

GEORGIA.—See our telegraphic dispatches. The advocates of separate secession have been beaten, although by a close vote, in the Legislature. If Cobb arrives in season, the dead weight of his unpopularity will beat them worse in the Convention.

THE FEELING.—The friends of the Union here were more hopeful yesterday. Senator Johnson's speech was the topic of approbation at all the hotels last evening.

The President yesterday morning nominated Edwin M. Stanton to be the new Attorney General of the United States.

THE SENATE YESTERDAY.—Mr. Johnson, of Tennessee, concluded his able and patriotic speech in favor of maintaining the Union.

If the wealthy gentlemen in New York, who profess to have the same object in view, really wish to do something for it, let them send on the funds to circulate at the South one million copies of Mr. Johnson's speech.

Mr. Johnson presented one view which made some Democratic Senators wince not a little. He said that if South Carolina was now an independent Power, self-preservation would require us to conquer and hold her, upon the principles laid down in the Oatland Manifesto.

After Mr. J. had finished, Mr. Lane amused the Senate and galleries by declaring that nobody should go to coerce South Carolina, except over his dead body. After which, the Senate adjourned in unusually good humor.

THE RIGHT OF SECESSION.

We cannot conceive of a more glaring inconsistency than to deny the right of a State to secede from the Union at pleasure, and at the same time to protest against the use of force, by the Federal Government, to secure the execution of the Federal laws, in a State that may assume to secede and set them at naught. The President is bound, by his oath of office, to see that the Federal laws are faithfully executed throughout the bounds of the Union. Unless he believes a State has a constitutional right to secede, he must regard every State as continuing in the Union, notwithstanding any pretended acts of secession. How, then, can he be absolved from his obligation to see that the laws are faithfully executed, in a State which he regards as a member of the Union?

We often hear it said that the Federal Government has no power to "coerce a State" to remain in the Union. This may be very true; but has the Federal Government any power to let a State go out of the Union? A State being once in the Union, must remain there, unless she has a right to secede at pleasure, or unless there is some power in some department of the Federal Government to consent to her secession. What department of the Federal Government has such power, and what clause of the Constitution confers it?

It is a mere begging of the question, to say that the Federal Government has no power to coerce a State to remain in the Union, if it is admitted that the State has no power to secede. It may be conceded, that the Federal Government has no power to "coerce a State" to do anything—because the Federal laws do not operate upon the States, but upon individuals. It has power, however, to coerce the citizens of a State to obey the Federal laws, and no State has any power to absolve its citizens from their obligation to obey them, either with or without the consent of any department of the Federal Government.

If the Federal Government has power to consent to the secession of a State, when a majority of its citizens resolve to secede, it has power to expel citizens from the Union, and make them aliens, without their consent. Because a majority of the people of South Carolina prefer to separate themselves from the Union, are the minority, who remain loyal to the Union, to be denied the rights of citizenship, and made aliens to the United States, against their own will?

This is a question which may be judicially settled; and no doubt will be, whenever a State shall assume to secede. After South Carolina shall have passed her ordinance of secession, suppose some citizen of that State should bring a suit against a citizen of New York, in one of the Federal courts of that State. This would bring the question immediately before the court, whether the plaintiff was a citizen of one of the States of this Union. If the Supreme Court should decide in favor of his citizenship, as it certainly would, we should be compelled to accord to the citizens of South Carolina all the rights, privileges, and immunities, of citizens of the United States, whenever they should see fit to claim them, although we refrained from holding them to any of the obligations of citizenship. And it is precisely this absurdity which the policy of not attempting to enforce the laws in a seceding State directly leads to.

AN ATTACK ON WASHINGTON.

The subjoined article is from a paper edited by a son of Henry A. Wise. Whether this particular article was written by the father, or by the son, is not known.

From the Richmond (Va.) Enquirer, of Dec. 17. "Let the first Convention, then, be held between Maryland and Virginia, and these two States agreeing, let them provide sufficient force to seize the city of Washington, and if coercion is to be attempted, let it begin with subjugating the States of Maryland and Virginia. Thus practical and efficient fighting in the Union will prevent the powers of the Union from falling into the hands of our enemies.

"We hope Virginia will depute her commissioners to Maryland first, and, providing for the seizure of Washington and Old Point, Harper's Ferry and Gosport Navy Yard, present these two States in the attitude of rebels, inciting coercion. This was the way Patrick Henry brought about revolution, and this is the best way that Virginia can make of commissions of any kind.

"Disunion, to all intents and purposes, now exists. Let each State provide quickly for its own safety."

THE CRISIS COMMITTEE.—The debate upon the territorial propositions was commenced, and, from the range taken by the speakers, will, it is expected, consume several days before a result is reached.

THIRTY-SIXTH CONGRESS, Second Session.

Wednesday, December 19, 1860. SENATE.

Hon. Mr. Toombs, Senator from Georgia, appeared in his seat this morning, for the first time this session.

Mr. Sidel made a charge against the Senate reporter for the Associated Press, saying that the latter had misrepresented him in the New Orleans papers, and that he should move his expulsion from the Senate gallery to-morrow, unless the reporter gave a satisfactory explanation. He also, by implication, charged the Associated Press with hostility to the Democratic party.

The agent of the Associated Press requests your reporter to say that the dispatch complained of by Mr. Sidel was not sent by him, or transmitted from Washington by any one having any connection with the Associated Press. The implied charge of hostility to the Democratic party is equally unfounded.

The military academy and invalid pension appropriation bills were reported back and passed.

The bill granting the right of way over the Potomac to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company was postponed till to-morrow.

The Senate then took up Mr. Johnson's resolutions for an amendment of the Constitution.

Mr. Johnson addressed the Senate. He urged that the personal liberty bills which had been passed by Northern States were in direct violation of the Constitution, and would be so decided by any court in the world. He denied the right of secession, and quoted Mr. Madison as sustaining his views, and showed that Mr. Jefferson held the same view. The Constitution provided a remedy for all evils which might grow up under it. It provided even for the change of times, opinions, and events, which might occur, by allowing amendments. General Washington had acted under the idea that this Government was competent to execute its laws when he ordered fifteen hundred men into Pennsylvania, to execute the excise law and put down the whisky rebellion. He did not believe that any State could declare itself out of the Union, and resist the law. The United States had power to carry the mails and to hold courts in South Carolina by force; and if South Carolina resisted by war the collection of the revenue, or attacked the forts of the United States, it was treason. Circumstances might arise which would render a resolute course necessary with a seceding State. Suppose South Carolina proclaimed herself out, made alliances with European Powers, and collected there a large foreign army and navy, in intimidation of this people; the United States might rightfully conquer her, and hold her as a subject province. [A few hisses.] No one party had a right to dissolve a contract. Could Louisiana, which had been bought to secure the mouth of the Mississippi go out, and make the mouth of the Mississippi foreign again?

Mr. Sidel denied that any Louisiana for an instant thought of placing any obstruction to the free navigation and commerce on the Mississippi or its tributaries.

Mr. Johnson replied, that he was unwilling to leave the freedom of the mouth of that river in any custody but that of all the States. Florida too, who had been very anxious to come into the Union, was now feverish to go out. Before she came in, she belonged to Spain, and was over-run with Seminoles. The United States had paid \$20,000,000 to buy her, give her peace, and clear out the Seminoles. When she went out, would she revert to Spain, or go back under the jurisdiction of the Seminoles? [Laughter.]

Rather than see the Government broken into thirty-three fragments, he would advocate a consolidated Government. The border States might, if a disruption was made, find it for their interest to form a Central Union. Even now, the Old Dominion was bound to Tennessee by an iron chain of railroad, and Memphis was less than two days from Baltimore. Through this Central Union, the East and West would stretch their hands, and over the highways would pour the commerce of the world.

The South did not intend to leave the Union. The Government might be broken up, but the South would stay in the house of the Constitution, and maintain its rights. He would cling to the Union as the shipwrecked mariner clung to the last plank, when night closed in and darkness was around.

Lincoln's election was no cause for disunion. He concluded by declaring, in the words of Jackson, "the Federal Union, it must be preserved." He would give his blood to save the Union.

Mr. Lane, of Oregon, said the Northern Democracy would not march to the subjugation of South Carolina, under the bloody banner of the Senator from Tennessee. When he rallied his troops to overawe a sovereign State standing up for her rights, he would have to meet the Northern Democracy in arms. [Loud applause.] He served a notice upon the Republicans, that they would not have a united North. They could not reach the Southern border without a bloody battle with the Democrats of the North. He would save the Union, but only upon the principles of the Constitution. He spoke at length in defence of the right of secession; said that Washington seceded from the perpetual Union established by the old Confederation. He would say to any coward who would do it, you shall walk over my body. [Applauded.] Good! He would suffer anything to maintain the Union, but would only maintain it upon equality and justice. The responsibility of disunion was at the door of the Republican party.

At the close of Mr. Lane's speech, and at ten minutes past five o'clock, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE. Mr. Washburne, of Illinois, offered a resolution, to the effect that, the Senate concurring, when the House adjourns to-morrow, it adjourn to meet the 6th day of January.

Several gentlemen objected to the introduction of the resolution, but it was decided to be in order.

Mr. Etheridge moved to lay the resolution on the table.

Mr. Dawes called for the yeas and nays, when the question was taken, and decided in the negative—yeas 77, nays 44.

Mr. Sherman, from the Committee of Ways and Means, reported a bill making appropriations for the legislative, judicial, and executive expenditures of the Government for the year ending June 30, 1862; which was referred to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Sherman also reported a deficiency appropriation bill; whereupon the House went into Committee upon the subject, (Mr. Boeck in the chair.)

Mr. Sherman offered an amendment, appropriating \$900,000 to carry out the law for the suppression of the African slave trade; and caused a letter to be read from Mr. McLain, the secretary of the Colonization Society, stating that, unless an appropriation be promptly made,

the Liberian Government will protest against any more Africans being sent to that coast.

Mr. Phelps would not vote for the amendment. He thought that Congress ought to make some appropriation other than now exists by law for the support of the recaptured Africans.

Mr. Sherman replied, that this appropriation was required to carry out an existing contract, whatever might be the defect of the law.

Mr. Jones said that it was the policy of the American Colonization Society to recapture Africans; for the more that are recaptured, the more money they get for taking care of them.

Mr. Maynard, in the course of his remarks, said that the slave trade is carried on between the coast of Africa and certain ports of Cuba; and, further, that by treaties with Spain and nations on the coast, Great Britain could, if she would, put an end to the slave trade.

Mr. Pryor would vote against the appropriation, until there was some reform in the system. He was opposed to burdening Liberia with shirtless cannibals, and wished to give that Republic an opportunity of illustrating their capacity for free government. He favored the quasi apprenticeship system of Great Britain.

Mr. Sherman replied to several gentlemen who preceded him, and remarked that the appropriation was required to carry out existing laws.

Mr. Burnett favored apprenticing the recaptured Africans; it a mortality among them, on their way back to Africa, was so great as to render it an act of cruelty to send them back.

Various gentlemen expressed their views upon the subject; when the amendment of Mr. Sherman was agreed to, and the Committee rose.

Mr. Barnett offered an amendment to reduce the appropriation to \$450,000, but this was rejected—yeas 67, nays 100.

The amendment of Mr. Sherman was agreed to, and the bill passed.

Mr. Florence offered a resolution providing for an adjournment from to-morrow to the 7th of January, 1861; which was rejected.

The House adjourned.

THE SOUTH CAROLINA MAIL.—If the South Carolina postmasters resign, as they threaten, after secession, the mails will be promptly stopped. There is no warrant for the statement in the report made to the Legislature of South Carolina on this subject, that the Department here will permit the service to continue in its present form, when that act shall be consummated. Mr. Holt has no inclination to collude with the conspiracy, and those engaged in it must take the consequences. In twenty days after the secession ordinance, if the seceders carry out their present programme, no mail will be delivered in South Carolina, and no foreign or domestic vessel will enter the port of Charleston. After some experience, the people will discover what consequences have been entailed on them by ambitious leaders, in pursuing their own selfish schemes.—N. Y. Tribune.

INTERESTING CASE.—The legality of arresting persons expressing Abolition or Lincoln sentiments was tried before a New Orleans court last week. The court ruled that it "could see no legal grounds in the charge for the arrest of a man who casually speaks his sentiments to a friend as to whom he would vote for," and therefore discharged the accused.

The friends of a free and united Italy, and of its hero, Garibaldi, held a sympathy meeting in the Cooper Institute, New York, last Tuesday evening, the spirit of which was enthusiastic in a very high degree. Speeches were made by John A. Dix, who presided, Luther R. Marsh, J. C. Fletcher, Rowell C. Hitchcock, and C. Edwards Lester, and an address to Italians was adopted, to be sent to Garibaldi in his representative, with such collections as may be raised to aid him in the emancipation of Venice from her servitude to Austria. Mr. John Anderson, whose sufficient donations to the cause of Italian freedom deserve universal acknowledgment, also took part in the meeting.

VENUE SUKE.—Nine Lives Lost.—Information reached Baltimore on Tuesday, relative to the loss of the schooner Richmond, owned by Captains Chival and Hopkins, which by Captain Chival and eight others were drowned. She was loaded with guano, and sprung a leak, which caused her loss.

STILL UNDER PAY.—The South Carolina members who are yet here, continue to vote, and receive their pay, which is a gratifying assurance of their attachment to the Federal Government. Mr. Hammond set for all his accumulated salary, though the law contemplates that members should be here to receive it at the opening of Congress.

ARRIVAL OF MR. CAROTHERS AT TURK'S ISLAND.—Rev. Andrew G. Carothers, our consul to Turk's Island, arrived in St. Thomas on the 23d of November, after a pleasant passage, and would leave for Turk's Island on the 27th. He was in his usual health.

THE INAGURATION OF MR. LINCOLN.—At a meeting of the Senate Committee of Claims, recently, Mr. Iverson, who is chairman, tauntingly observed that half a million of Wide Awakes could not inactivate Mr. Lincoln. "Oh, then," quietly replied a Republican Senator, "we will send a million." Mr. Iverson seemed to think that number sufficient.

The Secretary of the Treasury has advertised for proposals until the 25th, for the issue of \$5,000,000 in Treasury notes, pursuant to the act just passed.

The only secret a woman keeps is her age. At Paris, recently, Mlle. Cico, the pianist actress of the Palais Royal, was to be a witness in favor of some cosmetic used by ladies, and as French courts invariably ask the age of witnesses, all the younger actresses of Paris were there, and they reckoned upon a good deal of merriment and profit when Mlle. Cico came to disclose her years. She was called to the stand, sworn, gave her name and profession. When the judge said, "How old are you?" she quitted the stand, went up to the bench, stood on tiptoe, and whispered in the judge's ear the malicious secret. The bench smiled, and kept the secret.

THE TWIN C-C-DEERS.—Cass and Cobb.

"UNION." LADIES FAIR AND FESTIVAL. The Ladies of the Ninth Street Methodist Protestant Church will continue their Fair and Festival every night this week, for the benefit of their Parsonage, in Thorn's Hall, Seventh street, between D and E streets.

The Fair will also be open on Christmas Eve, and Christmas day and evening. Supper will be furnished by the Ladies to those who desire it, at twenty-five cents. Also, Confectionery, Ice Creams, and a variety of fancy and useful articles, at low prices, for Christmas. A fine band of music will nightly enliven the occasion.

Come one, come all, and continue to encourage the Ladies to pay for their Parsonage. dec 20—34

Latest by

SOUTH CAROLINA CO.

Charleston, Dec. 19.—The Convention met at 11 o'clock, A. M., with an encouraging prayer by the Rev. Mr. Curtis. Several additional members took their seats. One hundred and sixty members were present.

The Chair submitted a letter of A. Huger, the Postmaster at Charleston, proffering a messenger to facilitate the business of the Convention, by the early delivery of their letters. The Chair also read a letter from John A. Eimore, the Commissioner from Alabama, enclosing a telegraphic dispatch from Gov. Moore, dated Montgomery, on the 17th Dec., as follows: "John A. Eimore—tell the Convention to listen to no proposition of compromise or delay." [Applause among the spectators.]

The communication was referred to the Committee on an Address.

J. P. Reed offered resolutions, in effect, as follows: 1st, ordering the President to appoint a cashier and deputy cashier; 2d, ordering the clerk to superintend the printing of the Convention; 3d, ordering that the reporters of the public journals be allowed access to the hall for the purpose of facilitating their reports; 4th, that the regular hour of meeting shall be 10 A. M., but subject to any special order; 5th, an alphabetical list of the members, with their post offices; 6th, that the journal be published daily, and laid on the tables of the members before the hour for meeting.

Mr. Keitt moved to amend the resolutions by substituting eleven for ten o'clock, as the hour for meeting, which was accepted.

Mr. Middleton moved to strike out the last resolution, but objection was made.

Mr. Sims desired to know how far the resolution extended respecting the admission of reporters.

Mr. Ingis moved that only reporters of the State be admitted.

Mr. Quattlebaum submitted, that each resolution be acted on separately, which was carried.

The resolution in relation to the reporters being still up, Mr. Logan moved to add that two only be admitted.

Mr. Cheeves moved that the President have discretion to admit as many as he thought proper. He said it will be better, then, that the question be settled by the editors.

Mr. Meminger asked if the resolution applied to other reporters from the Southern States. After a still further discussion, Mr. Bonneau submitted a resolution, that the Mayor be requested to have a proper police stationed at the door, so that the members could obtain access. Objected to.

Mr. Reed submitted, that the Charleston delegation were to make the arrangements, and offered this as an amendment, which Mr. Bonneau accepted.

Mr. Richardson said we had better pass the resolution; for at least two days or more it would be necessary that the Convention should sit with closed doors, and therefore exclude all persons not authorized by the Convention to enter. He submitted this to pacify those outside. If one was elected, one hundred more would have the same claim, and he moved to sit with closed doors to-day and to-morrow.

Mr. Chestnut thought this impracticable. Open doors were essential to satisfy the public mind. He moved to lay the resolution on the table. After a long discussion, it was moved to refer the matter to the Charleston delegation, and the substitute to sit with closed doors was withdrawn.

A resolution authorizing the President to issue tickets to reporters was adopted.

The resolution to print an alphabetical list of the members was taken up.

Mr. Priestly moved to insert the occupation of the members. Objection was made, and the motion withdrawn.

The 6th resolution was lost.

A resolution was offered to adopt the rules of other Conventions for the government of this body.

Mr. Quattlebaum moved that it be laid on the table, but finally withdrew it, and the resolution was adopted.

The communication of a portion of the Georgia Legislature was taken up. Mr. Wardlaw moved that it be referred to the Committee on an Address.

Mr. Middleton said that, as this was not an official paper, its acceptance, as such, would open a wide door. Self-appointed committees from every State, North and South, would claim the same consideration. He wished it understood that this body would not receive unofficial documents. The subject was further considered, but no action taken.

Mr. Quattlebaum reported that the Printing Committee had performed its labors, and had awarded the contract to Evans & Cogswell.

The special order for one o'clock was the appointment of four special committees.

Mr. Hutson said that the business of the Convention would be of greater and wider importance than any other ever held in South Carolina.

Mr. Smith proposed a Committee of Commerce, and also a Committee on Postal Arrangements.

Mr. Mazyck said that small committees work with greater certainty than large ones.

A debate took place about the power of the Legislature in this matter.

The Committee on Commerce and Postal Arrangements were increased to 13, and the resolution adopted.

A resolution authorizing a committee in relation to the slaveholding States was adopted, and also a Committee on Foreign Relations was authorized.

The third resolution on Commercial Relations and Postal Arrangements was taken up.

Mr. McCready said: We are only proposing to make a charge for the people while in a transition state, and we must be especially careful of our postal arrangements. Our Legislature now has no power. We are the power, and may pass it, subject to their revision and alteration. We are obligated to take particular notice of it in its relation to the United States. Your faith is pledged, and you are not to break in upon arrangements which are necessary to the convenience of our citizens and the other Southern States. What will we do? Without information, it will breed ill will. I think the Convention is bound to make suitable arrangement in relation to these matters. The Post Office Department can be carried right on, and we shall have the contractors to pay.

Mr. Duncan took the floor, and made a long speech on the subject. Mr. Gregg said, we can dissolve our union with the United States, and make arrangements for continuing the mail service with Adams's Express. The debate is out of order. The Minister to the United States will have the matter in charge.

The amendment of adding the postal arrangements to the duties of the Committee on Commerce was adopted.

The 4th resolution was adopted. The second special order, being the secession portion of the message of the President of the United States, came up. Mr. Magrath made a strong speech on the subject of the property of the United States in South Carolina, which will be reported at length hereafter.

Mr. Miles had no idea that the President of the United States saw any necessity for reinforcing the fortifications in the harbor. He

ay frankly that there should be no cooperation among us. In a conversation, and subsequently in a written communication, I know this to have been said: "If you send a solitary soldier to these parts, the instant the intelligence reaches our people, and we will take care that it does reach us before he can reach the forts, the forts will be taken, because it is necessary to our safety and self preservation."

Mr. Miles spoke about the repairs at Fort Sumter, and mentioned the cause of the resignation of Secretary Cass. At Fort Moultrie there were only sixty-five men, with five or six musicians. Major Anderson is needful of troops. He felt the necessity, when the excitement first broke out, of being watchful, lest a few persons from Charleston should surprise him in the night. All the repairs now being made will be to our advantage.

The blank in the resolution appointing the committee was, on motion of Mr. Hardee, filled with "13."

Mr. Shingler moved to insert "debt of the United States." The resolution, as it stands, seems to be one-sided.

Mr. Hardee moved to lay the motion on the table, which was carried, and the resolution was then adopted.

Mr. De Treville's resolutions for a committee of safety were transferred for the special order to to-morrow.

Mr. Meminger moved the appointment of a committee of seven, to draft a summary statement of the causes justifying South Carolina in withdrawing from the Union. He said, at another time we can present to the whole world the causes justifying South Carolina in leaving the Union. This he desired, so that it would dispel the idea that South Carolina is in a state of revolution. We are in a state already recognized by the world; and in order to set ourselves right before the world, it is expedient to show our true position.

The resolution was adopted.

Mr. Dunkin offered a resolution, that a committee be appointed to inquire into and report what measures, temporary or permanent, can be adopted in reference to custom-houses and postal arrangements, in consequence of a withdrawal of South Carolina from the Union.

Mr. Hayne submitted a resolution to the following effect:

Whereas the causes which have produced a separation of South Carolina from the Federal Union have emanated from the States north of Mason and Dixon's line, which use hiring labor only, and

Whereas it is not against the Constitution of the United States that South Carolina has opposed her sovereignty, but the usurpation of the Government in violation of this instrument: therefore, be it

Resolved, That a Commissioner be sent to each of the slaveholding States, bearing a copy of the ordinance of secession, and proffer each State, or any one or more of them, the existing Constitution of the United States as the basis of a provisional Government, to be adopted on the part of South Carolina, and any other slaveholding State or States, which, after seceding from the present Federal Union, shall be willing to unite with South Carolina in forming a new Confederacy; and we do hereby ratify and confirm, from the date hereof, any action taken by such Commissioner or Commissioners, and with the consent of the Governor of South Carolina, in the formation of such provisional union; and we do further earnestly recommend that in — days after two or more States, in addition to South Carolina, shall have acceded to the said provisional union, an election shall be held for senators and members of the House of Representatives of the new Congress, and also a President and Vice President of the new Confederacy.

Resolved, That three Commissioners be appointed to carry an authenticated copy of the ordinance of secession to Washington, to be laid before the President of the United States, with a request that the same shall be communicated to Congress, now in session; that the said Commissioners are hereby authorized and empowered to treat for the delivery of the forts, magazines, light houses, and other real estate, and all appurtenances thereto, within the geographical limits of South Carolina—the authority to treat upon the subjects to be extended to the — day of February, in the year of our Lord 1861; provided that in the mean time the said forts, magazines, &c., are allowed to remain in the condition in which they may be at the adoption of this ordinance. And they shall be further empowered to treat upon the subject of the public debt, and for a proper division of all other property now held by the Government of the United States as an agent of the States now embraced in the said Confederacy, until such time as a new Confederacy of States shall be formed, of which South Carolina shall be one.

These resolutions elicited a long debate, in which Messrs. Rhett, Keitt, and Middleton, participated. The first resolution was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Meminger submitted a resolution that a commission, consisting of three persons, be elected by ballot, to proceed to Washington, to negotiate with the United States, through their General Government, as to proper measures and arrangements to be adopted for the continuance of peace and amity; and also that five be elected, to confer with deputies from the other slaveholding States, with a view of forming a Southern Confederacy, &c., and also to arrange for a general meeting of such deputies. These resolutions were appropriately referred.

Another resolution was introduced, to inquire what legislation by Congress is necessary in the premises.

The act of secession was made the special order for to-morrow.

Adjourned at 3.40.

GEORGIA LEGISLATURE.

Augusta, Dec. 19.—In the Georgia Senate, yesterday, the discussion on separate State action is reported to have been the ablest of the session. Mr. Hill, of Troup, in a blaze of eloquence, characterized separate State action as "Right accomplishing its own defeat, Liberty forging its own chain, Happiness poisoning its own cup, and Prosperity committing suicide."

A resolution was adopted, 56 to 54, that as there is a common interest, so there should be a co-operation among the Southern States. A reconsideration was moved and lost.

Mr. Deloney's bill for protecting the citizens of Georgia from the process of the Federal courts was lost by 16 majority.

W. L. Harris, the commissioner from Mississippi, was courteously received by the Legislature, and made an address—1,000 copies of which were ordered to be printed.

On Saturday, in the Senate, a resolution of referring the services of the members of the Legislature, in case of coercion by the Federal Government of any Southern State, and requesting the Governor to order out all the members first for the field, was lost.

LEGISLATIVE SECESSION MEETING IN GEORGIA.

Milledgeville, Dec. 18.—On Saturday the members of the Legislature favoring Southern co-operation held a meeting, urging a Convention of such Southern States as were in favor of joint action. They also issued an address to the people of South Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi, and Florida, signed by 52 members.

ARRIVAL OF THE ATLANTIC—INFLEX OF SPECIES FROM EUROPE.

New York, Dec. 19.—The steamship Atlantic, from Havre, via Southampton, has arrived here, but her arrivals have been anticipated. She brings \$850,000 in specie on an American account, and 800 tons of French merchandise and 63 passengers.

DEATH OF A NAVAL CONTRACTOR. Boston, Dec. 19.—Samuel Hart, naval contractor, and formerly Chief of the Bureau of Construction, Equipment, and Repairs, of the Navy Department, died at Scituate last night.

STEAMBOAT EXPLOSION. New York, Dec. 19.—The magnificent steamboat Commonwealth, of the Stonington line, had an accident off Throg's Neck this morning. She burst her steam chimney, scalding seven of the passengers—four of whom were severely injured.

FATAL RAILROAD ACCIDENT. Boiling Springs, Cumberland county, Pa., Dec. 19.—An engine on the Hackensack railroad ran over a hand car to-day, containing twenty-two men, killing one, and seriously injuring two others. The engineer ran away after the accident.

NEW YORK MARKETS. New York, Dec. 19.—Cotton—sales of 3,500 bales; uplands middling, 10 1/4 to 10 3/4 cents. Flour 5 a 10 cents higher—sales of 17,500 barrels; quotations are unchanged. Wheat 1 cent higher—sales of 33,000 bushels; Western red, \$1.23; white, \$1.27 a \$1.40. Corn unchanged—sales of 73,000 bushels. Beef dull. Pork quiet. Lard steady at 9 a 10 1/4 cents. Whisky firm at 18 1/2 cents.

FINANCIAL. New York, Dec. 19.—Stocks are better. Chicago and Rock Island, 47 1/2; Cumberland Coal Company, 8; Illinois Central, shares, 65; Michigan Southern, 29; New York Central, 74; Pennsylvania Coal Company, 74; Hudson River Railroad, 40; Missouri 6 1/2, 63; United States 5 1/2 of 1874, 90.

C. GAUTIER'S FRENCH RESTAURANT. DINNER AND SUPPER PARTIES. In soliciting your patronage, would respectfully call your attention to his elegant suit of PARLORS, RECEPTION AND DINING ROOMS, Furnished in the most fashionable style, and always ready to accommodate several parties at any moment. No. 252 Pennsylvania Avenue. dec 20—1w

REDUCTION IN THE PRICE OF GAS. OFFICE OF WASHINGTON GAS LIGHT CO., November 30, 1860