

If any of our subscribers fail to receive their papers regularly, we hope they will notify us of the fact without delay, that we may call the attention of the carriers to the neglect.

MA. COSS.—This gentleman has at length been forced, by public opinion, to resign the office of Secretary of the Treasury. An avowed co-operator in the work of breaking up the Government, he has only remained so long in office, at the cost of bringing the deepest scandal upon the President.

It is proper to add, that the work of purging the Cabinet is not yet completed.

It is currently reported that the Hon. James Guthrie, of Kentucky, has been tendered the Secretaryship of the Treasury. Another report says that Mr. Holt, the present Postmaster General, has been offered the position.

YESTERDAY IN THE SENATE.

The debate in the Senate yesterday, developed many points of interest.

Mr. King said that the people of New York were determined to uphold the Government and enforce the laws. Per contra, Mr. Pugh said that Mr. Buchanan ought to be impeached, if he resorted to coercion against South Carolina.

The difference in the authorities is, that Mr. King represents a State, while it is doubtful if Mr. Pugh even represents a defeated party.

Both the Senators from Connecticut made conciliatory observations upon the difficulties of the times.

A marked feature of the day was the contest between Mr. Green, of Missouri, and Mr. Davis, of Mississippi.

Mr. Green was emphatic in the declaration that nobody in Missouri proposed disunion, and no less emphatic in ridiculing the pretended complaints of the States which never lost a slave running into the free States, against the non-execution of the fugitive slave law. It was Missouri, and not Mississippi, which suffered in that way. The remedy he proposed, was not a dissolution of the Union, but a border police.

In the course of his remarks, he expressed his want of confidence in the efficacy of constitutional amendments.

In the course of the debate, Mr. Sumner produced the following autograph letter (hitherto unpublished) from Gen. Jackson to a Virginia clergyman:

Private. WASHINGTON, May 1, 1833.

MY DEAR SIR: I have had a laborious task here, but nullification is dead; and its actors and courtiers will only be remembered by the people to be execrated for their wicked designs to sever and destroy the only good Government on the globe, and that prosperity and happiness we enjoy over every other portion of the world.

Haman's gallows ought to be the fate of all such ambitious men, who would involve their country in civil war, and all the evils in its train, that they might reign and ride on its whirlwinds and direct the storm. The free people of these United States have spoken, and consigned these wicked demagogues to their doom. Take care of your nullifiers; you have them among you; let them meet with the indignant frowns of every man who loves his country. The tariff, it is now—

and he italicizes or underscores the word "now."

It was a mere pretext—its burden was on your coarse woollens. By the law of July, 1832, coarse woollens was reduced to five per cent for the benefit of the South. Mr. Clay's bill takes it up, and classes it with woollens at fifty per cent., reduces it gradually down to twenty per cent., and there it is to remain, and Mr. Calhoun and all the nullifiers agree to the principle.

The cash duties and home valuation will be equal to fifteen per cent. more, and after the year 1842, you pay on coarse woollens thirty-five per cent. If this is not protection, I can not understand; therefore the tariff was only the pretext, and disunion and a Southern Confederacy the real object. The next pretext will be the negro or slavery question.

My health is not good, but is improving a little. Present me kindly to your lady and family, and believe me to be your friend. I will always be happy to hear from you.

ANDREW JACKSON. The Rev. Andrew J. Crawford.

A SOUTHERN CONFEDERACY.

One of the candidates for the South Carolina Convention, Claudian B. Northrop, said in his card to the electors:

In my judgment, the first object of the Convention should be to ordain the independence of the people of South Carolina, by immediate dissolution of the Federal Union.

Whatever alliances our Republic may hereafter form, we should never enter into any union with other States, by which a general government shall be established, whose laws can control our people against their sovereign will. I hope for a CONFEDERACY of independent sovereign Unioning States. None other, and no more Unions.

These paragraphs open up a part of the questions which will arise, if the Utopian scheme of a Southern Confederacy is attempted to be realized. It is easy enough to propose such a Confederacy in general terms, but the difficulties will be found to be immense, when it comes to the practical point of settling how it shall be constituted, and with what powers it shall be invested.

There will be at the threshold, the settlement of the relative weight of the States which shall compose it. Will the great State of Georgia assent to a Senate, in which she shall count no more than Florida, or will South Carolina assent to a House, in which she will be dwarfed by the standard of numbers?

Equally troublesome will be the adjustment of the powers of the proposed Confederacy, and to be ended, probably, in no other way than by denying it any substantial powers whatever. The States in favor of opening the African slave trade, will never consent to put it in the power of slaveholding States to control them. So, too, the States in favor of direct taxation and European trade, will never yield the power of regulating commerce to States in favor of building up manufactures. These nullifying gentlemen may agree in leaving the North, but they cannot escape everlasting quarrels among themselves.

A VIRGINIAN THROWN OVERBOARD.—Mr. Millson, the Representative of the Norfolk district, being grievously suspected of a want of sympathy with South Carolina nullification, is thrown overboard by the Washington Constitution, in the following summary style:

Mr. Corwin's title to be considered the exponent of Northern or Western conservatism is as valid as that of Mr. Millson to the championship of Virginia, or Mr. Henry Winter Davis to that of Maryland. We concede that any one of the three is as likely as the others to receive the confidence of the South, or to influence materially its conduct in the present controversy.

VIRGINIA ON SECESSION.—MR. BOTTS'S LETTER.

The Alexandria Gazette publishes a letter from Mr. Botts, under date of November 27, which tells some plain truths in a very plain way. It undoubtedly expresses the general feeling in Virginia in respect to the proceedings in South Carolina. The letter is too long for our columns, and we make the following extracts:

I do not concur with you in opinion, that the dissolution of the Union is inevitable; the sky looks threatening, I grant you, but so has done before, and yet the clearest sunshine has succeeded, without a shower of rain, or a real of thunder; so I trust it will be again. But, if it is to be otherwise, and the Government of the United States is to be overthrown, no part of the folly, the wickedness, or the crime, shall be charged upon me, either by the wise and good men of the present age, or of generations yet to come.

True, South Carolina has rushed on with a headlong impetuosity, wholly unaided to the gravity of the occasion, as if she were afraid to trust herself with time for calm deliberation, relying more upon the passion than the wisdom of her people; and it may be, that under a ridiculous and false idea of a becoming pride and true greatness, she may involve herself in very serious difficulty; she may even declare herself out of the Union; she did so by ordinance in 1833; but still the Union was not rent asunder, as will it now be, as I think; no other State is likely to go with her, and what is best, and surest of all, Virginia certainly will not in her present state of mind.

If I could see the least semblance of justice in the attitude South Carolina has assumed, I would sympathize with her—but I can not, for reasons already given in my speech, which you say you have just read. I see nothing in that position but plain, bold, daring, flat-footed rebellion against and treason to the rest of the States, and I cannot, under any contingency, be induced to take sides with her in her disloyalty and treachery.

When should we be safe in declaring war for the defence of our honor or our rights, or for the protection of our people, if in the midst of the war the Union could be dissolved, and the Government destroyed, whenever some one of the States might be disappointed in the election of her favorite candidate for the Presidency, or because her interest would be promoted by doing so, or because it would enhance the price of cotton, to open a direct trade with the enemy? What Government on earth would treat with us as one of the nations of the world, or treat us with respect? I do not wish to be disrespectful to anybody—and most surely not to you—but I hope you will pardon me for saying, that one of the inconceivable and irreconcilable things of this world, to my mind, is, that an idea of such unmitigated and unmitigated nonsense and absurdity as that of the right of a State to secede at pleasure, should ever have obtained a place in the mind of any man who was not an absolute lunatic.

But if a new Confederacy were to be formed, I could not go with you, for I should use whatever influence I might be able to exert against entering into one with South Carolina, that has played the part of a common brawler and disturber of the public peace for the last thirty years, and who could give no security that I would be willing to accept, that she would not be as faithless to the next compact as she has been to this which she is now endeavoring to avoid. In addition to which, the objects and interests of South Carolina, as she conceives them, are essentially at variance with those of Virginia; this State will never sanction piracy, and if not, South Carolina does not desire our company, and would get rid of us as soon as possible.

What may be the ultimate condition of things, I do not pretend to be prophetic enough to foretell, but I do not think there is any likelihood that any other State will go out, as South Carolina proposes to do, in a sort of sky-rocket blaze. The rest will be disposed to consider matters more carefully, and will take time for consideration and reflection.

Mr. Houston did not regard this amendment as essential. If there should unfortunately be a disruption, in all likelihood there would be a negotiation concerning the portion of debt falling on the seceding States. As a matter of course, the assets would be divided equally with the debt.

Mr. Crow opposed pledging the public lands, and maintained as heretofore, in the language of General Jackson, that they should not be regarded as a source of revenue.

The amendments were rejected; that pledging the public lands by a vote of 75 against 124. The bill was then passed in the form reported.

Mr. Morris, of Illinois, endeavored to introduce his resolution declaratory of devotion to the Union, &c. Questions of order were raised, that it could not be done while the motion to excuse Mr. Hawkins from service on the select committee was pending.

Without further action thereon, the House adjourned.

Tuesday, December 11, 1860. SENATE.

After the reading of the Journal, Mr. Collamer made a motion to take up the Kansas bill; which was agreed to, and made the special order for next Tuesday at one o'clock.

Mr. Clingman moved that the Chaplain of last session be requested to serve this session also. Agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Fitch, it was ordered that an extra number of the President's message be printed for the use of the Senate.

On motion of Mr. Cameron, the Morrill tariff bill was taken, up after some discussion—years 29, says 27—and referred to the Finance Committee.

Mr. Hale introduced a resolution of inquiry in relation to our military affairs—whether the expenses were more or less than is necessary—Agreed to.

Mr. Bigler claiming the floor, which he yielded yesterday, discussed the resolutions of Mr. Powell, on the state of the Union, at some length. He said he was a Union man, and would do whatever he could for the Union. He had a word or two to say to his friends on that side of the Chamber.

THIRTY-SIXTH CONGRESS, Second Session.

Monday, December 10, 1860. SENATE.

[Our report closed yesterday, while Mr. Green was speaking upon Mr. Powell's resolution.] Mr. Latham said that California will remain with the Union—the great North and West—no matter what occurs. The Pacific railway was a great desideratum of her people.

A protracted discussion ensued, which was participated in by Senators Powell, King, Foster, Green, Latham, Dixon, Douglas, Sumner, Brown, Pugh, Hale, Mason, and others.

Mr. Bigler rose to address the Senate, but the hour being late, gave way for a motion to adjourn.

HOUSE. [Our report closed yesterday, while Mr. Valandigham was speaking.]

Mr. McClelland, of Illinois, said that secession opened a troubled future. He did not believe our Government could be dissolved by the action of one of its constituent parts. Bound together as we are, by a common language and religion, and common mountains and rivers, it is only by a civil and sectional war, such as the sun never shone on, that such a result can be produced. There is more strength in our Government than is extensively believed, and the people will, sooner or later, rally to its maintenance.

The people of the Northwest are an interior people, and eminently prosperous, waxing stronger and stronger every day. Shall we consent to have ourselves cut off?

Mr. Sickles proceeded to show that every instinct, thought, and purpose, of the city of New York, is national, patriotic, and American. In the name of such a people, with such a record as he had presented, he ventured to appeal on all sides of the House for the moderation and devotion to duty which had always characterized them. One of the greatest dangers of the day is, that the country does not understand the extent of the peril in which we are placed. The country has been filled with delusions, which even now present themselves; one of which is, that disunion can be prevented by force; that that it can, by revolution, be brought to the verge of destruction, and yet, at last, the strong arm of power can stay the work.

On the call of forces, come where it may, no man would pass the frontier of the city of New York to go to war against a State which, through its constituted authority, should, for its rights, interests, and honor, seek safety in a separate existence. The city of New York will cling to the Union while a single hope is left, but when there is no longer a Union, proud as she is of her opinion as a metropolis, ready to banish sectional prejudices, and willing to contribute all in her power to maintain her honor at home and abroad—when there is no longer a Union, she will never consent to be an appendage, a slave of a puritan province. She will assert her own independence. There is no sympathy now between the city and State of New York, nor has there been for years. She will open her free port to the commerce of the world.

Mr. Sherman explained that it was not his purpose to engage in a debate, but to report a bill from the Committee of Ways and Means.

Consent being given, the bill was read. It authorizes the President to issue Treasury notes for such sums as the exigencies of the public service require, not exceeding ten millions of dollars, of a denomination not less than one hundred dollars, to be redeemed at the expiration of a year, bearing interest not exceeding six per centum, for the payment and redemption of which the faith of the United States is solemnly pledged; the bill also authorizes the President to borrow from time to time money to redeem the same, the notes to be received in payment of all debts, taxes, &c.; its operation is limited to the 1st of January, 1863.

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HOUSE. The House met at the usual hour, and was called to order by the Speaker.

Prayer was offered by the Chaplain, Rev. T. H. Stockton, in which allusion was made to the present state of the country, and also to the Union Prayer Meeting Convention which assembles in Washington to-night.

After the reading of the Journal of yesterday—

A report from the Postmaster General was received, transmitting the information which the House had called for by its resolution passed on the 23d of June last, by which the Postmaster General was desired to furnish the House, during the present session, a statement of the disbursements of the mail routes from the post offices of the city of Washington. The report was referred to the Committee on Mileage, and ordered to be printed.

The subject pending being the motion of Mr. Hawkins, asking to be excused from serving on the committee—

Mr. Cobb, of Alabama, very briefly addressed the House. The eye of the whole country was directed on the committee. He hoped some good might result from the deliberations of the committee. But the time was short. In his own State, the election for delegates to the Convention would be held on the 24th day of the present month, and the Convention would meet in January. He hoped a vote would be taken immediately. The people were anxious in relation to this matter. What meant those crowded galleries? He hoped they would organize the committee, and see if something could not be done. He referred to the Boston election, and regarded it as a good sign. He hoped his State would remain in the Union. He called for the previous question.

Mr. Davis asked Mr. Cobb to withdraw his call for the previous question, as he desired to give his reasons why he should consent to serve on the committee.

Mr. Cobb withdrew the call for the question, with the understanding that Mr. Davis would renew it.

Mr. Davis then stated that he intended to serve on the committee. Though his constituents might not approve his course, yet his own conscience approved it, and that was sufficient for him. He renewed the call for the previous question.

The call for the previous question was sustained.

The question on the motion to be excused was then taken, and resulted as follows—years 95, says 101.

So the gentleman was not excused from serving on the committee.

Mr. Hawkins then remarked that silence on his part might be misconstrued. He had but one word to say—he would not serve on the committee.

Mr. Boyce, of South Carolina, then asked to be excused from serving on the committee.

Mr. Burnett hoped the gentleman would be excused. No member should be compelled to serve against his will; it would entirely defeat the object of the committee.

Mr. Smith, of Virginia, had voted against excusing the gentleman from Florida, [Mr. Hawkins.] He looked with uneasiness upon the present state of the country, and hoped something would be done by the committee to arrange and settle the existing difficulties. He was anxious to see the movement go forth in the true spirit in which it was offered. He might vote to excuse others from States where others might be found to fill the vacancies, but he could not in the case before the House.

Mr. Burnett, of Kentucky, wanted to know if there was an instance on record where members had been compelled to serve against their will.

Mr. Smith knew of many such. But in this case, gentlemen had asked to be excused, at the same time not intending to serve if their request was refused.

Mr. Burnett was opposed to using force. Mr. Smith was not in favor of using force. But the crisis was an imminent one, and required positive action. He then called for the previous question on the motion to excuse Mr. Boyce.

The call for the question was sustained, and the yeas and nays being taken, resulted in a tie vote, and he was not excused.

Mr. Morrill, of Vermont, asked to be excused from serving on the committee.

Pending the consideration of which, our report closed.

NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

THE OFFICIAL CANVASS. Albany, Dec. 9.—The State Canvassers met here on Saturday, and canvassed the vote of the State, with the following result: E. D. Morgan, 358,272; Kelly, 294,812; Brady, 19,841. For Lieutenant Governor: Campbell, 361,914; Craven, 293,572; Viele, 18,435. Canal Commissioner: Barnes, 36,938; Wright, 293,853; Craven, 18,347. Inspector of State Prisons: Bates, 359,457; Rhodes, 294,066; Allen, 18,550. Mr. Van Wyck's majority over St. John in the tenth Congressional district is 148.

CLOSING OF THE CANALS. Albany, Dec. 9.—Under a resolution adopted by the Canal Commissioners, the water is to be drawn out of the canals on Wednesday. No boats are now moving on the canal, those ice-bound between Albany and Schenectady having been got through.

ARREST OF A MURDERER. New York, Dec. 10.—The murderer of Mrs. Shanks, a young man some twenty years of age, giving the name of Alfred Buchanan, has been arrested, and confesses the deed. Frederick, the first mate of the slave Cora, has escaped.

FROM CALIFORNIA PER POST EXPRESS. Fort Kearney, Dec. 10.—The pony express has arrived from California. The vote of that State stands: Lincoln, 38,702; Douglas, 38,060; Breckinridge, 34,000. The census returns give the State a population of 400,000.

NEW YORK BANK STATEMENT. New York, Dec. 10.—The weekly statement of the city banks shows an increase in loans of \$676,904, an increase in specie of \$20,981, an increase in circulation of \$150,250, and an increase in deposits of \$11,361,448.

UNION MEETING AT PHILADELPHIA. Philadelphia, Dec. 10.—Mayor Henry will issue a proclamation in the morning, calling a Union meeting of the citizens of Philadelphia for Thursday noon, at the State House.

MARINE DISASTER. Jacksonville, Fla., Dec. 8.—The schooner I. Leaming, for New York, with a cargo of turpentine and rosin, was burnt on the 5th at Milledgeville.

SCHOONER BURNED. Jacksonville, Fla., Dec. 10.—The schooner J. Searing, for New York, with a cargo of turpentine and rosin, has been destroyed by fire here.

MUNICIPAL ELECTION OF BOSTON. Boston, Dec. 10.—The municipal election of this city took place to-day. Joseph M. Wightman, Democrat and Union candidate, has been elected Mayor, over Moses Kimball, Republican. The vote for Mayor stands thus: Wightman 8,768; Kimball 5,681. The Unionists have a large majority in the city council.

FIRE AT NEW ORLEANS. New Orleans, Dec. 8.—Blessey's oil store, at the corner of Poydras and Magazine streets, was burnt last night. Loss \$30,000; partially insured.

THE SECESSION MOVEMENT.

CHARLESTON, Dec. 8.—A large company assembled to-day on board the ship John Fraser. The Palmetto and Lone Star flags were run up, and secession speeches and sentiments were uttered by many leading shipping merchants.

To-night some of the friends of the successful candidates for the Convention are serenading them.

CHARLESTON, Dec. 9.—There is great activity at Fort Moultrie. The defence every day is rendered stronger. The wives of officers and men have packed up their effects, ready to quit at a moment's notice.

The Legislature will probably sit during the Convention.

News from Florida shows perfect unanimity in the State for secession, and the enthusiasm is increasing daily. Lincoln was burned in effigy at Fernandina on Friday last.

The Convention election returns from districts which went for co-operation in 1852 show a great revolution in public opinion, the vote in favor of separate secession being twenty, to one against it.

COLUMBIA, Dec. 10.—In reference to the proposition to send commissioners from Virginia, Kentucky, and other border States, to the South Carolina Convention, the Guardian says it is a useless measure—that the Convention will not listen to persuasion from any quarter.

Nothing of unusual interest is transpiring here. All the members thus far known to be elected to the State Convention appear to be in favor of prompt secession.

IMPORTANT FROM NORTH CAROLINA. Raleigh, Dec. 9.—The joint select committee on Federal relations have agreed to report on Wednesday next a bill to call a Convention of the people, to determine what North Carolina shall do in the present crisis.

TEXAS. New Orleans, Dec. 8.—The latest advices from Texas state that there is an understanding between the members of the Legislature of that State, that the Legislature shall meet at Austin on the 17th December next, without a formal call from the Governor, and that it is understood that the Legislature will call a State Convention on the 8th of January.

KENTUCKY. Louisville, Dec. 8.—In response to recent applications for a suspension of specie payment, the Kentucky banks have determined that such a measure would afford no commercial relief, and consequently they will continue to pay specie as usual.

TENNESSEE. Nashville, Dec. 8.—The Governor of this State has called an extra session of the Legislature on the 7th of January, to consider the present condition of the country.

Items Telegraphed from Washington. It is stated by some persons here that General Scott advised the President, some time since, to strengthen the force at Fort Moultrie; but instead of complying with this advice, the President caused the troops stationed there to be ordered to California, when there were plenty of other troops who could have been detailed to that duty.

Northern people here, as well as Southern, are writing letters denunciatory of the administration for what they allege to be its dilatoriness in the present state of affairs.

Washington, Dec. 10.—The President has just been assured, from an authentic source, that the authorities of South Carolina will make no resistance either to the collection of duties or to the Federal possession of the forts guarding Charleston harbor, during the remainder of his administration.

The conservative sentiments uttered to-day by Senator Dixon, of Connecticut, together with Mr. Hale's correction of the erroneous impressions occasioned by reports concerning his late speech, would argue well for ultimate accommodation between the States, were it not for the ideas thrown out by Mr. King, of New York, that coercion was the policy of the Republican party. There is too much reason to fear that persistence to the bitter end in an extreme partisan policy is the card of the leading Republicans in Congress.

It is probable that there will be a long discussion in the House, precedent to final action, as to excusing members from serving on the committee of one from each State. I hear from a well-posted quarter that only Messrs. Hawkins and Boyce will decline to serve thereon. The motion for raising a committee of thirteen in the Senate will doubtless pass.

Judge Morsell, of the Circuit Court, here, has just decided, that when an inventor, after the rejection of his claims for a patent, withdraws the same, and suffers a considerable number of years to elapse before renewing his application, he will be adjudged to have forfeited any rights that he might otherwise have had.

The immense edition of the agricultural report of the Patent Office, ordered by Congress at the last session, has been completed by the Senate printer, and will be shortly in the hands of Congressmen.

KRISSE KRINGLE'S HEADQUARTERS for Toys and Fancy Notions is at LAMMOND'S, Seventh street, cheap for cash only. Dec 3—31

A. STRAUS, Fashionable Clothier, AND DEALER IN GENT'S FURNISHING GOODS, No. 314 Pennsylvania avenue, between Tenth and Eleventh streets, Washington, D. C.

JUST RECEIVED, another large variety of Fall and Winter Clothing, which will be sold at greatly reduced prices. N. B. Maryland and Virginia money taken at par. Dec 11—31