

The Standard

FRIDAY, JAN. 11, 1861.

S. M. WOOD, Editor and Proprietor

Gov. Letcher's Message.

The length of the Governor's Message precluded us from laying before our readers more than a synopsis this week. It will

be in full next week.

In a brief and vigorous message, Governor Letcher touches all the

questions of importance, both of a federal

and local nature, now interesting the pub-

lic mind.

In discussing the Federal relations, he

refers to the late message of the Executive

of South Carolina, and the un-

friendly spirit manifested towards Virgini-

a and the border States. His criticism upon this message is both able and just, and we commend it to the reverent perusal of our people. Whilst we feel the necessity of buri-

ing every prejudice and eradicating every

passion growing out of the past of pri-

ty here in the South, and are disposed to

overlook the blunders of statesmanship com-

mitted by South Carolina politicians in

the hour of peril and gloom, yet this pre-

diction of Gov. Letcher of South Carolina is

as sageless as the best utterance of

any Southern State, and militates so de-

finitely against the advancement of its

power and glory, as to demand the

expression of emphatic disapprobation.

The proposition to him in the message

here in Virginia, and the like letter

to cut off from his own people that

which he has been the very life-blood of

their fortune—to place the negro trade and

every other leading completely distinct

and separate from other property, and to build

a wall of prejudice between the slave-hold-

ing States, which shall prevent every

act of their government and human ac-

tions—is at once the most abominable in

politics that however emanated from the

mind of an American statesman, or the mon-

tal century of the world's existence.

If the idea had been advanced by Edward

Lincoln, it would have been held up to the

gaze of the Southern States and people

in the most glaring colors of dish-

esty and treason.

The recommendation that we should com-

municate to the States which have en-

acted personal liberty bills, may have been

proper at one period of our history; but

things exist now, we could not agree to it.

Those States purifying the fugitive slave

law, know our complaints, know our de-

mands, and no ambassadors, nor ambassa-

dors, let them inquire eloquently at Home,

would he half so pale as the maturing

disunion, and individual separation, and

hard coming up from every noble and cou-

ner of every Southern State?—Virginia, if

she can do it, she can do it, and she can do

it, and then there is no need of consider-

ation, but that she is entitled to do it.

The Black Republican party of the North

have avowed their intention in their plat-

forms to overthrow and break down the

barriers thrown up by the Constitution for

the protection of our slaves.

The secession of the Cotton States has

left the border States, and those

that are to be left, in a difficult position.

Virginia, for example, naturally

looks to the South, but for

the Black Republicans.

She is in a position of indecision, but

she is not alone, and they are not alone.

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Speeches of Government Leaders.
Richmond, Jan. 7.—The Legislature of Virginia assembled in special session to-day, and the message of Gov. Letcher was immediately read before both houses. It is interesting to the condition of the country, that the speakers say all that they can feel the desire to say, and all true patriots are exhorting themselves to say so from the impending crisis.

He renewes the propositions made in his last message for a convention of all the States to meet at Richmond. It is dangerous to see a government like ours destroyed merely because we cannot agree about a domestic institution. It becomes our State to be mindful of its interests. Disruption is the only alternative. If we do not act, we must have the best guarantee before we can sit in Virginia in either. He condemns the action of South Carolina, which has taken no steps to meet us.

He would make no personal reference

to his late Executive in regard to his recent speech in Virginia. The non-slaveholding States are equal with the present condition of the affairs of the country, and if the Union is disrupted, open their responsibility.

He alludes at length to the secessionists,

and says they have the power to end the strife and restore confidence. Will they do it?

We were to respond in a short time

to his message, and he suggests that we should base our action on the principles of justice.

The Imperial Slaveholders are upon the ungodly road, according to the New England State.

Secondly—That they must have proper effective guarantees of protection to slaves in the District of Columbia.

The third point is, that we must have

the right to own slaves in the States.

Fourth—That we must have

the right to buy and sell slaves.

Fifth—That such guarantees for the trans

mission of slaves between slaveholding

States, by land or water, shall be inter-

dicted.

Sixth—The passage of an amendment

to the Constitution of such a nature

as will exclude the slaveholding

States, with the exception of such a

number as will be sufficient to give

them representation in the Senate.

The passage of a bill to prohibit

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THE CARRIER'S CHRISTMAS CAROL

TO THE PATRONS OF THE

"STAUNTON VINDICATOR,"

December 25th, 1860.

Good morning, Patrons! take it now,
I've made to you my humble bow.
What's not I wish I hear you say:
Oh! nothing much—*the Christmas day,*
'Tis Christmas; well, send what of that?
A good deal, just hold me back;
While I, is humble, simple verse,
My Christmas story now rehearse.

A year ago, yes, just a year,
As now I stand, I then stood here;
And you and I were full of glee,
When we reported our Christmas news;
Hold on, I wish to be set right;
I didn't mean that we were right.
No, no! I'd rather suffer, die,
Than hint such things of you or I.
I sing most—like most folks;
We had our fun and Christmas jokes;
We laughed at scenes of days of yore,
And looked for pleasure yet in store.
And now another year has fled—

Like other years, 'tis with the dead,
And I am here this Christmas day,
Singing my annual Christmas lay.

But where's my theme, ah, here I am,
Like unto the hollowed out log.

I've thought enough—so many quots
I hardly know on which to write.

I won't turn Statesman—no sirree!

For politics are on—on—
I own it though, please recollect,
I'm Democratic strictest scot.

But, while my patrons, this is true,
I for the good old UNION too.

I very sorry now to say,
The Union's in a right bad way.

The good old Ship has split in two,
And played the mischief with the crew.

The politicians made a blunder,

And knocked the Union all to thunder.

But I must hush up on my way.

(I shall not get round to day.)

I've lots of friends all round the town,
I've got no home for sundown.

And then I must, hold down your cat.)

Call on my love, the little dear,

She knows it's Christmas, of course, does she?

And she'll expect a gift from me.

She's like all other girls, I guess,

And likes big hops to spread her dress.

I love her, yes, not her alone,

For like most gallants, I have some;

The safest blessing God has given

Is woman's smile—they're next to Heaven.

But I confess, when they're brown,

The Devil himself can't take them down.

I like them, though—they look so neat.

When walking up and down the street;

PETER INDEPENDENCE KUDZ.

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