

The late Eastern news is of an alarming character. Fort Sumter has been bombarded and forced to surrender by the Southern rebels. The traitors have taken the initiatory inaugurating civil war and the dreadful consequences attendant upon such a policy. Kind and suasive measures on the part of the Federal Government have only tended to embolden them in their headlong march to inevitable destruction. Whilst they only threatened, they had sympathizers; but now, after having put their threats into execution by overt acts of hostility against the United States, by demolishing her forts, destroying her property, and slaughtering her soldiers, that forbearance must cease and the whole power of the general government must be used in the enforcement of the laws. When kind words and forbearance will effect nothing with an erring people, and when we have exhausted every effort to bring the wanderers back to a sense of right and justice, by portraying the evils of civil and fraternal war, and the disgrace attending such a course, then, if nothing will move them to a just recognition of the supremacy of our outraged laws, none can but justify the resort to the "last argument" in vindication. We believe that every man who loves the Union and would not be a slave to treason and rebellion will be found taking sides with the government sustain the enforcement of the laws and in meting out a just punishment to the fire-eating miscreants who attacked Fort Sumter.

The Government owes it to herself, to her loyal citizens and to humanity at large, to suppress the rebellion. If

to do this successfully force must be used—be it so. If to do this blood must be spilled—be it so. Our Government must be sustained, and our laws enforced at all costs and hazards. It is surely worthy the effort to sustain a Government which has cost our Fathers so much to establish, and which has been so redundant of good to its people, and has by its just and equitable laws held out the hope to the oppressed and down-trodden of other nations; that a form of government founded on the abstract rights of man is a permanent and complete success—a government which has increased in population from three to thirty millions in eighty years—a government whose commerce has increased until now the Stars and Stripes wave over every sea—a government able to battle the world combined. Under it our people have been protected in person and property, and all placed on a standing of equality.

It is easier to break down Governments than to build them up. All history attests this fact. Hence it is the bounden duty of every citizen to aid as far as lies in their power the Federal authorities in their efforts to perpetuate our glorious Union. Our laws are good enough if properly enforced, our Constitution is the best the world has ever known—then we must call upon every patriot to girdle on the armor and stand ready to die if necessary in the protection of the palladium of our rights. Call it “coercion” or aught else they please, the laws must be executed either by the consent of the governed or by force.