

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 1, 1861.
SIR: We have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 31st of December, in reply to a note addressed by us to you on the 28th of the same month, as Commissioners from South Carolina.
In reference to the declaration with which you reply commenced, that your position as President of the United States was clearly defined in the Message to Congress on the 3d instant, that you possess "no power to change the relations heretofore existing" between South Carolina and the States, "much less to acknowledge the independence of that State," and that consequently you could meet only as private gentlemen of the highest character, with an entire willingness to communicate to Congress any proposition we might have to make, we would say that the State of South Carolina, in the exercise of that great right of self-government, which underlies all our political organizations, declared herself sovereign and independent, as her representatives, fell no special solicitude as the character in which you might recognize us.
Satisfied that the State had simply exercised her unquestionable right, we were prepared, in order to reach substantial good, to waive the consideration of your position, and to accept of the position which your constitution and scruples might have prevented you from extending. We came here, therefore, expecting to be received as you did receive us, and perfectly content with that entire willingness, which we assured us, to submit any proposition to Congress, which we might have made upon the subject of the independence of the State. That willingness was ample recognition of the condition of public affairs which rendered our presence necessary. In this position, we were, both to the State and to the people, and we were, to ourselves, to correct several important misconceptions of our letter, into which you have fallen.
You say "it was our earnest desire that such a disposition should be made of the whole subject by Congress, and that we were prepared to prevent the inauguration of a civil war between parties in regard to the possession of the Federal forts in the harbor of Charleston, and I therefore deeply regret that, in your opinion, you could not do so." We expressed no such opinion, and the language which you quote as ours is altered in its sense by the omission of a most important part of the sentence. What we did say was: "But the events of the last twenty-four hours render such a course impossible." Place that "assurance," as contained in our letter, in the sentence, and we are prepared to repeat it.
Again, professing to quote our language, you say, "the authorities of South Carolina, without waiting, or asking for an explanation, and doubtless believing, as you have expressed it, that the officer had acted not only without, but against, my orders," &c. We expressed no such opinion in reference to the behavior of the people and your willingness not to disturb the military status of the forts, if Commissioners should be sent to the Government, whose communications you promised to submit to Congress. You received and acted on assurance that the military status of the forts, in this controversy, was not to be disturbed, and that the military status of the forts, if Commissioners should be sent to the Government, whose communications you promised to submit to Congress. You received and acted on assurance that the military status of the forts, in this controversy, was not to be disturbed, and that the military status of the forts, if Commissioners should be sent to the Government, whose communications you promised to submit to Congress.

which renders negotiation impossible," &c. "Under present circumstances," &c. Why, clearly, the occupation of Fort Sumter and the dismissal of Fort Moultrie by Major Anderson, in the face of your pledges, and without explanation or practical disavowal. And there is nothing in the letter which would or could have prevented you from declining to withdraw troops and offering the restoration of the status to which you were pledged, if such had been your desire. It would have been wiser and better, in our opinion, to have withdrawn the troops, and this option you gave us, and we demanded nothing but such an explanation of the events of the last twenty-four hours as would restore our confidence in the spirit with which the negotiations should be conducted. In relation to your withdrawal of the troops from the harbor, we have no explanation to offer, but we demand nothing but such an explanation of the events of the last twenty-four hours as would restore our confidence in the spirit with which the negotiations should be conducted. In relation to your withdrawal of the troops from the harbor, we have no explanation to offer, but we demand nothing but such an explanation of the events of the last twenty-four hours as would restore our confidence in the spirit with which the negotiations should be conducted.

By A. E. SMITH Esq. on the 20th of Dec. 1860, Mr. GEORGE STROUD, to Miss MARY HUGGINS, all of Spartanburg S. C.
On Thursday the 27th of Dec. 1860, by ELIAS WALL, Esq. Mr. WILLIAM MCKINNEY, to Miss EMILINE BURNETT, all of this District.
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HEADQUARTERS.
36TH REGT. S. C. M., Jan. 8, 1861.
ORDER NO. 1.
AN ELECTION will be held on the 8th of February next for a Major to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Lt. Col. J. F. Foster, to command the 1st Battalion of the 36th Regiment, S. C. M. Captains commanding companies, will on their respective company rendezvous from 10 o'clock A. M. till 3 o'clock P. M. One officer from each place of election shall meet at the Battalion Muster Ground on the day after the election, count the votes, and transmit the result of the election to Brigadier General W. J. T. Glenn.
By order of
Brig. Gen. W. J. T. GLENN,
G. W. H. LEGG,
Col. 36th Regt. S. C. M.
W. H. RAY, Adjutant.
Jan 10 41

Married.
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ST. JOHN'S HIGH SCHOOL.
Classical, Mathematical and Military.
THE WINTER VACATION.
Of this School will terminate, and exercises be resumed on Monday, the 21st of January, 1861.
Dec 29 42
WILLIAM IRWIN, Principal.
Law Partnership.
WILLIAM H. PERRY, having been admitted to the Bar, is associated with his Father, BENJAMIN F. PERRY, in the practice of Law on the Western Circuit, under the Firm of PERRY & PERRY. They will attend the Courts of Greenville, Anderson, Pickens, Greenville, Spartanburg and Laurens. Their office and address is Greenville C. H. S. C.
Greenville, Jan. 3 43
B. F. PERRY and W. H. PERRY.
A CARD.
THE subscriber respectfully informs the residents of Spartanburg, and surrounding country, that he will open in a few days, a
Stock of Choice Groceries, PROVISIONS, Fancy Goods, &c.
Hoping from a desire to please, he may give entire satisfaction, and thereby receive a share of public patronage.
P. S. SMITH, AGENT.
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