THE DAILY EXCHANGE.

VOL. VII---NO. 941. BALTIMORE, MONDAY, MARCH 18, 1861. PRICE TWO CENTS.

SEE FOURTH PAGE.

THE NEWS.

By the arrival of the steamer *Arabia* at New York on Saturday evening, we have European dates to the 3rd inst. The steamer *Australasian* is safe. On the 20th of February she broke both of the flanges of her screw, and made an effort to proceed on her voyage under sail, but a heavy gale from the westward came on and compelled her to put before it, reaching Queenstown on the 3rd inst. It seems that the destination of the *Great Eastern* is changed from Norfolk to New York. The Duke of Sutherland is dead. The Prince Napoleon, in a speech in the Senrte, opposed the union of the temporal and spiritual power of the Pope, but said that the independence of the Pontiff must be insured. Preparations were making for the commencement of the seige of Messina. It is stated by a Paris correspondent of a London paper that Austria will not recognize Victor Emmanuel as King of Italy, and that if the French troops be removed, they will be replaced by Austrian soldiers. Monetary in England and on the continent are mostly unchanged.

The California Pony Express passed Fort Kearney on Friday afternoon, with advices from San Francisco to the afternoon of the 2d instant. The steamer Cortez left for Panama on the 1st, with the mails and passengers, and $689,000 for New York. Politics engrossed the principal attention in California. The Chairman of the Breckinridge State Committee had issued a call for a meeting of that body at Sacramento on the 20th, to consider the condition of national affairs. He accompanies the call with a series of resolutions to be acted upon, looking to the eventual establishment of a Pacific nationality. The Senatorial question had not been decided by the Legislature.

We learn from Washington that the Southern Commissioners entertain strong hopes of a peaceful solution of our difficulties. It is not yet decided by the Government to evacuate Fort Sumter, but it is expected that the order will soon be issued. The report of the attack on Fort Pickens is discredited by well informed parties in Washington.

In the Confederate Congress on Saturday a number of appointments of Judicial officers were confirmed, after which the Congress adjourned until the second Wednesday in May.

In the Virginia Convention on Saturday, Mr. Goggin introduced a resolution providing for the withdrawal of the State from the Union, and recommending a Conference of the Border States to be held at Lexington, Kentucky, in May next.

From Galveston, Texas, we learn that the United States troops evacuated Fort Brown on the 12th inst., and took passage for Fort Tortugas and Key West. Major Maclin, U. S. A., had resigned and joined the State troops. Nothing further is known of Gov. Houston's position. Camp Colorado, on the northern frontier, has been taken by the State troops.

A Southern right's meeting was held at Louisville, Ky., on Friday night last, which broke up in a row.

The municipal election at Harrisburg on Friday, resulted in the triumph of the Democrats. At West Chester a conservative Republican was elected over an ultra member of the same party.

Nothing of importance was done in the Senate on Saturday. Mr. Douglas' resolutions will be be taken up to-day. In executive session a large number of nominations were confirmed.

MUSICAL.—We regret to notice that the Beethoven Society speak of their concert of to-night as the last but one. We had hoped that the encouragement afforded, would have been sufficient to induce them to continue their admirable entertainments until the heats of summer should have arrived. For to-night a very taking programme is announced, embracing many novelties. We notice a quintetto of Spohr's, a nocturno of Hummel's, and a solo for Mr. Jungnickel, besides other selections of merit. The attendance should be large, and will be, if the efforts of the society are properly appreciated.

HOLLIDAY STREET THEATER.—To Night Mr. E. Eddy, the tragedian, makes his first appearance, for a number of years, in the character of *Jack Cade*, in Judge Conrad's play of that name. He has achieved great success in this character, and well deserves it. A favorite farce will follow.

THE OPERA TROUPE.—The New Orleans Opera Troupe will continue their entertainments at the New Assembly Rooms for a few nights longer. The gentlemen comprising the troupe are all excellent vocalists.

FOREIGN GOSSIP.

The new Bankruptcy bill in England is objected to by the Mercantile Law Amendment Society, on the ground that, by it, creditors' assignees are called on to give security for their acts. No banker or merchant will give security to administer the possible or probable effects of a bankrupt. By the way, this is one of the many objections to the bill now before our own legislature for the relief of insolvents. Who will jeopard his own property for the thankless task of settling the old debts of another, with a crowd of creditors watching the assignee, ready to pitch into him on every technicality or mistake?

Queen Victoria, at her last levee at St. James's, wore a train of black satin trimmed with black gimp and rosettes; petticoat of black satin with black lace and gimp; headdress, with emeralds and diamonds. We presume this will interest the Jenkinses who have recently taken to describing the costumes of the ladies at the White House.

The late Mrs. Gore was the daughter of Mr. Moody, a wine merchant, and her maiden name remained always in doubt among her best friends. She inherited a fortune from a cousin of her mother, and to this, rather than the proceeds of her pen, enabled her to live amply and easily to the last of her days.

The London shoe black brigade has been quite prosperous. There are eight divisions, or rather battalions, of the polishers; rank and file, 331; total annual earnings, $23,225. Their anniversaries are attended by lords, admirals, clergymen, and philanthropists generally, while the operating members are patted on the back and fed plentifully with bread, butter and cake.

It is alleged that the passion for making money was never so strongly developed in France as at the present moment, and the London *Times* says that Legitimists, Orleanists and Imperialists, recognizing each a different monarch, unite in veneration of a higher power, viz: the 5f. piece. One klink of a rouleau makes all Frenchmen kin!

The sudden death of the Viscount de Richemont, collector of taxes in Paris, by apoplexy, is connected with the supposed criminality of Mires, the "lame duck" of the Paris Bourse and the Roman railways. Exposures of the most astounding character appear to be imminent, and suicides to correspond.

The little principality of Monaco, recently purchased by Louis Napoleon for $800,000, has a seaport, with a fine climate and four thousand inhabitants. It is possessed of excellent tracts of timber, which are to be used in the construction of French ships of war. Perhaps Monaco may one day be a second Elba.

In consequence of the ill-construction and bad ventilation of the school-houses in and about London, seven thousand children, between the ages of five and fifteen years, annually lose their lives from these causes alone. So says Dr. Hillier, Secretary of the Metropolitan Medical Association.

The leading railway lines in France pay from 10 to 20 per cent. dividends. The gross annual earnings of the British lines are £25,000,000, of which one-half goes for expenses, and the dividends are only about 4½ per cent.

A telegraphic cable between the coast of Sussex and Holland was recently destroyed by driving a nail into the strand. This was done by a man on board the vessel laying it down, employed to do so by parties interested in a rival patent.

The last Australia mail from England comprised 1,100 boxes, two feet each by one wide, 81 deep, and required nineteen omnibuses and one cab to carry them to the railway terminus.

Sir Roderick Murchison, at a late meeting of the Ethnological Society, said there were now living in the forests of Poland animals which have hitherto been supposed to be extinct.

The Judges in the House of Lords have decided that a clergyman has no power to solemnize his own marriage, and that the children of such a union are illegitimate.

A young Swedish girl, Christine Nilson, has been sent to Paris by the Duchess of Ostgothland, to be educated at her expense, as a singer, in consequence of the great beauty of her voice.

Two electric lamps are now placed in the Place du Carrousel, kept brilliantly lighted by an electro-magnetic machine, which is itself worked by a portable steam engine of two horse power.

The Emperor of Austria has given to the Vienna Protestants a place to worship in, Concordat or no Concordat. The building has been for years past a magazine.

The water of Loch Katrine, now supplied to Glasgow for drinking purposes, is said to be the finest in the world.

Mr. Woodin, a London actor, in the course of a two hours' performance, successfully represents a hundred different characters.

A patent for the use of sugar in making ale has been taken out in England, for which an enormous sum has been offered by Alsopp's house.

Cotton cloths may now be imported into France free of duty, provided they are re-exported after having been printed.

The late dreadful storms in England were announced three days in advance by the London *Meteorologist*.

Horseflesh is regularly quoted in the market prices current of several towns in Germany, not on the hoof, but cut up for food.

A general famine threatens the northwest provinces of India, and the new crops are an entire failure.

J. H. Lawrence is now the avowed author of "Guy Livingstone." Many supposed it was Bristed.

Chocolate is becoming very fashionable at the Paris *soirees*.

A new twenty-horse power steam vessel is building for Dr. Livingstone, the African traveller.

Infanticide is on the increase in London.

FURNISHING THE WHITE HOUSE.—Quite an animated contest is going on for the contract for furnishing the White House, Messrs. W. H. Carryl & Bro., and W. H. Patten, of Philadelphia, and A. T. Stewart & Co. and Solomon & Hart, of New York, are struggling for the prize. The job will amount to twenty-five thousand dollars. I think Philadelphia is ahead, as the New Yorkers, who have had it for the last two terms, have humbugged Uncle Sam shamefully,—*Wash. Cor. Philadelphia Inquirer.*

Hinton Rowan Helper, author of the "Impending Crisis," is an applicant for the Consulship at Manchester, or Southampton, England.

LATEST NEWS.

TELEGRAMS.

LATER FROM EUROPE.

THE STEAMER ARABIA AT NEW YORK.

SAFETY OF THE AUSTRALASIAN.

£260,000 IN SPECIE.

NEW YORK, March 16.—The royal mail steamship Arabia, from Liverpool on the 2d inst., via Queenstown on the 3d, arrived at this port this evening, bringing £260,000 sterling in specie.

The steamship Australasian arrived at Queenstown on the same day that the Arabia left that port, having returned in consequence of an accident. Her mails and passengers (but not her specie) were transferred to the Arabia.

Capt. Hockey, of the Australasian, reports that his steamer broke both flanges of her screw on February 20th, when in latitude 30°, longitude 34°, but she continued on her voyage westward till the 26th, under canvass, when a heavy gale was experienced from the westward and she put before it, reaching Queenstown on the 3d. During one day's sail, she made 280 miles under canvass.

The royal mail steamship Canada arrived at Queenstown on the 2d instant.

The London money market was unchanged, with an active demand. Consols were quoted on Saturday evening at 91⅝@91⅞ for money. American securities were dull and unchanged.

The French Senate had been spiritedly debating the address to the throne.

GREAT BRITAIN.

In the House of Commons the Syrian question had been under debate.

The conduct of the French troops in Syria was generally condemned.

Lord John Russell, in his speech on the question, admitted that the occupation by the French army had been useful, but he thought it desirable that it shall terminate as soon as possible.

The Great Ship Company had adopted the report already published. The Great Eastern will probably be ready next month for another voyage to New York.

The Duke of Sutherland was dead.

FRANCE.

During the debate in the French Senate on the address to the throne, the Prince Napoleon justified the policy of Piedmont, and uttered some sympathetic words relative to Venice, though, as he added, he regretted deplore an untimely attack. He opposed the union of temporal and spiritual power of the Pope of Rome, but said the independence of the Pope must be insured.

A pastoral letter by the Bishop of Poictiers comparing the Emperor to Pontius Pilate had created a great sensation throughout France, and the Government was debating what measure to take in this matter.

The Paris Bourse was dull but steady, Rentes being quoted at 68f. 15c.

ITALY.

The siege of Messina, it was expected, would be commenced in a few days.

The Sardinians had occupied the heights commanding the citadel.

It is said that the resistance offered by the Governor of the citadel arose from the orders given him by Francis II.

The representatives of the foreign powers at Messina had protesfed against the opening of hostilities in consequence of the damage that might ensue.

Fearful inundations had taken place at Galatz, and hundreds of persons are reported to have been drowned. Immense quantities of grain were lost.

RUSSIA.

ST. PETERSBURG.—The Russian government announces that no government measure relative to the peasantry will be published until the 2nd of March.

AUSTRIA.

A Paris letter in the London *Daily News* mentions a rumor, which is accredited in official quarters, that Prince Metternich has just communicated to M. Thouvenel an important note from the Court of Vienna, wherein it is asserted that the Austrian government will never recognize Victor Emmanuel as King of Italy, and if France withdraws her troops from Rome, Austria will immediately replace them by her own army, and if the revolutionists make the least movement in Venetia or Hungary, she will cross the Mincio.

HOLLIDAY STREET THEATER.—To night Mr. E. Eddy, the tragedian, makes his first appearance, for a number of years, in the character of *Jack Cade*, in Judge Conrad's play of that name. He has achieved great success in this character, and well deserves it. A favorite farce will follow.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

LIVERPOOL, March 2.—Cotton opened active at an advance of ¼d., which was subsequently lost—the market above last week's rates. The sales of Friday amount to 6,000 bales, including 2,000 bales for speculation and export. The market closed dull at the following prices:—New Orleans fair 7¼d.; Middling 6¾d.; Mobile fair 7¼d.; Middling 6¾d.; Upland fair 7¼d.; Middling 6 9-16d. The sales of the week amounted to 62,000 bales, including 11,000 bales for exporters.

Messrs. Hewett & Co. say the week's advance was barely 1-16@⅛, and in some instances this advance was lost. Stock in port 855,000 bales, a decline of 695,000 bales.

Sales of Saturday 1,000 bales, including 5,000 bales for speculation and export. The market closed firm. The Canada's news imparted more tone to the market.

Manchester advices are unfavorable, and quotations nominal. Sales unimportant with an increased business.

Breadstuffs are dull with a declining tendency. Flour is dull. Prices easier but unchanged. Wheat is easier, and prices irregular, partially 1@2d. lower. Corn is quiet. Mixed 36s. 9d.@37s.

Provisions are quiet. Beef is quiet. Pork is dull—Bacon heavy. Lard dull and slightly declined. Sales at 54s @56s. Tallow is quiet.

Produce—Pot and Pearl Ashes are quiet at 29s. 6d. Sugar is heavy. Coffee is quiet. Rice is heavy. Rosin is heavy, and holders are pressing on the market. Spirits Turpentine heavy at 31s.@30s. 6d.

LONDON MARKETS.—Consols closed at 91⅝@91⅞ for Money, and 91⅜@91⅝ for account.

Bullion in the Bank has increased £355,000.

LATER FROM CALIFORNIA BY PONY EXPRESS.

$689,000 en route for New York.

FORT KEARNEY, March 15.—The California pony express passed this point at 4.15 this afternoon, bringing the following summary of news:

The steamer Cortez sailed for Panama on the 1st instant, carrying 86 passengers and $729,000 in treasure, $689,000 of which is consigned to New York.

The ship Dashing Wave has cleared for New York with a miscellaneous cargo, comprising 1,200 sacks of barley, 1,200 sacks of copper ore, 2,000 hides, 300 flasks of quicksilver, 140 barrels of tallow, 87 bales of wool, 1,500 bags of guano, etc.

The steamer Philadelphia, with the New York mails of February 1st, is now overdue some six days, causing much anxiety.

The pony express, with dates from the Atlantic States to the 15th ult., is telegraphed from Carson Valley to-day.

The Hirrasethy case, for alleged defalcation in the San Francisco Mint in 1856, is on trial in the U. S. Circuit Court.

A. Austin & Co., retail dry goods merchants, recently reported as having failed, have resumed business.

Horace Smith, who killed the printer, Newell, in San Francisco on the 1st of January, having been refused a change of venue by the Court, petitioned the Legislature for that purpose, alleging that he could not have a fair trial in San Francisco, and asking the passage of a special act removing his trial to Placer county, his place of residence, thus virtually asking the privilege of selecting his own judge and jury.

Both Houses of the Legislature granted the prayer of the petitioner by more than a two-thirds majority in each branch. There is some prospect that the Governor will veto the act and throw the responsibility on the Legislature of again passing it by a two-thirds vote.

The Chairman of the Breckinridge State Central Committee has called a meeting of that body at Sacramento on the 20th, to consider the perilous crisis in our national affairs. He urges the following declaration for the consideration of the meeting: "Let us have the Union if we can, peaceable dissolution if we must, but conflict never. If peaceable dissolution comes, why should not California remain with the free States? In case of bloody separation, why should she not establish a Pacific nationality? Is she willing to be dragged into war against a Southern Confederation of her sisters? If such a confederation be irrevocably established, ought not she to demand of the other free States to consent to a peaceable separation, if any must come, as the unyielding condition of her remaining with them? Does not Lincoln's foreshadowed policy of executing the laws in the seceded States imply force, coercion and war? Are our people really to plunge into anarchy and suffer the ravages of such a war? These are momentous questions to be considered, and which, it is feared, will too soon require action. Therefore a full meeting of the committee is requested.

(Signed) CHAS. LINDLEY, Chairman.

There are no new features in the Senatorial election question before the Legislature.

The Senate yesterday amended the Union resolution previously passed in the Assembly, and adopted it in the following form by a vote of 20 yeas to 6 nays—the negative vote being cast by the Republican members:

Resolved, That we heartily endorse the plan of settlement for the existing difficulties in the Atlantic States as proposed by the Hon. J. J. Crittenden, in the Senate of the United States, January 8th, 1861, and that we condemn the use of military force to coerce the people, recommending conciliation and concession rather than war, and compromises rather than disunion.

From the different parts of the State, the mining news is about as usual at this season.

The recently discovered siver mines in Nevada county, near Grass Valley, are prospecting well, and experienced miners from the Washoe district have great confidence in them.

Safety of the Steamer Uncle Sam.

NEW YORK, March 16.—An extract from a letter dated aboard the steamer Uncle Sam, (whose non-arrival at San Francisco was causing much anxiety there,) in Acapulco harbor on February 18th, reports a rough passage up, and that the steamer had lost one of her wheels, and would not be able to reach San Francisco until the 4th or 5th of March. She was due there on the 24th of February.

Marine Disaster.

NORFOLK, March 17.—The schooner L. Waterbury, from St. Marks, bound to New York, with a cargo of cotton, went ashore at Lynn Haven during the storm on Friday. Her cargo will be saved and the vessel probably lost.

South Pacific Railroad

LOUISVILLE, March 16.—The Southern Pacific Railroad asks the stockholders to take one dollar's worth of new stock for each slave owned by them.

ANOTHER BALTIMORE SENSATION.—The following "highly important" despatch was published in the New York *Herald* of Saturday:

WASHINGTON, March 15.—From intelligence received here this morning it is highly probable that the first resistance to federal government will take place in the city of Baltimore. It appears that those men who favor secession have determined that in the event of the appointment of any one of those who voted the Republican ticket to any permanent office, such as Collector, Postmaster or Naval Officer, they shall not take possession of the office, and that they will resist them to the last. Their purpose is to bring on an "irresistible conflict."

It is understood that the President has been informed of this determination.

Gov. Hicks expresses considerable uneasiness as to the result of the intrigues of the secession sympathizers in Maryland.

Mr. Ben. Perley Poore has been appointed clerk of the Senate committee of Foreign Relations, in place of W. H. Burwell, Esq., resigned.

[Reported for the Daily Exchange.]

PROCEEDINGS OF BALTIMORE CONFERENCE, AT STAUNTON, VA.

THIRD DAY.

STAUNTON, March 15, 1861.

Opening exercises by Rev. J. Gibson. Reading of minutes. The report of the Committee on the Preachers' Aid Society was presented and referred. A committee of three was appointed to prepare the Annual Register. The committee are Revs. T. H. W. Monroe, W. H. Chapman, and John S. Martin. The Conference received an invitation from the Blind Asylum to a concert, at 3 o'clock, which was accepted. The Stewards made their call, which consumed the remainder of the morning hour. A communication from the Baltimore Female College was referred to the Committee on Seminaries, by a vote of 44 to 29.

The exhibit of the two Book Concerns at Cincinnati and New York went to file without reading.

The order of the day—the consideration of memorials—was taken up at 11½ o'clock.

Question by Rev. J. W. Bull:—"Does not the action of the late General Conference, as contained in the new chapter, relate to slavery as in the M. E. Church?"

Answer:—"I am not sure that I understand the question. The action of the late General Conference relates, I suppose, to slavery as popularly understood to exist in the M. E. Church. But the new chapter assumes that slavery as defined in that chapter does not exist at all in the M. E. Church."—L. Scott.

Question 2, by Rev. A. W. Wilson:—"Has the Presiding Bishop authority to ordain any local or travelling preacher, who says he cannot subscribe to all the doctrines of the Church?"

Answer:—"The Presiding Bishop must ordain all who are duly elected, and who take upon themselves the ordination vows of the ordination service."—L. Scott.

Rev. E. P. Phelps resumed his remarks. Embarrassing as was his position, God had given him the nerve to meet the responsibility resting upon him. He did not feel that his church relations were in conflict with those of his beloved Virginia. Hence he would stand by his position. He did not believe that his obligations to the church required him to circulate any of its anti-slavery opinions. The failure of the Book Concern to declare a dividend arose from the fact that the price of books had been approximating the cost of publication. He did not believe a man of honor would sell himself to the highest bidder. The amount of his salary, before and after separation could not affect his vote. If he believed his position right he would stand by that position at any sacrifice. This argument of appealing to clerical cupidity is dishonorable to the Conference. He was for acting only on the merits of the case. If it is right to go, let us go—if not, let us stay "though the heavens fall!"

Rev. A. Griffith remarked that he would read the new chapter and consider its merits. He would recall no word or no imputation yesterday made. Lest he should be misunderstood, he desired to give his calm and deliberate opinion formed on his knees before God. He did not believe the new chapter would have the force or spirit of law. If this is its form it is unconstitutional and dead. He believed it wrong before God, if it can be avoided, to divide the Church of Christ. It will react with disastrous power upon those who assume responsibility. Consider well the step you take, and take it in the fear of God.

Rev. Mr. Gilbert has the floor for to-morrow.

S. V. L.

[Reported for the Daily Exchange.]

LAYMEN'S CONVENTION OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, IN SESSION AT STAUNTON.

THIRD DAY.

STAUNTON, VA., March 15, 1861.

The Convention met at 9 o'clock, with the majority report under consideration.

Mr. Hoffman, of Fredericksburg, Va., desired each member to express his opinion of the desire of the people he represents, previous to the consideration of plans and propositions.

It was resolved to limit debate to twenty minutes.

The Committee on Credentials reported on the contested elections of East Fairfax circuit. They informed the Convention that at a quarterly conference on said circuit, J. W. Lockwood was elected with the proviso that should Mr. L. decline, then Revs. B. N. Brown, Presiding Elder, and Dr. W. E. Magruder, preacher in charge, be empowered to give a certificate to such person as in their judgment would be a proper delegate. Messrs. Brown and Magruder selected R. Stockett Matthews, of Baltimore, and he having presented the proper certificate, the committee recommend him to the Convention as the regularly authorized delegate.

The Convention sustained the decision of the committee, and Mr. Matthews took his seat in the body.

A letter was received by the President and read to the Convention, from Rev. B. N. Brown, requesting copies of all the papers which were in the possession of the Convention from E. Fairfax circuit. The request was refused.

Mr. Gantt offered an amendment to the majority report, asking that the Committee report a new chapter, reprint the Methodist Discipline without the chapter being inserted, and await a demand for reprints from the General Conference.

Col. Ridgeley, of Baltimore, joined issue with Mr. Gantt, as to his assertion that the Methodist Episcopal Church is an anti-slavery church, and that all slaves are, necessarily, chattels. Never until 1860 did the Methodist Episcopal Church proclaim to the world the sin of slaveholding.

Remarks were elicited from other speakers, but, without arriving at any conclusion, the Convention adjourned to 3 o'clock this day.

BY TELEGRAPH.

[Special Despatch to the "Exchange."]

STAUNTON, Saturday, March 16, 10 P. M.—The Laymen's Convention this evening memorialized the Conference to separate immediately from the Northern Conferences, and re-unite when the General Conference abrogate its legislation on slavery. The vote stood, affirmative ninety-one, negative thirty-two. The Baltimore delegation voted affirmatively.

[Reported for the Daily Exchange.]

EAST BALTIMORE CONFERENCE, METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

THIRD DAY.

CHAMBERSBURG, Pa., March 15, 1861.

Conference commenced its session at the usual hour, Bishop Simpson in the Chair. Religious services conducted by B. H. Cleaver.

The proceedings of yesterday were read and approved.

Mr. Harden asked to be excused from acting on the Committee on the State of the Church, on account of pressing engagements. Excused, and Amos Smith was, on motion, appointed in his stead. The Stewards then, by previous appointment, made their call for conference collection—the preachers responding as their names were called.

The Bishop presented a paper from the Western Book Concern, which was referred to David S. Monroe as committee.

The candidates for deacons' orders were called and addressed by the Bishop in remarks appropriate to the occasion. The Bishop certainly understood the true way of setting forth their connected with the ministry, and if the class addressed make their vows and break them it will not be because they were not faithfully cautioned.

The class of the second year was called, and the following young men were elected to deacons' orders:—J. W. Brown, E. Buhrman, J. E. Amos, J. F. Brown, J. G. Moore, D. C. John, J. B. Polsgrove, M. L. Smith, J. D. Brown, Joseph R. King, J. P. Swanger, W. W. Brim, W. A. Houck, E. J. Gray, T. Greenly, Thomas Care, S. H. C. Smith, Reuben C. Hasluy, John Williams.

Conference adjourned with benediction.

SALATHIEL.

CHAMBERSBURG, PA., March 16, 1861.

FOURTH DAY.

Conference met at the usual hour, Bishop Simpson in the Chair. Religious exercises by Rev. Jno. A. Gere.

The minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

A communication from Rev. Mr. Kennedy, in regard to the Fayetteville Seminary, was presented and referred to the Committee on Seminaries.

A letter from the male members of the East Baltimore Station was presented by Rev. William R. Mills; read, and referred to the Committee on the State of the Church.

The report of the Preachers' Aid Society was presented, read and referred.

On motion $1,600 was granted to the Committee on Necessitous Cases for distribution.

Rev. Drs. Schneck, Schaff and Bausman of the German Reformed Church, were introduced to the Conference.

The report of the Baltimore Female College was read and referred. Also one from Cumberland Valley Institute was referred.

The annual exhibit of the New York Book Concern was read, viz:

ASSETS.

Investments and less depreciation	$121,615.68
Cash, Merchandize, Printing-office, Bindery	367,024.92
Notes due, &c., (deduct per ct. off,)	120,759.27
Cash on hand	20,429.49
Total	$629,829.36

LIABILITIES.

Notes, &c	58,204.40
Leaves	$571,624.88
Increase over last year, some	40,000.00

Dr. Porter, assistant agent, explained the report.

J. A. Munroe was admitted into full connection and elected to deacon's orders.

The case of R. C. Haslup was taken up, and he was continued on trial.

The committee on the case of A. Stevenson Snyder reported that he be continued on trial. Adopted.

The Bishop announced the transfer of Dr. Daugherty to the Western Virginia Conference.

James S. Thomas was elected to elder's orders.

The following persons were elected to deacon's orders, viz:—Samuel Sparkin, John Musson, Robert S. Mercer, Alfred Newlin, Isaac Austin, R. S. McWilliams, Abraham Sahn, James Scott, (colored.)

John W. Parks and Patrick Hammell were elected to elder's orders. Adjourned.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MARYLAND ANNUAL CONFERENCE METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH.

SECOND DAY.

NEWARK, N. J., March 14.

On Thursday afternoon the Conference proceeded to select a place of meeting for its next session.—Westminster and Chestertown, Md., Alexandria, Va., and Newark, N. J., were named. After considerable discussion, Chestertown was selected.—The Conference then, upon motion, entered upon the selection of the time for holding the next session. A spirited debate arose, in which both clerical and lay delegates participated, some of whom desired the time changed from spring to fall. One of the clergy offered an amendment fixing the second Wednesday in November next as the time, to which another amendment was offered for the third Wednesday in September.

Considerable merriment was created by one of the Southern delegates frequently uttering "members of Congress," instead of members of Convention. Finally it was decided, by a very large majority, to hold the next Conference at the usual time—the second Wednesday in March. A motion was then made to take up the question pending at morning adjournment, relative to adjournment from Friday to Monday. After discussion it was again laid over, and the Conference entered into election of President and Committees. Rev. L. W. Bates, of Baltimore, was re-elected President by a large majority. The following gentlemen were chosen as the Standing Committee for the year: Clergy—Revs. W. Roby, J. J. Murray, D. Zillicoffer; Laymen—Messrs. A. Norris, J. W. Richardson, J. B. Matthews.

The following named gentlemen were appointed a Committee on Appeals: Clergy—Revs. J. J. Murray, S. B. Sutherland, J. Everest; Laymen—Messrs. W. D. Massey, J. B. Matlack.

Rev. J. B. Walker, of the Ohio Conference, made an address, bearing mainly upon the importance of the literature of the church.

Rev. J. K. Nichols was appointed as Conference Steward. Mr. D. A. Sherman was elected Steward of the Missionary Fund, with Mr. D. Haines as assistant.

In the evening, Rev. S. W. Hammond preached a sermon. Three services are announced to be held in the church in this city on Sunday, with sermons from leading clergymen.

During the morning session, Dr. Murray, of the Newark Mission, reported a doubling of membership at his charge, an interesting Sunday School, and generally encouraging indications of success.

THIRD DAY.

NEWARK, March 15.—In the morning the agent of the Superannuated Fund, Rev. Mr. Varden, presented his report, which was referred to a special Committee. The resolution, that when Conference adjourn this evening, it adjourn until Monday morning, was adopted. An effort was then made, but without success, to introduce a resolution for holding a session to night.

The reports of committees were then taken up.—That of the Committee on Boundaries, &c., was first in order. It was recommended that the East Baltimore Mission be changed to Washington street Circuit. The mission was represented as being in a very flourishing state, and fully competent to support itself. The recommendation was adopted. Upon motion, after much debate, Cumberland Station was stricken from the list of stations, and Cumberland city made a mission. Williamsport Circuit was referred to the President. A communication was received from Deer Creek Circuit, asking that Harford county, Md., be divided, the eastern portion, including Havre de Grace, to be called Susquehanna, and the western portion Belair Circuit. The consideration of reports was continued in the afternoon.

To-morrow morning the Conference propose visiting New York in a body.

A missionary meeting was held in the church in the evening, at half past 7 o'clock, and addressed by Rev. William T. Dunn and Rev. Dr. Newell.

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THE NATIONAL CRISIS.

Important from Washington.

THE SOUTHERN COMMISSIONERS ENTERTAIN STRONG HOPES OF PRESERVING PEACE.

WASHINGTON, March 17.—It is said, on good authority, that Messrs. Crawford and Forsyth, the Confederate State Commissioners, entertain the strongest hope of preserving the peaceful relations between the two Governments. There is no doubt their diplomacy is judiciously conducted.

Governor Roman, one of the commissioners, telegraphs from Wilmington, N. C., that he will be in Washington to-morrow. He was detained by indisposition.

It is not yet ascertained that any order has been issued by Presidential authority in regard to the evacuation of Fort Sumter, an event, however which it is still considered will soon inevitably occur from circumstances beyond executive control.—From what is known, a formal surrender of the fort is not anticipated.

These most informed relative to Southern movements totally discredit the report that Fort Pickens will be attacked, or that such an act will be likely to occur at present.

Important from Montgomery.

MONTGOMERY, March 16.—Congress has confirmed the nominations for District Judges, as follows:—A. G. Magrath, of South Carolina; H. R. Jackson, of Georgia; Wm. Lanier Harris, of Mississippi; Thos. J. Semmes, of Louisiana; Wm. Hemphill, of Texas; Jessee J. Finley, of Florida; McQueen McIntosh, Judge of the Admiralty Court of Key West; David Hubbard, of Alabama, Commissioner of Indian Affairs; Alexander B. Wetherall, of Alabama, Register of the Treasury; Bolliny Baker, of Georgia, Auditor of the Treasury.

Congress meets again to-night.

The State Convention has adopted a resolution to adjourn on Wednesday. The Convention has passed an ordinance altering the free banking acts. It substitutes stocks of the Confederate States for United States stocks. Neither foreign citizens nor corporations are allowed to hold stocks.

Two members of Congress have been elected to supply the vacancies occasioned by the resignations of H. C. Jones, of Sauordale, and Nicholas Davis, of Madison.

MONTGOMERY, March 16, P. M.—Congress adjourned to-night, to meet again on the second Monday in May.

Important from Texas.

GALVESTON, March 15.—The steamer Rusk returned here this morning from Brazos with 300 State troops. The Federal troops evacuated Fort Brown on the 12th. They go on the steamer Daniel Webster to Key West and Tortugas. Several hundred State troops have enlisted for six months to serve on the Rio Grande in occupying the various forts.

The State Convention is discussing measures of military defence.

Major Maclin, of the U. S. Army, has resigned, and tendered his services to the State.

Camp Colorado, on the Northern frontier, has been taken by the State troops. Capt. Sayne, of the Confederate States Army, has armed to muster a regiment of Rangers for service on the frontiers by order of President Davis.

There is nothing further relative to Gov. Houston's course.

Gen. Porter chartered the steamer Rusk to transport some 2,300 federal troops to Tortugas and Key West, and re-embark them for the North.

Virginia Convention.

RICHMOND, March 16.—A series of Union resolutions wrapped in an American flag, from the people of Wirt county, were presented in Convention to-day and tabled. Anti-secession resolutions were also offered and tabled.

Mr. Goggin offered an amendment to the report of the Federal Committee, proposing secession with a view to eventual re-construction. It was ordered to be printed.

Mr. Randolph, of Richmond, to-day made a speech against the peace propositions, favoring secession. Without concluding the Convention adjourned.

RICHMOND, March 16.—Mr. Goggins' proposed amendment to the report of the Committee on Federal Relations before the State Convention, provides for the withdrawal of the State from the Union, and without determining its future association, recommends a conference of the Border States to be held at Lexington, Ky., in May next, to propose a plan for constructing a government to be formed by said States, and the Confederate States of America. Said plan not to be binding till ratified by the State Convention, which shall adjourn over to await the result. He declares that the Union can only be restored by an amendment to the Constitution, emanating from the non-slaveholding States, for the security of their rights. He urges a pacific policy throughout.

SECESSION IN VIRGINIA.

RICHMOND, March 16.—Meetings in Wythe, Botetourt, Appomattox, Bedford, Craig and Shenandoah counties, have adopted resolutions calling for the immediate secession of Virginia. The students at Roanoke College have passed similar resolutions. Resolutions have also been passed in Lunenburg county to go with "the South, the whole South and nothing but the South." Resolutions have been presented in the Convention at Richmond by the delegates from Northampton, Mecklenburg and Pulaski counties, repudiating the Peace Conference propositions and favoring secession. The students at the University of Virginia are with but one exception in favor of seceding at once.

The majority of the Union party has been reduced to nine. Five delegates are expected to change their votes by Monday, which will give the secessionists a majority of one, when they will at once take prompt action. They confidently assert that they will be fully sustained by their constituents.

WASHINGTON ITEMS.

WASHINGTON, March 16.—The Senate to day confirmed the nominations of Nelson J. Isleil, Collector at Detroit; William C. Poulten, Collector for Camden district, North Carolina; John W. M'Math, Collector at Michilimacinac; J. M. Edmunds, Commissioner of the General Land Office; General Spinner, Treasurer of the United States; C. G. Ripley, of Minnesota, Secretary of the Legation to Brussels, and Jacob S. Halderman, Minister resident at Stockholm.

A number of army appointments were confirmed. The treaty with the Winnebago Indians, of Minnesota, was ratified.

It is estimated that there are between five and ten thousand applications already for appointments connected with the Post Office Department. The number of letters daily received is unprecedentedly large, sometimes amounting to six or seven hundred. Nineteen clerks are engaged in attending to them. The applicants for employment in other departments of the public service are correspondingly numerous.

The Senate has confirmed the appointment of Lieut. Col. Lorenzo Thomas as Adjutant General; Major Townsend as Senior Assistant, and Wm. A. Nichols, D. C. Buel, Theodore Talbot, B. C. Draw and James B. Fry as Assistants, with the rank of Captain.

B. A. Hall, of the District of Columbia, has been appointed Special Post Office Agent for Maryland and Virginia.

Certain friends of Mr. Corwin are still endeavoring to induce him to withdraw his declaration of the Mexican mission.

POLITICAL RO