

Our Country.

"Breathes there a man with soul so dead,  
That never to himself hath said  
This is my own my native land:  
Whose heart hath ne'er within him burned  
As home his footsteps he hath turned  
From wandering on a foreign strand?"

The present state of  
our country is such, as to call forth  
alarm even to the most sanguine mind,  
therefore every one should do his utmost  
for the good of his native land.

If he is old enough let him  
shoulder his musket and enter into  
the ranks of the army, to fight for,  
and even die in the defense of his  
country, for there is no death so  
glorious, as to fall on the field of



battle fighting for the soil that had  
nourished him.

This land possessed  
a government the freest and best  
on the face of the earth; formed  
by great and good men Washington,  
Adams, Franklin &c.

The first great step  
towards secession was the formation  
of the Democratic party, under  
the lead of Thomas Jefferson,  
who although he was a great man,  
I consider as the first secessionist.  
That the Democratic party has brought  
our beloved country to its present  
state, I firmly believe. Under the  
influence of this party all  
the presidents that have been elec-  
ted, with but two or three ex-  
ceptions, were men entirely unfit



for their position, or, <sup>who</sup> were ruled  
by some politician; and they have  
been gradually getting worse and  
worse till the term of James  
Buchanan, who was a miserable  
tool and did whatever his still  
worse cabinet advised him.

The first appearance  
of secession was during the ad-  
ministration of Andrew Jackson,  
who speedily put it down. O! that  
we had had something like him  
instead of that wretch Buchanan.

I have heard secessionists  
and peace-men say that Abraham  
Lincoln had brought on this  
war. But there never was a more  
absurd falsehood! In my opinion  
the evils which attend it rest chief-  
ly upon Buchanan, for if he had



sent a fleet or army down to Charleston on the first suspicion of secession he could have nipped it in the bud.

But No! His Secretary of War, Floyd had distributed all or nearly all the arms over the South, besides having embezzled very large sums. The Secretary of the Navy, Toucy - had scattered the Navy over the whole world; And Buchanan himself, I firmly believe, had been bribed &c, so that he would not do anything for some time, and then it was too late, the rebels had strong batteries, forts &c.

O! how could the people of these United States stand this? Ah! they could not believe that



anyone could even try to break up the Union. But since the attempt has been made every one should try with his utmost endeavors to put it down. The greatest thorn is Slavery; and it together with the Democratic party have brought our native land to its present state. Abolition too has had a great deal to do with it: for although I am against Slavery, I am not an abolitionist; for if there had been no such thing, Maryland, and Virginia would have been free states by this time.

The Southerners by defending slavery gradually began to think that there was no harm in it, till finally one of their great men, Sevens, said that "any one who



did not own slaves, (or something to that effect) was not a Christian.

The Southerners finding that the Democratic Party would certainly be broken up, and that they would lose their influence, determined to break up the government of these United States, and establish a slave holding Republic; which they have tried to do. Whether it will stand, remains to be proved. This was not any sudden movement, but a deep laid plot.

The plan is very well described in a political novel, "the Partizan Leader, by Beverly Tucker, which they have followed very nearly. This course is so well known that I will not



attempt to describe it.

But enough of this.

Our war worn veteran has retired from the ranks, worn out by age and disease. Let us try to defend his character, for he has done us a great deal of good. May his successor lead on our armies to victory.

And above all may our beloved country be restored to more than its former splendor. And may it grow, and increase in strength and power from year to year.

- A.D. -