New Orleans Daily Crescent.

SATURDAY MORNING, JANUARY 12, 1861.

SECESSION.

To read the effusions of the Black Republican press, one would suppose that secession was only another word for treason. They assert, with vehement audacity, that the Union was intended to be perpetual—that it was never in the contemplation of the framers of the Constitution that the States which entered into the Union should have the right to withdraw. They quote from the articles of Confederation the words "perpetual Union," omitting, however, to state that these words were left out of the Constitution subsequently formed, and that the "perpetual Union" which was spoken of in the Articles of Confederation, far from *being perpetual*, lasted only a very few years. If the States, under the articles of confederation, could break up a *perpetual* Union, why may they not do the same under the Constitution, where nothing is said about the Union being perpetual?

But, is the claim of the right of secession such a new thing that Abolitionism must needs raise its hands in such holy horror at it? Not at all. On the contrary, it was a right claimed by some of the framers of the Constitution itself, and something about which the States were so scrupulous that some of them took the earliest opportunity, as soon after the adoption of the Constitution as they saw this right in danger of being overshadowed and nullified by the Federal Government, to declare by solemn resolutions of their General Assemblies the same principles upon this subject that they have ever since maintained and defended—the doctrine of State Rights and State Sovereignty. We refer, of course, to the celebrated Virginia and Kentucky Resolutions of '98 and '99. In less than ten years after the Constitution went into operation, these two States made it their special business to assert this right, in order that there might be no mistake about it so far as they were concerned, and the resolutions adopted at that time have been cherished and defended ever since as expressive of the position held by the States of the Union towards the Central Federal Government.

What were those resolutions? We quote first from the Virginia resolutions, the third of the series:

3. That this Assembly does explicitly and peremptorily declare, that it views the powers of the Federal Government, as resulting from the compact, to which the States are parties, as limited by the plain sense and intention of the instrument constituting that compact—as no further valid than they are authorized by the grants enumerated in that compact; and that *in case of a deliberate, palpable and dangerous exercise of other powers, not granted by the said compact, the States who are parties thereto, have the right and are in duty bound, to interpose, for arresting the progress of the evil, and for maintaining, within their respective limits, the authorities, rights and liberties appertaining to them.*

Language could not well be plainer than that. It expressly asserts the right of the States to "maintain, *within their respective limits*," the reserved rights belonging to them, whenever there is a "deliberate, palpable and dangerous exercise" of unauthorized powers by the Federal Government.

The Kentucky resolutions are fuller, and—if possible—still more emphatic. The draft of them was prepared by Thomas Jefferson himself. We quote the first of the series:

Resolved, That the several States composing the United States of America are not united on the principles of *unlimited submission to the General Government*; but that by compact under the style and title of a Constitution for the United States, and of amendments thereto, they constituted a general government for special purposes, delegated to that government certain definite powers, reserving each State to itself the residuary mass of right to their own self-government, and that whenever the general government assumes undelegated powers, its acts are unauthoritative, void and of no force; that to this compact, each State acceded *as a State*, and is an *integral* party; that this government, created by this compact, was not made the exclusive or final judge of the extent of the powers delegated to itself; since that would have made its discretions and not the Constitution, the measure of its powers; but, that as in all other cases of compact, among parties having no common judge, *each party has an equal right to judge for itself as well as of infractions as of the mode and measures of redress.*

There can be no mistaking such declarations as these. The claim is distinctly asserted, first that the States are not united on the principles of "unlimited submission"—the clear inference from which is that there is a "limit" to their submission, and they then are not bound to submit if they choose to do otherwise. Then it is affirmed that each State went into the Union "*as a State*," and is an *"integral"* part of the Union—that is, that no State surrenders her individuality by going into the Union, but retains the right of State sovereignty in respect of everything not specifically granted, namely, the right to recall even the granted powers, or to resume absolute and unqualified sovereignty as declared in the closing clause of the resolution, where each party has "the right to judge for itself, as well of "*infractions*" as of the "common compact of the Constitution," as of the "*mode and measure of redress!*"

Thus, then, the doctrine of State sovereignty, so from being something new, is as old as the Constitution itself—in fact older. And these resolutions were only the offspring of the jealousy with which the States guarded the right; so fearful were they that the Federal Government would acquire power to overstrip the States in their sovereign capacities as such, respectively.

Even in the Articles of Confederation, the first article, after proclaiming the name and title of the confederation, is that "each State retains its sovereignty, freedom and independence."

The claim of the right of secession is not only a new claim, but it is one derived from the conditions, as well as the mode, by which each individual State ratified the Federal Compact. To assert the opposite—to declare that the States are bound to the Union under all circumstances forever, and for all time, no matter under what conditions of oppression, tyranny and disgrace, to destroy the very basis of Republican liberty—is treason.

We conclude this article with an extract from Mr. Fillmore's speech in 1856 to the people of New York, in which he admits the *justifiableness* of the "disruption" of the Government under precisely the circumstances that have now occurred:

Millard Fillmore, when a candidate against Fremont, said:

We see a political party presenting candidates for the Presidency and Vice-Presidency, selected for the first time from the free States alone, with the avowed purpose of electing those candidates by the suffrages of one part of the Union only, to rule over the whole United States. Can it be possible that those who are engaged in such a measure have seriously reflected upon the consequences which must inevitably follow in case of success? Can they have the madness or folly to suppose that our Southern brethren would submit to be governed by such a Chief Magistrate?

* * * * * * *

Suppose that the South, having a majority of the electoral votes, should declare that they would only have shareholders for President and Vice-President, and should select such by their exclusive suffrages to rule over us at the North. Do you think we would submit to it? No, not for a moment. And do you believe that your Southern brethren are less sensitive on this subject than you are, or less jealous of their rights? If you do, let me tell you that you are mistaken! And, therefore, you must see that if this sectional party succeeds, it leads inevitably to the destruction of this beautiful fabric reared by our forefathers, cemented by their blood, and bequeathed to us as a precious inheritance.

TALK ON 'CHANGE.

The weather was propitious for the usual gatherings and promenading on Carondelet street and environs yesterday. On the grand boulevard, Canal, the frequenters were not as numerous. Since the Post-office has been moved to old Levee street, Canal and Royal streets seem to be deserted, particularly in the early part of the day. Persons having business down or through le petite Royal can now pass without interruption. The great crowd of idlers, would-be recipients of correspondence, can now be seen daily at the intersection of Canal and old Levee streets. Though the pavements and sidewalks are very broad in that neighborhood, nevertheless they are thronged day after day, and many of the congregators do not appear to have any particular occupation only the spinning of street yarns. Passing along to the grand Levee, it was observed to be very lively and animated there. The arrivals of several rich argosies from the West, also several large loads of cotton, gave great indications of business in all its various ramifications. Produce, that is, breadstuffs and provisions are arriving daily. The great Illinois railroad, we learn, is crowded with freight en route for our market; in fact, produce is coming all the way from Chicago to our cash market, the only real cash market on this continent. On the opening of navigation in the Upper Mississippi and tributaries, we look for a very large increase in receipts. We again repeat to the great West and Northwest, send forward the contents of your warehouses, we have stores of hard money here to exchange for it. New Orleans will be a real free port, and no obstruction to commerce need be apprehended.

Talking of charges and onerous taxation on commerce, brought up the question of quarantine charges. We must relieve our great trade of all restrictions. The detention of ten days, for four months of the year, of vessels arriving from ports in the tropics, without sickness on board, is a great hardship. All the charges, fees and exactions collected through our quarantine laws can be greatly reduced, if not entirely avoided by the repeal and abrogation of our quarantine statutes. In the end all these charges and exactions have mostly to come off of cotton, as every ship owner, in making arrangements for freight and the cost of sailing his vessel, takes into calculation all these little charges, so called. The fees and detentions of vessels, the time lost, if calculated by dollars and dimes, amount to over fifty thousand dollars per annum. What benefit or advantage to our city the quarantine laws are, has not yet been discovered. The desire is, that our port shall be in reality and truly a free port. To accomplish and carry out this desire, our quarantine laws ought to be abolished altogether, or so modified as to reduce charges and fees to one-half of what they now are.

This subject will deserve the attention of our Legislature at the coming session. The talk is, there are many other little matters, apparently they seem to be, but really important in the aggregate, which require attention. Let New Orleans be really and truly a free port.

There are many charges and fees at our Custom-house which can be very well reduced. The inquiry is, "When will the great Custom-house building be completed?" This is a very hard and intricate question. It justice had been dealt out to our State the money to complete it ought to have been appropriated long ago. During the last nine years there have been collected through our Custom-house, in the way of duties alone on importations of merchandise, $22,131,000. To collect this sum has cost about $2,500,000, leaving the great sum of nearly $20,000,000 drawn out of Louisiana and spent elsewhere. True, we have received back about three millions of dollars for the unfinished building now used for Custom-house and Post-office purposes. Then how many millions of dollars the General Government has received for sales of public land in Louisiana for the same time, will count up by additional millions. To the amount of duties received can be added the fees and charges attending all revenue business, the entrance and clearance of vessels, amounting to other millions of dollars. How much have we received back, is a question. We have, however, possession of Fort Pike, Forts St. Philip and Jackson, and the Baton Rouge Arsenal, which will reduce the balance. In the meantime, there has been no talk of Fort Wood in Chef Menteur Pass, or rather of its being taken possession of. Then there is Fort Livingston, at Barataria, requires looking after. We have a very large balance against our venerable uncle, the Federal Government that was. It is not supposed that Louisiana's share of the ships of war, which she has contributed towards building and equipping, will be made good to her at the separation or withdrawal next month.

There was some talk that other banks intended to follow the course of the Southern Bank in tendering loans to the State for the impending crisis. The old State Bank will, it is supposed, be prepared with a quarter of a million to half a million of dollars. How our quondam citizen, Dr. Morgan, will like the Canal Bank to come forward with a couple of hundred thousand, we cannot say. We hope the Doctor will at once give the "prescription," notwithstanding his recorded views against secession, before the New York Board of Currency are so strong against the Southern Confederacy.

The usual weekly circular of the coffee market will be found in the usual column. The stock shows some decrease from last year, say 23,212 bags. The article appears to be steady in prices and no speculation attending movements.

Hotel Arrivals Yesterday.

ST. CHARLES HOTEL.—M Toulmin, Mobile; C A Harris, Dr Thomas de Zespedez and lady, A T Glover, W Croom, Ala; C B Darrow, J D Emison, R D Miller, Geo L Walton, D Buckner, H S Nichols, W H Stirling, F A Henderson, D Michel, La; Mrs Mitchell, Miss M Mitchell; Geo Standen, S G Watson, J B Steel, N Y; Geo Moody, Tenn; Joe McGavock and wife; Wm C Martin, E T Baird and lady, W L Jackson, A E Hinson, J Harrison, C R Crosse, G W Newman, N S White, Thos W Wilson, Miss; J M Daniel and lady, Jos Edmondson, Jas D Hawkins, Tex; R A Bell and family, Mr Buckner, Miss Anderson, T R Botts, Ky; S McDonald, A R Moor, River; M Smith, Mo; Gen T B Flourney, Ark; R Patrin, Bienville; W Thompson, Rapides; D S Johnston, Ga; Lieut H Randal, U S A.

CITY HOTEL.—Wm Sittham, S J Taylor, Mr Rae, Mr Wilson, W McRae, J E Ogden, Jos Davis, D H Hayes, J S Hayes, Mrs Hayes, Miss Hayes, Mrs McKee, R P Glasscock, W P Glasscock, J E Lindsay, T D Gorden, J F Carraway, La; Mrs M Adkinson, Miss Mary A Mills; V V Wood, J C Dickie, Miss L A Dickie, Miss M H Dickie, Mrs Stuart, R Stuart, E A Harper, Dr J R Robson, Texas; W W Wallace; W R Johnson, Mrs J B Walker Jr, J H Walker, Col D S Butler, P W Walker, Georgia; E M Gray, J Blake and lady, Mrs Beal, Miss Myott, S R Blake & Bro, B Shackelford, Ala; J V Parker, W Harper, Ark; G W Walston; E T Walston; Mrs S W Warren, Jas M Brabston, A T Owens, S J Barber, G W Hardy, J S Bradley, B S Covington, Miss; J P Smith and lady; B A Lewis, Va; J A Wade, Ga; J M Lucky, F A E Anderson, W R Fuller, Texas; J P Walls, B W Y Newport, A Townsend, E Wilson, B F Young, A J Pennington, H J Heard, W W Dunn, J J Law, Z Childers, W H Pier, J T Buckingham, T J Royster, La; J A Roby, R W Hemphill, N S White, J J Hyde, J F Feldman, Miss; A J Norwood, Clinton; W Fax M D; E C McBride, D P Bateman, J K Herd; F L Johnson, Ala; H G Carson, Mo.

ST. LOUIS HOTEL.—W S Hoard, Mrs V R Hoard, H Smith, W C Clage, E Vanbeem, R Shoemaker, J G Colly, Jno D Tenlini, Miss; Col Jno R Fellows; A E Reed, city; Jno Grant, Mobile; Jno G Welch, Madeira; B Johnson, Dr L G Perkins, Miss E L Smith, W C Smith, J B Smith, A M Gamelet, W C Chastant, La; A de Radepont, Paris; E W Taylor, Texas; Jas O Hingworth.

ST. JAMES HOTEL.—E Johns, city; J Reynolds, W G McDonald, G B Harris, R B Davis, A L Steele, T N Steele, Mr Emerson, A G Johnson, Tex; Mrs Woodward, Mrs Watkins, Ala; Mrs G Mosner, Va; W H Gibson, J F Wagoner and lady, Tenn; C H Nelson, G G Harper, W N Haynes, A Nygatt, R B Abott, Miss; Mrs J W Pratt, Mo; A S Semple, Ark; J Barnet.

VERANDA HOTEL.—Dr Reedy, E G Castle, A H Humphrey, Col Sam Dickins, D W Morris, Mrs Bergen, J B Storer, J W Geddes, J Overland and lady, Wm Barnes and lady, La; J McSellan, S B Decker, A N McKay and lady, Jno Dickson, Jas McRae and lady, G Parsons, C Edmunds and lady, J J Harvey, H H Harver, Mrs Sanders, Tex; H Connors, S M McBean, B Fortner, L Sawyer, Wm Hester, Miss; A G Steger; C Royal, St Louis; S B Simms, Ohio; A L Gibbs, Conn; T Y Bath, Baltimore.

☞Dr. Charles E. Kells, Dentist, No. 153 Canal street, between Carondelet and Baronne, New Orleans.

A Portuguese giant, represented to be upwards of eight feet high, has arrived at Madrid, and is about to be exhibited.

THE SHERIFF will sell at auction this day at noon, at the City Hotel, Common street, valuable building lots in the Third District. See advertisement.

SUPERIOR HOUSE SERVANTS AT AUCTION.—We are requested to call the attention of our readers to the sale of slaves this day at the City Hotel by Messrs. C. E. Gharday & Co., auctioneers. Sale commences at 12 o'clock.

NEW ORLEANS DAILY CRESCENT.

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HAVANA CORRESPONDENCE.

[Special to the New Orleans Crescent.]

HAVANA, Jan. 7, 1861.

Mr. Editor—I hallooed before we were "out of the woods" in stating there had not been a single suspension or failure among the commercial men of this city during the present crisis. Alas! alas! There have been several downright failures and suspensions, of which the following are publicly spoken of: Los Sobines, Arzuerra & Martinez, a house which had not, I believe, any business connections with the United States; the large and wealthy house of Mora & Alphonso, (who have intimate business connections in New York). Their liabilities amount to a million of dollars, and they have given, it is understood, their creditors a lien as security upon property worth three millions, and go on with their business, to pay their debts in one, two and three years. Drayn & Co., of this city, have failed, and Mr. Drayn is stated to have "absconded." The house of Plajand & Co., of Matanzas, has also, it is said, failed. My heart is quite sick at the many numerous reports of houses in this city and island being "shaky"—houses hitherto considered as perfect *Gibraltars* in strength, and I will not repeat any one of those reports, which I look upon as sheerly malicious and not founded in truth. The house of Mora & Alphonso, above referred to, possesses immense wealth, from six to eight millions' worth of property; so that it is ridiculous to suppose, with an indebtedness of scarcely a million of dollars, any man will eventually lose a cent by them. How cruel though must have been the pressure that compelled such a firm to call a meeting of their creditors. Some idea of the tightness of money may be formed by the following circumstance. Señor Aldama, the wealthy creole, I hear required the immediate use of a hundred thousand dollars, and applied to the Spanish Bank of Havana for that amount. Security was asked of him, and he gave a lien upon property valued at three millions of dollars!

The usual weekly statement of the Spanish Bank of Havana was not published until 24 inst., when it appeared that between 25th and 31st ult., it had increased its line of discounts $712,162 71. I am sorry however to add that from 31st ult. to the 5th of the present, the line of discounts of the bank has been *decreased* by the trifling amount of $8080 14, a sum too small probably to effect any injury beyond exhibiting the great want of confidence that so universally prevails in this community, and which doubtless has been productive of so much real mischief.

I will conclude this disagreeable subject by translating an extract from the *Aurora*, Matanzas newspaper of 2d inst. It says:

The merchants and capitalists of that city are giving proofs of the most flattering prudence; they know how to "make up" with hard times, and wait as long as possible for money due to them.

"We have learned too with pleasure," adds the same paper, "those who possessed capital, meet their engagements as they would in ordinary times. Such a course of conduct leads us to hope will give similar results as in 1857, during which crisis our city (Matanzas) suffered less than any other in the Island."

And now for some items of intelligence of a less heart-sickening character.

On New Year's morning, when Thomas Savage, Esq., United States Vice-Consul General, entered the United States Consulate, he was presented with a magnificent telescope, by Auguste Westerling, Esq., who, in a brief, but well timed and heartfelt, I doubt not, address, said the telescope had been purchased by Charles J. Helm, Esq., United States Consul-General, W. H. Fairchild, (himself, Mr. Westerling) H. C. Hall, C. del Castillo, P. Schnabileus and R. Neisch, Esq., and by Captains J. B. Nicholls, J. Simpson, J. Chase and Taylor, as a slight token of their personal regards for Mr. Savage, than whom the public man does not breathe more worthy of general estimation. Suave in his department, and ever ready to give any information in his power to all who are entitled to it, he is a very model United States official, who has won all our hearts by his general kindness. Heavenly knows how the United States Consulate-General in this city would get along were he to leave it.

The following law statistics and statistics of crime in this city and Island, are derived from the address of Don Leon Enriquez, who was appointed Regente (Chief Justice) for the occasion of the opening of the Real Audiencia Pretorial, (Supreme Court) which event took place on 2d inst., with all the solemnity, etc., etc., customary upon the occasion.

CIVIL CASES.—In 1859 there were 1087 civil trials and 358 left to be adjudged in 1859, making a total for 1859 of 2222 civil trials. In 1860 there were 1581 civil trials and 640 left to be adjudged this year, making a total for 1860 of 2221; 51 trials less than in the preceding year—judged in the court of last appeal, in this Island, 152 cases; by the military and naval courts, 17 cases; remaining untried, 450 cases.

CRIMINAL CASES.—Criminal trials, including 27 articles by relation of notaries, 28 appeals and 159 "omissions of jurisdiction," 5839. So that, only were called 5181 cases, and 435 remaining untried of 1859. This is ten trials less than were tried in 1859. There remains to be tried in 1861, 388 criminal cases.

Of the 5068 criminal cases in 1860, 1373 were for offenses against the person; 2333 against property, and 27 only against "honor" (cases of rape, etc., I suppose, is meant) of that total number only 258 of the criminals could read and write, and 2739 could do neither. Number of criminals known, arrested, 2347; unknown, not arrested, 1195; natives, whites, of Spain and Cuba, 2201; foreigners, 461; negroes, natives of the Island, 946; negroes, Africans, 154; criminals escaped, after arrest, 343; whites, 282; mulattoes, 8; negroes, 53; treacherous murders, (assassinations) 4; voluntary murders, in fights, etc., 145; 23 criminals during the year 1860 were condemned to death by the "vile garrotte."

Does not the foregoing, supposing it to be strictly correct, exhibit a lamentable state of public morals? It is worthy, perhaps, of observation, the number of sentences to death for 1859 is not given, and unfortunately, I have destroyed my note book of last year. I shall endeavor to preserve the one for the present year, so as in 1862 to be able to see if crime be on the increase.

His Excellency the Captain-General has approved of a plan drawn up for the drainage of this city and its jurisdiction, and which, it is stated, will serve also for the distribution of water throughout the city from "Vento," by the aqueduct of *Isabel Segunda*. The work has been given to Don Francisco de Alvear, who is to be assisted by certain civil architects and several military men. It is hoped the entire work will be completed in two years.

The 3d inst. would appear to have been a day when the dogs were in a bad temper, two or three persons having been bitten by them on that day. It is worthy of being observed that dogs never (at least I have never seen one during a residence of more than a score years) get the hydrophobia in the West Indies.

Near Matanzas is a large cavern called the Cave of Yumaci. Recently three Frenchmen attempted to explore it. One of them, more adventurous than his companions, "went ahead" so far that when he desired to return he could not find his way back. His two friends missing him, advised the police of what had occurred, and the police immediately commenced a thorough exploration of the cavern, during the Frenchman after he had been lost eleven hours.

The 6th inst. (old twelfth day) is called here "King's Day," when, until noon, all the negroes (within the walls) are free and outside the walls during the whole day. They go about with their rude "tom-toms" painted and bedizened, dressed in raw sheep skins, dancing and making the most horrible noises, not permitting a person to pass them without obtaining from him a New Year's gift. With or without the slightest encouragement they enter the yard of any house whose door they find open, and then the inmates of the house must give freely or be fairly driven out of their senses by the din and noise. Many a family on the 6th (although it was Sunday) had to cook their own dinner or go without one on that day—their negro cook being out gathering his "aguinaldos," or, if in the house, "drunk as a lord."

In addition to the news from Venezuela, extracted from the *Diario de la Marina*, which I sent you in my last letter, and which it appears was obtained from a private letter, a more recent impression of the *Diario de la Marina* contains the following, extracted from the papers of Venezuela, which I also translate and condense:

The general state of Venezuela was flourishing; commerce and agriculture were prosperous.

A line of steamers was spoken of, to be established to run between Laguayra, St. Thomas and the United States.

The town of Calabozo, the capital of the province of Guaster, has sent a memorial to the Government, asking that the command of the army should be taken from the General Leon Fabas de Cordero, and be given to Gen. Antonio Paez. The province of Apure was also to send in a similar memorial, the former being in the hands of the Minister of War.

By royal orders, dated Madrid, 31st October and 8th November, Don Pedro Ballon is appointed Chief of Section of the Secretary of the Superior Civil Government of the Island, and Don Francisco de Paula Diaz y Mendoza Official of the General Foreign Directions, Don Jose Marico de la Casas First Chief of Section in the Government Secretary's office, and the other chiefs of the various sections have obtained the usual promotions, as have also all the clerks belonging to the office of the said Secretary of the Government.

An attempt will be made to induce the Patti to tarry here to join the Italian opera company at the Teater Tacon, when she is on board the steamship en route from your city to New York.

As doubtless very powerful inducements will be offered her, I think it probable she will remain.

Nixon, who has been and continues to do a splendid business at the Villa Nueva Theater with the Hanlons, is next Friday to give a gratis performance to the meritorious children of the schools who have obtained prizes at the recent school examinations, and another performance for the benefit of any alms-house that may be recommended to him.

Smith, the American acrobat at Chiarini's Circus, recently in making the desperate "leap for life" struck his head against a ladder, missed his hold of the rope, made several somersaults, and fell thirty-four feet to the ground, like a cat, on his feet, without sustaining any injury.

It was in making this terrific leap that Thomas Hanlon, at the Villanueva fell lately, and severely sprained his arm. From that accident, however, he has, I understand, entirely recovered.

The weather is daily becoming more and more genial; the small-pox, I am sorry to add, is rather prevalent in this city. As ever, ***

MISSISSIPPI STATE CONVENTION.

FOURTH DAY.

[Special Correspondence of The Crescent.]

JACKSON, Jan. 10, 1861.

Mr. Editor—From the middle of the Hall there floats, this morning, a beautiful and elegantly worked flag (presented by ladies of Jackson) of blue silk, with a single star in the middle. Soon, it is to be hoped, surrounded with a noble cluster, representing the whole of the Southern seceding States.

It is impossible to depict the intense sentiment of joy that pervades the entire community.

The Convention assembled at 10 o'clock. Prayer was offered by the Rev. Mr. Hunter.

The President then announced the following Standing Committees:

On Citizenship in Mississippi.—Brooke, Orr, Clayton of Lowndes, McGehee of Hill, Neely and Dyer.

On Federal Jurisdiction and Property in Mississippi.—Harris, Walter, Marshall, George, Wilkinson, Wright and Stevens.

On Postal Affairs.—Clapp, Gholson, McGehee, Jones, Keirn, King and Bullard.

On State Constitution.—Miller, Elliott, Yerger, Baldwin, Beene, Balling and Herring.

On Military and Naval Affairs.—Chalmers, Brandley, Webb, Fontaine, Smart, Fizer and Tisdale.

On Formation of a Southern Confederacy.—Cleon, Lamar, Hurst, Aldridge, Douglas, Johnson of Jefferson, and Lewis.

Mr. Orr offered a resolution, appointing a committee to wait upon the Commissioners from the Republic of South Carolina and State of Alabama, and inquire of them what time would suit them to address the Convention.

Mr. Welch offered a resolution requesting the Legislature to pass a law prohibiting the introduction, into Mississippi, of slaves from other States, for the purpose of sale, unless the owner becomes a bona fide resident of Mississippi. Laid on the table.

Mr. Dyer offered a resolution authorizing the Committee on Military Affairs to inquire into the expediency of erecting fortifications at Vicksburg, Friar's Point, Prentiss and Natchez, on the river, and Mississippi City, on the lake, for the purpose of defending those points. Laid on the table, subject to call.

Mr. Harris, of Hinds, offered a resolution, inquiring into the expediency of the formation of a Military Board—the enrollment of the volunteer companies into battalions, divisions and brigades—and authorizing them to select field officers. Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The Hon. Armistead Burt, Commissioner from South Carolina, presented his credentials.

Mr. Chalmers offered a resolution instructing the Committee on Military Affairs to inquire into the mode of raising a loan of one million of dollars, pledging the faith of the State for repayment of same. The loan to bear 6 per cent. interest.

Pending the consideration of this, Mr. Gholson, member from Monroe, and United States District Judge, read the following letter, addressed to President Buchanan:

IN CONVENTION AT JACKSON, Jan. 10, 1861.

To the President of the United States:

Sir—On the 9th day of January, 1861, the Sovereign State of Mississippi, by her Ordinance, dissolved her connection with the late Federal Union, and annihilated all Federal jurisdiction and authority within her limits.

Consequently, it is proper for me to inform you, that upon this dissolution of the Union, my functions and authority as a District Judge of the United States ceased and became utterly extinct from and after that date.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

S. J. GHOLSON.

Presuming that, with the obtuseness which has characterized the Administration, the Old Public Functionary would not exactly understand matters, Mr. Gholson also sent him the following:

JACKSON, Jan. 10, 1861.

To the Honorable President of the United States:

I hereby resign my office of Judge of the District Court, for the State of Mississippi.

S. J. GHOLSON.

The Convention then went into secret session on the loan resolution.

The Convention, while in secret session, passed a resolution, unanimously, recognizing the independence of South Carolina.

A resolution requesting the Postmasters of Mississippi to hold their offices until further instructed by the Convention, was passed.

It was also resolved that the Ordinance should be signed at half-past 10 o'clock, A. M., Friday, January 12th.

The Commissioner from South Carolina will address the Convention at 12 M., to-morrow (Friday).

The Utahs have been offering their Navajo scalps for sale on the streets of Santa Fé. Their prices vary according to quality. A large one, with jet black hair, about three feet long, sold for $2 50, while others can be bought for $1—cheap for cash or approved country produce.

TELEGRAPHED TO THE NEW ORLEANS CRESCENT.

TWO DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE.

[BY THE SOUTHWESTERN AND AMERICAN LINES.]

HALIFAX, Jan. 10.—The Cunard steamship America has arrived at this port, on her way to Boston.

She left the port of Liverpool on Saturday, Dec. 29th, and touched at Queenstown the evening of the following day, and brings two days later news than was received by the Nova Scotian.

The America brings $122,000 of specie on freight.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 28.—The sales of cotton to-day (Saturday) amounted to 15,000 bales, including 3000 taken on speculation and for export, the market closing firm at yesterday's prices.

The breadstuffs market closed steady at former prices. Provisions closed dull.

LONDON, Dec. 29.—Consols for the account closed at 92½ to 92¾. The funds closed somewhat firmer this evening.

It is stated that the warlike preparations of France exceed those of 1858.

Additional by the America.

HALIFAX, Jan. 11.—The steamship America, which arrived here to-day, brings the following additional items of foreign intelligence:

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 29.—Messrs. Richardson, Spence & Co. says flour closed firm at 29s. 6d. to 32s. 6d.

They quote Yellow Mixed Corn at 40s. to 41s.

The Brokers' Circular says Sugar rules quiet at former rates.

Coffee closed quiet at previous quotations.

LONDON, Dec. 29.—The amount of bullion in the Bank of England decreased £524,000 during the week.

The business in American stocks was limited at previous rates. Bank rates have slightly advanced.

HAVRE, Dec. 29.—The sales of cotton in Havre the past week amounted to 16,500 bales, the market closing buoyant at advancing prices. The stock in port adds up 163,000 bales.

PARIS, Dec. 29.—The Bourse is in a depressed condition. The three per cent. rentes closed at 67f. 75c.

The siege of Gaeta was still being continued and the garrison had replied.

Sardinia is purchasing steamers in France to be used as men of war and transports.

France and Piedmont are purchasing horses in Russia.

Arrival of the Steamship Glasgow.

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—The Liverpool, New York and Philadelphia Mail Company's steamship Glasgow, from Liverpool on the 26th, via Queenstown the 27th, reached her dock to-day. News anticipated.

DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE.

THE SECESSION OF ALABAMA.

THE PASSAGE OF THE ORDINANCE.

MONTGOMERY IN A BLAZE OF ENTHUSIASM.

SECESSION FLAG WAVING OVER THE CAPITOL.

MONTGOMERY, Jan. 11.—The following ordinance to dissolve the union between the State of Alabama and the other States of the Union, under a compact styled "The United States of North America," passed the Convention at half-past two o'clock to-day:

Whereas, the election of Abraham Lincoln and Hannibal Hamlin to the offices of President and Vice-President of the United States of America, by a sectional party avowedly hostile to the domestic institutions and the peace and security of the people of the State of Alabama, following upon the heels of many and dangerous infractions on the Constitution of the United States by many of the States and the people of the Northern section, is a political wrong of so insulting and menacing a character as to justify the people of the State of Alabama in the adoption of prompt and decided measures for their future peace and security: therefore,

Be it declared and ordained by the people of the State of Alabama in Convention assembled, that the State of Alabama now withdraws, and is hereby withdrawn from the Union known as the United States of America, and henceforth ceases to be one of said United States, and is, has a right, and ought to be a sovereign independent State.

Section 2. And be it further declared and ordained by the people of the State of Alabama in Convention assembled, that all powers over territories in said State and over the people thereof heretofore delegated to the Government of the United States of America, be and they are hereby withdrawn from said Government, and hereby resumed and vested in the people of the State of Alabama; and as it is the desire and purpose of the people of Alabama to meet the slaveholding States of the South who approve of such a purpose, in order to frame a provisional as well as permanent Government upon the principles of the Government of the United States;

Be it also resolved by the people of Alabama in Convention assembled, that the people of the States of Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas, Tennessee, Kentucky and Missouri be and are hereby invited to meet the people of the State of Alabama by their Delegates, in Convention, on the fourth day of February next, at the city of Montgomery, for the purpose of consulting each other as to the most effectual mode of securing concerted and harmonious action in whatever measures may be deemed most advisable for the common peace and security; and

Be it further resolved, That the President of this Convention be and is hereby instructed to transmit a copy of the foregoing preamble of ordinance and resolutions to the Governors of the several States named in said resolutions.

Done by the people of the State of Alabama in Convention assembled at Montgomery, this 11th day of January, A. D. 1861.

The preamble of ordinance and resolutions were adopted by yeas 61, nays 39.

After the adoption of the ordinance, the hall was opened to visitors. A splendid flag, presented by the ladies of Alabama, was conveyed to the President's stand, and formally presented to the Convention through Mr. Yancey, in a handsome and patriotic address.

Mr. Smith, delegate from Tuscaloosa, followed in a feeling reference to the stars and stripes, and invoked blessings on the new flag.

Mr Alpheus Baker, of Eufaula, returned the thanks of the Convention to the ladies in eloquent terms.

The ordinance will be ratified Monday, when, it is believed, many other delegates will sign it.

An immense mass meeting is now in session in front of the Capitol. Distinguished Cooperation delegates are pledging their constituents as a *wall* to sustain the secession flag, now waving over the Capitol, amidst the ringing of bells, the firing of cannon and the most intense enthusiasm.

Florida Out of the Union.

TALLAHASSEE, Jan. 11.—The ordinance providing for the secession of the State of Florida from the Federal Union passed the Convention yesterday at twenty minutes passed twelve by a vote of sixty-two to seven.

The Movements Against Charleston.

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—A dispatch from Washington to the Herald says a message was received late last night, from Charleston, asking the President to inform Gov. Pickens whether the sloop Brooklyn had been ordered to Charleston, saying if so, and she was not prevented, a scene of blood would take place the next day unparalleled in the annals of a civilized country.

Favoring Gov. Hicks.

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—The Times' correspondent at Baltimore says the affiliating Secessionists took no vote on the proposed resolutions, because the majority was ascertained to favor Gov. Hicks.

Lincoln's Cabinet.

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—The Tribune says Mr. Lincoln has tendered Hon. Henry Winter Davis, of Baltimore, a seat in his cabinet.

Washington Gossip.

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—A special dispatch to the Commercial says an earnest effort will be made in the Senate to move an investigation of the charge of a treasonable attempt to establish a Southern Confederacy with Washington as its seat of Government.

Mr. Trescott has arrived with pacific overtures from Gov. Pickens.

An angry interview is reported to have taken place between General Scott and Senator Toombs.

The Post's Washington correspondent telegraphs that the steamer Fulton sailed with orders to see the Star of the West safe in Charleston harbor.

Later from Washington.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—Hon. Mr. Keitt telegraphs Southern Senators to retain their seats to defeat objectionable legislation and the confirmation of Mr. McIntyre's appointment.

Senator Wigfall, of Texas, publicly declares that the Palmetto flag will be able to enter the port of Charleston until every gun of Fort Moultrie is dismounted.

Reliable authority says the steamer Star of the West will be sent to Charleston, unless the President changes his mind, with ample naval force to engage with naval batteries while she runs in and lands men and cargo.

It is intimated that the sloop-of-war Brooklyn, and the revenue cutter Harriet Lane, will accompany her.

Important from Baton Rouge.

BATON ROUGE, Jan. 11, A. M.—The New Orleans forces arrived here last night, all in good spirits, and remained on board the boat during the night, under arms. A general order from Governor Moore was issued to hold ourselves in readiness for action, at 12 o'clock to-day. The order was delivered to Col. Wallon by Capt. J. K. Duncan, one of the Governor's aids.

As matters now stand there is every prospect of a conflict, if Major Haskins, in command of the garrison, do not concede to superior force. A rumor has just reached us that a basis of arrangement is about being made between Major Haskins and Col. Bragg, the latter representing the Military Board of the State.

There are eighty United States troops in the barracks, and over two hundred thousand dollars' worth of arms and munitions of war. The force of the State troops now under arms is about five hundred.

Seizure of the Baton Rouge Arsenal.

BATON ROUGE, Jan. 11—*First Dispatch.*—There was some misunderstanding for a time in regard to the Arsenal Guard, but this will subside when formal military possession is taken of the whole garrison.

Second Dispatch.—Upon the summons of Gov. Moore, backed by six hundred men, the commanding officer seeing resistance would be a rash sacrifice, surrendered the post and property at Baton Rouge to the State of Louisiana. The arsenal is now in the possession of the State troops. Major Haskins, with the United States troops, are still in the barracks but will leave by the first up river boat.

The officers and soldiers of the United States army were treated with the greatest respect and courtesy.

Mississippi State Convention.

JACKSON, Jan. 11.—The resignation of Judge Gholson of the U. S. Court was presented and accepted.

A resolution recognizing South Carolina as a sovereign independent power was offered and passed.

Postmasters and others in the employ of the Federal Government are to continue their duties until otherwise ordered.

The ordinance to dissolve the union of the State of Mississippi from the United States of America was signed at 10½ o'clock.

Congressional Proceedings.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11.—In the House of Representatives to-day the Civil Miscellaneous Appropriation bill was taken up and passed.

The House then adjourned over till to-morrow.

Transfer of Money to Washington.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—The transfer of eight hundred thousand dollars from the New York Sub-Treasury to this city, without apparent cause, created no little exitement.

The Secretaryship of the Interior.

It is generally credited that Gen. John A. Dix, New York, will be created Secretary of the Interior.

President Buchanan is indisposed to appoint any Southern man.

Movements of Maryland.

Senator Pearce has yielded to the outside pressure united in request to convene the Maryland Legislature in extraordinary session. Governor Hicks still resists.

Seizure of the St. Louis Post-Office, etc.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 11.—The Sub-Treasury Custom-House and Post Office were taken possession of this morning by forty Federal troops, by order of General Scott.

Death of a New Orleans Banker.