and goods of the Emperor of all the Russias, and of his subjects or others inhabiting within any of his countries, territories, or dominions, so that her Majesty's fleets and ships shall and may lawfully seize all ships vessels, and goods belonging to the Emperor of all the Russias, or his subjects, or others inhabiting within any of his countries, territories, or dominions, and bring the same to judgment in such Courts of Admiralty within her Majesty's dominions, possessions, or colonies, as shall be duly commissionated to take cognizance thereof. And to that end her Majesty's Advocate General, with the Advocate of her Majesty in her Office of Admiralty, are forthwith to prepare the draught of a commission, and present the same to her Majesty at this board, authorizing the Commissioners for executing the office of the Lord High Admiral to will and require the High Court of Admiralty of England, and the Lieutenant and Judge of the said court, his Surrogate or Surrogates, as also the several courts of Admiralty within her Majesty's dominions, which shall be duly commissionated to take cognizance of, and judicially proceed upon, all and all manner of captures, seizures, prizes, and reprisals of all ships, vessels and goods, that are or shall be taken, and to hear and determine the same; and, according to the course of admiralty and the law of nations, to adjudge and condemn all such ships, vessels, and goods, as shall belong to the Emperor of all the Russias or his subjects, or to any others inhabiting within any of his countries, territories, or dominions; and they are likewise to prepare and lay before her Majesty, at this board, a draft of such instructions as may be proper to be sent to the said several courts of admiralty in her Majesty's dominions, possessions, and colonies, for their guidance herein.

From the court at Buckingham Palace, this 29th day of March, 1854.

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| CRANWORTH, C. | DRUMLANRIG, |
| GRANVILLE, P. | MULGRAVE, |
| ARGYLL, C. P. S. | J. RUSSELL, |
| NEWCASTLE, | ERNEST BRUCE, |
| BREADALBANE, | SYDNEY HERBERT, |
| LANSDOWNE, | J. R. G. GRAHAM, |
| ABERCORN, | STEPHEN LUSHINGTON, |
| ABERDEEN, | W. E. GLADSTONE, |
| CLARENDON, | WILLIAM MOLESWORTH. |

At the Court at Buckingham Palace, the 29th day of March, 1854. Present, the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in council.

It was this day ordered by her Majesty, by and with the advice of her Privy Council, that no ship or vessels belonging to any of her Majesty's subjects be permitted to enter and clear out for any of the ports of Russia, until further orders; and her Majesty is further pleased to order that a general embargo or stop be made of all Russian ships and vessels whatsoever, now within or which shall hereafter come into any of the ports, harbors, or roads, within any of her Majesty's dominions, together with all persons and effects on board the said ships or vessels; provided always, that nothing herein contained shall extend to any ships or vessels specified or comprised in a certain order of her Majesty in council, dated this 29th day of March, for exempting from capture or detention Russian vessels under special circumstances; and her Majesty is pleased further to order, and it is hereby ordered, that the utmost care be taken for the preservation of all and every part of the cargoes on board any of the said ships or vessels, so that no damage or embezzlement whatever be sustained; and the right hon. the Lords Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury, the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, and the Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports are to give the necessary directions herein as to them may respectively appertain.

C. C. GREVILLE.

At the Court at Buckingham Palace, the 29th day of March, 1854. Present, the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in council.

Her Majesty, being compelled to declare war against his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of all the Russia, and being desirous to lessen as much as possible the evils thereof, is pleased, by and with the advice of her Privy Council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, that Russian merchant vessels, in any ports or places within her Majesty's dominions, shall be allowed until the 10th day of May next, six weeks from the date hereof, for loading their cargoes and departing from such ports or places; and that such Russian merchant vessels, if met at sea by any of her Majesty's ships shall be permitted to continue their voyage if, on examination of their papers, it shall appear that their cargoes were taken on board before the expiration of the above term. Provided, that nothing herein contained shall extend, or be taken to extend, to Russian vessels having on board any officer in the military or naval service of the enemy, or any article prohibited or contraband of war, or any despatch of or to the Russian government.

And it is hereby further ordered by her Majesty, by and with the advice of her Privy Council as aforesaid, that any Russian merchant vessel which, prior to the date of this order, shall have sailed from any foreign port bound for any port or place in her Majesty's dominions, shall be permitted to enter such port or place, and to discharge her cargo, and afterwards forthwith to depart without molestation, and that any such vessel, if met at sea by any of her Majesty's ships, shall be permitted to continue her voyage to any port not blockaded.

And the Right Hon. the Lords Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury, the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, and the Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports are to give the necessary directions herein as to them may respectively appertain

C. C. GREVILLE.

### Russo-American Letters of Marque.

[From Galignani's Messenger, March 30.]

We have already mentioned that the Minister of Marine had informed the Chambers of Commerce at the outports that the government of the United States had declared its intention not to permit letters of marque in their ports. The *Moniteur de la Flotte* now publishes as follows the circular of the Minister containing this notification:—

GENTLEMEN—Public attention, both in France and England, has been for some time past directed to the possibility of Russian letters of marque being delivered in certain ports of the United States to cruise against French and English merchant vessels. From the very outset of these suppositions the government of the Emperor felt the necessity of ascertaining how far they might be well founded. The Minister at Washington was consequently charged to call the attention of the American Cabinet to the reports in circulation. The reply was such as might have been expected. The Minister of Foreign Affairs informs me that the federal government has given to the representative of France the most formal assurance that acts so contrary to the law of nations would not be tolerated on the territory of the Union. This declaration, as categorical as it is marked with good faith is in conformity to the laws of the United States, and it is in perfect accord with the principles of a great nation, which has shown itself under every circumstance at sea the supporter and energetic defender of the rights of neutrality and the laws of natural equity. You may convince yourself of this by examining the list of the treaties concluded by the United States, and by the analysis of the law of April 20, 1818, on that subject. Our vessels may, therefore, continue their operations in perfect security. The high solicitude of the Emperor has effectually provided everywhere for the defence of our maritime and commercial interests. The best pledge of that protection is in the noble spectacle of the two flags of France and England floating closely untied on every sea. I am happy, gentlemen, to be able to give you this information, which will, I doubt not, be received with satisfaction by the commercial interests, and I renew to you the assurance of my distinguished consideration.

THEODORE DUCOS.

### Scene from the "Russian Gentleman."

AN UNFINISHED DRAMA.

[From Punch.]

SCENE—St. Petersburg. A room in the Palace.

Enter the Emperor Nicholas, Sir Hamilton Seymour following.

EMP.—Seymour, come hither—now we are alone,
And I can talk to thee. I like thee, Seymour;
I note thy zeal and thy alacrity,
Thy diligence—and, I will add, discretion,
Shown in thy service to thy sovereign mistress,
Coupled, I think, with what therewith consists
In every way—good will towards our own.

SEYM.—Sire, it rejoiceth me that mine intent
Should be apparent to your Majesty.

EMP.—Seymour, thou bear'st a brain. Now mark me, Seymour;
I love thy Queen, and love thy countrymen,
Her subjects, loyal as they are, yet free!
Would every prince—in Christendom—had such!
We have a common interest, gentle Seymour;
England and Russia should be hand and glove.

SEYM.—England is bounden to your Majesty
With Russia's glove that would protect her grasp.

EMP.—Ha! Well, so take the figure an thou list.
Hark in thine ear. Look yonder, Seymour, look!
See'st thou yon Turk? Seymour, he's very ill.

SEYM.—But that your Majesty's more keen discernment
Did graciously correct my grosser sense,
I should have blindly deemed yon Turk in health,
Rude as my speech.

EMP.—Oh! but he's ill, good Seymour,
He's dangerously ill; and time it is
The disposition of his property—
For he will die intestate—should he thought on
By his next heirs. Now, therefore, Seymour, list.
To his estates in Candia and in Egypt
England is freely welcome to succeed,
If England will but cleave to my consent.

SEYM.—But, how, an't please your gracious Majesty,
Will the co-heirs therewith be satisfied?

EMP.—That which suits me will Austria suit likewise,
Prussia is nought; then, if but England side
With us, at France I snap my fingers—so!

SEYM.—So please you, sire, unto my sovereign liege
I will transmit, by way of Downing street,
The weighty matter you have broached to me.

EMP.—But Seymour, mind; all this is said and meant
In strictest honor, and in confidence.
Let's have no seals, no parchment, no red tape;
I merely want a quiet understanding,
And make my offer as a gentleman.

SEYM.—But, under pardon of your Majesty
For usance of a somewhat vulgar phrase,
Returning to our muttons, may I ask,
Is it so certain that the Turk will die?

EMP.—Oh! he will die—no doubt of that, good Seymour;
No hope for him! convey thus much to England,
And so good night. Mind this, the Turk must die! [Exit.

SEYM.—The Turk will die! Of that I'm not so sure.
The Turk must die! so Nicholas declares.
His mind is made up for the poor Turk's death.
Pray Heaven that he hath not resolved thereon!
I'll straight to mine hotel, and ere night's cap
My temples shall infold, in black on white
I will reveal this plot to Clarendon. [Scene closes.

### Affairs in China.

FROM SMITH, KING AND CO.'S CIRCULAR.

SHANGHAE, Feb. 1, 1854.

Business at present is completely suspended, in consequence of the New Year Holydays, and during the month which has elapsed since the date of our last circular, little has occurred to shew any improvement in our import market. Prices of English cotton goods have slightly advanced, but this is mainly owing to a few purchases made by foreigners, on speculation, under the idea that an improvement will take place as soon as the market reopens. In exports, a fair amount of business has been done, and purchases of teas would have been more extensive had a larger supply of tonnage been in port or expected.

The rebellion remains about as last reported, with no prospect of a speedy termination—the last accounts from the north report the insurgents' army as having gone into winter quarters at Tuh-lew, a small place on the Grand canal, about seventy-five miles from the capital, where they were waiting reinforcements from Nanking. Here at Shanghae the rebels remain in possession of the city, and the imperialists, despairing of other means of reducing them, have in vain solicited the mediation of foreigners.

The question of duties upon the foreign trade which has been a matter of uncertainty since the outbreak, (September 7,) has been put at rest, so far as regards American shipping, by a notification issued by order of the United States Commissioner, under date of the 20th instant, declaring this port free henceforth to vessels of that nation, so long as the present state of affairs may continue.

## The Great Southern and Western Commercial Convention.

FOURTH DAY.

FROM OUR SPECIAL REPORTER.

CHARLESTON, April 13, 1854.

*The Convention and the New York Press—Discussion on River and Harbor Improvements—Should Congress be Memorialized for the Acquisition of Cuba, &c., &c., &c.*

The convention assembled at nine o'clock this morning and commenced its proceedings with a debate on the following resolution, which was presented yesterday by Mr. Parham, of Tennessee, and adopted:—

Resolved, That the reporters of the NEW YORK HERALD, New York *Tribune*, and New York *Express*, now in attendance on this convention, be elected honorary members, and entitled to participate with us in the hospitalities tendered to regular delegates.

As there appeared to be considerable feeling among some of the delegates in relation to this resolution, and as some thought the convention had gone out of its proper sphere in adopting it, Mr. Whittle, of Georgia, offered another to the effect that it be rescinded.

Col. HOOKS expressed himself in favor of admitting all the reporters as honorary members, with the exception of the New York *Tribune*, and offered an amendment excluding the representative of that paper.

This brought Mr. Marshall, of Mississippi, (the gentleman who believes the Czar is the greatest philanthropist in the world,) to his feet. He took the part of that paper, although he desired it to be understood that he did not agree with it in many of its principles. He denounced its fanatical abolitionism, but believed that, instead of injuring the cause or interests of the South, it rather did them good. Every man knows, he continued, that our enemies are often of more service to us than otherwise, even when they desire most to harm us. He for one did not fear these abolitionists, and he did not desire to exclude them from any privileges. A short time since he had occasion to visit New England, and as it was known that he was a Southern man, crowds of abolitionists flocked around him. He spoke to them about the institutions of the South, and offered to bring a whole cargo of them to Mississippi that they might know the Southern people better. He promised them that they would not be insulted, but that they would be treated with the utmost kindness and courtesy. This he did to satisfy them that the experience and knowledge which they would obtain in regard to the South would correct many grievous mistakes into which they had fallen about slavery. He would like to know who Horace Greeley is, and what was the character of the *Tribune*, that the convention should take any notice of either, or rebuke the editor of that paper. He felt that they were doing themselves great injustice in wasting their time in this manner. It was but natural to expect that the South would be abused by such people. What men are they will continue to be to the end of time, and he believed that, actuated by the motives which should govern gentlemen, the convention should take no notice whatever of this matter.

Mr. C. C. CLAY, of Alabama, thought that reporters should be allowed to have all the privileges necessary wherever they might be, or whatever the character of the paper to which they were attached to report the proceedings, although he was opposed to their being admitted as delegates. If this precedent were once established, the North would be entitled to a representation there, and might finally outvote them. The objects of the convention, it was well known, are antagonistic to the interests of the Northern States, and such a course would be suicidal to the rights and interests of the South.

Ex-Governor JONES, of Tenn., said that although he did not agree with the NEW YORK HERALD in some of its doctrines, yet he regarded it as the main pillar of the institutions of the South, and believed it was always true to Southern interests. He was in favor of the resolution of Mr. Parham, who, he believed, was actuated only by motives of courtesy to the gentlemen of the press there present.

Mr. CLAPP, of Mississippi, expressed his belief that the New York *Tribune* was the Ismaelite of the press—its hand was raised against every man, and every man's hand against it. He was willing that a resolution should pass admitting all the members of the press to every facility as reporters, but not as delegates.

Col. HOOKS, of La., pressed his amendment. He was opposed to allowing men a seat in the convention who entered it with a pen in one hand and a torch in the other.

The resolution of Mr. Whittle was finally adopted, and the reporters were accordingly deposed from their position as honorary members of the convention.

Lieut. MAURY then moved that the convention take up the report of the Business Committee and proceed to its consideration.

The motion was adopted, and the resolutions were read by the Secretary, and amended as follows:—

Resolved, That whilst agriculture is, and properly should be, the predominant pursuit of the people of the States represented in this convention, the interests of these States would be very greatly promoted by the employment of capital in other pursuits, and especially to manufacture and mining; that the abundance and cheapness of the means of subsistance, of fuel and water power, the temperature of the climate, and other natural advantages will, if properly improved, secure to these States a virtual monopoly of the manufacture as well as the growth of cotton; that it is believed the present cost of transporting this staple abroad, will more than cover the expense of manufacturing it at home; and that, as an investment, for security, for certainty of results and uniformity of income, the factory and the mine, when properly managed, have no superior.

Resolved, That a committee of three from each State here represented be appointed by this convention, for the purpose of obtaining the most reliable statistical information as to the number and location of manufactories and mines in the States represented in this body; the amount of capital invested in the several establishments; the amount of income and disbursements; the number of hands (operatives) employed, free and slave; the amount of the raw material consumed; the quantity and quality of the manufactured articles produced; the prices at which they are furnished; the markets in which they are chiefly sold; and other items of information, tending to show the present condition and extent of our manufacturing interest; and that said committee furnish to the Secretary of the convention a report of their investigations to be laid by him before the next meeting of the convention; and that it be the duty of said committee to address the people of the States represented in this convention, and to urge the importance of action in the legislatures thereof in favor of education, of manufactory, of shipbuilding, of direct trade, and of mines; and that it be the duty of said committee to collect and present at the next meeting of the convention statistics and other useful information relating to the international improvement of the several States, their industrial resources, their mineral treasures, their manufacturing facilities, and their capacities for trade and commerce, together with a statement in which shall be set forth the names and lengths of the several railways, their cost, and the increased value which has been imparted to lands and other property in consequence of such improvements.

Resolved, That a committee of three from each State here represented be appointed to memorialize Congress in the name of this convention and in the most earnest manner to urge the importance of and to pray for the following measures, viz.:—

1. The remission of duties on railroad iron.
2. The passage of an act for the improvement of the merchant service, by encouraging boys to go to sea, and for preventing desertion.
3. To send one or two small naval steamers up the Amazon for the purpose of exploring the tributaries of that river, which the States owning them have declared to be free to the commerce and navigation of the whole world.
4. To encourage the establishment of a line of mail steamers between some Southern seaport town and the mouth of the Amazon, or some other port in Brazil.
6. And also to encourage the establishment of a direct mail route by steamers between some Southern port and Europe.
6. Upon the improvement of harbors and navigable rivers.

The first proposition on the remission of duties led to a spirited debate. Col. POLK, of Tennessee, said he was unwilling that this convention, as a commercial body, should interfere with or take any action upon political questions. He, for one, could not agree to consider it here, and he would therefore oppose the appointment of the committee unless the first proposition was rescinded. There is, he continued, if my apprehension served me right, an insidious purpose in it. When anything of that kind is sought to be accomplished by gentlemen here, it should bear upon its face its true meaning and purport. I would like, said he, in all cases affecting questions that have divided the best men in the country, and who were engaged in the national councils, that those questions should be presented publicly and not in a body of the peculiar nature of this convention. Don't make me a party to a principle that my judgment has taught me to condemn. If Mr. Maury intends to say that the government of the United States has the constitutional power to improve harbors and rivers, let him have the manliness to say so.

Lieut. MAURY—I intend to say so at the proper time, when we come to the consideration of the sixth proposition. (Laughter and applause.)

Mr. LYONS, of Va., considered this course was wrong in principle. He did not think it right to ask Congress to interfere in such matters, as the convention, by doing so departed from the purpose for which it was organized.

Mr. WALLACE, of Va., also opposed the proposition. There was already a Southern delegation in Congress, who were attending to their interests, and who would, when the occasion demanded it, maintain their rights against every encroachment. He was, therefore, in favor of striking out the whole resolution.

Lieut. MAURY said it was with great reluctance that he rose to speak to the convention upon a matter on which so much time had been already consumed; but as the amendment brought up the whole subject, he considered this the proper time to express his views and those of the Business Committee upon it. And first, he continued, we come to the subject of the remission of duties upon railroad iron—a question which might well be supposed was earnestly discussed before its adoption in the committee. We should recollect, that if there is any one subject at all in which the whole people of these United States are deeply concerned, it is in the transportation of goods over railroads, and as a means cheap railroad iron and cheap railroads are important elements. It is for this reason that I view it as extremely unwise and very unnecessary to have high duties on so important a material. I hold that it is better to leave the money that is collected on that railroad iron in the pockets of the people themselves, than to make them pay taxes for its admission into the country. There is another view with regard to this important matter. A few years ago the question was raised in Congress, as to whether the system of fortifications for the protection of the sea coast, commenced in 1816, and followed year after year through a period of thirty odd years, should be continued. The President and Secretary of War were required to collect information upon the subject and lay it before Congress. Many officers, both of the army and navy, were consulted, and the grounds distinctly taken that the railroads and telegraphs which private enterprise had constructed, had superseded the necessity of that system; that, inasmuch as it was commenced with a view to protect our coast from invasion, these lines of telegraph and railroads rendered invasion impossible; and the only requirements for fortifications were at such places as Key West, which commanded the great thoroughfares of trade and commerce, and which railroads could not reach. The grounds were distinctly taken by government that those railroads had relieved it from the necessity of building any more fortifications with a view of preventing invasion. Now, here is a matter from which the government has derived very important aid: this railroad iron has superseded the necessity of any more fortifications, and has saved the country from the expenditure of millions. Therefore I think that, inasmuch as the government has so direct an interest in the subject, it is our duty here to demand the remission of all duties upon it.

General GIBBS, of Tenn., proposed as a substitute for the proposition contained in the report of the general committee on business, that the duties be remitted for four years. He had no doubt that Congress would eventually remit all such duties; and he considered it a subject in which the convention were justified in taking a great interest.

A motion was here made to postpone the further consideration of the question till to-morrow, but it was voted down immediately.

Mr. SMITH was of the opinion that the discussion was a useless one, and that the convention was engaged in a debate upon the difference between tweedle-dum and tweedle-dee. (Laughter.) He would move that the whole matter be postponed.

General COOMBS hoped something definite would be done, in order that the convention might adjourn some time between this and next Christmas.

General GIBBS's substitute was put, and rejected by a large vote.

Mr. TIFT, of Ga., moved that the word "remission" be stricken out and "reduction" inserted.

The motion was voted upon by States and adopted by a large majority.

Mr. GREGG, of S. C., moved that the words "locomotives and other machinery" be added after railroad iron, which was lost.

The following resolutions, forming part of the report of the Business Committee, were read by the Secretary:—

Whereas, The governments of Bolivia, Peru and Ecuador have made the navigation of their Amazonian waters free to all the world; and whereas, this action on the part of those governments has removed those streams from the condition of inland waters, the navigation of which is peculiar to the Riparian States above, and placed them in the category of arms of the sea, the navigation of which is as free to all the world as that of the great high seas themselves.

Whereas, The doctrine that the straits or natural channels which connect free waters with the main ocean, are also free, even though both banks of such channel-way belong to the same State, and be within cannon shot of each other, is founded on the everlasting principles of right, and is sanctioned by law of nations; and whereas, the attention of the federal government has been invited to this subject by a memorial from the Memphis convention; therefore be it

Resolved, That Brazil, the nation owning both banks o the Amazon, at its mouth, has no right arbitrarily to shut out the world from the navigation of its waters, or to prevent the citizens of the United States from passing through the same, with their vessels and merchandise, to the Riparian States who have invited us to come and trade there.

That the President of this convention be requested, in the name of the convention, to congratulate the governments of Bolivia, Peru and Ecuador upon the enlightened and liberal policy which they have adopted with regard to their Amazonian provinces, and to assure them of the deep interest which the people represented in this convention feel with regard to the free navigation of the Amazon and its tributaries, to the speedy settlement of the country drained by it, and to the developement of its resources.

Lieut. HERNDON gave an interesting account of his explorations along the Amazon, and concluded by moving the following amendment to the last resolution:—

And that the government of Brazil be requested to permit these vessels to make explorations and surveys along the shores of the Amazon.

Upon the sixth proposition, in relation to the improvement of harbors and rivers, there was quite a warm discussion, some of the members regarding it as purely a political question. A motion was made to strike it out altogether; but as this was not pressed at the time, Col. Polk moved as an amendment, that the government purchase the island of Cuba.

This was received with considerable merriment, and as it was evidently intended to defeat the proposition it met with the marked approbation of all who were opposed to the convention interfering with the great political and party question of river and harbor improvements.

The PRESIDENT remarked that Mr. Polk's motion could not be considered by the convention unless as a distinct proposition.

Mr. POLK—Then, sir, I move, as a separate matter, that Congress be memorialized to purchase or take the island of Cuba. (Applause.) Now, sir, continued Mr. Polk, it is pretended by the gentleman from the District of Columbia (Lieut. Maury) that the reason why this proposition to memorialize Congress to improve our rivers and harbors is made, is to protect our commerce and our Southern coast; but what is more important for the protection of that coast than the acquisition of Cuba? And if it was as important to any other Power, they would not hesitate a moment in taking it if they could. I think we ought to propose to Spain to pay her the full value of it; and if she does not consent to that we will take it from her, as a matter of necessity. England and France, we know, are becoming the protectors of the Mediterranean and of Turkey, with the view of preventing the extension of the power of Russia over that sea. England has also taken into her peculiar keeping the Mosquito and negro king of Central America, and she does not intend if she can help it that we shall extend our commerce in that part of the continent or in South America. Russia is like us, contending against England and the other Powers for commercial extension; and if things continue as they are at present, we will soon have the strange anomaly presented to our view—that of the most liberal and the most arbitrary and despotic Powers on the face of the earth battling for the same cause—the extension of commerce. I say, if we are going into politics in this convention, and to give expressions of opinion on subjects that have divided the country, we should do it in *extenso*. If we are going to improve the rivers and harbors we must get Cuba to protect the mouth of the Mississippi.

A motion was here made in favor of the acquisition o Mexico; but before it could be put a delegate desired t know what connection the conquest or acquisition o Cuba had with the subject under consideration.

The CHAIR decided that the motion of Mr. Polk was no germain to the subject, and therefore ruled it out o order.

Mr. POLK appealed from the decision of the Chair.

Mr. PERRY, from Tennessee, thought Mr. Polk had a perfect right to present this motion, and he would simply suggest that the words "purchase or take" be stricken out, and "acquire" inserted instead. He considered it a more legitimate matter to memorialize Congress upon than that about rivers and harbors, which was a party question.

The PRESIDENT—If the gentleman presents it as a separate and distinct proposition, I will entertain it, but not otherwise.

Mr. POLK—Then, sir, I shall move it as distinct, and shall call it proposition No. 7.

Mr. WALLACE—I desire to have No. 6 disposed of first, although I am in favor of striking out the whole resolution.

Gov. CLAY—I move to amend the sixth, by adding the words—"So far as it may be within the constitutional competency of Congress."

Mr. KIRKPATRICK also moved that it be amended by adding the words—"So far as they are of a national character."

In the midst of this discussion the President announced that, it being three o'clock, the convention stood adjourned.

DINNER BY THE CITY OF CHARLESTON TO THE DELEGATES.

CHARLESTON, April 13, 1854.

A magnificent banquet was given this evening in Hibernian Hall by the city of Charleston to the members of the great Southern and Western Commercial Convention. It is sufficient to say that it was in every way worthy of the liberality and generous hospitality for which this beautiful city is so celebrated throughout the Union. Hibernian Hall is one of the finest public buildings in Charleston, and on this occasion it presented a really brilliant spectacle. As there were nearly a thousand persons present, it was found necessary to divide them into two parties, one of which occupied the lower and the other the upper hall. The entertainment, which was of a most costly and sumptuous character, was provided by Mr. Nickerson, of the popular and admirably managed hotel known as the Mills House. The tables were laid out with such artistic taste and judgment as would have done credit to the first hotels in New York. The choicest delicacies of the season were spread in the greatest profusion before the guests, and wines of every kind and of the best quality were added. The tables were ornamented with various appropriate devices in confectionery, among which were emblems of commerce and agriculture, a temple of liberty, a ship under full sail, while large boquets of flowers mingled their sweet perfume with the grateful savor of condiments that would tempt the palate of the most fastidious epicure. When to these attractives we add that of a band whose performance added greatly to the attractions of the entertainment we have said enough to show that nothing was left undone to gratify every sense.

The Mayor, T. L. Hutchinson, presided. The following gentlemen officiated as Vice Presidents:—

Henry Gourdine, Peter Della Torre, W. Ball Pringle, James Adger, Col. F. W. Allston, Wm. M. Lawton, H. Dickson, Geo. A. Trenholm, Judge King, W. F. Colcock, J. W. Hayne, Wm. Gregg, Wm. Elliott, A. S. McGrath and W. D. Porter.

When the company had discussed the various entertaining subjects laid on the table, the feast of reason was ushered in by the reading of the first regular toast which was as follows:—

The Commercial Independence of the Cotton growing States—The certain and only mode by which the wealth o the States is secured for those by whom it is produced.

Mr. DAWSON responded. He commenced by saying that it was necessary for him to give a single reason why this was so. It was enough to know that it was so. He was coeval with the growth of cotton in this country, though not very old either. If he were to give a history of cotton planters he would have to begin at the year 1796, and if he did that he felt certain he would have but very few listeners. The toast, he said, was true in fact and in principle; and they all should combine in learning the lesson it taught, which inculcated union as the best method of bringing commerce to their shores. He would close by uniting with them in drinking a glass of wine to the commercial prosperity of the South.

The second regular toast was as follows:—

Virginia, the Proud Old Commonwealth of the South—South Carolina greets with a ready welcome the children of the Old Dominion.

Ex-Governor LEAKE, o' Va., responded. He expressed his thanks for the honor which had been conferred on the State he represented, and the hospitable treatment his brother delegates and himself had received from the people of Charleston. There was nothing, he continued, of which Virginia would be more proud than a compliment of this kind from the noble old State of South Carolina. In all time to come, when darkness and despondency beset them, Virginia would always turn to her youngest sister for that aid and sympathy which the Old Dominion was always ready to give in return. She would stand side by side with her as long as the Southern States were faithful to themselves, and fight to the last against any and every encroachment upon their rights, their privileges and their institutions.

The third regular toast was—

Home Education—Always to be encouraged, at this time of paramount importance, when instruction abroad is directed to the overthrow of our social and political existence.

Judge KING responded. There was no duty, he said, more incumbent upon them than the proper home education of their children. They should be instructed in a full knowledge of the peculiar position in which they were placed; they should know and become fully acquainted with the character of their institutions and the rights and privileges which they possessed under them, for without such knowledge they would never become true citizens of the South. In this way would the Southern States be protected from the attacks of invidious foes from without.

Mr. FIRE followed in response to the same toast. He spoke of the benefits which this convention conferred upon the South, in bringing together citizens of all the Southern States in social and brotherly communion. It was said that no practical results would be gained by its organization; but he believed otherwise. A few words dropped there by some humble individual like himself, might change the destinies even of the world. A gentleman at the breakfast table this morning has told him that they would not subscribe money for the projects before the convention, and without that they could do nothing. "Where," said this gentleman, "are the dollars and cents to come from?" thinking that they were the only powers that moved the world. "But what," said Mr. Pike, "placed the 'Little Corporal' at the head of the French nation, and the prisoner of Ham on the throne of his uncle?" What but the power of intellect, which sways the destinies of nations, and makes men subservient to its potent influence. He was himself but poorly supplied with the commodity of dollars and cents, but he believed that a scruple of intellect outweighed a ton of dollars. He could, with this belief, more fully appreciate the character of the toast to home education. It appeared to him that if no other result had been attained by this convention than the gathering together of such a body of men, who had learned by association and interchange of feelings and opinions to know and love each other, it had accomplished a great result, and they were well compensated for all their labor and trouble. He had at one time a strong prejudice against what he considered "notions" of the South; but since he became acquainted with their institutions, he found that they were not notions, but principles, and so far from entertaining a prejudice against them now, he would defend them to the utmost. He came here with a prejudice against the people of Charleston, but he was now happy in being able to say that not the slightest shadow of any such impression remained in his mind. He would now say that if South Carolina, goaded to desperation, should put herself upon her rights, and defy those who threatened the perpetuity of her institutions and her constitutional rights, his State would stand by her to the last. He concluded with the following sentiment:—

The determination of South Carolina to maintain the constitutional exercise of her rights within the pale of the Union, proves to us that, should this country ever be assailed by a foreign foe, she would say, as Aristides of old said to the Athenians—"Place me where you will, and wherever you place me, there will be found to be the post of honor."

Hon. JOHN PRESTON, of S. C., replied to a toast in commendation of South Carolina. He spoke in eloquent language of the distinguished sons of the Palmetto State, of John C. Calhoun, Hayne, and others, and alluded to the prominent part she played in the war of the revolution, when her Sumpter and her Marion gained for her a fame second to no other State in the Union.

The following toasts were responded to by Governor Manning, of S. C., Ex-Governor Jones, of Tenn., and others, after which the company dispersed:—

Direct Trade, once belonging to us, but lost by our neglect—May we be strong enough to regain it, and wise enough never again to abandon it.

Home Manufactures—The best guarantee for the value of home products is the creation of a home demand for the purposes of home consumption.

The Agricultural States of the South and West united in similar pursuits and similar institutions—May their sympathies induce them to co-operate in all measures which may be necessary for their welfare.

Tennessee—The volunteer State of the Union, found wherever duty calls or honor points the way.

A Commercial Marine—It will give us a home trade in home ports, with home vessels. The tribute it will save may prove to us a useful lesson in teaching us how our staples have enriched every place but the soil in which they were produced.

Maryland and the city of Baltimore—The patriotism of the State and the enterprise of the city have secured the most honorable distinctions.

The Atlantic and Pacific Railroad—A gigantic scheme, intended to unite two mighty oceans; its magnitude is consistent with the colossal greatness of the republic for whose benefit it is projected.

Georgia—Her history is marked by independence, enterprise, and high success.

### Superior Court—Part Second.

Before Hon. Judge Campbell and a Jury.

MATRON AND DOMESTIC.

APRIL 17.—*Catharine Kenny against Alfred T. Serrell and Wife.*—This was an action brought by the plaintiff, who was formerly a domestic in the employ of the defendants, against the latter for slander, alleged to have been uttered under the following circumstances:—The plaintiff, having left her place, sent a person, on the 22d of June, 1853, to procure from the defendants a recommendation of the plaintiff's good character. The defendant's wife replied, it was alleged by Mr. Shannon, counsel for the plaintiff, that "the only recommend that she could give the plaintiff was, that she stole two shirts and three dollars and a half in gold," and that she had put her away for thieving. Damages were laid at $5,000. For the defence, Mr. George G. Sickles contended that the words alleged to have been spoken by the defendants never were spoken by them at any time or place, or any words of a similar import; but, on the contrary, it was contended that on the discovery by Mrs. Serrell of the loss of two of her husband's shirts, and on asking the plaintiff where they were, she denied all knowledge of them, but subsequently stated that she had taken them for her "old man." The plaintiff then left the employ of the defendants, and shortly after sent her brother-in-law to get her clothes and a "recommend," which defendant's wife declined giving him, whereupon he became insolent and noisy, and threatened Mrs. Serrell with seeking satisfaction at law. Mrs. Serrell sent her little son, an intelligent lad of ten years, to call her husband, who came and ejected him from the house. This action soon followed. The cause was tried in March last, and the jury disagreed. In the present instance the jury were also unable to agree, and were discharged.

### Superior Court—Part First.

Before Chief Justice Oakley.

APRIL 17.—*Manus McNulty against Lader Wershe.*—This was an action for an alleged nuisance under the following circumstances:—The plaintiff was in possession of certain tenements of the house 89 Bleecker street, which he had taken for two years from the defendant, who occupied the other portions of the house. The defendant, it appears, ejected the plaintiff from a coal house without his consent and erected thereon a stable, from which the nuisance complained of proceeded. The jury gave the plaintiff a verdict of six cents damages.

## FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

### MONEY MARKET.

MONDAY, April 17—6 P. M.

There was a very active stock market to-day, and the bulls are evidently making up for lost time. Nearly every fancy on the list advanced, and the sales sum up largely. Time transactions compose the bulk of operations, and sellers option are abundant in the official report. At the first board N. Y. Central Bonds advanced 1¾ per cent; Canton Co., 1¼; New Jersey Zinc, ¾; Florence and Keyport, ⅛; Nicaragua Transit, ⅝; Pennsylvania Coal, 2½; Cumberland Coal, ¾; Crystal Palace, 2; N. Y. Central Railroad, 1¼; Michigan Central Railroad, ¾; Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati Railroad, 1; Hudson River Railroad 1; Erie Railroad, 1¼; Harlem Railroad, 1; Reading Railroad, 1¼. At the second board the market was very active, but prices current in the morning were not sustained. This might have been expected, from the rapid advance at the first board. It was simply a natural reaction. Nicaragua fell off ¼ per cent; Florence and Keyport, ⅛; Canton Co., ¼; Hudson River Railroad, ¼; Erie Railroad, ⅛. Pennsylvania Coal went up ½ per cent; Cleveland and Toledo Railroad, ½; Delaware and Hudson, ¼.

After the adjournment of the board the following sales of stocks and bonds were made at auction by A. H. Nicolay:—

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| $5,000 | Sciota & Hocking Valley R. R., 1st mort | | | | 70¼ |
| 1,000 | Lyons (Iowa) Central Railroad, 1st mort | | | | 51 |
| 5,000 | do. | do. | do. | do. | 50 |
| 1,000 | do. | do. | do. | do. | 48½ |
| 5,000 | do. | do. | do. | do. | 47½ |
| 5,000 | do. | do. | do. | do. | 47 |
| 1,000 | Chicago and Rock Island R. R. | | | do. | 92 |
| 2,000 | do. | do. | do. | do. | 91¾ |
| 2,000 | do. | do. | do. | do. | 91½ |
| 2,000 | Sacramento City Ten per Cents | | | | 79 |
| 20 | shares Suffolk Bank | | | | 78½ |
| 20 | do. | East River Bank | | | 93½ |
| 10 | do. | Reliance Mutual Insurance Company | | | 81½ |
| 10 | do. | do. | do. | do. | 84 |
| 6 | do. | do. | do. | do. | 78 |
| 26 | do. | Third Avenue Railroad | | | 59¾ |
| 30 | do. | Niagara Falls Hydraulic Co. | | | 42 |

Simeon Draper's regular weekly sale of stocks at auction will take place to-morrow, at half-past 12 o'clock, at the Merchants' Exchange.

Mining stocks participated in the general advance. Cumberland closed this morning at an advance of ¾. Parker rose ⅜, New Jersey Zinc ½, and others in proportion. New Jersey Franklinite sold on Saturday at 4, being a premium of $1 50. The Mining Board was "snowed under" by the storm, and but very few operations were made. The following were the bids:—

| | Bid. | Asked. | | Bid. | Asked. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Parker Vein | 6¼ | 6⅝ | Lindsay | 75c. | 75c. |
| Lehigh | 2½ | 2¾ | Phenix | 65c. | 75c. |
| Ulster | 1½ | 1⅝ | Rutherford | — | 1¼ |
| Dutchess Silver | — | 1¼ | McCulloch | 6½ | 7 |
| Potomac, old | 3 | 3½ | Conrad | — | 65 |
| Do., new | 1 | 1¼ | Gold Hill | 3½ | 4 |
| N. Carolina | 3½ | 5¼ | Gardiner Gold | 2¼ | 2¾ |
| Hiwassee | — | 5¼ | Bridg'wtr Paint | — | 2¼ |
| Minnesota | — | 170 | Wyckoff Gold | 3 | 5 |
| Fulton | — | 1⅜ | | | |

The receipts at the office of the Assistant Treasurer of the port of New York this day, April 17, were $109,239 14; the payments amounted to $73,474 68—leaving a balance on hand of $8,456,814 87.

The earnings of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad Company, for March, 1854, and for the quarter ending March 31, with the earnings for the corresponding periods last year, have been as follows:—

| | |
|---|---|
| March, 1854 | $17,042 57 |
| March, 1853 | 10,153 29 |
| Increase for the month | $6,889 28 |
| January and February, 1854 | $26,194 26 |
| Do. do. 1853 | 11,825 63 |
| | 14,369 63 |
| Increase for three months | $21,257 91 |

This increase is about equal to 100 per cent on the same months in 1853. There has also been a corresponding incre