africa.

Home Squadron.

Cumberland, sloop-of-war, Capt. John Marston; at Vera Cruz.
Powhatan, steam-sloop, Capt. Saml. Mercer; at Vera Cruz.
Pawnee, steam-sloop, Com. S. C. Rowan; at Philadelphia.
Brooklyn, steam-sloop, Capt. W. S. Walker; at Hampton Roads.
Sabine, frigate, Capt. H. A. Adams; under orders to Pensacola.
Macedonia, sloop-of-war, Capt. James Glynn; on way to Pensacola.
St Louis, sloop-of-war, Com. Chas. H. Poor; under orders to Pensacola.
Pocahontas, steam-sloop, Com. S. F. Hazard; at Vera Cruz.
Mohawk, steamer, Lieut-Com. T. A. M. Craven; supposed to be on their station, the coast of Cuba.
Crusader, steamer, Lieut Com. J. N. Maffitt; supposed to be on their station, the coast of Cuba.
Wyandotte, steamer, Lieut.-Com. O. H. Berryman; supposed to be on their station, the coast of Cuba.

Storeships.

Falmouth, sloop-of-war, Lieut.-Com. Chas. Thomas; stationed at Aspinwall.
Warren Lieut.-Com. J. J. Boyle; stationed at Panama.
Fredonia, Lieut.-Com. J. M. Watson; stationed at Valparaiso.
Supply, Com. H. Walke; sailed from Pensacola 12th of January for Vera Cruz.
Release, Lieut.-Com. J. M. Frailey; returning from the Mediterranean.
Relief, Com. John De Camp; at New-York.

Special Service.

Niagara, screw frigate, Capt. Wm. W. McKean; special service to Japan.

Receiving Ships.

Ohio, ship-of-the-line, Com. Wm. Smith; Boston.
North Carolina, ship-of-the-line, Com. J. H. Ward; New-York.
Princeton, steamer, Com. H. K. Hoff; Philadelphia.
Allegheny, steamer, Com. W. W. Hunter, Baltimore.
Pennsylvania, ship-of-the-line, Com. A. Sinclair; Norfolk.
Independence, razee; Mare Island, California.

There were also in the ports of the United State, dismantled and unfit for immediate service, the following vessels belonging to the Navy:

At Portsmouth, N. H.

Santee frigate, 50 guns.
Dale, sloop, 15 guns.
Marion, sloop, 16 guns.

At Boston.

Colorado, steam-frigate, 40 guns.
Minnesota, steam-frigate, 40 guns.
Mississippi, steamer, 11 guns.
Vermont, ship of the line, 84 guns.
Vincennes, sloop, 20 guns.
Preble, sloop, 16 guns.
Bainbridge, brig, 6 guns.

At New-York.

Wabash, steam-frigate, 40 guns.
Roanoke, steam frigate, 40 guns.
Potomac, frigate, 50 guns.
Brandywine, frigate, 50 guns.
Savannah, sloop, 24 guns.
Perry, brig, 6 guns.

At Philadelphia.

Pawnee, sloop-of-war, 6 guns.
Water Witch, steamer, 3 guns.
St. Lawrence, frigate, 50 guns.
Jamestown, sloop, 22 guns.

At Washington.

Pensacola, steam-sloop.

At Norfolk.

Merrimack, steam-frigate, 40 guns.
Plymouth, sloop, 22 guns.
Germantown, sloop, 22 guns.
Raritan, frigate, 50 guns.
Columbia, frigate, 50 guns.
United States, frigate, 50 guns.

At Annapolis.

Constitution, frigate, 50 guns.

The number of ships thus lying in port and dismantled and unfit for service is 28, mounting in the aggregate 874 guns. None of them could be repaired and put under sail short of several weeks' time, and several of them would require for that purpose at least six months. No orders have been issued to put in readiness any of them.

The foregoing comprises the whole naval force of the country—both that which is in commission and in actual service and that which lies in port and is from any cause unavailable in any sudden emergency. From this statement it will appear that the entire naval force available for the defense of the whole Atlantic coast at the time of the appointment of this Committee consisted of the steamer Brooklyn, 25 guns, and the store-ship Relief, 2 guns, while the former was of too great draft to permit her to enter Charleston harbor with safety, except at spring tides, and the latter was under orders to the Coast of Africa with stores for the African squadron. Thus the whole Atlantic seaboard has been, to all intents and purposes, without defense during all the period of civil commotion and lawless violence, to which the President has called our attention as "of such vast and alarming proportions" as to be beyond his power to check or control.

It further appears that of the vessels which might have been available for defense or protection in case of any sudden emergency arising at home, now at stations in distant seas, or on their way thither, on the 13th of October last, the Richmond left our coast to join the Mediterranean Squadron, and the Vandalia left on the 21st of September to join the East Indian Squadron, and, about the same time, the Saratoga to join the African Squadron, and others to join the Home Squadron, then in the harbor of Vera Cruz, supporting one of the revolutionary Governments of Mexico.

The Committee cannot fail to call attention to this extraordinary disposition of the entire naval force of the country, and especially in connection with the present no less extraordinary and critical juncture of political affairs. They cannot call to mind any period in the past history of the country of such profound peace and internal repose as would justify so entire an abandonment of the coast of the country to the chance of fortune. Certainly, since the nation possessed a navy, it has never before sent its entire available force into distant seas, and exposed the immense interests at home, of which it is the special guardian, to the dangers from which, even in times of the utmost quiet, prudence and forecast do always shelter them. But the Committee cannot shut their eyes to the fact that this remarkable state of things has occurred at a period in our history without a parallel for internal commotion, lawless violence, and total disregard of the authority of the Constitution and laws, and of the rights of property, public and private—a state of things which the President himself, in the Message referred to this Committee, denominated a revolution of "such vast and alarming proportions as to place the subject entirely above and beyond Executive control." During this period combinations have been formed for the avowed purpose of overthrowing the Government itself, and have carried forward that purpose in overt acts of violence never before known in the country. The arms of the Government have been seized in arsenals and other places of deposit by lawless mobs, and placed in the hands of those in open rebellion. Fortifications have been taken possession of, navy-yards plundered, and magazines robbed. The guns of the United States upon the battlements of national defenses have been turned upon unarmed vessels of the Government, and the flag of the country fired upon by insolent rebels. The revenue service has been outraged, and its vessels treacherously surrendered to those who defied the authorities of the United States, by men holding commissions under the very Government they were betraying. The public moneys in the national mints have been seized, and naval stores plundered. The commerce of the country and lives of citizens have been put in peril by the wanton and lawless destruction of buoys erected to warn the mariner of sunken rocks, and the lights on the coast have been put out that the darkness and the tempest might be invoked in aid of those resisting the laws. Unarmed and unoffending merchant vessels riding peaceably at anchor in the harbors of the nation, and beneath its own flag, have been seized by insurgent forces in retaliation for obstructions thrown in the way of their revolutionary designs. The law has been defied, the Constitution thrust aside, and the Government itself assaulted.

Nor has this state of lawless violence and total disregard of public and private rights been a sudden outburst of passion or discontent at some new and unexpected measure of governmental policy to which resistance had never been threatened, and could not have been provided against. But it is in fulfillment of schemes long entertained and frequently threatened, in certain quarters of the Union. Indeed, it is resistance to the law and the Constitution, consequent upon the election of a particular person to the office of Chief Magistrate of the nation. Of all this, those charged with the execution of the laws and the preservation of the public peace had ample notice. It was for many months apparent to all but the blind that the whole current of events was turned in the direction which was to bring to the test the sincerity of the threats thus uttered. A Chief Magistrate of one of the States had, more than two years before, publicly confessed a design on his part, if the like contingency had happened at the general election four years ago, to have made the attempt to overthrow the Government, by seizing the public arms at Harper's Ferry, and marching upon the Capital itself. When the Legislature of South Carolina assembled in November last to discharge the Constitutional obligations of making choice of Electors of President and Vice-President, the Governor of the State, by special message, recommended that measures should be taken to overthrow that Constitution if the choice of the majority did not coincide with her own. In fulfillment of these open threats, overt acts of resistance to the Government by lawless bands of men followed the announcement that the people, according to the requirements of the Constitution, had made choice of a Chief Magistrate for the ensuing four years not the choice of those who had openly avowed resistance if their own preferences should be disregarded by that majority. From that time to the present the public authority has been defied and the public rights disregarded. Yet during all this time that most important arm of the public defense, the entire navy, has been beyond the reach of orders, however great the emergency. To the Committee this disposition of the naval force at this critical period seems most extraordinary. The permitting of vessels to depart for distant seas after these unhappy difficulties had broken out at home; the omission to put in repair and commission ready for orders a single one of the twenty-eight ships dismantled and unfit for service in our own ports, and that, too, while $646,639 79 of the appropriation for repairs in the navy the present year remained unexpended, were, in the opinion of your Committee, grave errors in the administration of the Navy Department, the consequences of which have been manifest in the many acts of lawless violence to which they have called attention. The Committee are of opinion that the Secretary had it in his power, with the present naval force of the country at his command, and without materially impairing the efficiency of the service abroad, at any time after the settled purpose of overthrowing the Government had become manifest, and before that purpose had developed itself in overt acts of violence, to station at anchor within reach of his own orders a force equal to the protection of all the property and all the rights of the Government and the citizen as well as the flag of the country from any outrage and insult at any point on the entire Atlantic seaboard. The failure to do this is without justification or excuse.

RESIGNATIONS IN THE NAVY.

The attention of the Committee was also drawn to the resignations which have taken place among the officers in the Navy, caused by the political troubles in which the country is now involved, and the course pursued by the Navy Department in reference thereto. It will appear, from a "list of resignations" furnished by the Department, and which accompanies this report, that since the election 29 officers in the Navy, citizens of Southern disaffected States, have tendered their resignations to the Secretary, all of which have been forthwith, and without inquiry, accepted by him. The circumstances under which these resignations have been received and accepted, and the effect of that acceptance, deserves special notice. That these officers have sought to resign, and relieve themselves from the obligations to the Government imposed by their commissions, because of disaffection and a desire to join, and in many instances to lead, insurgent forces against that Government, is notorious. One of them, Lieut. J. R. Hamilton, a citizen of South Carolina, forwarded his resignation from on board the Wyoming at Panama, dated Dec. 1, 1860. It did not reach the Department until the 15th of the same month, and, without inquiry into his conduct, his purpose in resigning, his loyalty, or any circumstance connected with so unusual a proceeding at such a time, his resignation was accepted the same day. He immediately, from Charleston, S. C., issued a letter addressed to all the officers in the Navy from Southern States, urging them to resign and join a hostile force against the Government; and that those of them in commission should bring their vessels into Southern ports, and surrender them to the traitors already in arms, taking new commissions under their authority, and then turning their guns upon their own flag. Such conduct is nothing less than treason, and has no parallel since the attempt of Benedict Arnold to deliver over important military posts to the enemies of his country. Had the Secretary declined to accept the resignation thus tendered, this man would have been subject to the trial and punishment of a Court-martial according to the rules which govern the service, and would have met the fate of a traitor. This extraordinary letter was published throughout the United States. After its circulation in the public prints in Washington, V. M. Randolph, a Captain in the Navy, a citizen of Alabama, who had been excused from active service for two or three years, because of alleged ill health, on the 10th of January, 1861, forwarded from Montgomery, Ala., his resignation to the Secretary. Before 12 o'clock at noon of the 12th, and before his resignation had reached Washington, and while he was still a Captain in the Navy, he appeared at the gates of the Pensacola Navy-Yard, in Florida, at the head of an insurgent force, and demanded its surrender. The yard, with whatever of force it had, and the United State stores, and other property to a vast amount therein, was unconditionally surrendered to him, and he is now its Commandant, occupying the quarters of the late Commandant, and granting paroles of honor to such of his prisoners of war as have desired to depart, and not serve under him. The dispatch from the late Commandant, then a prisoner of war, informing the Secretary of this ignominious surrender, was received at the Department on the evening of the 13th of January. And the resignation of Captain Randolph, who on the 12th was the leader of the insurgents, did not reach the Secretary until the 14th, when, without inquiry or delay, it was immediately accepted. E. Farrand, Commander in the Navy, and also a citizen of Alabama, was the second in command at the Pensacola Navy-Yard, the executive officer of the yard. When the attack was made upon the yard, Farrand met the assailants at the gates by previous understanding, admitted them to the yard, and conducted their leader to the commanding officer; participated in the formal capitulation, and immediately engaged in service under the new Commandant of the yard. This was done while he still held in his possession his commission as a Commander in the Navy. On the 13th or 15th of January (the Department does not know which) Farrand forwarded his resignation to the Secretary; but it did not reach him until the 21st of the same month, seven days after official notice of the surrender had been received at the Department. Yet, this resignation was immediately, and without inquiry, accepted. F. B. Renshaw, a Lieutenant in the Navy, and a citizen of Florida, was the First Lieutenant of the yard, and actively engaged in securing its surrender. It was by his order that the flag was hauled down, amid the jeers and shouts of a drunken rabble. He immediately enrolled himself under the leader of the insurgents, and present commandant of the yard, and from the day of its surrender, has continued under him, to discharge the duty of First Lieutenant, as before under the United States. Yet he continued to hold his commission as a Lieutenant in the Navy till the 16th of January, and his resignation did not reach the Secretary till the 22d, when, like the others, it was, without inquiry or delay, accepted. The conduct of these officers plainly comes within the Constitutional definition of treason against the United States, viz: "levying war against them, or in adhering to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort." And, so long as their resignations were unaccepted by the Secretary, they could be tried and punished as traitors by a court-martial. From this they have been relieved by the Secretary himself. To have done this with a knowledge of their acts, would have been to have involved himself in their crime, would have been to have committed treason himself. To have done it without inquiry, and without reason, to know that they have committed no offense, shows a want of that solicitude for the honor and efficiency of the service which is indispensable to its just administration. Yet the resignations of Farrand and Renshaw, and also those of the other officers resigning at the Pensacola Navy-Yard, were all received and accepted after the Secretary had already been officially informed that they had surrendered to a lawless band of insurgents, and he had detached them to await orders, having "neither approved nor disapproved of their conduct, and not proposing to do so without full information touching their conduct in the surrender of the yard." Why, after having been thus warned, and having taken this position, the Secretary did not wait for this information, the Committee cannot understand.

Several other resignations of officers who do not appear to have been engaged in actual war against the United States before tendering the same, were nevertheless accepted by the Secretary with an unnecessary haste, which neither the purpose of the resignation nor the times would justify or excuse. Some of them were even accepted by telegraph, when it was perfectly apparent that the object of resigning was to relieve themselves as early as possible from embarrassment, and the obligation of the oath of office, as well as summary trial and punishment by a court-martial, previous to joining insurgent forces against the constituted authorities of their country. These resignations, thus accepted, have been followed by immediate engagement in a service hostile to the Government. One man, holding the office of civil engineer in the Pensacola Navy-Yard at the time of its surrender, forwarded his resignation on that day to the Secretary, inclosed in a letter to Senator Mallory, in which he expressly states the reason of his resignation to be because he is prevented from acting against the Government by the obligation of his commission. The letter of resignation, and the one inclosing it, stating this reason, were both laid before the Secretary on the 24th of January; yet the Secretary not only accepted the resignation at once, and thus relieved him from the obligation on him not to act against the Government, but caused the acceptance to take effect "from the 12th of January, the day of the surrender of the yard," twelve days anterior to the time of its date. The reason given for thus making this acceptance retroactive in its effect, viz: to stop his pay from that time, did not appear, under the extraordinary circumstances by which it was surrounded, at all satisfactory to the Committee. The resignation of the officer in charge of the Marine Hospital at Pensacola was accepted by telegraph, and he was thereby enabled to take upon himself the same position under the insurgent force, without any interruption. And that of Lieut. R. T. Chapman, dated on board the Brooklyn, when about to sail under orders, was likewise accepted by telegraph, and he was thus relieved of any inconvenience he would otherwise have experienced in being carried to sea against his wishes.

The course thus pursued by the Secretary in accepting these resignations appears, under the circumstances, to be most extraordinary. No custom of the Department in ordinary times can justify it. No want of confidence in the loyalty of these officers can excuse it, for if their previous conduct had justified any such suspicion, it also demanded investigation beforehand, which would, as to some of them, have disclosed to the Secretary complicity in treason, calling for courts-martial, rather than honorable discharge. A prudent regard for the public safety would, no doubt, have justified, if not imperiously demanded, that some of the officers should have been early removed from delicate and responsible positions of trust, by the substitution of others more reliable. But these very considerations appear to the Committee to have forbidden the furnishing any such facilities for engaging in hostilities against the Government, as the relief from the summary trial and punishment of a court-martial secured by the acceptance of their resignations. The course pursued by the Secretary has 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 Committee cannot understand how this course is consistent with a proper discharge of the duties of his office by the Secretary in this critical juncture of affairs. It appears to them to have been attended with consequences the most serious to the service of the country. They can find no excuse or justification in the claim set up in behalf of the Secretary that the resignations have been accepted in ignorance of any misconduct, for no resignation should, at any time, be accepted until there is reason to know at least that the officer tendering it had been guilty of no unofficerlike conduct deserving a court-martial. But the circumstances connected with these resignations, the apparent purpose for which they were made, and the hostile attitude which the manner of their tender clearly disclosed, called upon the Secretary to refrain from that haste in their acceptance which permitted of neither delay nor inquiry. The Committee cannot approve, but are compelled to condemn such a failure in the discharge of public duty; and they therefore recommend the adoption of the accompanying resolution:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Navy, in accepting, without delay or inquiry, the resignations of officers of the Navy who were in arms against the Government when tendering the same, and of those who sought to resign that they might be relieved from the restraint imposed by their commissions upon engaging in hostility to the constituted authorities of the country, 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 this House.

INTERESTING TO FARMERS.

THE RAVAGES OF POTATO-ROT.—That great British calamity, the potato-rot, was unusually destructive in 1860. The ravages are noticed as having occurred in almost every county, despite every panacea and precaution, which successive experimenters and theorists have suggested. Slowly but insidiously working its way from point to point, it has, within the past fifteen years, spread over that country, as it has over our own and others. Occasionally it has done so little damage as to encourage a belief that it had disappeared, but the developments of the present season have shown it to have been only latent, not destroyed. It is said that it has assumed, the past year, a power and a development quite equal in degree, if not in universality, to that of the year 1847: but, at the same time, so partial and fitful have been its ravages, that it is impossible to assign them to any cause existing in the exceptional atmospherical phenomena by which other crops have been so seriously affected. In many districts of England it has prevailed to such an extent, that in some cases the crop has not been considered worth raising; while in others scarcely a tuber is injured, and the average yield is beyond precedent. Thus, we have heard of an instance in which a farmer sold sixty acres for £4,200, being at the rate of £70 per acre. There is not a doubt that had the disease kept off, the crop this season would, in the light-land districts, of England have been the largest ever known. But if we may judge from the agricultural reports from various counties inserted from time to time in *The Mark Lane Express*, the aggregate of the saved tubers will be much below an average, even if those already stored should be preserved from further injury.

Scotland is represented to be comparatively exempt from this scourge; but in Ireland it has appeared with similar capriciousness as in England. In the northern parts of that country the price alone—ranging from 7d. to 10d. per stone of 16 pounds—proves the virulence and extent of its ravages. Its prevalence, however, is sufficiently great to render a large importation of Indian corn requisite to supply the deficiency it creates in the food of the working classes. Happily, these are in a far better condition than in 1847, labor being abundant and remunerative; so that there is no fear of a recurrence of that awful scourge which then decimated the population of that country.

In France and Germany the destruction of the crop is extensive, and in some parts of the former country will be severely felt by the laboring classes. Notwithstanding this, large quantities are weekly imported from the continental ports into England, which tends to keep the price within bounds. But as the raising of the tubers will soon be concluded, it is not probable that the imports will continue much longer at the present rate.

The Mark Lane Express, discussing the probable origin of the disease, records the curious circumstance that—

"There is one peculiarity in the character of the disease this season that distinguishes it from former visitations—it is that, after attacking the tubers with its usual—or probably with *unusual*—violence, it suddenly ceased; and the potatoes that remained have been found perfectly sound, and are stored in the best condition. The aggregate crop, however, has been reduced by it much below an average, which leaves an opening for large importations from the Continent, the price in Ireland being—at least at present—too high for this market."

TICKS ON SHEEP, can be got rid of by keeping the flock always in good order. Now is the time for those who raise ticks and wish to get rid of them, to prepare a shelter for their sheep and see that they are taken care of in our cold, wet storms, and all will be safe. It is bad keeping, and exposure to storms that breeds ticks.

THE TRIBUNE KANSAS FUND.

To the Editor of The N. Y. Tribune.

SIR: Please find inclosed a commencement of the $1 subscription for the relief of Kansas, as suggested in the appeal of that active friend of suffering humanity, Thaddeus Hyatt, esq.:

Rowland Johnson	$1 00	C. Bramhall	$1 00
H. W. Johnson	1 00	J. R. Johnson	1 00

Orange, N. J., Feb. 13, 1861.

The President Elect in Washington.

HIS ARRIVAL THERE.

A PLOT AGAINST HIS LIFE.

THE ASSASSINS FOILED.

SPEECHES AND RECEPTIONS.

At 8 o'clock on Thursday morning Mr. Lincoln left New-York for Philadelphia, *en route* for Washington. The station at Jersey City was crowded with an enthusiastic throng. At Trenton there was a most cheering demonstration. Mr. Lincoln made two brief speeches—one to the Senate and the other to the House. The latter was as follows:

MR. SPEAKER AND GENTLEMEN: I have just enjoyed the honor of a reception by the other branch of this Legislature, and I return to you and them my thanks for the reception which the people of New-Jersey have given, through their chosen representatives, to me, as the representative, for the time being, of the majesty of the people of the United States. I appropriate to myself very little of the demonstrations of respect with which I have been greeted. I think little should be given to any man, but that it should be a manifestation of adherence to the Union and the Constitution. I understand myself to be received here by the representatives of the people of New-Jersey, a majority of whom differ in opinion from those with whom I have acted. This manifestation is therefore to be regarded by me as expressing their devotion to the Union, the Constitution, and the liberties of the people. You, Mr. Speaker, have well said that this is a time when the bravest and wisest look with doubt and awe upon the aspect presented by our national affairs. Under these circumstances, you will readily see why I should not speak in detail of the course I shall deem it best to pursue. It is proper that I should avail myself of all the information and all the time at my command, in order that when the time arrives in which I must speak officially, I shall be able to take the ground which I deem the best and safest, and from which I may have no occasion to swerve. I shall endeavor to take the ground I deem most just to the North, the East, the West, the South, and the whole country. I take it, I hope, in good temper—certainly no malice toward any section. I shall do all that may be in my power to promote a peaceful settlement of all our difficulties. The man does not live who is more devoted to peace than I am. [Cheers.] None who would do more to preserve it. But it may be necessary to put the foot down firmly. [Here the audience broke out into cheers so loud and long that for some moments it was impossible to hear Mr. L.'s voice.] He continued: And if I do my duty, and do right, you will sustain me, will you not? [Loud cheers, and cries of "Yes," "Yes," "We will."] Received, as I am, by the members of a Legislature the majority of whom do not agree with me in political sentiments, I trust that I may have their assistance in piloting the ship of State through this voyage, surrounded by perils as it is; for, if it should suffer attack now, there will be no pilot ever needed for another voyage.

On his arrival in Philadelphia fully 100,000 people had assembled to greet the President elect. He was welcomed at the Continental Hotel by the Mayor, and thus responded:

MR. MAYOR AND FELLOW-CITIZENS OF PHILADELPHIA: I appear before you to make no lengthy speech, but to thank you for this reception. The reception you have given me to-night is not to me, the man, the individual, but to the man who temporarily represents, or should represent, the majesty of the nation. [Cheers.] It is true, as your worthy Mayor has said, that there is anxiety among the citizens of the United States at this time. I deem it a happy circumstance that this dissatisfied portion of our fellow-citizens do not point us to anything in which they are being injured, or are about to be injured, for which reason I have felt all the while justified in concluding that the crisis, the panic, the anxiety of the country at this time, is artificial. If there be those who differ with me upon this subject they have not pointed out the substantial difficulty that exists. I do not mean to say that an artificial panic may not do considerable harm; that it has done such I do not deny. The hope that has been expressed by your Mayor, that I may be able to restore peace, harmony, and prosperity to the country, is most worthy of him; and happy indeed will I be if I shall be able to verify and fulfill that hope. [Tremendous cheering.] I promise you in all sincerity, that I bring to the work a sincere heart. Whether I will bring a head equal to that heart, will be for future times to determine. It were useless for me to speak of details of plans now; I shall speak officially next Monday week, if ever. If I should not speak, then it were useless for me to do so now. If I do speak, then it is useless for me to do so now. When I do speak, I shall take such ground as I deem best calculated to restore peace, harmony, and prosperity to the country, and tend to the perpetuity of the nation and the liberty of these States and these people. Your worthy Mayor has expressed the wish, in which I join with him, that it were convenient for me to remain with your city long enough to consult your merchants and manufacturers; or, as it were, to listen to those breathings rising within the consecrated walls wherein the Constitution of the United States, and, I will add, the Declaration of Independence, were originally framed and adopted. [Enthusiastic applause.] I assure you and your Mayor that I had hoped on this occasion, and upon all occasions during my life, that I shall do nothing inconsistent with the teachings of these holy and most sacred walls. I never asked anything that does not breathe from those walls. All my political warfare has been in favor of the teachings that come forth from these sacred walls. May my right hand forget its cunning, and my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth if ever I prove false to those teachings. Fellow-citizens: I have addressed you longer than I expected to do, and now allow me to bid you good night.

On Friday morning a flag with 34 stars was raised by Mr. Lincoln over the Hall of Independence, the scene being an impressive one. At the rising of the sun crowds of people streamed from all parts of the city toward the State-House, and very soon every inch of ground was occupied, a vast number of ladies being present.

At 7 o'clock Mr. Lincoln was escorted to the Hall, and there received by Theodore Cuyler, who warmly welcomed him to its venerable walls in the hour of national peril and distress, when the great work achieved by the wisdom and patriotism of our fathers seems threatened with instant ruin. Mr. Lincoln responded as follows:

MR. CUYLER: I am filled with deep emotion at finding myself standing here, in this place, where were collected together the wisdom, the patriotism, the devotion to principle, from which sprang the institutions under which we live. You have kindly suggested to me that in my hands is the task of restoring peace to the present distracted condition of the country. I can say in return, Sir, that all the political sentiments I entertain have been drawn, so far as I have been able to draw them, from the sentiments which originated and were given to the world from this hall. I have never had a feeling politically that did not spring from the sentiments embodied in the Declaration of Independence. I have often pondered over the dangers which were incurred by the men who assembled here, and framed and adopted that Declaration of Independence. I have pondered over the toils that were endured by the officers and soldiers of the army who achieved that Independence. I have often inquired of myself what great principle or idea it was that kept this Confederacy so long together. It was not the mere matter of the separation of the Colonies from the mother land; but that sentiment in the Declaration of Independence which gave liberty, not alone to the people of this country, but, I hope, to the world for all future time. [Great applause.] It was that which gave promise that in due time the weight would be lifted from the shoulders of all men. This is a sentiment embodied in the Declaration of Independence. Now, my friends, can this country be saved upon that basis? If it can, I will consider myself one of the happiest men in the world, if I can help to save it. If it cannot be saved upon that principle, it will be truly awful. But if this country cannot be saved without giving up that principle, I was about to say I would rather be assassinated on this spot than surrender it. [Applause.] Now, in my view of the present aspect of affairs, there need be no bloodshed or war. There is no necessity for it. I am not in favor of such a course, and I may say, in advance, that there will be no blood shed unless it be forced upon the Government, and then it will be compelled to act in self-defense. [Applause.]

My friends, this is wholly an unexpected speech, and I did not expect to be called upon to say a word when I came here. I supposed it was merely to do something toward raising the flag. I may, therefore, have said something indiscreet. [Cries of "No, no."] I have said nothing but what I am willing to live by and, if it be the pleasure of Almighty God, die by.

Mr. Lincoln concluded amid great applause.

He then went directly to the platform erected in front of the State House, being received with outbursts of applause from the multitude. A member of the Select Council made a brief address inviting Mr. Lincoln to raise the flag. The latter replied in a patriotic speech, stating a cheerful compliance with the request. He alluded to the original flag of thirteen stars, saying that the number had increased as time rolled on, and we became a happy, powerful people, each star adding to its prosperity. The future is in the hands of the people. It was on such an occasion we could reason together, reaffirm our devotion to the country, and the principles of the Declaration of Independence. Let us make up our minds that whenever we do put a new star upon our banner, it shall be a fixed one, never to be dimmed by the horrors of war, but brightened by the contentment and prosperity of peace. Let us go on to extend the area of our usefulness, add star upon star until their light shall shine over five hundred millions of a free and happy people.

The Rev. Mr. Clark addressed the Throne of Grace in an impressive prayer, when the flag was rolled up in man-of-war style, then adjusted, a signal fired, and, amid the most excited enthusiasm, the President elect hoisted the national ensign.

Mr. Lincoln reached Harrisburg on Friday afternoon; the town was decorated with bunting and swarmed with people. Proceeding to the Capitol, he was welcomed by the presiding officers of the Senate and House, and responded as follows:

I appear before you only for a very few brief remarks, in response to what has been said to me. I thank you most sincerely for this reception, and the generous words in which support has been promised me upon this occasion. I thank your great Commonwealth for the overwhelming support it recently gave, not to me personally, but the Cause, which I think a just one, in the late election. [Loud applause.] Allusion has been made to the fact—the interesting fact, perhaps we should say—that I for the first time appear at the Capital of the great Commonwealth of Pennsylvania upon the Birthday of the Father of his Country, in connection with that beloved anniversary connected with the history of this country. I have already gone through one exceedingly interesting scene this morning in the ceremonies at Philadelphia. Under the high conduct of gentlemen there, I was for the first time allowed the privilege of standing in Old Independence Hall [enthusiastic cheering]; to have a few words addressed to me there, and opening up to me an opportunity of expressing, with much regret, that I had not more time to express something of my own feelings excited by the occasion, somewhat to harmonize and give shape to the feelings that had been really the feelings of my whole life. Besides this, our friends there had provided a magnificent flag of the country. They had arranged it so that I was given the honor of raising it to the head of its staff. [Applause.] And when it went up I was pleased that it went to its place by the strength of my own feeble arm. When, according to the arrangement, the cord was pulled, and it flaunted gloriously to the wind without an accident, in the bright glowing sunshine of the morning, I could not help hoping that there was in the entire success of that beautiful ceremony at least something of an omen of what is to come. [Loud applause.] Nor could I help feeling then, as I often have felt, in the whole of that proceeding, I was a very humble instrument. I had not provided the flag, I had not made the arrangements for elevating it to its place. I had applied but a very small portion of my feeble strength in raising it. In the whole transaction I was in the hands of the people who had arranged it, and if I can have the same generous coöperation of the people of the nation, I think the flag of our country may yet be kept flaunting gloriously. [Loud, enthusiastic, and continued cheering.] I recur for a moment but to repeat some words uttered at the hotel in regard to what has been said about the military support which the General Government may expect from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in a proper emergency. To guard against any possible mistake do I recur to this. It is not with any pleasure that I contemplate the possibility that a necessity may arise in this country for the use of the military arm. [Applause.] While I am exceedingly gratified to see the manifestation upon your streets of your military force here, and exceedingly gratified at your promise here to use that force upon a proper emergency; while I make these acknowledgments, I desire to repeat, in order to preclude any possible misconstruction, that I do most sincerely hope that we shall have no use for them [cheers]; that it will never become their duty to shed blood, and most especially never to shed fraternal blood. I promise that so far as I may have wisdom to direct, if so painful a result shall in any wise be brought about, it shall be through no fault of mine. [Cheers.] Allusion has also been made by one of your honored speakers to some remarks recently made by myself at Pittsburgh in regard to what is supposed to be the especial interests of this great Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. I now wish only to say in regard to that matter, that the few remarks which I uttered on that occasion were rather carefully worded. I took pains that they should be so. I have seen no occasion since to add to them or subtract from them. I leave them precisely as they stand [applause], adding only now that I am pleased to have an expression from you, gentlemen of Pennsylvania, significant that they are satisfactory to you. And now, gentlemen of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, allow me to return you again my most sincere thanks.

The programme laid down for the movements of Mr. Lincoln toward Washington, from Harrisburg, was very suddenly changed on Friday night. He started alone on a special night train, and reached the Capital early on Saturday morning. Our Washington dispatches, as follows, give the reason for this change of plan:

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24, 1861.

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.

It is known that Gen. Scott has received 130 letters, from 15 different States, threatening his own life. Some are anonymous, but the bulk of them are evidently genuine.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25, 1861.

The lawless and insulting demonstration made on the arrival of the train at Baltimore by which Mr. Lincoln was expected is regarded here as a sufficient justification of the course taken by his friends in bringing him to Washington unknown to the rowdies and rioters of that city. It is admitted that the train was at once beset on its arrival at Baltimore, and the tops and platforms of the cars instantly covered by a screaming, hooting, yelling crew, bent certainly upon insult and obstruction, probably upon violence, and perhaps upon assassination. The spectacle, even as described in the Baltimore papers, tends very much to abate the condemnation which many were at first inclined to bestow upon Mr. Lincoln's advisers for changing his original programme. It was perfectly competent for a mob of five thousand people to have held Mr. Lincoln at bay for six hours, subjected to whatever indignity and violence they chose to bestow, and it is but too evident that no efficient means were taken by the authorities to prevent such a disgrace, however he might have been saved from the bullet or dirk of the assassin. The conviction thus gains ground in Washington that the wisest course was taken, though it was wholly against Mr. Lincoln's will.

The correspondent of the *N. Y. Times* gives the following account of the affair:

On Thursday night after he had retired, Mr. Lincoln was aroused and informed that a stranger desired to see him on a matter of life or death. He declined to admit him unless he gave his name, which he at once did, and such prestige did the name carry that while Mr. Lincoln was yet disrobed he granted an interview to the caller.

A prolonged conversation elicited the fact that an organized body of men had determined that Mr. Lincoln should not be inaugurated, and that he should never leave the City of Baltimore alive, if, indeed, he ever entered it.

The list of the names of the conspirators presented a most astonishing array of persons high in Southern confidence, and some whose fame is not to this country alone.

Statesmen laid the plan, bankers indorsed it, and adventurers were to carry it into effect. As they understood Mr. Lincoln was to leave Harrisburg at 9 o'clock on Saturday morning by special train, and the idea was, if possible, to throw the cars from the road at some point where they would rush down a steep embankment and destroy at a moment the lives of all on board. In case of the failure of this project, their plan was to surround the carriage on the way from depot to depot in Baltimore, and assassinate him with dagger or pistol shot.

So authentic was the source from which the information was obtained, that Mr. Lincoln, after counseling with his friends, was compelled to make arrangements which would enable him to subvert the plans of his enemies.

Greatly to the annoyance of the thousands who desired to call on him on Friday night, he declined giving a reception. The final council was held at 8 o'clock.

Mr. Lincoln did not want to yield, and Col. Sumner actually cried with indignation; but Mrs. Lincoln, seconded by Mr. Judd and Mr. Lincoln's original informant, insisted upon it, and at 9 o'clock, accompanied by Superintendent Lewis and one friend, he started, while all the town, with the exception of Mr. Lincoln, Col. Sumner, Mr. Judd, and two reporters, who were sworn to secrecy, supposed him to be asleep.

The telegraph wires were put beyond reach of any one who might desire to use them.

After breakfast, on Saturday, Mr. Lincoln called upon the President, who received him very cordially, and presented him to the Cabinet, who happened to be in session at the time. Then upon Gen. Scott, who was not at home. In the course of the morning, he was visited by a number of leading Republicans in and out of Congress.

When the fact of his presence became known to the Peace Convention, a letter from President Tyler was conveyed to him by Dr. Puleston, their Secretary, inquiring whether he would receive a visit from that body. He immediately fixed on 9 o'clock that night. Subsequently a Committee, consisting of Messrs. Wickliffe, Chase and Field, were appointed to ascertain if he would meet the Convention in their Hall, or designate some other place. He named his parlor for the interview. In the afternoon Messrs. Lincoln and Hamlin dined with Governor Seward, no other guests being present.

The appointment with the Peace Convention called Mr. Lincoln back to the hotel at 9 o'clock, and that body proceeded from their hall to his parlor, headed by the President and other officers. The display was quite imposing. They were introduced, and passed on with only an occasional remark. Mr. Buchanan's Cabinet called to make their respects before the Commissioners were presented.

Mrs. Lincoln, who had not previously intended to receive company, directed the adjoining parlor to be thrown open and welcomed the Commissioners and the visitors at the hotel, and such strangers as called. The whole affair was spontaneous and social, and closed with general satisfaction. The first contact of the President's family with society here left a very favorable impression.

On Monday, visitors, by appointment and otherwise, crowded in upon Mr. Lincoln during most of the morning. Mr. Buchanan was among the number who called, and the welcome he extended to his successor on Saturday was properly reciprocated. A large delegation from Maryland, representing the conservative interests of that State, had a long interview. So had several Committees from Ohio, Indiana, Pennsylvania, and New-England.

Mr. Lincoln visited the Supreme Court by appointment, in company with Mr. Seward, and subsequently both branches of Congress, making a decided sensation about the Capitol. In the Senate, the Democratic side generally manifested much hesitation in greeting him, but Messrs. Douglas, Bigler, Thomson, Andrew Johnson, and a few others, showed themselves superior to any party feeling, and immediately asked to be presented. He visited both sides of the House, and exchanged civilities freely and cordially with the members who came forward.

THE INAUGURATION.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE INAUGURATION OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, ON THE FOURTH OF MARCH, 1861.

The doors of the Senate Chamber will be opened at 11 o'clock a. m., for the admission of Senators and others who, by the arrangement of the Committee, are entitled to admission, as follows:

Ex-Presidents and Vice-Presidents;

The Chief Justice and Associate Judges of the Supreme Court;

The Diplomatic Corps, Heads of Departments, and ex-Members of either branch of Congress, and Members of Congress elect;

Officers of the Army and Navy who, by name, have received the thanks of Congress;

Governors of States and Territories of the Union, and ex-Governors of States; Assistant Secretaries of Departments, and the Assistant Postmaster-General; the Controllers, Auditors, Register, and Solicitor of the Treasury, Treasurer, Commissioner, Judges;

The Mayors of Washington and Georgetown, and the Reporters in the Senate;

All of whom will be admitted at the north door of the Capitol.

The families of the Diplomatic Corps will enter at the north door of the Capitol, and be conducted to the diplomatic gallery.

Seats will be placed in front of the Secretary's table for the President of the United States and the President elect, and on their left for the Committee of Arrangements.

The Chief Justice and Associate Justices of the Supreme Court will have seats on the right of the chair.

The Diplomatic Corps will occupy seats on the right of the chair, next the Supreme Court. Heads of Departments on the left of the chair.

Officers of the Army and Navy, who, by name, have received the thanks of Congress; Governors of States and Territories of the Union, ex-Governors of States, Assistant Secretaries of Departments, and the Assistant Postmaster-General, Controllers, Auditors, Register, and Solicitor of the Treasury, Treasurer, Commissioners, Judges, and the Mayors of Washington and Georgetown, will occupy seats on the right and left of the main entrance.

Members of Congress and members elect will enter the Senate Chamber by the main entrance, and will occupy seats on the left of the chair.

The galleries will be reserved for ladies, who will enter the Capitol from the terrace, by the principal western door of the central building, and be conducted to the gallery of the Senate.

The Rotunda shall be closed, and the passages leading thereto kept clear.

The other doors and entrances to the capitol, except those to be open under the arrangement, will be kept closed.

At 11 o'clock, the President and President elect, accompanied by two members of the Committee of Arrangements, will proceed in a carriage to the north door of the north wing of the Capitol, and, entering there, will proceed to the President's Room.

The Vice-President elect will be accompanied to the Capitol by a member of the Committee of Arrangements, and conducted into the Vice-President's Room, and afterward into the Senate Chamber, where the oath of office will be administered to him by the Vice-President.

The Diplomatic Corps and the Justices of the Supreme Court will enter the Senate Chamber a few minutes before the President elect.

The Senate will assemble at 12 o'clock.

The Senate being ready to receive them, the President and the President elect will be introduced by the Committee of Arrangements to the seats prepared for them in the Senate Chamber.

After a short pause, those assembled in the Senate Chamber will proceed to the platform on the central portico of the Capitol in the following order:

The Marshal of the District of Columbia.
The Supreme Court of the United States.
The Sergeant-at-Arms of the Senate.
The Committee of Arrangements.
The President of the United States and the President elect.
The Vice-President and the Secretary of the Senate.
The members of the Senate.
The Diplomatic Corps.
Heads of Departments, Governors of States and Territories, the Mayors of Washington and Georgetown, and other persons who have been admitted into the Senate chamber.

On reaching the front of the portico the President elect will take the seat provided for him in front of the platform.

The President and Committee of Arrangements will occupy a position in the rear of the President elect.

Next in the rear of these the Chief-Justice and the Associate Justices of the Supreme Court will occupy the seats on the left and the Vice-President, Secretary, and Members of the Senate those on the right.

The Diplomatic Corps will occupy the seats next in the rear of the Supreme Court. Heads of Departments, Governors and ex-Governors of States and Territories, and ex-members of the Senate, ex-members and members elect of the House of Representatives in the rear of members of the Senate.

Such other persons as are included in the preceding arrangements will occupy the steps and the residue of the portico.

All being in readiness, the oath of office will be administered to the President elect by the Chief Justice, and on the conclusion of the President's address, the members of the Senate, preceded by the Vice-President, Secretary, and Sergeant-at-Arms, will return to the Senate Chamber, and the President, accompanied by the Committee of Arrangements, proceed to the President's house.

The Sergeant-at-Arms of the Senate, with the Marshal of the District, are charged with the execution of these arrangements, and, aided by the police of the Capitol, will preserve order.

All horses and carriages will be excluded from the Capitol square.

Should the weather prove unfavorable, the ceremony of the inauguration will take place in the Senate Chamber.

SOLOMON FOOT,
JAMES A. PEARCE,
EDWARD D. BAKER,
Committee of Arrangements.

—Gen. Butler of Lowell was in Washington the other day, and during a conversation with Southern men, one of them, a Georgian, said: "I do not believe there is an honest man in Massachusetts." After a moment's reflection, he added: "I beg to assure you, Mr. Butler, I mean nothing personal." The General responded: "I believe there are a great many honest men in Georgia; but in saying so, Sir, I do not mean anything personal."