SOUTHERN PRESS.

WASHINGTON CITY.

THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 1851.

The New Senator from New York.

The telegraph yesterday brought the intelligence of the election of HAMILTON FISH to the U. S. Senate, so that New York will now rejoice in two Free-soil representatives, instead of one in that body.

The triumph of Mr. SEWARD over the Administration is now complete, and the Empire State moves at his beck and bidding. He understood well his own strength, when he ventured to repulse the overtures of the Administration through the Silver Grays, and refused to make even the shadowy concession of allowing resolutions to be passed through the legislature acquiescing in the compromise—resolutions which would not have been worth the paper on which they were written.

The choice between Mr. FISH, the Whig, and Mr. DIX, the Democratic nominee, was inappreciable. Both were obnoxious to the same objections—but as the especial friend of Mr. SEWARD, and opposed on that ground by the administration Whigs—a forlorn few—the election of the former is a personal triumph to the leader of the host, and a most unmistakable evidence of the sentiment of the State. Doubtless, however, now that the deed has been done, wonderful discoveries will be made by the compromise organs, as to the "nationality" and conservatism of the elect of the Sewardites.

It will be discovered that he is a marvellous proper man—and that he has duped those good easy souls into electing him, only that he might aid in carrying out the policy of the Administration. New York will be pronounced "sound and reliable"—and this be trumpeted as the death blow to Sewardism. Having so often witnessed feats as remarkable on the part of the "friends of the Compromise" at the North, we confidently expect to witness more "ground and lofty tumbling" on this occasion. The tone of Northern feeling is indeed, most wonderfully modified by the passage of the "peace measures"—and the recent elections prove it most conclusively!

Two of the controlling Northern States, New York and Ohio, now have both of their senators of the real Free-soil stripe—and Massachusetts bids fair to follow their example in the election of CHARLES SUMNER, whose chances appear better now than did those of Mr. FISH a few days ago.

The moral effect of this decided demonstration on the part of New York, must be very great. Surely those Southern men who have most resolutely shut their eyes to the signs of times heretofore, cannot keep them sealed after this most portentous proceeding of the leading Northern State.

The Census of 1850.

The census of the United States for 1850, will be the most complete work of the kind that has ever been executed.

We stepped the other day into the rooms devoted to this service in this city, and were surprized at the precision, clearness, fullness, and importance of the returns, and the classification, so far as they have gone. We cannot accord too much praise for the ability and fidelity with which the plan has been conducted by Mr. KENNEDY, the head of the bureau.

When the census shall be completed, it will present a mass of facts and results which will throw more light on the condition of the different States, than has ever before been attained. The nativity, health, property, crime, pursuits, age, education, &c., &c., of the people, will all be exhibited in such a manner as to give immense facility to the solution of multitudes of the most important questions of the day.

☞ THE SOUTHERN PATRIOT is the name of a paper recently commenced in Greenville, South Carolina. It is well printed, but, from the second number, the first we have received, we cannot determine its ability.

It is the special advocate, in that State, of the Union of the States. The number we received contained an article from the Washington *Union* against our paper. We suppose this was owing to the scarcity of exchange papers in the new office—or perhaps it was to show how feeble are our foes.

☞ We find the following specimen of a definition admiringly paraded in one of our Western exchanges. We give it as we find it:

DEMOCRACY.—"*What is Democracy?*" once sneeringly asked a senator of Wm. Allen. The Ohio senator answered promptly, as follows:

"Democracy, a sentiment not to be appalled, corrupted or compromised. It knows no baseness, it cowers to no danger, it oppresses no weakness. Destructive only of despotism, it is the sole conservator of liberty, labor, and property. It is the sentiment of freedom, of equal rights, of equal obligations—the law of nature pervading the law of the land!"

DINNER TO GEN. QUITMAN.—A number of gentlemen in New Orleans have tendered the compliment of a public dinner to Gen. John A. Quitman, which he has accepted.

The latest discovery by the Memphis Express will create a profound sensation. The paper of the 12th ult., referring to Jenny Lind, says: "We heard it stated that the celebrated 'bird notes' of this famed vocalist, were produced by a bird organ, played behind the scenes, while she stood on the stage with her mouth open, during the pantomine. This discovery is said to have been made in New Orleans, by a committee of scientific gentleman, aided by a celebrated clairvoyant."

MORE GOLD DUST.—The steamship Ohio, with the Pacific mails of the 1st of February, three hundred and fourteen passengers, $200,000 in specie and gold dust on freight, and $325,000 in the hands of passengers, arrived at New Orleans on the 9th instant.

SERMON AT THE OPENING OF A RAILROAD.—At the recent opening of the Cincinnati, Columbus and Cleveland railroad, Rev. Dr. Aiken, of Cleveland, preached a sermon on the occasion. His text was in Nahum ii. 4th. "The chariots shall rage in the street, they shall jostly one against another in the broad ways, they shall seem like torches, they shall run like lightning."

☞ The Boston *Post* very pithily says:

"It is stated that Shadrach fled to Canada, and has arrived upon that soil where a slave cannot breathe—as it is reported that the fugitives in that province are starving and freezing to death."

☞ We regret to learn the death of Major M. M. NOAH, of New York, one of the veterans of the press, and an able and accomplished writer. In readiness of repartee, racy humor and strong good sense, he had few equals; and his amenity of temper, and flow of wit, were as conspicuous towards the close, as at the commencement of his career. At one period he wielded no small influence over public opinion—and was one of the "sachems" of the Tammany Hall Democracy at the time of his death.

The readers of the *Sunday Times*, (the last paper which he edited,) will miss the genial humor which enlivened, and the wisdom which extracted sage counsel from the incidents of every day life, while they mourn the cause which has stopped the busy brain and pen that conveyed both in weekly communication to them.

☞ We have been favored with the following extract of a letter from Lieut. W. D. PORTER to a friend in this city:

DEAR SIR:—While in Florence, I spent a pleasant afternoon with Mr. POWERS, and his statues, busts, and goddesses in his studio. He had on a square paper cap and white apron, chisel and file in hand, preparing a model for a statue of which he, while working on it, gave me a full description, remarking at the same time—"Do not mention the subject of this statue, as all new ideas in sculpture are pilfered by Italians." But I may be permitted to remark, that if this beautiful colossal statue is ever finished, it will be worthy of a place (niche) at the seat of government—it is truly American.

A beautiful plaster cast of his California, stood on a pedestal. It represents a goddess, or simply a beautiful woman, having at her feet a cornucopia filled with gold; around her head is a tearce of precious stones; her left hand points a finger to the gold, the right hand is held behind, having in it a bunch of thorns. This statue will no doubt be, with the exception of his *Unknown*, the most beautiful of his productions. He had many other small statues and busts, and among them one of JOHN C. CALHOUN, about half finished, being copied from a plaster cast by Clark Mills. He remarked at the time, that his casts were the best he ever worked from.

I found him sincerely and truly an American in every respect, and to gain access to his house and studio, it is only necessary for him to know you are his countryman.

☞ The Northern papers have been giving currency to a statement, which is conclusively put to rest by the Columbia *Telegraph*. The facts elicited in the rejoinder are very significant and striking:

"John A. Calhoun, son of the illustrious John C. Calhoun, was defeated badly at the late election for delegates to the State convention. He was in favor of State secession, a measure we are certain his father never would have approved."

Thus speaks the Mobile *Advertiser*, but like most of the "significant facts" asserted by the submissionists, the statement is no fact at all. Mr. Calhoun left no son by the name of John A., nor was any son of his a candidate for our convention. If the origin and descent of any delegate elect is a matter of interest, the *Advertiser* can state that a son of General James Hamilton has been elected to the State convention, as a true Southern rights man, on the anti-submission basis. As to Mr. Calhoun's approval of secession, we need say nothing; Mr. Calhoun was an ardent and devoted admirer of the Union *as formed*, and as it should be,(and every Carolinian is) and he would have made all possible sacrifices to it; would have surrendered for it everything except the rights of honor, and equality it was intended to secure. He would have advocated secession when convinced that the Union could not be honorably preserved, and on this ground we do and shall advocate secession. How does the *Advertiser's* statement of Mr. Calhoun's views tally with another favorite assertion of the dirt eaters and submissionsts that South Carolina has been led into her present attitude by blindly following Mr. Calhoun?—*Columbia Telegraph.*

University of Georgia.

The Augusta *Republic* thus refers to this institution:

We have a catalogue for 1850 and 1851, of Franklin College, located at Athens, Georgia, from which we copy the following classification of students. We are are pleased to see it in so flourishing a condition. It has an able and efficient president in the Rev. Dr. Church. The faculty consist of men accomplished as scholars, and of high character as gentlemen.

Seniors	25
Juniors	46
Sophomores	59
Freshmen	25
	155
Not returned	11
In actual attendance	144

This institution is under the patronage of the State, and has for nearly half a century been refunding the money during that time appropriated, in rich streams of intelligence and learning, which it has poured into the bosom of society. It has been the *alma mater* of many of Georgia's most distinguished sons.

LOSS OF THE STEAMER SECRETARY MARCY.—The steamer Secretary Marcy, Captain Wiscott, (of Charleston,) and owned by the master, left Wilmington, (North Carolina,) for Baltimore on the 5th instant, and was wrecked on the night of the 7th instant on Cape-Look-Out. The vessel is lying high and dry at low water on the beach, and the crew have been at work saving all they can. The schooner Monterey went ashore the same time.

THE KENT MASSACRE.—The Cecil Whig of Saturday says:

We do not learn that any later developments tend to fix the perpetration of the Kent murders certain upon any of the parties arrested. We understand there are six persons in prison under suspicion. Another man, named James Fagan, was arrested in Queen Anne's county last week, and taken to the jail at Chestertown, on suspicion of being connected with the affair.

The black woman who was shot is recovering. Nothing conclusive has yet been discovered as to the guilt of any of the parties under arrest, though it is believed that the perpetrators are now arrested.

MYSTERY AND MONEY DIGGING AT SWAMPSCOT, MASS.—The Lynn Bay State gives us the following story:

"We have heard a queer story in relation to the discovery and removal of a treasure, which recently took plase in the thriving village of Swamscot. The story as we hear it, is that two strangers appeared in Swampscot, and obtained board in a private family in the village. After some delay, they produced proper tools, and proceeded to a spot known as "Grass Head," on Farmer's Beach, where they commenced excavating, and after sinking some feet, they discovery and took from the hole a box or boxes, containing, *it is said*, a large amount of money—some say, half a million of dollars, in gold sovereigns. Having accomplished thus much, the strangers disappeared as suddenly as they came, and who they were, or from whence they came, there is at present no means of ascertaining. We have heard vague intimations about a pirate who buried the money, and who afterwards lived and finally died somewhere in New Hampshire, or somewhere else, and who, among his private papers, left directions for the recovery of the hidden treasure."

Southern Platform in Alabama.

LETTER FROM COLONEL THOMAS WILLIAMS.

MONTGOMERY, Feb. 21, 1851.

THOMAS WILLIAMS, ESQ.—Dear sir: On my return to this city, since the adjournment of the convention of the Southern Right Clubs, in looking over the papers—even those professing to sustain the Southern rights doctrines—I have been greatly astonished to find a diversity of opinion as to the meaning of the preamble and resolutions passed by the convention, as well as to the objects and aims had in view. I refer, at this time, more particularly to the Atlas of this date. I do not pretend to know how other members of the convention understood the preamble and resolutions, but I certainly understood them very differently from the construction placed upon them by these journals. Now, my dear sir, as you presided over that body, and had a fair opportunity of scutinizing all that was said and done, will you have the goodness to give me your views, and in such form as that they may be laid before the public!

Yours, very truly,
J. H. CAMPBELL.

MONTGOMERY, Feb. 24, 1851.

Col. J. H. CAMPBELL—*Dear Sir:* I am in receipt of your favor of the 21st instant, and in response, I have to say, that I have seen with regret and surprise that among some of our friends a diversity of opinion is entertained as to the true and common sense meaning of the preamble and resolutions of the late Southern States rights convention, assembled at this place. I think myself no good reason exists for this difference of opinion. I feel quite assured that among the members of the convention, no such difference existed; and I believe a slight attention to the preamble and resolutions themselves will lead us to their one and only true meaning. Let us analyze them—

The first paragraph in the preamble sets forth the purposes of which the government of the United States was formed—and in doing this, the Constitution is quoted as follows:

1st. To form a more perfect Union.
2d. To establish justice.
3d. To ensure domestic tranquility.
4th. To provide for the common defence.
5th. To promote the general welfare. And
6th. To secure the blessing of liberty to ourselves and our posterity.

I understand the Constitution of the United States to declare, that the Union of these States, under the Constitution and government thereof, would ensure to the States and people thereof all these things.

The first declaration of the convention is, that "*these objects have been wilfully disregarded in the administration of the government.*" This is only a declaration of a fact, but is no axiom or principle about which men may differ and dispute. It depends for its belief and truth upon evidence—it is either true or false as an assertion, that the government of the United States for the last thirty years had, in its administration, wilfully, that is to say, intentionally and on purpose, disregarded the great purposes for which the government had been established. So the next declaration in the preamble contains an axiom or principle, upon which men may differ and dispute—but it is likewise a simple declaration of truths insisted on by the convention, to wit: that the pretence upon which this hostile legislation has been based, is, "*that slavery is a moral and political evil*"—this declaration is either true in point of fact, or it is false. The next declaration is of the same character, that is, "*that the end and aim* [of this hostile legislation] *is the emancipation of every slave in the United States.*"

It is evidently manifest that here is only a declaration by the convention of their belief of these facts as true.

It is evidently either true or false, that the majority, in directing the administration, hold,

1st. That slavery is a moral and political evil; and,

2dly. As such, it (slavery) shall be exterminated.

If the majority, directing the administration of the governments, do not hold these propositions, then the convention was mistaken in point of fact—and this, of course, depends upon evidence. The next declaration contained in the preamble will be found on examination to be of the same character as the preceding ones—mere declarations of opinion, dependant for their support alone on evidence. They are—

1st. "That the government (of the United States) is in the hands of a *sectional majority.*"

2d. That *political interests*, and "*concientious convictions of duty* alike urge them to the successful *prosecution of this system*, that is, to the *emancipation of every slave in the Union*" Such are the conviction of the truth of facts as believed and asserted by the convention in their preamble. It follows, if error be here, it is error on facts, and not of axioms, for thus far, no axiom has been set forth by the convention. If our friends agree with the convention in the truth of these assertions as contained and set forth in the preamble to the resolutions, it is well: if not, they ought, in justice to their friends who composed the convention, and to themselves and the country at large, to come out fully and fairly; point out our error in regard to the truth of these facts so believed by us—it may we shall be convinced—surely no good man would madly insist on the truth of that which he knew and felt to be false.

It would require a volume to go through with an analysis of each resolution. This my time will not permit me to do—but I have no hesitancy in saying that it would be an easy task to establish the truth of every fact asserted in these resolutions—and I moreover think the axioms set forth in the resolutions and which alone I consider what our friends call a "platform," are truths equally susceptible of demonstration.

The axioms set forth in the resolutions are the following:

1st. That the government of the United States have no power to restrain the extension of slavery, or of eradicating it in places where it now exists. (See second resolution.)

2d. That it is the *right* of each and any State to dissolve the connection heretofore existing between the State thus acting, and the other States of this Union. See 9th resolution.)

These two resolntions contain, in my humble judgment, the only axioms set forth by the convention—although many other resolutions were passed, yet upon examination it will be found that all the others are based on the truths of certain facts believed and maintained by the convention; and therefore rest for their validity entirely on evidence. These opinions are as follows:

1st. That the legitimate powers of the government have for many years been *perverted by a dominant sectional majority*, to the aggrandizement of the non-slaveholding States, and to the oppression of the slaveholding States. (See first resolution.)

2d. That powers have been exercised "by the government of the United States, for *restraining the extension of slavery*, and for eradicating it where it exists," and this power thus exercised is contrary to the Constitution of the United States; which is contained in our first axiom, as set forth in the second resolution, (which see.)

3d. That by the exercise of these unconstitutional powers, a success has followed, which has radically changed the character of the government, and thus has made the power and dignity of the Union destructive in a very great degree of the *rights and dignity of the States which created it.* (See third resolution.)

4th. That a tame submission to or patient acquiesence, (on the part of the States,) in this legislation, both hostile and unconstitutional, would not be conducive to the peace, happiness, prosperity, or honor of the Southern States. (See fourth resolution.)

5th. That recent events, in full unison with that system of legislation which we have condemned, assure us that there is no reasonable ground on which to base a hope that full and ample redress will be made (even) against future aggression. (See seventh resolution.)

6th. That believing secession to be a *rightful remedy*, and *indeed the only one*, we recommend to the people of this and each of the Southern States, "*to set their house in order with a view to secession.*" Yet we approve of the recommendation of the Nashville Convention, that *the slaveholding States hold a Congress* in November next; and we pledge ourselves to have Alabama fully represented in that body; and therefore we request the governor of this State to convene an extra session of the legislature, with a view to provide by law for the election of delegates; and should the governor refuse to do this, then we recommend to the people themselves, to elect their delegates to meet said Southern Congress. (See 8th and 13th resolutions.)

7th. That in view of the long and continued aggressions of the government upon the rights of the Southern States, and of our unwavering belief that a fixed and abiding spirit to continue this oppression is still alive, and in active operation, and being fully convinced that these aggressions are not only of so long continuance, and so determinately to be persevered in, but moreover so ruinous and dishonoring to the South, while every hope of relief from the government is banished, present as a whole, cause amply sufficient to justify the Southern States, or any one them, in dissolving the present union and connection with the other States; and, therefore, we declare, as our opinion, that with the people of Alabama, the question of secession ought to be reduced to one of time only—and therefore, we recommend, that if the Southern Congress, above recommended, *should declare it to be the duty of the Southern States to secede, and one or more of the States shall secede, or if one or more of the Southern States should do so* even *without such action by the Southern Congress*, in our opinion *the time* for *Alabama to secede will have fully arrived:* for this will be her duty and interest; and moreover, that good faith to such seceding States will require her also to secede, and to use all proper efforts to the formation of a Southern confederacy. (See 10th and 14th resolutions.)

I believe, sir, I have given you a full and fair exposition of the preamble and resolutions adopted by the convention. I confess I do not find anything in them which goes to establish the position that the convention recommended either immediate or remote secession by the State alone, or that the people should wait for other or further aggressions on' the part of the government, or that all should be denounced and abandoned who might differ with the convention—but I think the resolutions do assert that our grievances are such, and have been for the last 30 years, as to justify the State in the act of secession—and that secession is *the clear right of the State*; and is the appropriate and *indeed the only remedy*; and that as no hope remains for redress elsewhere, therefore the *exercise of this remedy* is reduced to a question of *time only*; and, as such, the people should prepare themselves for the final result. It is true, the convention does, on certain events, recommend the State to secede—these events are, that a Southern Congress shall recommend the Southern States to secede, and that one or more of the States shall act in conformity with such recommendation; or if without such recommendation, one or more of the Southern States should secede, then it is recommended that Alabama secede also: and to all this I fully subscribe. Now, my dear sir, how is it with you? do you believe and hold with the convention?

1st. That we have been grievously and unconstitutionally oppressed for 30 years?

2d. That so far from relief coming through the government, that a continuance of these grievances is fixed and settled on, and will, therefore, be urged in all future time, or until the last slave in the Union shall be emancipated?

3d. That it is the *right* of a State to secede, and that this is our only and appropriate remedy?

4th. That union of action with the slaveholding States is sought, and desired, and urged upon the people?

5th. That the aggressions done and past are of a character fully sufficient to justify secession: and therefore you do not wait for further aggression, but that when the proper time arrives, you are ready to secede? If you answer yea to these things, then you have my heart, my hand, and my wishes for your welfare, next to the honor and safety of the South.

THOS. WILLIAMS.

THE VIRGINIA ELECTIONS.—In order to facilitate the correct understanding of the act recently passed by the general assembly for the postponement of the elections, we state the effect of its different provisions, as follows:

The election of representatives in Congress is positively postponed to the fourth Thursday in October.

The election of senators and delegates, under the present constitution, is also postponed to the same day; but if a new constitution shall have been agreed upon by the State convention before the 20th of June, and ratified by the people on the fourth Thursday in August, then the election of senators and delegates under the present constitution is indefinitely postponed.

If the State convention shall have agreed upon a new constitution before the 20th of June, the popular vote on its ratification or rejection is to be taken on the fourth Thursday in August, and voters qualified by the new constitution are to be allowed to vote upon it.

If the new constitution be thus agreed upon and ratified, the election of Senators and Delegates throughout the State will take place according to the apportionment fixed in the new constitution, on the fourth Thursday of October.

If the new constitution be not agreed upon by the convention before the 20th of June, or if it be so agreed upon and then *rejected* by the popular vote on the fourth Thursday in August, the election of members of assembly will take place under the present constitution, on the fourth Thursday in October.

If the new constitution be not agreed upon by convention before the 20th of June, but before the 1st of August, then the popular vote is to be taken upon its ratification or rejection, on the fourth Thursday in October, the same day on which the congressional and legislative elections are fixed.

If the convention do not prepare a new constitution before the first of August, the act makes no provision for its being submitted to the popular vote, but leaves the matter to the care of the next legislature.

The convention now offers (says the *Times*) but a poor prospect for the promulgation of a new constitution before the 10th of June, and the probability is, therefore, that the present organic law will govern the elections to the next general assembly.

Mr. Johnson, who is engaged on the railroad, about six miles from this city, near McMahon's, discovered a tusk of a gigantic animal, embedded in pure sand, about sixteen feet below the surface, on a level piece of ground, a quarter of a mile from the river. Above the place where the tusk was found, are large quantities of gravel, and one hundred rods off a high hill filled with limestone and sandstone. The tusk was not less than six and a half feet long, at the large end where it was broken, say two feet down, it measured eighteen inches in circumference, and tapered to a point not larger than a hen's egg.—The specimens at our office are soft, friable, chalky, and of a beautiful fibre. Had it been preserved whole, and boiled in a chemical mixture to harden it, this tusk would have been worth hundreds of dollars. What was the size of that animal whose tusk measures six and a half feet?—*Wheeling Argus.*

NEW YORK March 18, 1851.

Major Noah, who has been connected with the press as printer, editor and publisher, for a half century or more, died this afternoon from the effects of a paralytic attack which he had some weeks ago.

The American steamer Pacific sails to-morrow for Liverpool, and takes out four hundred thousand dollars in specie.

There were three hundred thousand dollars paid from the sub-treasury to-day on account of the Mexican indemnity.

From the Mobile Herald and Tribune.

It will be recollected that an attempt was made among the Washington politicians not long ago to get up what is called a Union party. It was to be inaugurated on Washington's birthday, and the memory of that good man was to be invoked as its capital in purity. The object, however, failed, and nothing was heard of the thing on the day fixed for its accouchment.

The convention of Georgia started the idea, and provided for a grand Union exhibition at Macon, on Washington's birthday, for the purpose of organizing a State Union party. It also was a failure. Very few persons attended it, and these, it is stated were mostly politicians.

Laborious efforts were made in New York city for a similar purpose, the grand rallying point of the preliminaries being, as in the other cases, Washington's birthday. This was likewise a failure—although, taken altogether, it was a rather imposing occasion, but its defect was that it had no moral strength. It had its origin in a mercenary and trading spirit. It was got up and controlled by men who live by keeping the South in subserviency to the mercantile interest of the North—for no one believes that if this selfish motive had been absent or inactive, we should have had any of the laborious meetings—the preparation of costly circulars, &c., &c., which the men who had it in charge resorted to—many of whom have been all their lives opposed to slavery—have baited the South on all sides, and only become patriotic for the Union, when they found their notions were likely to end in its dissolution and the consequent annihilation of the rich harvests they have all their lives been reaping in the South.

These grovelling motives have defeated themselves. The New York meeting met with no sympathy outside of that city, and it is no more an exposition of the opinion of the people of the State than would be a few Southern sentiments propagated by Rynders and his crew.

There was another defect in these meetings. They proposed no definite plan to effect their end, and no one could fail to observe that under the vague cry of union which they adopted, every sort of fraudulent party purpose might be readily achieved, if the people were credulous enough to fall into the trap. What is good Union doctrine in New York, is not so here. What is good doctrine in New York is not good in Boston. In the former place it is considered justice to the South to deprive it of all share in the territories. In Boston this is also the platform, with the privilege of nullifying or adopting means to repeal the laws which Congress may impose for the extradition of fugitive slaves. In the interior of New York, the sentiment is generally the same as that of Boston. It is very plain, therefore, that there could be no such bond of union such as was proposed between these different sections.

The whole plan consequently failed, and the labor of those who devised it has been entirely lost.

We desire above all things to see the Union preserved in its fundamental purity, and the only way to effect this object is to rally a party on distinct and definitive principles, so worded that every man can read and understand them. Less than this will not accomplish the purpose. Subterfuges and generalizations can only defer not prevent confusion and disunion.

From the Memphis Appeal.

THE PRESIDENT'S PROCLAMATION AND MESSAGE.—The late proclamation and message of President Fillmore are the most extraordinary documents that ever emanated from a President of the United States. The appearance of the former, immediately after a second successful attempt to reclaim a fugitive slave under the great *pacific* measures, was unanimously hailed by the Fillmore and submission press of the South, with demonstrations of enthusiasm, as if, "at one fell swoop," it demolished the whole Abolition party of the North, effectually crushed all resistance to the execution of the Fugitive slave law, and saved the Union! Yet what is it? It is an empty mockery—as powerless as the paper on which it was written. It in terms admits a second "flagitious" violation of law in the cradle of liberty," contains the oft repeated and never fulfilled declaration of the President to see that the Fugitive slave law shall be faithfully executed and a *reminder* to all "well-disposed citizens" and to the officers of the United States to discharge their *sworn duty! Brutum fulmen!*—Yet for this array of high sounding words, he is proclaimed by Southern men a moral hero—a second Curtius, leaping into the gulf of patriotism for the good of Rome! Has it come to this, that the men of the South will, for a string of words, sell their constitutional rights? What efficacy, we repeat, has this proclamation?—Does any man, not absolutely idiotic, suppose that its appeal to the "well-disposed citizens" of Boston is of any binding legal force, or that it will be heeded? Does its reminder to officers to discharge their duty add a whit to the strength of their sworn obligations? Is it not rather an admission that both citizens and officers have been most grossly remiss? And does it not *force* the inference that the latter should be instantly dismissed.

But to the message. It is but a "lame and important conclusion" to the wretched farce begun with the proclamation. It is a miserable attempt to keep himself in a position, (to use his own words) of "firmness *moderation* and *prudence*," containing glaring inconsistencies and evasions. It asserts that "it (the rescue) violates, without question, the general sentiment of the people of Boston, and of a vast majority of the whole people of Massachusetts." Yet this same model message of the model President—the choice of the Enquirer for the next term—quotes a LAW of Massachusetts inflicting heavy penalties upon any judge, justice, sheriff, jailor or other officer who shall in any way assist the officers of the United States in executing the Fugitive slave law! Does this sustain the statement of the President in regard to the "general sentiment of a vast majority of the people of Massachusetts," or does it give it a flat contradiction? In fact, the President himself states that the Massachusetts law was intended to make it *penal* for all officers and magistrates of the commonwealth to execute the powers conferred upon them by act of Congress for the reclamation of fugitive slaves, and second, "to refuse the use of jails for the detention of any persons claimed as fugitive slaves!" Was ever such inconsistency? It out Munchausens Munchausen.

The President states too that the rescue was "*not attended by some degree of negligence,*" (how "moderate" he is!) that where the use of State jails is refused, the marshal is required by law to hire a temporary jail, and that this the marshal utterly *neglected to do.* Yet what does he say of this? Truly now all exclaim he has no doubt removed that basely delinquent officer without a moment's hesitation, as we believe was predicted by the Eagle. He is the model President. He will "see that the laws be faithfully executed." He is a "firm, moderate and prudent man." He will give us a better officer. Such is the cry of all submissiondom. Well, what does "the man for the crisis" do? What does he say? "If it shall appear that no such place (a temporary jail) has been obtained, *directions to the marshal will be given to loose no time in the discharge of this duty!!*" Awful retribution! Unfortunate, ill fated marshal!!—How again can you walk erect among your fellow-men, under the terrible punishment of "*directions to do your duty!*" Long live the model President! He shall have a monument more endurable than *brass!* At least it shall be more enduring than the brass that will be required of the Eagle and Enquirer, to pass off the proclamation and message as worthy of a "man for the crisis." We wait to see what the Fillmore and submission, self-styled men of the South have to say of these documents; whether they will servilely kiss the rod that smites them, or give vent to just and manly indignation for the wrongs of the South.

☞ We rejoice to learn that the Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON has been re-nominated for Congress unanimously and by acclamation, in the Richmond, (Va.) District.

From the Hayneville (Ala.) Chronicle.

Hon. W. J. Alston, representative in Congress from the Mobile district, in a letter to the editor of the Mobile Register, giving his reasons for not signing the pledge of the late Mutual Insurance Company, uses this language:

"Although these [compromise] measures were not such as I desired, yet, thinking then as now, that they were the best the South could obtain to secure her rights, and the controversy being narrowed down to an acceptance of them or a dissolution of the Union, I believe it better to acquiesce in them than to embrace the other alternative of shivering into fragments a government, the freest, happiest, and most prosperous with which the world has ever been blessed."

The doctrine of the "best-we-can-get," somehow always grates horribly upon our ear. It has the appearance to us of the fore-runner, the harbinger of events yet more calamitous. When a free people are found so lost to a sense of duty to themselves, and what they owe to a vindication of their just rights, as to submit to, or acquiesce in wrongs, because these wrongs are no worse than they are, or to yield up their clear and constitutional rights through fear of certain other evils, we have very little hope that this people can long remain free. It is a fact taught us not only by the past history of the world, but one which common sense dictates, that when a nation, time after time, submits to wrong and injustice from its enemies, it will in a great measure lose its self-respect, or that regard for its honor which alone is its safeguard from oppression; and when this is the case, subjugation will follow.

The present is not the first time the South has had to complain of wrong and oppression from her Northern foe, not by many; but she has uniformly borne it with meekness, and contented herself with remonstrating with her enemy. These remonstrances have as uniformly been disregarded by the North, and her aggressions have been pushed with a still more determined zeal, until it seems to us that more danger is to be apprehended from submission, than from resistance, on the part of the South, even to a dissolution of the Union. We consider the late measures of compromise, so called, as a part of a series, set on foot by the enemies of the institution of slavery, for its destruction, which, in our opinion, unless something be done by the South, will not remain long unaccomplished; and viewing it in this light, the question with us is, submission to the abolition of slavery throughout the South, or resistance even to a withdrawal of the State from the Union. With this view of it, we should not hesitate to choose the latter.

From the Wetumpka (Ala.) State Guard.

SOUTH CAROLINA.—About two-thirds of the districts of this State have been heard from, in the recent election for members to the State convention which is to assemble soon, for the purpose of taking into consideration what course that noble and chivalrous State will take to remedy the gross and palpable wrongs inflicted upon the Southern States by the people of the Abolition States, through the power of Congress. And there is no mistaking, in our opinion, what is the position of South Carolina upon this momentous question. The secessionists have, so far, very near the entire convention; there are not more than five or six delegates in the entire convention, so far, but hold the secession of that State from the confederacy as absolutely the remedy as well as the honorable duty, in co-operation with other Southern States if co-operation can be had, but alone if co-operation cannot be had. There are no out and out submission members of the convention. The expediency of secession is not denied, but as to the time when it shall take place, will be a matter for the convention to take into consideration when it assembles. From all that we can learn, we are clearly of the opinion that South Carolina will not be a member of the confederacy twelve months.

Her people being more intelligent as a mass, than those of any other State in the confederacy, renders them more fit judges of the policy that should be pursued than any other Southern State—the finances are the best, and in fact South Carolina is the only State in the government prepared for secession from this unjust, illiberal, and rascally confederation. Should South Carolina take this course, (which is the wish of her people,) it will bring about a state of affairs never known in this government; and when one State resumes her sovereign capacity, and denies all powers and exercises of power, for acts of bad faith on the part of other members of the confederacy, other States will follow, unless the causes are speedily removed, and "indemnity for the past, and security for the future," is given and entered into by every member of the confederation.

The federalists of this country pretend to say that if one of the members of the confederacy should withdraw, and assume the original powers of the colonies, it would be the duty of the general government, or rather the President, to enforce certain laws of a general character within the jurisdiction of that State, and especially to see that the tariffs and import duties be collected from every foreign article that enters the ports of such seceding State. This is a grave question, and should the powers of the general government be used in an attempt at such, and be sustained, then we say this is no longer a government of republicanism and democracy—the names of such men as Washington, Franklin, and the other fathers of our government would be forgotten, and a central government, with all the despotisms and evils, would soon follow.

The South-side (Va.) *Democrat* referring to the correspondence between the British Consul and Gov. Means, uses the following language:

The correspondence between the British Consul at Charleston and the governor of South Carolina, in relation to the imprisonment of British free negro sailors, seems to be exciting considerable attention in England. We are not sure that Great Britain will not demand that the federal government shall procure the repeal of the obnoxious law. If such demand be made, of course the present Secretary of State will submit; for, so far, he has shown himself the pliant tool of England's minister. It behoves, then, the Southern States to determine, whether they mean to permit themselves to be forced to repeal certain laws which they have a right to enact, and which are necessary to the preservation of public safety. It is an incident of sovereignty not surrendered by the States, that they are free to make whatsoever laws are necessary to the maintainance of their internal security and safety. Thus, they have a right to enact quarantine laws to protect their citizens from pestilence and disease, and any treaty or law of the federal government in conflict with this right, instead of destroying the right, is itself null and void. So in regard to the law under discussion. It is intended, and indeed is absolutely necessary for the protection of the citizens of the Southern States. South Carolina was driven to the enactment of the law by the machinations of foreign free negro sailors, who attempted to excite insurrection in Charleston. Are we prohibited the enactment of a law which is essential to public order and safety? Or does this right remain to us, notwithstanding the treaties of the federal government? It is time the Southern States were settling these questions, for they will be called upon before long to act in reference to them. We trust they maintain their right to enact a law so essential to the safety of their citizens.

A FUGITIVE SLAVE RECLAIMED.—On Saturday last, George W. Mason, of Daviess county, Ky., arrested a colored man by the name of Mitchum, who, with his wife and children, resided about four miles from Vernon. Mr. Mason introduced proof to the satisfaction of Mr. Basnett, a justice of the peace, that Mitchum was his slave and had fled from service nineteen years ago, when the justice delivered the fugitive to his master, who left for his home on Wednesday.—*Madison (Ia.) Banner, 21st.*

COMMISSIONERS FOR THE MILITARY ASYLUM.—We are informed that the board of commissioners upon whom has been devolved the duty of selecting a location for the proposed Military Asylum, authorized by an act of the last session of Congress, are nearly ready to set upon their mission of examination. It is composed of the following distinguished gentlemen: Gen. Scott, General-in-Chief; Generals Wool and Twiggs, commanding the Eastern and Western Divisions of the Army; General Jesup, of the Quartermaster's Department; Gen. Gibson, of the Subsistence Department; Gen. Towson, (Colonel Larned) acting, of the Paymaster's Department; Gen. Lawson, Surgeon-General, and Gen. Jones, the Adjutant-General. Within the next ten days they purpose to visit Mount Vernon, and some other Eastern points, after which a portion of the board will extend their examinations to the vicinity of New Orleans, and thence up the Mississippi and Ohio rivers. They will probably be absent some five or six weeks.—*Nat. Int.*

THE VIRGINIA ELECTIONS.—The Richmond Times corrects a misapprehension in relation to the law just passed by the legislature, postponing the elections in Virginia. The Congressional election is positively postponed till the fourth Thursday of October, on which day members of the legislature are also to be chosen, under the present constitution; but if the new constitution be agreed upon by the 20th of June, and ratified by the people on the 4th Thursday of August, then they are to be elected under it on the 4th Thursday in October. If the new constitution be not agreed upon by the convention before the 20th of June, but before the 1st of August, then the popular vote for its ratification shall also be taken on the 4th Thursday in October. If not agreed upon before the 1st of August, the next legislature is to provide for taking the popular vote upon it. The probability is, that all the elections will be held under the present constitution.

TELEGRAPHIC.

[Telegraphed for the Southern Press.]

BOSTON, March 19, 1851.

Boston, to-day, nineteehth ballot, Sumner lacked nine of being elected. Election postponed for two weeks.

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March 17—d.tw-w.

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March 17—d-t-w-w

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March 19.