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superb and artistic manner.

this trying juncture. Lieut. Snowden is also As regards your material welfare, I beg to asamong the killed. I counted five dead bodies on sure you that everything will be done by me to the spot, horribly mangled, while several were badmake your new home comfortable and agreeable. ly, and others but slightly, wounded. Limbs, whilst at the same time the necessary means will pieces of skull, oozing, brains, were scattered all be offered you to enable you to continue your about, and presented a never to be forgotten sight. scientific pursuits in the way you have been ac-Gen. Polk was close to the gun, but was not hurt, which is certainly providential. The General was

I shall now be awaiting your reply, hoping to I terribly shocked, and had his clothes torn in shreds have the pleasure of soon seeing here so distin- and his face burned somewhat, but without injuring than ever; to merit which I will give my undivi- guished an officer, whose personal acquaintance him externally or internally. The rumor was at the moment that he and Gen. McCown were among the killed, and great was the excitement among the soldiers. Several of i' gunners must have been buried inside of the elevation, under the fragments and ruins of the once beautiful and valuable gun. There is no doubt but that some must have been thrown in the river, as the gun was mounted almost at the edge of the bluff, whore, from its highest elevation, it commanded the opposite Missouri shore for several miles. The gun was the pride of the army, and the terror of the gun boats, and its value was tested in the late battle, when it played at the gun boats, and dispersed the advancing column of the enemy. The life of a patriot soldier is never lost. It blooms again beyond the grave, in a land where winter never comes, and suffering is unknown. Hanging around the throne of sapphire and gold -a rich garland awaits the coming of him who has died for his country; and when the Eternal Hand has dropped it on his brow, Justice hands the record of his life to Mercy, and turns away until all that is black and all that is sinful is erased .- Jere. Clemens.

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attention to the wants of all who favor we with a | it has always been my desire to make, and whom Russia will be proud to welcome on her soil. Believe me, my dear Captain Maury, your

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sincere well-wisher, CONSTANTINE, Grand Admiral of Russia.

## RICHMOND, VA., 29th Oct., 1861. Admiral:-Your letter reached me only a few

days ago. It fills me with emotions. In it I am offered the hospitalities of a great and powerful Empire, with the Grand "Admiral of its fleets for patron and friend. Inducements are held out such as none but the most magnanimous of Princes could offer, and such as nothing but a stern sense of duty may withstand.

A home in the bosom of my family on the banks of the Neva, where, in the midst of books and surrounded by friends, I am, without care for the morrow, to have the most princely means and facilities for prosecuting those studies and continuing those philosophical labors in which I take most delight. All the advantages that I enjoyed in Washington, are, with a larger discretion, to be offered me in Russia. Surely a more flattering invitation could not be uttered. Certainly it could not reach a more

grateful heart. I have slept upon it. It is becoming that I should be candid, and, in a few words, frankly state the circumstances by which I find myself surrounded.

The State of Virginia gave me birth within her borders; among many friends, the nearest of kin, and troops of excellent neighbors, my children are planting their vine and fig trees; in her green bosom are the graves of my fathers; the political whirlpool from which your kind forethough sought to rescue me has already drawn her into a fierce and bloody war.

In 1788, when this State accepted the Federal Constitution and entered the American Union, she did so with the formal declaration that she reserved to herself the right to withdraw from it for cause, and resume those powers and attributes of sovereignty which she had never ceded away, but only "delegated" for certain definite and specified

When the President elect commenced to set at naught the very objects of the Constitution, and without authority of law, proceeded to issue his proclamation of 15th of April last, Virginia, in the exercise of that reserved right, decided that the time had come when her safety, her dignity and honor required her to resume those "delegated" powers and withdraw from the Union. She did so. She then straightway called upon her sons in the Federal service to retire therefrom and come to her relief.

This call found me in the midst of those quie physical researches at the Observatory in Washington, which I am now, with so much delicacy of thought and goodness of heart, invited to resume in Russia. Having been brought up in the school of State-Rights, where we had for masters the greatest statesmen of America, and among them Mr. Madison, the wisest of them all, could not, and did not hesitate. I recognized this call, considered it mandatory, and formally renouncing all allegiance to the broken Union, hastened over to the south side of the Potomac, there to renew to fatherland these vows of fealty service, and devotion which the State of Virginia had permitted me to pledge to the Federal Union, 4 00 20 boxes Webb & Whit-4 00 ted's celebrated T O- Thus my sword has been tendered in her cause Thus my sword has been tendered in her cause and the vender has been accented. Her soil is is invaded, the enemy is actually at her gates, and

> The path of duty and honor is therefore plain. By following it with the devotion and lovalty of

## INSURANCE.

TORTH CAROLINA MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY .- At the annual meeting of the North Carolina Matual Fire Insurance Company, held on the 10th January, 1861, the following persons were elected Directors and Officers for the ensuing year :

DIRECTORS Henry D. Turner, Raleigh John R. Williams, do. T. H. Selby, C. W. D. Hutchings, do Kemp. P. Battle, do George Little, do. James M. Towles, do. James E. Hoyt, Washington, Alexander Mitchell, Newbern. Jos. G. Wright, Wilmington. John M. Jones, Edenton. George W. Charles, Elizabeth City Jos. Ramsay, Plymouth. J. W. Harrell, Murfreesborough H. B. Williams, Charlotte, Samuel Watkins, Milton. A. W. Steel, Fayetteville. Joseph White, Anson county Josh. Boner, Salem. A. P. Summy, Asheville, OFFICERS OF THE COMPANY T. H. Selby, President. Henry D. Turner, Vice do. John H. Bryan, Attorney. Hamden S. Smith, Secretary and Treasures T. H. Selby, ex-officio, )

John R. Williams, Ex. Committee. C. W. D. Hutchings,

This Company has been in successful operation over 12 years, and continues to take risks upon all classes of property in the State, (except Steam Mills' and Turpentine Distilleries) upon favorable terms.--Its Policies now cover property amounting to nearly \$4,000,000, a large portion of which is in country risks; and its present capital is over Five Hundred Thousand Dollars, in bonds properly secured. All communications in reference to insurance should

be addressed to the Secretary, postpaid. HAMDEN S. SMITH, Sec'y January 19th, 1861. jan 19\_\_\_

NORTH CAROLINA MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY .-- OFFICE RALEIGH, N. C.-THIS COMPANY takes risks here I am, contending, as the fathers of the Re-public did, for the right of self-government and those very principles for the maintenance of which Washington fought, when this, his native State, was a colony of Great Britian. The path of duty and honor is therefore plain.

All losses are paid within 90 days after satisfactory

