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WM. H. TRIMMIER.

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FIRST SOUTHERN CONGRESS.

[From the Charleston Courier.]
MONTGOMERY, Ala., February 4, 1861.
The Convention was called together at twenty-five minutes past 12 A. M., by Hon. W. P. Chilton, of Alabama. Three raps of the gavel summoned members to their seats. The aisles were cleared, and Mr. CHILTON then said—
GENTLEMEN OF THE CONVENTION:—I nominate the Hon. Mr. Barnwell as Chairman of this Convention. All in favor of the nomination will say "aye." The motion was carried unanimously.
Mr. BARNWELL was invited to the Chair, and after simply returning thanks for the honor, in the briefest manner possible, called the Rev. Basil M. Manly, formerly of the Baptist Church, Charleston, to open the session with prayer. The petition was most eloquent, and was listened to with profound silence.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that the first business before the Convention was a permanent organization, and asked if it was the pleasure of the Convention to proceed to take such action.
Mr. RHETT asked if it were not better to elect a Secretary first, and then call the roll to ascertain what States were represented. He made a motion that do effect.
Mr. MEMINGER moved to appoint a temporary Clerk, and that the Delegates from the different States be requested to hand in their credentials. Agreed to.
Upon suggestion, the Chair appointed A. R. Lamar, of Georgia, Temporary Clerk.
The Clerk took his seat at the desk. The credentials of Delegates from Alabama were first read, and the gentleman representing that State advanced and signed his name to the roll. In alphabetical order, the States of Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi and South Carolina were called. The credentials of their respective Delegates were read, and the roll signed by members as follows:

R. W. WALKER, S. F. HALE,
R. H. SMITH, COLIN J. McREA,
J. L. M. CURRY, JNO GILL-SHORTER,
W. P. CHILTON, DAVID P. LEWIS,
THOMAS FEARNS.

JACKSON MORTON, J. P. ANDERSON,
J. OWENS.

ROBERT COBB, BEN J. HILL,
HOWELL COBB, J. R. WRIGHT,
FRANCIS BARTON, T. R. COBB,
M. J. CRAWFORD, A. G. H. KENAN,
E. A. NISBET, ALEX. H. STEVENS.

JOHN PERKINS, JR., D. P. KENNER,
A. DELOUET, GEN. E. SPARROW,
CHAS. M. CONRAD, HENRY MARSHALL.

WILLY P. HARRIS, A. M. CLAYTON,
WATER BROOK, J. S. BARRY,
N. S. WILSON, J. T. HARRISON,
J. A. P. CAMPBELL.

R. B. RHETT, Sr., C. G. MEMMINGER,
R. M. BARNWELL, W. P. MILLER,
L. M. KRITT, THOS. J. WITHERS,
J. GIBBERT, JR., W. B. VOYCE.

The CHAIR then suggested the propriety of electing a permanent Secretary. Mr. RHETT thought it best to elect the permanent President first. This he thought was the proper mode of proceeding. He would, therefore, nominate in the name of his colleagues, one in whom the country reposed all confidence, and who has been as illustrious in the annals of the broken Confederacy as he is true and faithful to the cause of the South. He nominated the Hon. Howell Cobb, of Georgia. The nomination was received with deafening cheers from the crowd in the lobby and galleries.

The CHAIRMAN asked how the vote should be taken, whether by vote of States or otherwise; whether the ballot of each individual shall count one, or whether the votes of all the members from each State shall count but one.

Mr. RHETT. As there seems to be but one opinion among all the members, I conceive that it is eminently proper that the President be elected by acclamation.

The CHAIRMAN. All who are in favor of the nomination will say "aye" to the contrary, "no." The response was general and wholly affirmative.

Mr. COBB was then declared President of the convention, unanimously chosen, amid the applause of the people.

On motion, the Chairman appointed Messrs. Rhett, of South Carolina; Walker, of Alabama, and Anderson, of Florida, as the Committee to wait upon Mr. Cobb, and notify him of his election and escort him to the Chair.

Mr. COBB took his seat amid great applause. He said in substance, as follows:

Accept, gentlemen of the Convention, my sincere thanks for the honor conferred upon me. I shall endeavor, by the fair and impartial distribution of the duties of the Chair, to merit your commendation. The occasion that calls us together is no ordinary one. It is solemn and impressive. We meet as the representatives of sovereign and independent States, who have, by solemn judgments, dissolved the political association that bound us to the old Federal Union. Of the causes that led to this determination, it is unnecessary for me to speak. They have already been announced; and it is sufficient now to say that they have already been announced; and it is sufficient now to say that they have been declared

sufficient to lead to this end by the people whom we here represent.
The separation is a fact. It is irrevocable. It is perfect, complete and perpetual. [Applause.] The great duty which is now imposed upon us is to provide for these States a government for their future security and protection. We can and should extend to our late sister States who are indeed united with us by similar institutions, a cordial welcome to unite with us for the formation of a new Confederacy. Our responsibilities are great, but let us endeavor to place before the country and the world our actions as a sufficient justification of ourselves. With confidence in the justice of our cause, we will inaugurate for the South a new era of peace, security and prosperity. [Great Applause.]

Mr. COBB then moved to adjourn till to-morrow. He, however, withdrew the motion for the moment.
On motion of Mr. RHETT, the Convention went into the election of a permanent Secretary.
Mr. CHILTON nominated Johnson J. Hooper, Esq., Editor of the Montgomery Mail, as Secretary of the Convention.
Mr. Hooper was unanimously elected by acclamation.

Judge WALKER, of Alabama, moved that Doorkeepers and Messengers be elected.
At the suggestion of Judge WITHERS, of South Carolina, however, the Convention authorized the President to make all the necessary and proper appointments.

After which the body adjourned till to-morrow at 12 M.

Seward and Mason

IN THE UNITED STATES SENATE.
In the United States Senate, on Thursday, the 9th inst., Mr. Seward presented a memorial from 38,000 citizens of the State of New York, and said that all through the Senate Chamber since the beginning of the world, except the House of Representatives, this memorial would cover a space thirty-eight times as large as this chamber. He had already presented a similar memorial, with 25,000 names, all urging conciliatory terms. The committee who brought this memorial were the representatives of the largest commerce in the world—a commerce which in any other country would be paramount to all other interests. Happily, however, it was not so. He concluded by saying that he had advised the gentlemen composing the committee who had brought on the memorial to go home, and speak for the Union, vote for the Union, to contribute their money to preserve the Union, and when all other expedients failed to fight for the Union.

Mr. Mason moved that the memorial be printed. He modestly said it was a memorial praying for the adoption of the Crittenden amendments. He did not think that at this time, when six States had seceded, and others were among the Premier of the new Administration had proposed any practical measures. All knew by his votes his opinion on the Crittenden amendments, and by his vote for Clark's resolution that the Constitution needed no amendments, but that the Constitution and laws should be enforced. He (Mr. Seward) had urged his constituents to contribute money to the Union. He would like to know the meaning of that.

Mr. Seward said that he meant that the people should advance to the Union the funds by which the credit of the Government should now be sustained.

Mr. Mason said that he had not done him the injustice to suppose that he meant the money to subsidize or demoralize any portion of the South. He meant to pay the army to conduct the fight.

Mr. Seward said he meant to advise that, if, after all Congressional compromises, the assembling of a Convention of all the people of the United States had failed, then for all to stand, as he should do himself, in the breach for the Union.

Mr. Mason said he now understood the Senator. He meant, if negotiations failed, to use war and bloodshed to preserve the Union. The Union was gone, and no attempt at subjugation would restore it. He wanted his people, who were meditating to restore a broken Union, to understand these things.

Mr. Seward said he meant nothing that was attributed to him by the Senator from Virginia. He did not believe that bloodshed would be necessary. He believed the people could settle it. The Union was not gone, for the Senator was here to sustain it.

Mr. Mason said the remark of the Senator in favor of coercion would undecieve Virginia, and show her that all this talk about compromise and concession amount to nothing.

THE ATTACK ON WASHINGTON.—A

despatch from Washington to the *Alexander's Gazette* says:

"It is now ascertained, from reliable sources in Richmond, that the course purposed by General Scott in ordering troops to this city, and in his purposed concentration here of all available force is owing to the information he has received from the right quarter that if in the approaching election for members of the Virginia State Convention, a majority is chosen in favor of secession, that Convention, when assembled on the 13th proximo, by virtue of the powers vested in itself, will supersede Gov. Letcher, the sitting Legislature, and order the armed volunteer companies to seize and hold possession of the National Capitol—hence the organization of the minute men and the hence the arming of the separate counties."

SECTARIAN JOURNALS NOT NEWS-PAPERS.

—Judge Low, of the Land Court, St. Louis, has decided that a paper, published in the interest of a religious sect, is not a newspaper, and that legal notices published in such papers are null and void.

[Special Despatches from the Charleston Mercury.] FROM THE CITY OF WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, February 5.—It is evident that the Northern Commissioners to the Border State Convention are anxious for delay, but the Southern members declare their purpose to press action and require all to show their hands. Ex-President Tyler will be chosen President of the Convention, though he does not desire the post.

Virginia and Kentucky are a unit in demanding equality in the Territories heretofore acquired. They say that there is no hope of any settlement other than a peaceful dissolution, and to this end all efforts will be made.

A number of delegates arrived this afternoon. The Missourians declare for a full settlement forever, or a dissolution. The delegations are caucusing to-night.

The Abolition caucus now sitting at the Capital is opposed to any compromise. The attendance is slim. They are getting alarmed. Potter called the caucus together.

The Pennsylvania Commissioners appeared in the Convention but seemed to take no great interest in the proceedings. Delaware is fully represented and stands by the South. The Maryland Commissioners held an informal meeting to-day, and the sentiment generally expressed among them was that the State must follow Virginia.

The Convention organized this morning by electing Ex-President Tyler as President. Prayer was offered by the Rev. Dr. Garley.

Mr. Tyler addressed the Convention in a speech of half an hour's length. It is to be published.

The Convention then sat with closed doors.

FEBRUARY 5.—The Convention has adopted the rules of the Continental Congress. Among those who congratulated Tyler after his address, was Chase, of Ohio, who said that Ohio would adopt Virginia's platform when it is presented.

Senator Wigfall and others have telegraphed to Montgomery, urging Alexander H. Stephens for President of the Provisional Southern Confederacy, in order to conciliate the Conservatives.

Secretary Black will be nominated to the Senate as one of the Supreme Court, to supply the vacancy caused by the death of Judge Daniels.

The Federal Government anticipates the secession of the State of Maryland, and are providing means for the protection of the Naval School. Six month's supplies and abundance of shot and shell have just been placed on board of the practice ship, Constitution. If Virginia secedes, her Commissioners say that a large force will be concentrated at Alexandria, Va.

The President will hand in a reply to Colonel Hayne to-morrow, stating that he will enter into no negotiations as to the disposal of property of the Government, such as forts, or any other.

General Scott has been in conference all day with his officers and Lieut. Hall. Nothing is known of the result of the conference beyond inference. Lieut. Hall hopes to leave for Charleston to-morrow.

A dispatch has been received here from a reliable source, saying that Lieut. Slemmer has evacuated Fort Pickens and arrived at Philadelphia, but despite the source the dispatch is doubted.

The Secretary of War has transmitted to the Senate to-day the number of militia in all the States and Territories. South Carolina is set down at thirty-six thousand.

The Republican caucus to-night, on compromise, failed to organize.

The Senate Committee on Conference has agreed unanimously to report King's bill—closing ports of entry where the United States customs are interfered with.

Col. Hayne having received the President's reply to his communication, started for Charleston this evening.

The President of the Telegraph Company went South this evening to arrange the affairs of the Company with the new Government.

The War Department approves the conduct of Major Haskins in surrendering the Baton Rouge Arsenal; while a Court of Inquiry has been ordered in the case of Commodore Armstrong, for having surrendered the Pensacola Navy Yard. Twenty army officers have so far resigned since the secession of South Carolina.

In the Senate to-day, Johnson, of Tennessee, made a vehement speech against secession. In the House Miles Taylor presented the Louisiana Ordinance of Secession, and the delegation immediately withdrew.

One Louisiana member remained—Bouigny—who was elected by the Know-Nothing party, and made the declaration that "he would remain until he should be recalled by his constituents."

The report of the Committee of Thirty-Three was taken up and debated, after which the House adjourned.

MONTGOMERY, February 5.—The bill appropriating \$500,000 to promote the cause of Southern independence, has passed both Houses of the Legislature.

The Governor has signed the bill legalizing the suspension of the Banks.

The Stay Law was to-day defeated in the Senate, but an effort will be made to-morrow to reconsider it is believed will be successful.

RICHMOND, February 5.—Although a large proportion of the delegates so far known to be elected are what is called "Union men," yet there are very few straight out secessionists. These elected as Union men mean to exhaust every honorable means of preserving the Union, but unless the constitutional right of the South be fully guaranteed, they will go for secession. Should the Peace Congress now in session at Washington fail to effect settlement, no doubt is entertained here that the Convention will consider further exertions hopeless. The question of secession will then be referred to the people, and will probably be carried.

MONTGOMERY, February 5.—During the discussion to-day on the adoption of the rules, Stephens, of Georgia, said that the rules were made on the principle that they were a Congress of sovereign and independent States, and that therefore they must vote as States.

Resolutions were introduced providing for the appointment of a Committee to report a form for a Provisional Government.

WASHINGTON, February 4.—The caucus of the Virginia Commissioners to the Border State Convention, last night, determined to demand the equality of the South in all the Territories heretofore acquired, as the sine qua non of any further negotiations. The sentiment was universal that in case this was refused, there would be nothing left for them to do, except to endeavor to arrange the terms for a peaceful and final separation of the slave States from the North.

Orders have just been issued for the enrollment of all subject to militia duty in the District of Columbia. The regulars are still pouring in. We have now nearly 900 of them in our midst.

WASHINGTON, February 5.—In the Senate, to-day, Mr. Johnson, of Tennessee, made a vehement speech against secession. In the House, Miles Taylor, of Louisiana, presented the secession ordinance of that State, and then withdrew from the House.

Mr. Boutigny, of Louisiana, refused to withdraw, until recalled by his constituents. The Committee of Thirty-three presented a report, which was debated.

INDIANAPOLIS, February 4.—The Governor has appointed Commissioners to the Washington Border State Convention.

NEW ORLEANS, February 5.—The Custom House in this city was opened yesterday for business, under the control of the State.

LOUISVILLE, February 4.—The Senate has passed resolutions appealing to Southern States to stop revolutions, and protesting against Federal coercion. The Legislature will re-assemble on the 24th of April, to hear the responses of sister States, and to make application to Congress to call a National Convention.

MOBILE, February 2.—The United States revenue cutter Lewis Cass has been surrendered to the authorities of the State of Alabama.

NEW ORLEANS, February 2.—Advices from Texas state that the Legislature of that State had, under a Bill of Rights, legalized the State Convention informally called by some of the members of the Legislature.

A letter from Henry A. Wise announced that Virginia has one hundred and twenty-five thousand men equipped and ready to bear arms.

From New Orleans.

NEW ORLEANS, February 1.—The Louisiana Convention has decided to take no immediate steps to send reinforcements to Pensacola. It is thought that there is no necessity for more troops just now.

Contradictory despatches have been received here from that point to-day. One states that hostilities between the State and Federal troops had actually begun; but this is not generally credited. The steamship Galveon passed Pensacola yesterday, and reports that all seemed quiet there. The United States steamer Wyandotte was still anchored in the same position, immediately abreast of Fort Pickens.

The authorities of the State of Louisiana, yesterday, took possession of the Federal Mint, in the lower part of the city, and the new Custom House. The Superintendent of the Mint and Collector Hatch both, to-day, took the oaths of allegiance to the Sovereignty of Louisiana.

A motion was made in the Convention, to-day, to remove the injunction of secrecy from the members, with regard to matters that had transpired in secret session. The motion prevailed.

A committee has been appointed, by the Convention to secure to the State all the Federal domain within its borders.

Freights have advanced considerably of late. Preference is given to British over American bottoms.

Flying reports prevail in the city, to the effect that fighting has begun at Pensacola, in consequence of the Brooklyn having attempted to land troops. This, however, needs confirmation.

In the Convention, to-day, a resolution to establish a standing army for the State of Louisiana was made the special order for Thursday next.

A resolution, directing a committee to inquire into and report upon the expediency of exempting from taxation for five years certain kinds of property, was introduced.

A resolution in regard to citizenship was referred to the appropriate committee.

[Special Despatches from Charleston Mercury]

The Southern Bank of New Orleans has placed at the command of the Governor of the State \$50,000, should it be required by the exigencies of the public service—the Governor to accept the loan on such terms for its reimbursement as he may deem equitable.

MONTGOMERY, February 3.—The Savannah river has risen 31 feet 9 inches. It continues rising slowly. Fevers are entertained of a freshet.

It is stated that several filled canoes have been shipped at Liverpool for Charleston.

The Millidgeville correspondent of the *Alexander's Chronicle*, states that an agent of a Belgian Company is now on a visit to Governor Brown, and that he will negotiate to supply Georgia with any quantity of arms.

AN ADMISSION.—The *Ohio State Journal*, (Republican), speaking of Wendell Phillips late demonstration in Boston, says: "We fear that before society can be peacefully reconstructed, and the Union made to take the medicine that is honestly meant for its good such people as Phillips must be suppressed!"

The Southern Confederacy.

The London Times, of the 18th ultimo, has a long article on the "impending crisis in America. It says:

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 "kump." 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 strip 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) belongs 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 extreme 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.—*London Times*.

Letter from Consul-General DeLeon.

ALEXANDRIA, EGYPT, Dec 17, 1860.
DEAR SIR: Regarding it as the duty of every Southern man, at this crisis, to define his position, I enclose for publication the *South Carolina*, extracts from a letter written by me to Mr. Breckinridge, in August last, after receiving the news of his nomination in this distant land.

Now that the result which I then anticipated has arrived, the determination therein expressed is the more strongly confirmed, and I have only to add, that as I was one among the first to unfurl the banner of Southern resistance to Northern aggression, so am I ready now to make one of the "forlorn hope" in its defence, should the attempt be made, by force or fraud, to trail it in the dust.

Extract from Letter to Mr. Breckinridge, of August 23, 1860:

"For seven years past absent from the country, and from the personal collision of its politics, I can regard dispassionately, this crisis and its actors; and the convictions of my mind and heart are with you in the struggle now waging. Should your ticket be successful, as I fervently trust it may, for the perpetuity of our institutions I hope to witness the inauguration of your administration. Should you fail, and our cause with you, then, also, shall I return to enlist as a private in the battle which surely must be fought, 'pro aris et foveis,' when the baleful banner of Black Republicanism is substituted for the stars and stripes upon our National Capitol and a President, not of the Union, but of the North sits in the chair of Washington."

Very sincerely, your friend and fellow-citizen,
EDWIN DELEON.

To Dr. R. W. GIBBES, Columbia, South Carolina.

CATCHING BEFORE HANGING.

Several of the more rabid Black Republican journals at the North, such as the *New York Courier, Tribune, Sun and Times*, talk very blantly of hanging the seceders of the South. Hanging is a game that two can play at, and it is necessary to catch your rabbit before you can cook him, so it is necessary to capture your man before you can hang him. Before these valiant knights of the quill go into the business, we would advise them to consider the reply of the renowned Billy Bowlegs, when he was informed that Gen. Hany, was coming after him to hang him. "En'lech," said he "Hany catch Billy hang—Billy catch Hany hang"—*Spanglish News*.

THE PALMETTO FLAG DISPLAYED IN CONNECTICUT.

The Yale College boys raised a Palmetto flag on the Alumni tower of that institution, on Sunday, and barricaded all approaches to the top of the building. This was done in relation of the supposed insult offered by persons who employed negroes to wear the secession cockade before Southern students.

There is such a scarcity of silver at the Philadelphia mint that sufficient cannot be procured to alloy the more precious metals in its coinage.

What the Cotton States Have Done.

The great foundation principle of all Government in this country, lies in the consent of the governed. Take away the corner stone of principle, and all laws fall of themselves; and Government exists, by its own will, as a monstrous usurpation.

A union of any sort, a Confederacy of States, or communities, especially implies the presence of this foundation principle. The idea of such a confederacy or union, in antagonism with the consent of any of the parties, is simply to conceive an absurdity and a contradiction. Those, therefore, who aim to perpetuate the existence of the Union, regardless of the feelings or wishes of the party governed, have simply resolved upon the despotism of numbers; and, relying on their supposed power, would make force a cement, when it is, in fact, the main agency of destructiveness.

But when the Government became a thing, not merely opposed to the wishes of a people, but absolutely and avowedly hostile to their vital interests, and subversive of all their securities; how it is to be expected that a people, having any will, character, or manhood left—any intelligence to see and know—any sensibility to feel—any courage to resist—will submit; is a matter very difficult to conceive by common reason; and none but a people, vigorous with undervalued and unappreciated, and raving to madness, possibly deceive themselves with the notion that they can have their own way, and coerce into submission those who have declared themselves against their Government, and whom they would rule to their ruin.

South Carolina has simply insisted on the grand leading idea which constituted the foundation stone of the Confederacy—that the Government was one which derived its existence solely from the consent of the governed. She has refused her consent any longer to the rule of the Federal Government.

The right of secession is the due result of the recognized principle upon which the Confederacy was founded. So long as we consent that you shall govern, so long may you govern and no longer;—and lest you should err in the knowledge of what your Government shall be, with what powers, and how limited, we here bind you by a written instrument, to which you are required to swear. You are to swear to the Constitution, not to the Union;—not even to the Government;—for that is a thing which may fluctuate, and have many changes. It is to the Constitution only,—the bond of compact, that you are sworn; and that you must obey, if you would govern us. The Government, no longer able, or willing, or carry out the conditions of the Constitution, affords the best moral justification for withdrawal of the aggrieved party or parties. Legal justification, there is need of none; the tenure of government and authority being held simply through the consent of the parties.

In taking her course, South Carolina has been especially deliberate and circumspect. She has argued, entreated, and counselled, deliberately appealed and expostulated, and finally, warned with timely notice. She has called her own people into counsel, when she found counsel no longer efficient with the usurpative parties, and appealed to them. And, with one voice, her whole people have withdrawn their consent any longer to be governed by those who assail her institutions, deny her rights, steal her property, and mediate her destruction.

She says, "govern yourselves as you please, govern us as you and they please, those who are still willing to submit to you. We shall not trespass upon your rights and country. We simply propose to save and rule our own. We offer you peace, and amity, and trade, and commerce, the interchange of business, and such communion as the several civilized nations accord to each other. We aim at no revenges for previous wrong. Whatever our resentments, we shall suffer them to cool. We prefer to receive and respect you, as a foreign power; and have no desire to shed your blood, or our own, in an idle conflict, which cannot restore the past condition of things, and must destroy your trade, your securities, your people; lessen your advantages; convert your prosperity into bane. We shall stand simply on the defensive. We offer your peace, forbearance good faith, and generous intercourse. It is for you to decide whether, in return for the extended branch of olive, you thrust us back with the sword. If you so will it, we shall not shrink from the issue; but will maintain the grand foundation principle of civil liberty in a hemisphere—that Government rightfully exists only through the consent of the governed.—*Mercury*.

THE IDLE POPULATION OF LONDON.—The

London Times on the 11th inst., has the following:

Yesterday the east end of the metropolis presented a sad appearance, in consequence of the large number of destitute laboring men standing outside the workhouse doors, and parading the chief thoroughfares, seeking for alms. At the Thames Police Court, the number of unemployed laborers relieved in a few days swelled to 1500—of whom 1100 received trifling assistance on Monday. It was announced that on Wednesday only women would be relieved. At noon, a vast number of poor women, thinly clad, many suffering from cold and hunger, and assembled in the streets. They continued to increase until three o'clock, when they amounted to about 2000. Soon after four o'clock their number had increased 3000. The work of relieving them, lasted many hours.

RESIGNATION OF JAS. L. CORLEY.—

We are glad to learn, through a letter received from Jas. L. Corley, that he resigned his office of First Lieutenant and Adjutant in the Sixth Infantry, United States Army, as soon as he heard of the secession of South Carolina, his native State; and that he has received the appointment of Captain in the regular army of this State. He has been stationed, for the past three years, at Fort Benicia California, but is expected home in about ten days.

A PERFETUAL PERFUME.—The

enduring odor of musk is astonishing. When Justinian, in 548, rebuilt what is now the mosque of St. Sophia, the mortar was charged with musk, and to this very day the atmosphere is filled with the odor.

Interesting Correspondence.

The Charleston papers of Saturday bring us an important correspondence between Mr. Colcock, Collector of that port, and the Secretary of State, Hon. A. G. Magrath. The former wishes "to know what course he is to pursue in case the government at Washington takes the same ground in relation to vessels and cargoes owned by citizens of the adhering and seceding States of the late United States, as they have in notifying Foreign Ministers will be taken with regard to all payments of duties here as mispayments, and all clearances as invalid."

The reply of Mr. Magrath is very able and elaborate, and, as a State paper, will add to the high reputation Judge Magrath has already justly earned.

After going into an able preliminary view of the new relations created by the secession of the State, he makes the following points, which are condensed and arranged by the *Charleston Evening News*:

1. That the Government at Washington should adhere to the rule they have laid down in the case of Peru, under their construction of the law of nations, that a *de facto* Government exists as regards vessels of foreign powers entering or clearing from that port. The rule then laid down was "that a civil war, where one party had possession of a part of the country, and there has occurred the local government, the jurisdiction of that party is perfect, and foreign vessels must conform to its decrees."

2. With regard "to vessels which are owned by citizens of States which are still members of the confederacy known as the United States," Mr. Magrath states that "such vessels are of course bound by municipal laws of the country to which they belong, and it will be for the Government of that country to impose upon those vessels such penalties as it may choose to provide for what it may consider violations of its municipal laws. To such a policy, if it shall commend itself to the Government of the United States, this State has no right to object."

3. "The last class of vessels which are or may be affected by the interference of the Government of the United States are those owned by citizens of this or other slaveholding States."

The right to navigate the high seas, it is argued, is an attribute of an independent nation under the law of nations, and it is inferred that "the highest evidence of the independence of a State or Nation is its ability to prevent the execution of the laws of any other State or Nation within its own territorial limits."