

**A CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF THE
CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA. ILLUSTRATED
WITH A. J.
JOHNSON'S AND J. H. COLTON'S STEEL
PLATE MAPS AND PLANS OF THE
SOUTHERN STATES AND HARBORS**

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RICHARD SWAINSON FISHER

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ILLUSTRATED WITH
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A WORK FOR THE MILLIONS.

BY
RICHARD SWAINSON FISHER, M.D.,
EDITOR OF "COLTON'S GENERAL ATLAS OF THE WORLD;" "COLTON'S CABINET ATLAS
OF THE WORLD;" "JOHNSON'S FAMILY ATLAS OF THE WORLD;" "THE BOOK
OF THE WORLD," ETC., ETC.; AND LATE EDITOR OF THE JOURNAL OF
THE AMERICAN GEOGRAPHICAL AND STATISTICAL SOCIETY.

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1863.

Entered, according to act of Congress, in the year 1863, by A. J. Johnson, in the Clerk's Office of the
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PUBLISHERS' ADVERTISEMENT.

We present to the public a Chronological History of the Civil War in America, from its inauguration, in the secession of South Carolina from the Union, on the 20th December, 1860, to the 1st January, 1863. This volume is a chronicle of the most important political and military events which have marked, for the past two years, the history of the United States. As its title imports, it is chronological. Events are narrated in the order of their occurrence from day to day. The time has not yet come for the philosophy of history, in regard to this war: to lay bare the secret springs of action, for too many are interested in their concealment; to trace the influence of ordinances and battles, diplomacy and decrees, upon civilization and human progress, for these elements have but begun to operate. Both civilian and soldier will find this a most useful publication upon the war.

In selecting from the vast amount of material accumulated for such a work, the utmost care has been taken that unauthenticated or theoretical assumptions might not find a record as facts. The compiler, indeed, has relied altogether on official and other well-attested documents for information. The results—recorded without gloss or fanciful embellishment—stand as historical truths.

We need not enlarge upon the contents of such a work. It embraces all that is now essential upon the subject treated. It is not partisan in its tone. It deals only in facts; and whether victory or defeat, success or repulse, crown one or other of the contestants, the record is made without partiality. In such a work no

other course could have been pursued without manifest injury to the truth of history. In its pages the despondent may find reason for hope, and the sanguine a vindication of their faith in a glorious future for their country.

To give greater interest to the volume, the publishers have added an "Appendix," in which will be found the Ordinances of Secession from the Federal Union of the several rebel States, the more important Proclamations of the President of the United States, and a number of valuable statistics relating to the population and resources of the Union, the expenditures of the government on account of the war, and other matters to which reference is made in the body of the book. In the chronicle under date January 1, 1863, will be found statements of the debts contracted by the contestants for war purposes up to that time.

Accurate maps accompany the volume, and will be found invaluable as carefully prepared charts of the fields on which the contending armies have been and are now engaged.

Should the war be continued, an annual volume, similar in character to the present issue, will be prepared and published early after the close of each succeeding year. The volume for 1863 is now in the hands of the compiler, who is recording events as they occur, and while still fresh in memory—the only sure method of noting them with accuracy.

New York, 19th March, 1863.

CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY
OF
THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.

REBELLION and SECESSION, long threatened and determined upon by the slaveholding section of the United States, became realities in 1860. The issue was decided by the election of Abraham Lincoln to the Presidency of the United States. No sooner was the result of the election known than preparations were made for the separation of all the Southern States from the Union. The first public act which took place, having for its ultimate object the dissolution of existing political relations and the formation of a Southern Confederacy, was the call for a State Convention in South Carolina. This resulted in the secession of that State and subsequently of the other States now represented in the Confederate Congress. The progress of events since the date of this primary act is briefly but fully and accurately recorded in the following pages :

November, 1860.

10. Bill to raise and equip 10,000 volunteers for the defense of the State introduced into the South Carolina Legislature.
James Chestnut, senator from South Carolina, resigned his seat in the U. S. Senate.

- South Carolina Legislature ordered the election of a State Convention to consider the question of secession.
11. James H. Hammond, senator from South Carolina, resigned his seat in the U. S. Senate.
 15. Hon. Alex. H. Stevens, in a speech delivered at Milledgeville, Ga., spoke in opposition to secession, but favored a State Convention.
 16. Great public meeting at Mobile and adoption of the famous Declaration of the Causes of Secession. Governor of Virginia called an extra session of the State Legislature.
U. S. Senator Robert Toombs spoke in reply to Mr. Stevens at Milledgeville, Ga., advocating secession; and in a few days subsequently Mr. Stevens gave in his adhesion thereto.
 17. Great public meeting at Charleston, S. C., at which the causes and rights of secession were discussed.
 18. Georgia Legislature voted \$1,000,000 for the purpose of arming the State, and ordered an election for delegates to a State Convention.
Major Anderson ordered to Fort Moultrie, harbor of Charleston, to relieve Col. Gardiner, ordered to Texas.
 19. Governor of Louisiana ordered an extra session of the State Legislature.
 - 20-23. Suspension of specie payments by the banks of Richmond, Baltimore, Washington, Philadelphia, and Trenton, and throughout the Southern States.
 24. Vigilance associations organized in South Carolina. [Similar associations were subsequently organized in all the slave States, and thousands of Northern families were driven out of the country with threats and often with personal violence.]

29. Vermont Legislature refused, by a vote of 125 to 58, to repeal the Personal Liberty Bill.

Mississippi Legislature voted to send commissioners to confer with the authorities of the other slaveholding States.

December, 1860.

1. Florida Legislature voted to hold a State Convention and ordered an election for delegates thereto.
3. A John Brown anniversary meeting in Boston, Mass., broken up.

Opening of the 2d Session of the XXXVIth Congress.

President Buchanan in his message denied the right of any State or States to secede. This assertion was fiercely attacked by Senator Clingman, of North Carolina, and as valiantly defended by Senator Crittenden, of Kentucky.

4. President Buchanan sent Mr. Trescott to South Carolina to request a postponement of hostile action until Congress could decide upon remedies. Senator Iverson, of Georgia, in a speech delivered in the U. S. Senate, predicted the secession of five if not eight States before 4th March proximo. He was replied to by Senator Saulsbury, of Delaware, who spoke for the Union and reproved Iverson.
5. Election of delegates to a State Convention in South Carolina: all the candidates were for immediate secession.
6. Hon. John Bell, of Tennessee, published a letter in which he advocated the cause of the Union.
Democratic State Convention in Maryland: resolutions passed deploring the hasty action of South Carolina.