



### President's Message.

In his annual message of President James Buchanan. It will be observed that nearly one-half of the document is devoted to a discussion of the present condition of the country. It argues both against the doctrine of secession and coercion; and presents a clear case for revolution on the part of the South, if the North does not at once renounce its hostile legislation and armament. The message says: "Let us trust that the State legislatures will repeal their unconstitutional and obnoxious enactments. Until this shall be done without unnecessary delay, it is **IMPOSSIBLE FOR ANY HUMAN POWER TO SAVE THE UNION**. The Southern States, standing on the basis of the Constitution, have a right to demand this set of justice from the States of the North. Should it be refused, then the constitution to which all the States are parties, will have been wilfully violated by one portion of them in a way dangerous to the domestic security and happiness of the remainder. In that event, the injured States, after having first used all peaceful and constitutional means to obtain redress, would be justified in revolutionary resistance to the government of the Union." In short, upon this point, the message says: "Secession is nothing more nor less than revolution. It may or may not be justifiable revolution, but still it is revolution."

The weather for the past week has been very cold, with occasional showers of snow and drizzling rains. Yesterday was clear and cold.

**George Beck**, a native of Harrisonburg, but for many years past a resident of Washington City, died in Washington City on the 21 inst., after a painful and protracted illness. He was a printer by profession.

**W. W. Johnson**, formerly of Rockingham, Va., was recently married to Miss Julia, daughter of Dr. W. H. Trigg, of Goochland County, Va.

**The New Market Spirit of Democracy** says that the editor of the *Widener* thinks

the editor of the *Democrat* wants to "scare somebody." Not at all. We said "somebody" had most awfully scared you.

Dr. Eichelberger has nearly completed his handsome three-story brick dwelling on New Street, adjoining his drug store, in the rear of Crawford & Cochran's store.

There is living in Greenville, in this country, a negro woman named Little, the property of S. B. Bradford, Esq., aged one hundred and one years. She is now in the enjoyment of her third sight, and can see to thread a needle as well as at any period of her life.

Heretofore the same depot will be at the Clothing Store of James A. Armentrout, under the Vs. Hotel, instead of the Shoe Store of J. H. Clark. Dear the kindred, all who want the daily papers, weeklies and monthlies, Herman & Bro. have transferred the business to W. R. Hayden.

Hon. John T. Harris will please accept our thanks for his prompt compliance with our request to forward us extra copies of the President's Message. We are thus enabled to furnish our subscribers with the message page without trespassing upon the columns sheet.

We call attention to the advertisement of the Commissioners of the estate of Wm. D. Yancey, Esq. The farm offered for sale lies beautifully on the banks of the Shenandoah river, and is one of the finest in Rockingham County. It is platted sufficiently to avoid inundation at the highest stage of water, and very level. Any person wishing to purchase a farm, would do well to send the sale of this land on the 22d.

Where are our Street Commissioners, that they do not commence repairing the roadsides walk on Augusta Street? If there is no some improvement made shortly, the Corporation will have a law suit on its back.

Col. J. Marshall McCue is now in Columbia, S. C. attending the sessions of the Legislature of that State. To the proceedings of that body, to his constituents of Essex County, in which he discusses not only the issues of present distress the country, but the whole theory and design of our system of government. He contends for the right of secession, but that it ought only to take place when secession must be immediate to a remedy at all. He is of opinion that Lincoln's election ought not to cause a disruption without first using every proper means to preserve a constitutional union.

Mr. Jno. Kelley is now having thoroughly refitted and remodeled the frame building adjoining the Marble yard, formerly the property of Merrill Cubbing, deceased. He has built a large addition in the rear, and is now putting in a handsome brick front. When finished it will be quite an improvement to that part of Beverly Street.

The freight depot buildings on the Central Road are rapidly progressing to completion. They adjoin the passenger depot.

This change will be a great convenience to our farmers and others bringing produce and freight to and taking them from the depot.

Our friend, Col. J. M. McCabe, of this country, is now in Columbia, S. C., whence he has sent us the "Blue Cockade" of that insatiable little State. This differs from the one presented us last week in the material of which it is composed, that ones being blue mounted, and this one black ribbon. It looks very much like the flag of some lady bad foolishly tried breaking the Colonel's par-

ty for the sake of her appreciation of his military career, but we were surprised to find that it was entirely deader. Montgomery attended church at Laurens last Sunday, and he heard nothing of the Army. His

son, John T. Harris, N. Smith and T.

Brown, have now got up their Virginia

ringing traps ready to surround the

frontiers of the State.

Now gods own good can we

### The True Policy.

It is very difficult to ascertain in the present state of the country what we ought rapidly developing sentiment of the people has been in regard to the passage of so many of the laws of the State, that they are in favor of a Constitutional Convention to be called by their State legislature, being called by the approaching session of the Legislature of the Southern States—that is, the legislative body of the nation, a deliberate and intentional "declaration of a state of war" is contained in the following passage of the President's Message:

"*...ours has also been restored in the Territory of Utah, which at the commencement of my administration, was in a state*

*of open rebellion.*"

Nothing but a reckless purpose to cover the people and a wilful blindness to the criminal errors of his administration, could have prompted the President to have spread before the world this unmitigated falsehood.

Peace in Utah! Such a Peace! The army

defied, the laws of the United States nullified, the federal judiciary bullied, driven

from the Territory and stripped of authority

over the puritans of Yankeesism. Massachusetts

has never been able to vindicate us by

the laws of the Union, and looking to the North

for threats or bribe, South Carolina shall

tell them that here are the terms and con-

ditions of the original compact, violated in

many particulars by them, but that if they

are willing to come back to the true uper-

standing of that agreement, and attest their sons of his State, *we trust it may*, Vir-

ginia turn to the South, and her sister

slave-holding States, and raising aloft the

Constitution that our fathers framed—*that*

the aid of sympathy of South Carolina,

if succession should become necessary, we

cannot and will not confederate with a State

which approaches us in attitude of hos-

tility and menace. South Carolina must

meet us with the open path and not with

the closed dagger—with the words of

wisdom and reason, and not contumacy and

recalcitrance—in any contingency, without

any consideration of the rights of the South.

It is not believed that any at-

tempts will be made to expel the United

States from this property by force, but if this he should prove to be mistaken, the offi-

cials in command of the Ports have received

orders to act strictly on the defensive. In

such a contingency, the responsibility for

consequences would rightfully rest upon the heads of the assailants.

This is the only intimation conveyed in

the message of probable conflict between the Government and South Carolina.

Such legislation is recommended to Con-

gress with a view to an amendment of the

constitution on the subject of slavery as the

President confidently believes would lead to

a final adjustment of this vexed issue, and

thus terminate the question.

The foreign relations of the United States

are all represented to be in a favorable con-

dition.

An excellent system of slave legislation

has been gradually inaugurated, and various

branches of the government have been reduced

from seventy-one millions to fifty-five mil-

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In relation to the revenue, the President

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