New Orleans Daily Crescent.

OFFICIAL JOURNAL
—OF THE—
CONVENTION OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA.

FRIDAY, Feb. 8, 1861.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment, Hon. A. Mouton presiding.

After prayer by the Rev. J. Moynihan, the roll was called and 86 delegates answered to their names.

Pending the reading of the journal, Mr. Polk moved to dispense with the further reading of the same, which motion was lost, and the reading was finished, and the journal approved.

The President then presented a communication of the Custom-house Collector, Mr. Hatch, relative to the light-houses within this State, which communication was referred to the Committee on Commerce and Navigation.

Mr. Marks, of Orleans, introduced a resolution instructing the Committee on Postal Affairs to inquire into the management of the Post-office at New Orleans, and report thereon to the Convention, which resolution was, on motion of the same delegate, referred to the Committee on Postal Affairs.

Mr. Lawrence offered the following resolution, which was referred to the Committee on Contingent Expenses:

Resolved, That the Committee on Contingent Expenses be instructed to report to the Convention an ordinance providing for the payment of the officers of this Convention.

Mr. Davidson, of Sabine, offered a resolution relative to the compensation of Mr. Bloomfield, Postmaster to the Convention at Baton Rouge, which resolution, on motion of the same gentleman, was referred to the Committee on Contingent Expenses.

Mr. Bonner offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Secretary of this Convention be and he is hereby instructed to forward, forthwith, to the office of Secretary of State, a copy of the ordinance containing the oath to be taken by all officers of this State, and a copy of the ordinance altering article 126, of the State Constitution.

Mr. Texada introduced a resolution instructing the Committee on Finance to report what compensation should be allowed to the Commissioner to Texas, which resolution was referred to the said committee.

Mr. Michel presented a resolution authorizing the payment of certain sums of money to Captain Jas. Davis, out of the public revenues of the United States prior to the 31st January, 1861, which resolution was referred to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. Cottman offered a resolution authorizing the Committee on Postal Affairs to employ a sufficient number of clerks to enable them to report by Tuesday next, which resolution, on motion of Mr. Walker, was laid on the table.

Mr. Johnston introduced a resolution instructing the Committee on Commerce to report as to the propriety of modifying certain revenue laws, which resolution was referred to the Committee on Commerce.

Mr. Bonford then called up the unfinished business of yesterday, it being the ordinance relative to the Circuit and District Courts of the late United States, and moved the adoption of the 2nd section, when

Mr. Semmes offered the following as a substitute to the ordinance, which, on motion of Mr. De Blanc, was laid on the table:

AN ORDINANCE concerning Judicial Powers.

We, the people of the State of Louisiana, in Convention assembled, do declare and ordain, and it is hereby declared and ordained:

That the judicial powers heretofore delegated by this State so as to form a part of the judicial power of the United States, having reverted to this State, shall be exercised by such courts as the General Assembly may direct.

2. That execution on all decrees and judgments rendered in the several Courts of this State, from which a writ of error or appeal would lie to the Supreme Court of the United States under the laws of the United States, in force prior to the passage of the ordinance of secession, shall be stayed until some provision for an appeal or writ of error shall be made by the General Assembly of this State or other lawful authority.

Mr. Rozier moved to postpone the further consideration of the ordinance until the 5th March next, which, on motion of Mr. DeBlanc, was laid on the table.

On motion of Mr. Bonford, the 2d section was then adopted. The 3d section was read, and, on motion, adopted. The 4th section was read and also adopted.

The 5th section being taken up, Mr. O'Bryan proposed to amend it by striking out of the 17th line the words "cast therein," which amendment was accepted by the chairman, and the section, as amended, was adopted.

Mr. Miles offered the following as an additional section:

That citizens of such States as have violated the Constitution of the late United States of America, by enacting personal liberty bills, or laws nullifying or impeding the execution of the fugitive slave law, shall not be authorized to institute or prosecute suits in either of the courts named in this ordinance.

On motion of Mr. Lawrence, the proposed additional section was laid on the table—the result of a call of Mr. Miles for the yeas and nays being as follows:

The yeas were Messrs. Bermudez, Bienvenu, Bonford, Bonner, Briscoe, Barton, Bush, Butler, Caldwell, Carr, Cook, Conner of Concordia, Davidson of Livingston, Davidson of Sabine, DeBlanc, Duffel, Elam, Elgee, Estlin, Fuselier, Fuqua, Gardere, Gladden, Girard, Griffin, Hernandez, Herron, Hough, Hodge, Hollingsworth, Kidd, Labatut, Lawrence, Lagroue, LeBourgeois, Lewis of Claiborne, Lewis of Orleans, Manning, Martin of Assumption, Martin of Carroll, McClosky, McCollom, McFarland, Melançon, Meredith, Norton, Olivier, Patterson, Perkins of Lafourche, Perkins of Orleans, Pemberton, Pierson of Natchitoches, Pierson of Winn, Pike, Polk, Richardson, Roman, Roselius, Scott of Claiborne, Smith, Smart, Sompayrac, Stocker, Taliaferro, Taylor of St. Charles, Taylor of St. Landry, Texada, Thomasson, Todd, Tucker, Verret, Walker, Williams of East Baton Rouge, Wilkinson, Wiltz, York—75.

The nays were Messrs. Dorsey, Dupré, Garrett, Gill, Gray, Graves, Johnston, Marks of Caddo, Marks of Orleans, McNeely, Miles, Michel, Miller, O'Bryan, Peck, Scott of East Feliciana, Semmes, Stewart, Swayze, Tappan, Towles and Valentine—22.

Yeas, 75; nays, 22.

Mr. Semmes moved that the following be adopted as an additional section to the ordinance, which motion was carried:

SEC. 6. That all suits and actions pending in the said Circuit or District Courts, or in any Court of this State, heretofore instituted by the United States, shall be carried on and prosecuted in the name and for the benefit of the State of Louisiana, and all decrees and judgments, heretofore rendered in said Court in favor of the United States, shall be executed and enforced in the same and for the benefit of this State.

Mr. Michel offered the following as an additional section to the original ordinance:

SEC. 7. *Resolved*, That the clerk or clerks to be appointed under the provisions of the above ordinance, shall be authorized to cause a suitable seal or seals to be made for the use of said court or courts, a full description whereof shall be recorded in the office of the Secretary of State.

Mr. Elgee moved to lay the amendment on the table, which motion was lost, and the section was adopted.

Mr. Miles offered the following as an additional section to the ordinance:

That the Legislature shall have power to repeal or amend this ordinance whenever the public interest shall require it.

Mr. Stocker moved to lay the proposed additional section on the table, which was carried.

Mr. Bush moved the reconsideration of the fifth section, which being granted, he moved to amend said section by striking out in the seventeenth line of the proviso the words "taking the appeal" and inserting the words "desirous of applying for a writ of error or appeal," which motion was carried.

On motion of Mr. Bonford, the fifth section, as amended, was adopted; and, on motion of the same delegate, the ordinance, as amended, was adopted as a whole, and reads as follows:

AN ORDINANCE concerning the Circuit and District Courts established in the State of Louisiana by the late Government of the United States.

The people of the State of Louisiana, in Convention assembled, do ordain and it is hereby ordained as follows:

SECTION 1. All acts and parts of acts of the Congress of the late United States of America, relating to the organization and jurisdiction of the Circuit and District Courts established by said Congress within the territorial limits of the State of Louisiana, and relating to the administration of justice in said Courts, which were in force in this State at the time of the separation of this State from the said Confederacy, are hereby re-enacted and declared to be in full force and effect as laws of the State of Louisiana, so far as the same are not inconsistent with any of the ordinances of this Convention, or incompatible with the sovereignty of the State of Louisiana; and all writs and process from said Courts shall be issued in the name and by the authority of the State of Louisiana.

SEC. 2. All offices held within this State, under and by virtue of the acts of Congress aforesaid, shall continue as organized under said acts; and the functions and duties thereof shall be performed by the respective officers who have had charge of the same under the said laws: *Provided* said officers shall recognize the sole and exclusive authority of the State of Louisiana, by accepting and receiving commissions from the Governor as officers of the State of Louisiana, and by taking the oath of office prescribed by the ordinance passed by this Convention, amending the 90th article of the Constitution of this State.

SEC. 3. Should any person in charge of any such office refuse to comply with the proviso to the foregoing section, the said office shall be deemed vacant, and the books, records and effects thereof, of every kind whatsoever thereto appertaining, or in any wise belonging, shall be delivered to such other person as the Governor shall commission to hold and perform the duties of the said office; and should any office heretofore held in this State, under and by virtue of the laws of the United States mentioned in the first section of this ordinance, become vacant from any cause whatsoever, the Governor shall have authority, and he is hereby directed to commission some competent and experienced person to perform the duties thereof: *Provided* that all such appointees shall take and subscribe the oath prescribed in the second section of this ordinance.

SEC. 4. All officers commissioned by the Governor, by virtue of this ordinance, shall, within twenty days after the date of their commission, execute, in favor of the State of Louisiana, bonds analogous to those which have been heretofore required to be executed in favor of the United States in similar cases and with like security; and said bonds shall be deposited among the archives of the State in the office of the Secretary of State. And all accounts, abstracts, funds, vouchers or reports of any kind whatsoever, required by the laws of the United States, or by instructions from the Executive Department of the Government, to be transmitted to said Government, shall be transmitted at the time prescribed by said laws or instructions to the corresponding Executive Department of the Government of the State of Louisiana. And the State of Louisiana doth hereby guarantee and indemnify all the officers who comply with the provisions of this ordinance, against all claims and demands of the United States arising out of such compliance.

SEC. 5. That all suits, actions or proceedings of any description whatsoever pending in said courts at the time the Ordinance of Secession was passed, shall continue, and be carried on, as if no interruption to the business of the said courts had taken place, and in all cases pending in the Circuit Court, mentioned in the first section of this Ordinance, wherein a final judgment or decree has been or may be rendered, from which judgment or decree a writ of error or appeal would lie, under the provisions of the acts hereinbefore described, as also in all cases in the several courts of this State, from the judgments or decrees in which a writ of error would lie to the Supreme Court of the United States under the acts in force, as aforesaid, execution upon the said judgments or decrees shall be stayed; *Provided* the party desirous of applying for a writ of error or appeal, shall, within ten days, exclusive of Sundays, after the rendition of the judgment or passing the decree complained of, file his petition addressed to the said court, stating his intention to apply for a writ of error or appeal, as the case may require, to have the said cause reëxamined by the court to be constituted for that purpose; and shall, within ten days after the organization of said court, perfect his said application; and, provided, further, that the said party shall give bond, with good and sufficient security conditioned, to perfect and prosecute said writ of error or appeal, with such other conditions and in such amount as are prescribed in similar cases by the laws hereby reënacted.

SEC. 6. That all suits and actions pending in the said Circuit or District Courts, or in any Court of the State heretofore instituted by the United States, shall be carried on and prosecuted in the name and for the benefit of the State of Louisiana, and all decrees and judgments heretofore rendered in said Courts in favor of the United States, shall be executed and enforced in the name and for the benefit of this State.

SEC. 7. That the clerk or clerks to be appointed under the provisions of the above ordinance, shall be authorized to cause a suitable seal or seals to be made for the use of said Court or Courts, a full description whereof shall be recorded in the office of the Secretary of State.

Mr. Tappan obtained leave to introduce an ordinance concerning crimes and offences under the laws of the late Government of the United States, to which Mr. Bush offered an amendment, when both the ordinance and amendment were ordered to be printed and made the special order of the day for to-morrow.

The special order of the day being the ordinance reported by the Committee on Public Lands, was, on motion of Mr. Elgee, read and ordered to be taken up section by section.

Mr. Elgee moved the adoption of Section 1st, which reads as follows:

Be it Ordained by the People of Louisiana in Convention assembled, That the title to all the unappropriated public domain within the limits of the State of Louisiana is of right the property of the said State, and all control and jurisdiction over the same is hereby declared to be vested in and assumed by the State.

Mr. McCollom offered the following amendment, to be read after the 5th line of the 1st section:

Provided, that all inchoate titles emanating under any law, grant or donation from the late Government of the United States to private individuals, and to all corporations in this State, be and they are hereby recognized and placed on the same basis that they were on under the laws of the late Government of the United States.

Mr. Fuqua offered the following as a substitute for Mr. McCollom's amendment, to be added to the fifth line of the first section, so that the section read as follows:

Be it ordained by the people of Louisiana in Convention assembled, That the title to all of the unappropriated public domain within the limits of the State of Louisiana, is of right the property of the said State, and all control and jurisdiction over the same is hereby declared to be vested in and assumed by the State, in the same manner as heretofore held and exercised by the United States.

On motion of Mr. Elgee, the Convention then adjourned.
J. T. WHEAT, Secretary.

JOURNAL OFFICIEL
—DE LA—
CONVENTION DE L'ETAT DE LA LOUISIANE.

VENDREDI 8 février 1861.

La Convention se réunit suivant l'ajournement. L'Honorable A. Mouton occupe le fauteuil.

Après une prière par le Rév. J. Mognahan, l'appel nominal constate la présence de 86 délégués.

Pendant la lecture du journal, M. Polk propose d'omettre la suite de cette lecture. Cette motion est rejetée, la lecture est terminée et le journal est approuvé.

Le président présente une communication du collecteur de la Douane, M. Hatch, relativement aux phares qui se trouvent dans l'Etat, et cette communication est référée au comité du commerce et de navigation.

M. Marks d'Orléans présente une résolution enjoignant au comité des affaires postales de faire une enquête sur l'administration de la poste à la Nouvelle-Orléans et un rapport à la Convention; cette résolution, sur motion du même délégué, est référée au comité des affaires postales.

M. Lawrence présente la résolution suivante qui est référée au comité des dépenses casuelles:

Resolu, Que le comité des dépenses casuelles est requis de rapporter à la Convention une ordonnance pour le paiement des employés de cette Convention.

M. Davidson de Sabine présente une résolution relative à la compensation de M. Bloomfield, maître de poste de la Convention à Bâton-Rouge, et cette résolution est référée au comité des dépenses casuelles.

M. Bonner présente la résolution suivante qui est adoptée:

Resolu, Que le secrétaire de cette Convention est par la présente requis d'envoyer de suite au bureau du secrétaire d'Etat un exemplaire de l'ordonnance contenant le serment que doivent prendre tous les employés de l'Etat et un exemplaire de l'ordonnance changeant l'article 126 de la Constitution d'Etat.

M. Texada présente une ordonnance cojoignant au comité de finances de rapporter quelle compensation devra être allouée au commissaire du Texas, et cette résolution est référée au dit comité.

M. Michel présente une résolution autorisant le paiement de certaines sommes d'argent au capitaine Jas. Davis, les dites sommes devant être tirées des revenus publics des Etats avant le 31 janvier 1861, laquelle résolution est référée au comité de finances.

M. Cottman présente une résolution autorisant le comité des affaires postales à employer un nombre suffisant de commis pour pouvoir faire un rapport mardi prochain, et cette résolution, sur motion de M. Walker, est déposée sur le bureau.

M. Jonston présente une résolution enjoignant au comité de commerce de faire un rapport sur la convenance de modifier certaines lois de revenu, laquelle résolution est référée au comité de commerce.

M. Bonford demande alors que l'affaire non terminée d'hier, qui est l'ordonnance relative aux Cours de District et de Circuit des Etats-Unis, soit prise en considération, et propose l'adoption de la 2ème section.

M. Semmes présente le substitut suivant à l'ordonnance, lequel, sur motion de M. DeBlanc, est déposé sur le bureau:

ORDONNANCE concernant les Pouvoirs Judiciaires.

Nous, le peuple de l'Etat de la Louisiane, assemblé en Convention, déclarons et ordonnons et il est par la présente déclaré et ordonné: Que les pouvoirs judiciaires jusqu'à présent délégués par cet Etat de manière à faire partie du pouvoir judiciaire des Etats-Unis étant revenus à l'Etat, seront exercés par telles cours que l'assemblée générale pourra désigner.

2. Que l'exécution de tous les droits et jugements rendus dans les diverses cours de cet Etat et dont on pourrait demander un writ d'erreur ou d'appel à la Cour Suprême des Etats-Unis en vertu des lois des Etats-Unis en vigueur avant l'adoption de l'ordonnance de scission sera suspendue jusqu'à ce qu'une disposition quelconque pour un appel ou un writ d'erreur soit adopté par l'assemblée générale de cet Etat ou par toute autre autorité légale.

M. Rozier propose d'ajourner la considération de l'ordonnance au 5 de mars prochain, ce qui, sur motion de M. Deblanc, est déposé sur le bureau.

Sur motion de M. Bonford, la 2me section est adoptée. La 3me section est lue, et, sur motion, elle est adoptée.

La 5me section étant prise en considération, M. O'Bryan propose de l'amender en effaçant de la 17me ligne le mot "déboutés;" cet amendement est accepté par le rapporteur et la section ainsi amendée est adoptée.

M. Miles présente la section additionnelle suivante:

"Les citoyens des Etats qui ont violé la constitution des ci-devant Etats-Unis d'Amérique en adoptant des lois ou des bills de liberté personnelle annulant ou empêchant l'exécution de la loi des esclaves fugitifs ne seront pas autorisés à instituer ou à poursuivre des procès dans l'une ou l'autre des cours désignées dans cette ordonnance."

Sur motion de M. Lawrence, la section additionnelle proposée est déposée sur le bureau, le résultat de l'appel nominal demandé par M. Miles ayant été comme suit:

MM. Bermudez, Bienvenu, Bonford, Bonner, Briscoe, Barton, Bush, Butler, Caldwell, Carr, Cook, Conner de Concordia, Davidson de Livingston, Davidson de Sabine, DeBlanc, Duffel, Elam, Elgee, Estlin, Fuselier, Fuqua, Gardère, Gladden, Girard, Griffin, Hernandez, Herron, Hough, Hodge, Hollingsworth, Kidd, Labatut, Lawrence, Lagroue, LeBourgeois, Lewis de Claiborne, Lewis d'Orléans, Manning, Martin d'Assomption, Martin de Carroll, McCloskey, McCollom, McFarland, Mélançon, Meredith, Norton, Olivier, Patterson, Perkins de Lafourche, Perkins d'Orléans, Pemberton, Pierson de Natchitoches, Pierson de Winn, Pike, Polk, Richardson, Roman, Roselius, Scott de Claiborne, Smith, Smart, Sompayrac, Stocker, Taliaferro, Taylor de St.-Charles, Texada, Thomasson, Todd, Tucker, Verret, Walker, Williams d'Est Bâton-Rouge, Wilkinson, Wiltz, York—75 oui.

MM. Dorsey, Dupré, Garrett, Gill, Gray, Graves, Johnston, Marks de Caddo, Marks d'Orléans, McNeely, Miles, Michel, Miller, O'Bryan, Peck, Scott d'Est Féliciana, Semmes, Stewart, Swayze, Tappan, Towles, Valentine—22 non.

RECAPITULATION.

Oui	75
Non	22
Vote total	97

Sur motion de M. Semmes, la section additionnelle suivante est adoptée:

"Tous les procès et actions pendant devant les dites Cours de Circuit ou de District, ou devant toute Cour de cet Etat, instituées antérieurement par les Etats-Unis seront continués au nom et pour le bénéfice de l'Etat de la Louisiane, et tous décrets et jugements antérieurement rendus par les dites Cours en faveur des Etats-Unis, seront exécutés au nom et pour le bénéfice de cet Etat."

M. Michel présente la section additionnelle suivante à l'ordonnance:

SEC. 7. Le greffier ou les greffiers qui seront nommés en vertu des dispositions de cette ordonnance, seront autorisés à faire graver un sceau ou des sceaux convenables pour l'usage de la dite Cour ou des dites Cours, et une empreinte du dit sceau ou des dits sceaux sera déposée dans le bureau du secrétaire d'Etat.

M. Elgee fait la motion de déposer cet amendement sur le bureau. Cette motion ne prévaut pas, et la section est adoptée.

M. Miles présente la section additionnelle suivante:

La législature aura le droit d'abroger ou d'amender cette ordonnance lorsqu'elle le jugera nécessaire à l'intérêt général.

Sur motion de M. Stocker, la dite section additionnelle reste déposée sur le bureau.

Sur motion de M. Bush, la 5me section est reprise en considération et sur motion du même membre la dite section est amendée en effaçant dans la 17me ligne du proviso les mots "interjetteront appel" et en y insérant à leurs places, les mots "voudra réclamer un ordre (*writ*) d'erreur ou d'appel."

Sur motion de M. Bonford, la section 5 ainsi amendée est adoptée et sur motion du même membre, l'ordonnance ainsi amendée est adoptée en entier comme suit:

ORDONNANCE Concernant les Cours de Circuit et de District établies dans l'Etat de la Louisiane par le ci-devant gouvernement des Etats-Unis.

Le peuple de l'Etat de la Louisiane assemblé en Convention, ordonne et il est par la présente ordonné:

SECTION 1. Toutes les lois et les parties de lois du Congrès des ci-devants Etat-Unis d'Amérique, relatives à l'organisation et à la juridiction des cours de circuit et de district établies par le dit congrès dans les limites territoriales de l'Etat de la Louisiane, et concernant l'administration de la justice dans les dites cours, qui étaient en vigueur, dans cet Etat, à l'époque de la séparation de cet Etat de la dite confédération, sont, par la présente, décrétées de nouveau et déclarées être en force et vigueur comme lois de l'Etat de la Louisiane, en tant qu'elles ne sont pas contraires aux ordonnances de cette Convention ou incompatibles avec la souveraineté de l'Etat de la Louisiane; et tous les ordres et décrits des dites cours seront lancés au nom et par l'autorité de l'Etat de la Louisiane.

SEC. 2. Toutes les places occupées dans cet Etat sous l'autorité et en vertu des actes du congrès sus dit, resteront organisées comme par le passé conformément aux dits actes; et les fonctions et les devoirs des dites places seront remplis par les officiers respectifs qui en avaient la charge sous l'autorité des dites lois: Bien entendu que les dits officiers devront reconnaître l'autorité unique et exclusive de l'Etat de la Louisiane, en recevant et acceptant leurs commissions du gouverneur comme officiers de l'Etat de la Louisiane, et en prêtant le serment d'officier prescrit par l'ordonnance passée par cette Convention, amendant l'article 90 de la constitution de cet Etat.

SEC. 3. Si quelqu'officier occupant l'une des dites places refuse de se conformer au proviso de la section qui précède la dite place sera considérée vacante, et les livres, registres et papiers de toute nature y appartenant de quelque manière que ce soit, seront délivrés à telle autre personne que le gouverneur commissionnera pour occuper la dite place et en remplir les devoirs; et si quelqu'une des places antérieurement occupée dans cet Etat, en vertu des lois des Etats-Unis mentionnées dans la première section de cette ordonnance devenait vacante pour une cause quelconque, le gouverneur aura le droit, et il lui est par la présente enjoint de commissionner une personne capable pour en remplir les devoirs: bien entendu que les personnes ainsi nommées devront prêter le serment prescrit dans la seconde section de cette ordonnance.

SEC. 4. Tout officier commissionné par le gouverneur en vertu de cette ordonnance devra, dans les vingt jours qui suivront la date de sa commission, fournir en faveur de l'Etat de la Louisiane un cautionnement analogue à celui qui devait être fourni antérieurement en faveur des Etats-Unis en pareil cas; lequel cautionnement sera déposé aux archives de l'Etat dans le bureau du secrétaire d'Etat. Et tous comptes, résumés, fonds, pièces justificatives ou rapports de toute nature requis par les lois des Etats-Unis ou par ordre du département de l'exécutif du gouvernement pour être transmis au dit gouvernement, seront transmis, au temps prescrit par les dites lois ou les dites ordres, au département correspondant de l'exécutif du gouvernement de l'Etat de la Louisiane. Et l'Etat de la Louisiane garantit, par la présente, tous les officiers qui se conformeront aux dispositions de cette ordonnance, de toutes réclamations et poursuites de la part des Etats-Unis, résultant de leur obéissance aux dispositions de cette ordonnance.

SEC. 5. Tout procès, action ou procédure d'une nature quelconque pendant dans les dites cours au moment de l'adoption où l'ordonnance de scission fut adoptée seront continués et auront leur cours comme si les affaires des dites cours n'avaient pas été interrompues, et dans tous les procès pendants dans la Cour de Circuit, mentionnés dans la première section de cette ordonnance, où un décret ou un jugement final a été ou peut être rendu, duquel jugement ou décret un writ d'erreur ou d'appel serait admissible en vertu des dispositions des actes décrits ci-dessus, et aussi dans tous les procès dans les diverses cours de cet Etat, des jugements ou décrets desquels un writ d'erreur serait admissible à la Cour Suprême des Etats-Unis en vertu des actes en vigueur, l'exécution des dits jugements ou décrets sera suspendue: Pourvu que la personne désireuse de demander un writ d'erreur ou d'appel devra, dans les dix jours (les dimanches non compris) qui suivront la reddition du jugement ou l'adoption du décret dont elle se plaint, enregistrer sa pétition adressée à la dite cour annonçant son intention de demander un writ d'erreur ou d'appel, suivant les exigences du cas, afin que la dite cause soit examinée à nouveau par la cour qui devra être constituée dans ce but, et devra aussi dans les trente jours qui suivront l'organisation de la dite cour, compléter la dite pétition; et pourvu que, également, la dite personne fournira un cautionnement solvable, s'engageant à compléter et à poursuivre le dit writ d'erreur ou d'appel sous telles conditions et de tels montants qui sont prescrits en pareil cas par les lois ré-adoptées par ces présentes.

SEC. 6. Tous les procès et actions pendants dans les dites Cours de District ou de Circuit ou dans une Cour quelconque de cet Etat instituée jusqu'à présent par les Etats-Unis, seront suivis et conduits au nom et pour le bénéfice de l'Etat de la Louisiane, et tous les décrets et jugements rendus jusqu'ici dans les dites cours en faveur des Etats-Unis seront exécutés et mis en vigueur au nom et pour le bénéfice de cet Etat.

SEC. 7. Le ou les greffiers qui seront nommés en vertu des dispositions de l'ordonnance ci-dessus seront autorisés à faire fabriquer un ou des sceaux convenables pour l'usage de la ou des dites cours; et une description détaillée du ou des dits sceaux sera enregistrée au bureau du secrétaire d'Etat.

M. Tappan obtient la permission de présenter une ordonnance relative aux lois des ci-devants Etat-Unis concernant les crimes et délits.

M. Bush présente un amendement à la dite ordonnance, et

Sur motion l'ordonnance et l'amendement sont mis à l'ordre spécial du jour pour demain et l'impression en est ordonnée.

L'ordonnance rapportée par la comité sur les terres publiques étant à l'ordre du jour,

Sur motion de M. Elgee la Convention s'en occupe section par section.

La 1ère section conçue ainsi qu'il suit, est lue:

Le peuple de la Louisiane assemblé en Convention ordonne:

Le titre à toutes les terres faisant partie du domaine public, et comprises dans les limites de l'Etat de la Louisiane, appartient de droit au dit Etat; et l'Etat, par la présente, est investi et assume le contrôle et la juridiction sur les dites terres.

M. McCollom propose d'amender la dites section en y insérant à la fin le proviso suivant:

Bien entendu que tous les titres imparfaits émanant de toute loi, concession ou donation du ci-devant gouvernement des Etats-Unis à des particuliers et à toute corporation dans cet Etat, sont, par la présente, reconnus et placés sur la même base où ils étaient placés en vertu des lois du ci-devant gouvernement des Etats-Unis.

M. Fuqua propose l'amendement suivant comme substitut à l'amendement de M. McCollom, pour être inséré à la fin de la section, savoir:

Le peuple de la Louisiane, assemblé en Convention, ordonne:

"Le titre à toutes les terres faisant partie du domaine public et comprises dans les limites de l'Etat de la Louisiane appartient de droit au dit Etat; et l'Etat, par la présente, est investi et assume le contrôle et la juridiction sur les dites terres de la même manière qu'ils étaient exercés antérieurement par les Etats-Unis.

Sur motion de M. Elgee, la Convention s'ajourne.
J. T. WHEAT, Secrétaire.

Twenty-five Years of Indian Captivity.

In a recent number of the Weatherford News, we find the following in regard to the white woman taken from the Indians in a skirmish on the Texan frontier:

Col. Isaac Parker, of Tarrant county, having heard of the capture of a white woman by Captain Ross, in his recent fight with the Indians, immediately went up to Camp Cooper to see her, and, strange to say, recognized in her a long lost niece, a daughter of Benjamin Parker, who was killed many years ago at Parker's Fort, on the Navisota, near where the present county-site of Limestone county is now situated, but at that time about sixty miles above the settlements. It will be remembered by many old Texans, and is also a matter of record in Texas history, that on the 19th of May, 1835, a large body of Indians, several hundred in number, appeared before Parker's Fort, and sent in two of their number with a white flag, asking for a treaty of peace.

There were but six men, with a number of women and children, in the Fort at the time; among whom was Benjamin Parker, who went out and held an interview with them, but returned in a short time and told his friends that all was not right. Being desirous of peace, and knowing the inability of the little band within the fort to defend themselves successfully against so large a force, Mr. Parker went out a second time, when he was immediately surrounded by the treacherous Indians and instantly killed. The incarnate fiends then, en masse, attacked the fort, murdered the men in the most barbarous and shocking manner, and carried off a number of women and children. Among the prisoners taken were Mrs. Benjamin Parker and her three children, an infant, one little boy and a daughter, the one recently captured by Capt. Ross, and who at that time was only about nine years of age. The mother was afterwards rescued by a white man, and again recaptured by the Indians and put to death. The little boy was never recovered by his friends, he survived for several years and finally died of the small-pox. Several of the captives have at different times been recovered through the intervention of traders and by other means, and returned to their friends. Some of them still remain with their captors, notwithstanding every effort has been used by relatives and kind friends to regain them—and there are others still, whose fates remain unknown.

The woman recaptured by Capt. Ross has remained with the Indians so long, and being so young when captured, she had lost all remembrance of her family and friends and of the locality of the place from which she was taken. Yet we learn that shortly after the interview began between herself and Col. Parker, which was conducted through the medium of an interpreter, recollections of the "scenes of her childhood" were recalled to her mind, and she detailed with much accuracy the situation of the Fort—the approach of the Indians bearing the white flag—her father being the first killed—the attack upon the Fort—her mother being taken, and her subsequent rescue and her recapture by the Indians. Every circumstance connected with the taking of the Fort was so accurately detailed that not a doubt remained as to her identity, and even though she had forgotten her name, when Col. Parker asked the interpreter to ask her if her name was Cynthia Ann, before the interpreter had time to ask the question, she sprang to her feet, raised her hands, and repeating the name, clapped her hands upon her breast, exclaiming, "me Cynthia Ann!"

The feeling of Colonel Parker can be better imagined than told, upon thus recognizing from circumstances, the most conclusive, that the woman before him was his own niece, the daughter of his murdered brother, who had been raised and lived for twenty-five years a captive among the barbarous and thieving Comanches, a niece whom he believed for years to be numbered among the dead. Notwithstanding she knows nothing of civilization whatever and has adopted all the manners and customs of the Indians, we are told that traces of beauty and intelligence still linger in the lineaments of her sun browned face. She has a little daughter about 2 years old which is said to be a bright, intelligent little child. The Colonel treated her with all the kindness and affection due a relative in her situation and she soon became attached to him, and accompanied him home. We did not have the gratification of meeting with them on their return, as they traveled the old Belknap road about five miles north of this place.

The facts which we have detailed were obtained from reliable men who were present at the interview and who accompanied Col. Parker to Camp Cooper.

BATON ROUGE ITEMS.—The Advocate of Friday last has the following:

A stranger was knocked down, gagged and robbed last night near the Methodist Church by a gang of thieves. A small sum of money and a watch were taken from him.

Another case of robbery occurred at the foot of Main street. The villains, after accomplishing their purpose, fled to the levee and boarded a steamboat, where they were arrested. We have not learned their names. The city authorities will have to increase their force and vigilance.

P. S.—Since writing the above, Marshal Cousinard has handed us the names of the three men who committed the last robbery. They are Wm. Moffit, Henry Rose and Carr, the two former from St. Louis, and the latter claiming to be from Union parish, La. They were all committed for trial before the District Court yesterday.

OFFICIAL JOURNAL
—OF THE—
CONVENTION OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA.

SATURDAY, Feb. 9, 1861.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment, Hon. A. Mouton presiding.

After prayer by the Rev. Mr. Jessup, the roll was called, and eighty-seven Delegates answered to their names.

The journal was then read and approved.

[Mr. Miles rose to a question of privilege, and corrected a misconstruction in this morning's Delta, relative to the votes of certain Delegates on the Judiciary question.]

Mr. Davidson, of Sabine, offered a preamble and resolution, relative to the adjournment, *sine die*, of the Convention on Tuesday next, which preamble and resolution was ordered to lie over under the rules.

Mr. Estlin offered a preamble and resolution, relative to the appointment of a committee, which should collect information and report in March next, on the reassembling of this Convention, with regard to the expediency of making the charters of the banks now in existence, in the State of Louisiana, uniform in the term of their charters, etc.; provided the said banks will agree to pay a satisfactory bonus to the State, which was ordered to lie over under the rules.

Mr. Swayze presented an ordinance concerning persons who shall attempt or presume to exercise or hold office within the State of Louisiana under any other authority than the State of Louisiana, which ordinance was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Miles offered a resolution relative to the payment, from the sub-treasury of the late United States, of the Marshals and Assistant Marshals of the Eastern and Western Districts, for taking the census in 1860, which resolution was referred to the Committee on Finance.

On motion of Mr. Girard, the report of the Committee on Patents was made the special order of the day for Monday next, at 12 o'clock M.

The report of standing committees being next in order, Mr. Walker read a report of the Committee on Postal Affairs, which, on motion of Mr. Fuqua, was ordered to be printed and made the order of the day for Monday next, at 1 o'clock P. M.

Mr. Semmes, having asked and obtained leave, presented a report of the Committee on Commerce and Navigation, relative to light-houses within the State, which, on motion, was laid over under the rules.

The consideration of the ordinance reported by Mr. Elgee yesterday, as chairman of the Committee on Public Lands, was resumed.

Mr. Fuqua withdrew the substitute offered by him yesterday, for Mr. McCollom's amendment to the 1st section of said ordinance.

On motion by Mr. Bonford, Mr. McCollom's amendment was further amended by striking out the words "recognized and."

Motion being made for the adoption of Mr. McCollom's amendment as amended, Mr. Connelly called for the yeas and nays, which resulted as follows:

The yeas were Messrs. Anderson, Bienvenu, Bonford, Caldwell, Cook, Connelly, Dupré, Elam, Girard, Hough, Hollingsworth, Kennedy, LeBourgeois, Lewis of Orleans, McCollom, Meredith, O'Bryan, Perkins of Orleans, Pemberton, Pierson of Winn, Roman, Rozier, Scott of East Feliciana, Stocker, Swayze, Taylor of St. Landry, Todd, Williams of East Baton Rouge, Williams of St. Helena, Wilkinson—30.

The nays were Messrs. Barrow, Bermudez, Bonner, Briscoe, Butler, Conner of Concordia, Davidson of Livingston, Davidson of Sabine, DeBlanc, Dorsey, Duffel, Elgee, Fuselier, Fuqua, Gardere, Graves, Gray, Herron, Hodges, Johnston, Labatut, Lawrence, Lagroue, Manning, Marks of Caddo, Marks of Orleans, Martin of Assumption, Martin of Carroll, Magee, Melançon, Miles, Miller, Moore, Olivier, Patterson, Peck, Pierson of Natchitoches, Pike, Richardson, Semmes, Slawson, Smith, Stewart, Tappan, Talbot, Taylor of St. Charles, Texada, Thomasson, Towles, Valentine, Warren, Walker and York—53.

RECAPITULATION.

Yeas	30
Nays	53

Consequently Mr. McCollom's amendment to first section was rejected.

And, on motion of Mr. Elgee, the first section was adopted.

The second section, which reads as follows, was taken up:

Be it further ordained, etc., That the Surveyor-General, and the Registers and Receivers of the several Land Offices at New Orleans, Opelousas, Natchitoches, Monroe, and Greensburg, within this State, be required to surrender forthwith to the Governor of the State, or to some person authorized by him, all of the public monies in their hands, and all of the books, records, papers and archives of, and belonging to, their respective offices, and in so doing shall be held harmless against all loss or damage which might accrue to them, or to their sureties, by reason of the obligations contracted by them in respect of the late Government of the United States.

Several amendments and a substitute for said 2d section, were proposed by Messrs. Elgee, Dupré, DeBlanc, Moore and O'Bryan.

At this stage of the proceedings, the President, Mr. Mouton, announced to the Convention the intelligence just then received by telegraph, that the Hon. Jefferson Davis, of Mississippi, and Hon. A. H. Stephens, of Georgia, had been elected by the Convention at Montgomery, the President and Vice-President of the Provisional Government of the Southern Republic.

Whereupon, Mr. Walker, having first asked and obtained leave, and a suspension of the rules being granted, offered the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That this Convention receives with the most cordial approval, the intelligence this day received by telegraph, of the election of Jefferson Davis, of Mississippi, as President, and of Alexander H. Stephens, of Georgia, as Vice-President of the Provisional Government of the Southern Republic.

Resolved, That the Secretary of this Convention be instructed to communicate the foregoing resolution to the President of the Convention at Montgomery.

The regular business of the Convention being resumed,

Mr. Olivier moved that the ordinance on public lands, together with the amendments, substitute and proviso offered, be recommitted. Which was carried:

And, on motion of Mr. McCollom, the report of said committee was ordered to be printed, and made the special order of the day for Monday at 2 o'clock P. M.

Mr. Elgee asked to be discharged from further service as a member of the Committee on Public Lands. Which was granted.

On motion by Mr. Herron, the rules being suspended, he offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed, for the purpose of having an appropriate salute fired in honor of the recent election of President and Vice-President of the Southern Confederacy.

The President appointed as said Committee Messrs. Herron, Labatut and LeBourgeois.

ORDER OF THE DAY.

The report of Committee on Commerce—An ordinance relative to the prosecution of the work for keeping open the channel of the Southwest Pass of the Mississippi river, under the contract made with the United States prior to the passage of the Ordinance of Secession;

Said ordinance being the order of the day, on motion by Mr. Semmes, was taken up and read, and after some debate upon the same, it was, on motion by Mr. Lewis, of Claiborne, laid on the table subject to call.

Mr. Walker introduced the following resolution:

Resolved, That the resolution of this Convention, adopted on Wednesday, the 6th of February, fixing next Tuesday for the adjournment of the Convention, be rescinded.

And moved a suspension of the rules for immediate action on said resolution, which motion was lost.

Mr. Herron, chairman of special committee appointed to have a salute fired in honor of the election of President and Vice-President of the Southern Republic, made a report,

That the committee had arranged that a salute of 100 guns would be fired at 5 o'clock this evening, by Maj. J. B. Walton, of the Battalion of Washington Artillery, who had tendered the services of his corps for that purpose.

On motion, the Convention adjourned until Monday next.
J. T. WHEAT, Secretary.

JOURNAL OFFICIEL
—DE LA—
CONVENTION DE L'ETAT DE LA LOUISIANE.

SAMEDI, 9 février 1861.

La Convention se réunit suivant ajournement. L'Hon. A. Mouton est au fauteuil. Après une prière du révérend M. Jessup, l'appel nominal constate la présence de 87 délégués.

Le journal est lu et approuvé.

M. Miles se lève à propos d'une question de privilège est pour corriger un malentendu dans le Delta de ce matin relativement au vote de certains délégués sur la question juridiciaire.

M. Davidson de Sabine présente un préambule et une résolution relative à l'ajournement *sine die* de la Convention mardi prochain. Le dit préambule et la dite résolution sont déposés sur le bureau conformément au réglement.

M. Estlin présente un préambule et une résolution relative à la nomination d'un comité pour faire une enquête et un rapport en mars prochain à la réunion de cette Convention au sujet de l'opportunité de rendre uniforme dans la durée de leurs chartes, etc, les chartes des banques existant actuellement en Louisiane, pourvu que les dites banques s'engagent à payer à l'Etat un bonus satisfaisant. La dite résolution est déposée en vertu du réglement.

M. Swayze présente une ordonnance relative aux personnes qui tenteraient ou oseraient exercer ou garder une place dans l'Etat de la Louisiane sous toute autre autorité que celle de l'Etat de la Louisiane; et ladite ordonnance est référée au comité judiciaire.

M. Miles présente une résolution relative au paiement par le sous-trésorier des ci-devant Etats-Unis des marshals et assistant-marshals des districts oriental et occidental pour avoir pris le recensement en 1860, et cette résolution est référée au comité de finances.

Sur motion de M. Girard le rapport du comité des patentes est mis à l'ordre spécial du jour pour lundi prochain à midi.

Les rapports des comités permanents étant à l'ordre, M. Walker lit un rapport du comité des affaires postales, lequel sur motion de M. Fuqua est envoyé à l'impression et mis à l'ordre du jour pour lundi prochain, à 1 heure P. M.

M. Semmes ayant demandé et obtenu la permission de présenter un rapport du comité de commerce et de navigation relatif aux phares qui se trouvent dans l'Etat. Sur motion, cette motion est déposée suivant le réglement.

On reprend en considération l'ordonnance rapportée hier par M. Elgee, président du comité des terres publiques.

M. Fuqua retire le substitut présenté par lui, hier, à la place de l'amendement de M. McCollom à la 1ère section de la dite ordonnance.

Sur motion de M. Bonford, l'amendement de M. McCollom est de nouveau amendé en effaçant les mots "reconnus et".

Sur motion d'adopter, tel qu'il a été amendé, l'amendement de M. McCollom, M. Connelly demande l'appel nominal qui donne le résultat suivant:

Ont voté oui MM. Anderson, Bienvenu, Bonford, Caldwell, Cook, Connelly, Dupré, Elam, Girard, Hough, Hollingsworth, Kennedy, LeBourgeois, Lewis d'Orléans, McCollom, Meredith, O'Bryan, Perkins d'Orléans, Pemberton, Pierson de Winn, Roman, Rozier, Scott d'Est Féliciana, Stocker, Swayze, Taylor de St Landry, Todd, Williams d'Est Bâton Rouge, Williams de Ste Hélène, Wilkinson—30.

Ont voté non MM. Barrow, Bermudez, Bonner, Briscoe, Butler, Conner de Concordia, Davidson de Livingston, Davidson de Sabine, DeBlanc, Dorsey, Duffel, Elgee, Fuselier, Fuqua, Gardère, Graves, Gray, Herron, Hodges, Johnston, Labatut, Lawrence, Lagroue, Manning, Marks de Caddo, Marks d'Orléans, Martin d'Assomption, Martin de Carroll, Magee, Mélançon, Miles, Miller, Moore, Olivier, Patterson, Peck, Pierson de Natchitoches, Pike, Richardson, Semmes, Slawson, Smith, Stewart, Tappan, Talbot, Taylor de St Charles, Texada, Thomasson, Towles, Valentine, Warren, Walker et York—53.

Oui	30.
Non	53.

En conséquence, l'amendement de M. McCollom à la 1ère section est rejeté.

Et sur motion de M. Elgee, la 1ère section est adoptée.

La 2ème section est prise en considération. Elle est ainsi conçue:

Il est de plus decrete, etc., Que l'arpenteur-général et les registers et receveurs des divers bureaux de terres à la Nouvelle-Orléans, Opelousas, Natchitoches, Monroe et Greensburg, dans cet Etat, soient requis de livrer immédiatement au gouverneur de l'Etat ou à toute personne autorisée par lui tous les fonds publics qui se trouvent entre leurs mains, et tous les livres, registres, papiers et archives appartenant à leurs bureaux respectifs, et en le faisant ils seront garantis de toute perte ou dommage qui pourraient en résulter pour eux ou pour leurs cautions, en raison des obligations contractées par eux vis-à-vis du ci-devant gouvernement des Etats-Unis.

Plusieurs amendements et un substitut pour la dite 2ème section sont proposés par MM. Elgee, Dupré, DeBlanc, Moore et O'Bryan.

A ce moment des délibérations, M. le président Mouton annonce à la Convention la nouvelle qui vient d'être reçue, par télégraphe, de l'élection de l'Hon. Jefferson Davis, du Mississipi, et de l'Hon. A. H. Stephens, de la Georgie, comme président et vice-président du gouvernement provisoire de la république du Sud, par la Convention de Montgomery.

M. Walker, ayant demandé et obtenu la permission de le faire, et le réglement ayant été suspendu à cet effet, présente les résolutions suivantes qui sont adoptées à l'unanimité:

Resolu, Que cette Convention reçoit avec l'approbation la plus cordiale la nouvelle, transmise en ce jour par le télégraphe, de l'élection de Jefferson Davis, du Mississipi, comme président, et de A. H. Stephens, de la Georgie, comme vice-président du gouvernement provisoire de la république du Sud.

Resolu, Que le secrétaire de cette Convention est requis de communiquer les résolutions qui précèdent au président de la Convention de Montgomery.

Le cours régulier des débats de la Convention étant repris,

M. Olivier propose que l'ordonnance sur les terres publiques ainsi que les amendements, substituts et provisos présentés, soient de nouveau référés, ce qui est adopté.

Et, sur motion de M. McCollom, le rapport du dit comité est envoyé pour être imprimé et mis à l'ordre du jour pour lundi à 2 heures P. M.

M. Elgee demande à être dispensé de tout service ultérieur comme membre du comité des terres publiques, ce qui lui est accordé.

Sur motion de M. Herron, et après dispense des règles, la résolution suivante, présentée par lui, est unanimement adoptée:

Resolu, Qu'un comité soit nommé pour faire tirer un salut convenable en l'honneur de l'élection récente d'un Président et d'un Vice-Président de la Confédération du Sud.

Le président nomme du dit comité MM. Herron, Labatut et LeBourgeois.

ORDRE DU JOUR.

Le rapport du comité de commerce, ordonnance relative à la suite des travaux pour maintenir ouvert le chenal de la Passe Sud-Ouest du Mississippi en vertu du contrat passé avec les Etat-Unis avant l'adoption de l'ordonnance de scission.

Cette ordonnance étant à l'ordre du jour, sur motion de M. Semmes elle est prise en considération et lue, et après un débat sur la dite ordonnance, sur motion de M. Lewis de Claiborne elle est déposée sur le bureau sujette à appel.

M. Walker présente la résolution suivante:

Resolu, Que la résolution de cette Convention adoptée mercredi le 6 février et désignant mardi prochain comme jour de l'ajournement de la Convention est rappelée.

Et il demande la suspension du réglement pour un vote immédiat sur la dite résolution.

Cette motion est rejetée.

M. Herron, président du comité spécial, nommé pour faire tirer un salut en l'honneur de l'élection du Président et du Vice-Président de la République du Sud, fait un rapport verbal, d'où il résulte que le comité a pris des arrangements avec le major J. B. Walton, du battaillon d'artillerie Washington, qui a offert dans ce but les services de son corps, pour faire tirer un salut de 100 coups de cannon à 5 heures ce soir.

Sur motion, la Convention s'ajourne à lundi prochain.
J. T. WHEAT, Secrétaire.

(*Proceedings of the 7th o the seco [illegible]*)

The Disunion Movement in the United States.

REMARKABLE ARTICLE FROM THE LONDON TIMES.

A lengthy article in the London Times of January 18, on the domestic troubles of the United States, concludes as follows:

If South Carolina secedes; if Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana follow; if a Southern Federation be formed, and take its place among the powers of the earth, there can be no hope of keeping the border slave States. These will be drawn by a natural affinity to detach themselves from the North and join the slaveholding Federation. North Carolina, Tennessee, Kentucky, Missouri, Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, will then be dissociated from the free States. Such an event cannot be regarded without dismay by the most staunch Abolitionist. *It would, in fact, make the Southern Federation the real United States*, as far as territory present and prospective is concerned, and reduce the North to what our ancestors would have called a "Rump." The people of Boston or Philadelphia might be distinguished for their ability and enterprise, but they would belong to a country with hardly a greater future than Canada. *Every natural advantage would be on the side of the slave States.*

Look at the map, and you will see what a narrow slip of country composes the free soil of the American Federation. Only the sea-coast from the British frontier to the Delaware—a few hundred miles—belong to it; all the rest, stretching far away down the Atlantic and along the Gulf of Mexico, is in the hands of the slave owners. The mouth of the Mississippi is theirs; the Missouri and Arkansas, the great arteries of the West, are theirs. Virginia pushes a spur of territory to within less than a hundred miles of Lake Erie, and thus divides the Atlantic free States from the West in a manner highly dangerous to their future union. Indeed, it is doubtful whether the connection between New York and New England on the one hand, and Illinois and the neighboring States on the other, could long survive the total separation of the South. The North would have a territory as straggling as that of Prussia, and the Western region would soon find it advantageous to dissolve its union with the Eastern.

In the meantime all the riches of the New World would be in the grasp of the Southerners. Instead of exploring the inhospitable regions in the neighborhood of the British frontier, which would be all that remained to the North, the slave-owners would carry their "undeniable property" into lands blessed with every advantage of climate, soil and mineral wealth. Texas has territory enough to make three or four great States. New Mexico is about to be admitted with slave institutions. Arizona will follow. *Mexico must in a few years be conquered, and the Southerners, lords of the most magnificent domain in the world, would control the passage between the two oceans.*

In short, if the Union lets South Carolina go, there is no saying what will go with it. It is very well to speculate on the return of an erring sister, but experience shows that secessions, when once made, are not easily recalled. *It is the nature of cracks to widen*, and both at the North and West there are masses of people so earnest in the advocacy of strong measures to prevent a disruption that the President may be forced into active measures. For our own part, whatever opinions Americans may have of English policy, we beg to assure them that in this country there is only one wish—that the Union may survive this terrible trial. Should Providence decree it otherwise, we earnestly pray the separation may be an amicable one. Civil war in a flourishing country, and among a kindred people, can never be contemplated without horror by a nation like ours, and we trust that neither the violence of the people nor the weakness of their leaders will bring this calamity on the American Union.

Interesting Discoveries in Australia.

We extract the following from a London journal received by the last mail:

The news by the present steamer from Australia is in one respect the most important ever received. The problem as to the possibility of crossing the continent from South to North has been virtually solved, and no question now remains that a land transit may be opened up, available, not only for the general purposes of commerce, but also for telegraphic communication. Mr. Stuart, who started from Adelaide about last March on an exploring expedition, with two companies and a number of horses, has returned, after having crossed the country to a distance of about 1600 miles from Adelaide and to within 300 miles of the Victoria river. Here he was turned back by a body of hostile natives; but, as he had already reached 100 miles further north than the point to which Gregory's expedition in 1856 descended from the Victoria, the continent may be considered, by the joint results of these surveys, to have been fairly opened up from one end to the other. Instead of an arid desert, it is described to be a practicable country throughout.

The full details of the observations made were for the present, however, kept secret, the Parliament of South Australia having voted £2500 to enable Mr. Stuart to start again with a larger and more strongly organized party, and a desire being entertained to prevent the triumph of final success being snatched from him by rival explorers in the other colonies, who might hastily avail themselves of all his information. Still, enough had been allowed to transpire to give a general idea of the route traversed. Mr. Stuart and his companions suffered terribly from want, not only of water, but food, and also from an attack of scurvy. The part of the route in which water was totally absent, however, was only sixty miles. In many parts there was fine grass, besides splendid gum and other trees, including at least four kinds of palm. A very large salt lake was also discovered in the interior, supposed, from the blueness of its water, to be of great depth. The event had created great excitement and rejoicing at Adelaide, and the general impression was that a number of new provinces would ultimately be formed in the territory thus explored, and that meanwhile the track might be made available almost forthwith to facilitate communication with India, and especially the export trade in horses. The new expedition, which was to start immediately, would consist of Mr. Stuart and one of his former companions, ten other well-armed men, and a suitable number of horses.

INTERESTING CASE.—The case of the United States vs. John Kelly, et al., brought before Judge Chamberlain on Friday by habeas corpus, grew out of the following facts:

The prisoners were sailors on the ship Eastern Star, bound from Baltimore to Mobile. In the month of October, 1860, while the ship was in the Chesapeake Bay, and within the jurisdiction of the District Court of the United States for the Eastern District of Virginia, the prisoners committed an assault and battery on, and a robbery from, the person of Martin Greer, also a sailor on said ship.

On the arrival of the prisoners at Mobile in the month of November, they were arrested on the above charges and committed to the jail of Mobile county, to answer before the District Court of the United States for the Southern District of Alabama.

At the December term of the District Court, the matter was brought before the Grand Jury, who upon investigating the facts, reported them to the court, and it appearing that the court had no jurisdiction properly appertained to the District Court of the United States for the Eastern District of Virginia, the Judge made an order directed to the Marshal of the Southern District of Alabama to remove the prisoners to the Eastern District of Virginia, and deliver them to the marshal of the said district.

This order was dated the 11th January, 1861.

We publish this as a correct version of the facts.
[Mobile Tribune.

ESCAPE OF A CONVICT.—A convict, named Morgan, escaped from the Penitentiary in Jeffersonville a few nights since. He was serving his second term in the prison, having been sent the last time for four years for burglary. He made his exit from the hospital, where he had been waiting on a fellow convict; by picking a lock and descending a pair of stairs, he entered the store-room, from which he escaped by picking another lock of a door which led to the prison yard. Having succeeded thus far, he repaired to the chair shop, where he procured two chair racks, with which he very easily managed to scale the wall and descend by the ladder near the guard-house on the front wall.—[Louisville Courier.

AN ENTHUSIASTIC OLD FELLOW.—We understand that when the Greensboro' Guards were about to embark at Eastport for Mobile, an old, time-worn gentleman (70 years old) went to Capt. Jones and offered him one son and two grandsons to be enrolled in the company, and then burst into tears, remarking that he did not cry because the boys were going, but because he was too old to go himself. Long life and honor to that brave old patriot. [Eutaw Whig.

A LEVEE AT THE WHITE HOUSE.—'Tis a ridiculous spectacle. All the men strut loftily along, trying to look as much like Congressmen as possible, and all the women hanging on their arms make it a rule to gaze into their escorts' faces with an insensate grin, as if they were excessively delighted at nothing.
[Washington Correspondent Richmond Dispatch.

SLIGHTLY OPPOSED TO BUCHANAN.—At a public meeting in Brooklyn, Ill., a few days since, among other resolutions passed was one recommending that as soon as President Lincoln takes his seat, the first act of his official life be to hang that old traitor, James Buchanan, as high as John Brown.