

The Anti-Slavery Bangle.

BENJAMIN S. JONES, EDITOR.

"NO UNION WITH SLAVEHOLDERS."

ANN PEARSON, PUBLISHING AGENT.

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J. HUDSON, PRINTER.

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TWO CONFEDERACIES.

It is clear, that at present nothing can be done in the way of a friendly adjustment of the dispute. To all human apparatus the cure of the present unhappy state of things must be left to time and a firm and prudent course on the part of the general government. If the result should be a final separation of the slave states from the free, there are advantages in the separation which we ought not to overlook. Let it be understood that a dissolution of the Union is not what we desire, but it must not be forgotten that, if the free states formed a republic by themselves it would be rid of an influence which has demoralized and corrupted our politics, by shaping them to promote the interests of a powerful oligarchy; that we shall have freed ourselves from the dishonor of tolerating slavery within any part of our jurisdiction; that the slave states, no longer enjoying that respect which the free communities of the North have acquired for them, will be left to feel the effect which the natural abhorrence of the civilized world for slavery will have upon the standing of those countries in which it is tolerated; that we of the free states, freed from that drag on our action and clear of that dark blot, shall proceed on a career of glory and prosperity which the world will offer no parallel; while the slave states will be left to the censure of civilized mankind; to the feebleness which their favorite institution certainly entails upon them, and to the barbarism in which those communities where it is not in process of extinction are sure to plunge deeper and deeper. If we might, in this enumeration, refer to matters of less importance, we should mention the greater economy with which the government might be carried on were the slaveholding states no longer to form part of our confederacy.

But what steps, in the meantime, shall the government take? It seems to us that the question is easily answered. It should insist on the return of the property of which it has been robbed. It cannot expect that the insurgents will respect the government as long as it allows itself to be trifled with. Those forts which it is of any consequence to the United States to hold, should be retaken; the others might be left as they are. The federal government should again enter upon the possession of the Peninsula Navy Yard. It should fully reinforce Fort Sumter. It should require the restoration of the revenue cutter stolen from it at Charleston. It should declare the harbors of the seceding states ports of entry no longer, and prevent smuggling in their waters.

The seceding states have put out the lamps of our light-houses, removed our beacons and taken away the buoys which marked the access to their harbor. This is a violation of the laws of nations. The law requires six months' notice to be given of the erection of a light-house or beacon, and six months' notice of its removal. What the seceding states have done may show our shores with wrecks and corpses. The lamps in the light-houses must be relit, the beacons set up again, and the marks restored. They are all ours; established at our expense; the sites bought for them by the money of the free states, and a full title given to the federal government.

The post routes in the seceding states must be suppressed. They are not only used for purposes of insurrection, at our expense, but they are in the hands of those who pry into all private correspondence, open private letters, and keep back all those which they do not think proper to forward. This makes them a nuisance which should be instantly abated.

The Mississippi should be kept open for the passage of our countrymen of the western states. If obstructed by the revolutionists, their batteries, built to command it, should be demolished. If the federal government fail to do this, the West will do it for itself.

With these measures, our government can afford patiently to wait for the new aspects which the secession movement may take. It is premature to talk of yielding to demand for a peaceable separation. We must first let public opinion at the South fully declare itself, we must give time for the conservative classes, encouraged by a show of strength and determination in the federal government, to combine and make themselves heard, that we may determine how large a portion of the population they form.—N. Y. Evening Post.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

"A great many partisan interests are to be suppressed, party platforms swept away, before the Union, if in danger, and if it is to be saved, can be saved; but it will require a very short time, if the Union does require to be saved, for all these interests and platforms—all these men, to disappear. Everybody who shall oppose, resist or stand in the way of the preservation of this Union, will appear like moths on a summer evening, when the whirlwind of popular indignation arises that shall be excited at the full discovery that this Union is in danger through the faction, or even the impracticability of one party."—Seward's Speech.

What does Mr. Seward mean by such language? Does he mean, by the sweeping away of platforms, that the principles of the Chicago platform are to be surrendered to the haughty demands of the South? What does he mean by the assertion that "all these interests and platforms—all these men are to disappear?" Does he mean that the men who supported the Chicago platform are to give way before the traitor disunionists of the South? Does he apply to the resolute, sincere and unyielding men who adhere, now and forever, in the face of all consequences, to the principles on which Mr. Lincoln was elected, the respectful terms, "faction," and impracticability?—Portage County Democrat.

We see by the Harrisburg Telegraph that Mr. Irish, the excellent Senator from Allegheny, has introduced in our State Senate, a bill having for its object the protection of the rights of married women. It seems that whilst heretofore married women had possessed the legal right to carry on business as if they were unmarried—and whilst the intention of our legislature was evidently to give them the sole right to collect their own earnings—yet our Supreme Court has construed the law so as to confer the right on the husband to collect such money as she may have earned—the profits of her own labor. The design of Mr. Irish's bill intends to confer upon her the exclusive right to collect her earnings. This is eminently just, and prevents any violation of the rights which God and nature have conferred upon her.—True American (Pa.)

We learn that Miss White—daughter of Mr. Ezra White of McKean township—who recently married a gentleman from Mississippi and removed thither, arrived in this city on Tuesday last, having been driven from the State because she held opinions adverse to the interests of that system which chafes four millions of human beings and degrades all who would obtain honest livings by honest toil. She was warned to leave, and ten hours was set as the limit of time within which she was to effect her departure.

—Hadn't we better compromise?—Eric True American.

From the Astorian Sentinel.

"And this is Rome, Rome, that sat on her seven hills, and from her throne of beauty ruled the world."

Cleveland, our proud Forest City, is degraded, bowed down to the very dust, and at the beck and call of ruffians. Vanity! vanity! a little more than a twelve month since, you draped your city in black, sent up sighs and lamentations, because the noble spirit of the freedom-loving martyr, John Brown, ascended to Heaven. What demon possesses you now, that you delight in the surrender of a poor helpless slave-girl to her relentless and dastardly owners? And how proud you are to say, we abide the law.

And the Cleveland Leader, too has become a based, and eringes to a fiend law. How we gloried in the conviction that to thousands, it was sent the white-winged messenger of Truth, the friend of the wronged and oppressed, demanding justice for all. But alas, how changed! Now it delights to be acknowledged as the compeller of the plain Dealer and Democrat. Was its editor one of the pall-bearing deputies, the slave-girl being the bier on which was carried out of our midst, the living sacrifices of our most holy principles?

Bury your resolutions, Clevelanders, of former years. Let them moulder in the grave of your city's liberty. Set Marshal Johnston in a high place in your temple of infamy and wrong. Crown Slade with laurel. Shout his resolutions to the winds of Heaven. Let them blow fiercely over the broad waters of Erie, and to the land where the bond go free, and they will be answered in time.

From the Ohio State Journal.

A Cleveland paper states that "a paper is being circulated on the streets, we are told, and already numerously signed, giving assurance to a gentleman from Kentucky, who has ascertained that one of his runaway slaves is in the city, that he shall be protected in coming here and regaining possession of his property." The paper further says that about a hundred signatures had been obtained, mostly those of Republicans. We would suggest to our Republican brethren of Cleveland that they go a little further in their devotion to the due enforcement of law, and—as it is rather expensive hunting up fugitives—circulate a subscription paper to raise means to defray all the expenses of the Kentucky gentleman, and also to tender him a reception ball at one of the commodious hotels of their pleasant city. It would be well, also, to avoid all reference, in presence of the Kentucky gentleman, to the manner in which free white men of the North are treated by our Southern brethren, to the battery at Vicksburg, stealing of United States property by the chivalry and all that kind of facts, which might not be agreeable to the gentleman from Kentucky, and which might create serious unpleasantness.

THE CALL.

Sons of the best of fathers! will you father
With all they left you perilled and at stake?
Ho! once again on Freedom's holy altar
The fire awakes!

Prayer-strengthened for the trial, come together,
Put on the harness for the moral fight,
And, with the blessing of our Heavenly Father,
MAINTAIN THE RIGHT.

CRUDITIES OF THE CONSTITUTION—THE DIFFICULTIES THAT SURROUND US.

Certain people of the North will insist that the United States government is a military despotism, and that President Buchanan has all the power of the shah of Persia to seize and imprison and hang men at his pleasure. Thus the republican presses are demanding of the President, that he shall seize the commissioners from South Carolina, and try them for treason! If you ask them what is treason, they can't tell, but they insist that the President ought to hang somebody, because Parson, in what he calls his "Life of Andrew Jackson," (compiled too much from street talk and newspaper slanders), sets it down that General Jackson proposed to hang Mr. Calhoun, for notification, which is false. No citizen can be punished or deprived of life or liberty, in this country without the process of law.

Massachusetts, in 1814, sent two ambassadors of the Hartford convention to Washington, to demand of President Madison, the separation of New England from the Union, in carrying on the war. William Sullivan and Harrison Gray Otis were the commissioners. Mr. Madison did not propose to hang them. But, as Mr. John Quincy Adams says, of the peace of Ghent, the news of which came while the commissioners were at Washington, "the interposition of a kind Providence averted the most deplorable of catastrophes"—"the establishment of a Northern confederacy."

South Carolina now follows the example of Massachusetts, by sending her commissioners to President Buchanan, and President Buchanan is abused by Massachusetts, in particular, because he won't hang them for treason, without judge or jury!

Now let us enquire what treason is, and what the Constitution says about seizing and hanging people in this country.

The Constitution of the United States says: "Treason against the United States shall consist, only, in levying war against them, or in adhering to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort."

The last applies only to aiding a foreign enemy, and giving them comfort, as the Hartford convention did in 1814.

The United States not being at war, treason now can consist only in levying war upon the United States, and the Constitution says there must be some overt act proved by two witnesses. And what is levying war is thus defined by the Supreme Court of the United States vs. Aaron Burr: "To levy war is to raise, create, make or carry on a war. War can be levied only by the employment of actual force—troops must be embodied, men must be openly raised, &c." And the purpose must be to make war on the United States. "To march in arms, with a force marshaled and arrayed, committing acts of violence and devastation, in order to compel the resignation of a public officer, to render ineffective an act of Congress, is high treason," says Chief Justice Marshall.

That was the nature of the offence which Theodore Parker, Wendell Phillips, and their associates were charged with, when they incited the mob, in Faneuil Hall, to go to the court house and rescue Burns, the fugitive slave, in which unlawful enterprise Batchelder, one of the marshal's deputies, was murdered.

And here, again, South Carolina is only following this example of Massachusetts, in the attack of the forts, if she had really used military force to take them.

That is treason in the men who committed and incited the act, unless South Carolina has a right to secede from the Union. But it is not treason in the State, for a State cannot commit treason. It is only treason in the individuals who commit the overt act.

And if it be treason or misdemeanor, where is the authority of the President to seize or hang anybody, as the republicans are insisting he ought to do, and charge him with being a traitor for not doing?

The Constitution is very plain on this point. It reads thus:

"The trial of all crimes shall be by jury, and such trial shall be held in the State where the said crimes shall have been committed."

"No person shall be held to answer for a crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a grand jury, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law."

"And, the accused shall enjoy the right to a public trial, by an impartial jury of the State, where the crime has been committed."

These are the limitations of that despotism which certain people so inconsiderately claim now-days for the President.

If any citizen or body of men in South Carolina have levied war against the United States, they cannot be arraigned or tried for it anywhere but in South Carolina.

There must be first an indictment found by a grand jury in South Carolina. There must be a district attorney to prepare and attest the indictment. There must be a court to receive it and arraign the prisoner, and a jury to try him.

This last was the protection which Parker and Phillips and their associates found when they were indicted for what they called "free speech" in connection with the murder of Batchelder, and the obstruction of the laws of the United States for the rendition of fugitive slaves.

The President could not seize them, nor could they be tried anywhere but in Massachusetts; and though there were all the officers of the law here and a grand jury indicted them, they escaped a trial and got off upon a very small technicality, which was that the commissioner who issued his warrant of arrest had signed it only commissioner, without saying what commissioner, and the court held that the indictment, however drawn could not supply this deficiency, because it could not go beyond the description in the warrant.

Just so President Buchanan has no power to seize, or arraign, or try anybody in Washington or anywhere else. If there have been acts of treason, they have been committed only in South Carolina.

lines. The parties charged must be tried in that State by a jury of the State. There is no United States marshal to arrest them, no district attorney to indict them, no grand jury to find a bill, no court to arraign, and no jury to try them. How then are the steps to be taken which the Constitution demands in every case of alleged crime? And if there were all the officers of the court and justice, everybody knows that a court in South Carolina would hold that the right of secession absolved the party accused from his liability to the laws of the United States, and no jury would convict.

THE FUGITIVE AT CLEVELAND.

Her ancestors had been kidnaped in Africa. For generations they had been held as slaves in Virginia, had been scourged, degraded, brutalized. She had herself caught some glimpses of Christianity. She saw that her life, her liberty, and that which was dearer than both, were held at the disposal of a brutal master. She had heard of Cleveland as the citadel of freedom; she had been told that a Christian community resided there. She fled to it. She was a stranger demanding the protection of a Christian people. But she was pursued by her despotic claimant. He asserted his right to dispose of her life, her liberty, her virtue. In open day, in the midst of civilized people, she was seized; the cold iron was placed upon her limbs, and she was hurried to a fate far worse than death. Persons of her own complexion were told they must not interfere to save this helpless, this friendless woman. In Africa, they would have done it; but in Cleveland, barbarism was protected by their public men. Indeed, some of them united in the perpetration of this revolting crime.

I bring no railing accusation against them. I feel this blow at the honor of our beautiful city, at the honor of our Western Reserve, at the honor of our State, at the honor of our people, too deeply. I write in sorrow, and not in anger. But they represented themselves as acting in obedience to law. I deny it emphatically. The Fugitive Slave Act is not law according to the definition of that term given by any approved writer for the last century. "Law," says Blackstone, "is a rule of action prescribed by the supreme power of a State, commanding that which is right, and prohibiting that which is wrong." The Fugitive Act commands that which is wrong, and prohibits that which is right. It is the reverse of law, the antagonism of law. It was never prescribed by the people who are the supreme power in this nation. They never delegated to members of Congress authority to murder, or enslave any human being; they held no such authority themselves, and could not have delegated it to slaveholders and dogfaces. It is insulting to the intelligence of our people to call that act "Law." No, let the truth be spoken; the capture of Lucy was as unauthorized, as unmitigated a piracy as was the capture of her ancestors in Africa. But some of those men were Republicans. They had said to the world, that Lucy held her right to life and liberty from the Creator. That our government was instituted to secure the enjoyment of these rights. Under the Constitution they had sworn she should not be deprived of them, except on conviction of crime. Added to these, were all the human sympathies, and all the moral considerations appreciable by mortals urging them to protect this friendless female stranger. Why did they not do it? They dared not do it. They bowed meekly submissive, to the most arrogant despotism that ever crushed the souls of men. It was the despotism of slavery. Buchanan surrenders our Furtis and Arsenal at the bidding of the slave power. But the principle men of Cleveland surrender up helpless females to mortal death, at the bidding of the same slave power. History will record the mournful story of Lucy; but when future generations shall look back upon the present day, and find that obedience to the most revolting despotism was held forth as a virtue, here on this Western Reserve in this afternoon of the nineteenth century; that in a land of bibles and of churches, a land boasting of its christianity, the people quietly looked upon this most repulsive barbarism without raising a hand to prevent it, they will wonder, but will be unable to account for such moral phenomenon.

When our people were seized and enslaved under Algerine enactments, we, as a nation, with unanimous voice pronounced the enslavers "pirates," unworthy of human association, and we butchered them without mercy. If those Algerians deserved death, Goshorn and the captors of Lucy have no claims to life, and every man who advised or consented, or assisted to consign her to chains and bondage, is accessory to the crime.

Nor are we to be told that the people cannot judge of these questions. There is not a mechanic, black or white, in the city of Cleveland, who will admit that Congress can confer on any man authority to murder or enslave an innocent fellow being. That they can impose upon any person an obligation to submit to be murdered or enslaved. Even the heathen barbarism on board the slave ship Amistad acknowledged this universal consciousness. They asserted their right to life, their right to liberty, and slew those who attempted to hold them in bondage. They struck down men who were far more innocent than was Goshorn and his assistants in crime. But the Supreme

"Some twelve years since, a young slave woman in Virginia was set upon by a white ruffian who attempted to violate her person. She possessed strong physical powers, and in defending herself, she struck such a blow as to lay him dead at her feet. For doing this she was convicted and sentenced to be hung. Members of the Methodist Church to which she belonged, interceded with the Executive, who agreed to pardon her on condition that she would leave the United States. Her friends agreed that she should do so, and applied to the writer for letters addressed to the friends of liberty in Ohio asking their hospitality towards this victim to the barbarism of Virginia, to which Lucy was consigned by men of Cleveland. The letters were given, and this woman is now an exile, for defending her virtue under Virginia laws.

Court of the United States held them guilty; and the Christian world approved the act. They surely manifested a superior civilization, a higher Christianity on this point than did those principal men of Cleveland. The slaves on board the Amistad understood their natural rights; they slew those who attempted to make merchandise of their souls and bodies. I, acting as the Representative of the Congressional District, publicly vindicated this act of the slaves. The British ministry vindicated it; the people of our district, indeed the people of the United States approved of the action of those slaves. And the people of Cuyahoga county for ten years, sustained me in the position I had assumed on that subject.

I am laying down no new doctrine. For a century it has been held by Christian Publicists, that the right of every human being to life and liberty, lies behind and above human governments, guaranteed by the will of the Most High, that to violate this will of God by murdering or enslaving men, constitutes the highest of human offenses, whether it be done by murderers, pirates, or despots. This will of God, this natural law, cannot be changed or modified by human legislation. It constitutes the basis, the essential element in our government. It constitutes the life giving principle of the Republican organization. To surrender it, would be to surrender the Republican party, to surrender the government, to surrender our liberties.

The doctrine of submission preached by our friends at Cleveland, when carried out, would surrender their own daughters to Southern prostitution, and themselves to interminable bondage. Nor can Marshal Johnson be in any degree excused, because he is an officer. He knows that Lucy's right to liberty was held directly from the Creator. That neither murderers, pirates, nor members of Congress had authority to disrobe her of this prerogative. He knew that the process issued by Bushrod White, commanding him to violate the liberty of Lucy, was void, was a mockery, conferring on him no authority whatever, imposing upon her no obligation to submit to be enslaved. That its only effect was to involve White in the crime, to render him a party in the guilt. There is but one qualification to which these remarks are subject: The turpitude of White, Johnson and Goshorn, and those principal men of Cleveland, who advised, or consented to the enslavement of Lucy, is measured by their intelligence. G.

P. S. Since writing the above, I have been informed that those persons who met at Lima are to be indicted, and punished for conspiring to secure Lucy in the enjoyment of her liberty. Such a prosecution will be consistent. If the fugitive act be "law," all who conspire in favor of freedom must be offenders. And inasmuch as Hancock, Adams, Franklin, Jefferson and their associates who favored the great conspiracy of 1776, are now beyond the jurisdiction of Judge Wilson's court, it might be well to embrace the Chicago Convention and the Republican party in one general indictment. The submissionists and compromisers will of course be glad to act as prosecuting witnesses. I presume Judge Wade, Judge Ranney, and all those public men who have declared they would liberate any person captured under the fugitive act, will at once plead guilty. Judge Saffell and Judge Brinkerhoff, having dared officially to proclaim the fugitive act void, should be most severely punished.

But what can be said to mitigate the punishment of Tom Corwin, Senator Monroe, and other conspirators who composed the Republican Convention of 1850, and before the country declared this fugitive act "destructive to the rights of the States, to the liberties of the people, and abhorrent to the sense of the civilized world." I tremble for these flagrant offenders. But I trust that the punishment of the people of our State, who voted to sustain the views of the convention, who elected Judge Brinkerhoff because he held these doctrines, will receive mercy at the hands of the slave-attackers.

THE BRITISH WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS.

Considerable interest is now felt in the issue of the writ of habeas corpus to the Governor-General of the Canadas in the case of Anderson, the fugitive slave, claimed as a criminal. The Judges of England, who have issued the writ, are apprehensive, in the first instance, of the effect of such a proceeding upon the dignity of the local courts; and, in the second, of the consequence to their own dignity of the possible disobedience of the Queen's Viceroy. A precedent occurs to us which ought to allay any apprehensions on the score of the resistance of the Governor.

Some thirty years ago the sitting judge of the Supreme Court of Bombay (Sir John Pether Grant) issued a writ of habeas corpus, returnable by an officer in the interior of the Deccan or southern districts. The object was to bring up the body of a Hindoo youth, with Christian propensities, whose parents desired to keep him in a state of Hindoo religious servitude. Sir John Malcolm, the Governor of Bombay and the provinces included in that presidency, alarmed in reality for his own absolutism, but professing apprehensions that the natives would regard the exercise of the authority of the Supreme Court as a movement in favor of conversion, ordered forcible resistance to the writ. Sir John Grant then closed his court after an indignant remonstrance, and appealed to the authorities in England. The law upheld Sir John's proceedings, but the President of the Board of Control (Lord Ellenborough) sent out two Palace Judges to sit for the future on the same bench with Sir John Grant, and curb, by a numerical majority, his disposition to carry out British law with exactness.

This arrangement the factious and self-complacent Ellenborough likened to the employment of two tame elephants to coerce a wild one. Mr. John Grant at once resigned his seat and recommenced practice at the bar, only to be raised again to a more lucrative position on the bench of Calcutta by Lord Ellenborough's successor.

It is manifest from this that the writ of habeas corpus is operative throughout the British territories, and that any resistance to its authority is

only calculated to produce disturbance and indignity. No tame elephants can be brought to bear upon the Lord Chief Justice of England and his concurring colleagues, and it may therefore be assumed that the local authorities in Canada will not resent the writ with impunity. Indeed, they seem to be inclined to obey a law which gives freedom to the slave under any circumstances, however aggravated.—N. Y. Post.

From the London Times, Jan. 23.

COTTON IS KING.

The American Revolution is advancing with rapid strides to a consummation. Within a week or two we may expect to hear of civil war between the States of the Great Republic. Anxious as we feel to escape such a conclusion, we do not see how it is to be evaded. The North is no longer disposed to make concessions even if the South would listen to compromise, and although we may allow for a certain amount of blustering on the part of the Secessionists, nobody doubts that Americans are ready to fight. We look upon this prospect with unaffected horror. Independently of our natural sympathies, we have enormous interests at stake—such interests, indeed, that our charity must brighten at home. We deplore the political catastrophe, but our first thought must necessarily be given to its commercial effects. If the Southern States of the Union are convulsed by war, a servile insurrection will be only too probable an incident of the strife; if the slaves rebel, the cotton crop will be paralyzed, and with the failure of the cotton crop comes the paralysis of our own staple manufacture. The question is so momentous that it cannot be too seriously urged or too expeditiously entertained. Lancashire depends on South Carolina, and what South Carolina is doing betwixt the States from each successive despatch. The telegrams of Saturday last were the most ominous yet received, and if we compare with these reports an article from a weekly contemporary which we yesterday transcribed, the perils actually ahead of us will be distinctly appreciated.

Not a doubt exists as to the resources at our command. Cotton can be grown almost as commonly as wheat. The best seeds and the best staples are now well understood, and the proper method of cleaning and packing can be easily taught. The rest is the work of a year or two. Since the publication of our last remarks on this subject, we have received a communication from one of the Societies interested in African civilization, informing us that the progress of cotton cultivation at Abbeokuta: as actually and authentically recorded, is such as to match the beginnings of even American enterprise. In 1850, that obscure, though productive region, sent out half a bale of cotton to England. In 1855 this medium had been increased about forty fold, and in 1860 it actually amounted to about 2,000 bales. We are assured that the district could easily grow cotton for the consumption of all Lancashire, and we are asked whether the introduction of skilled negroes from the United States would not soon give us a new Charleston on the African coast? From India the offers are the same. If in 1857 India could send us, as she did, 680,000 bales, it is fair enough to presume that under the present and with the encouragement of a strong demand she could raise her supplies to 1,000,000 bales—nearly half of our immediate wants. Then, again, there is Australia, actually inquiring for a staple article of produce, and desirous of nothing better than to be set cotton growing for England.

We do not dissimble the particular difficulty of the case. We have repeatedly observed, and we acknowledge once more, that America has got the call of the market. It is not that her idleness might not be equalled in the end by those of Australia or India, but at present she enjoys all those facilities of organization and traffic which would have to be created elsewhere. The creation would be perfectly practicable, but it has still to be accomplished, and in the meantime there is the old-fashioned firm, with its capital, its connections, and all that makes business profitable, yet undamaged. Nobody can say, however, that the security will last a month longer, and besides that, our national interests call imperatively for new supplies. It is worth reflecting that if the agriculture of the Slave States should be ruined, there will be a trade of £40,000,000 a year to be picked up by some other countries.

MINUTE AT FORT PICKENS.—We learn from a private letter received by a gentleman in this place, and dated the 17th inst., that there was an attempt to mutiny at Fort Pickens, by a portion of the men under command of Lieutenant Slemmer, but it had been put down; but the men swear they want fight against their countrymen. The writer does not think there will be a fight, however, but rather thinks that as soon as everything is ready to besiege the fort, Lieutenant Slemmer will surrender it.—[Mobile Mercury]

LATEST FROM MONTGOMERY.

Montgomery, Feb. 9.—This has been the most important day in the session of the Convention. A Committee was appointed to report on a flag, seal of arms, and motto for the Confederacy. The President was directed to appoint a Committee on Foreign Affairs, on Finance, on Military and Naval Affairs, on Postal Affairs, on Commerce and on Patents.

The Convention then proceeded to the election of the executive officers of the new Government, with the following result: For President of the Confederate State of North America, Hon. Jefferson Davis received the unanimous vote of the Convention; for Vice President, Hon. Alex. Stephens was elected.

A resolution was adopted, appointing a Committee of three of the Alabama Deputies, to inquire and report on what terms suitable buildings in Montgomery can be secured for the use of the several executive departments of the Confederacy, under the provisional government.

An ordinance was passed, continuing in force until repealed or altered by Congress, all laws of the United States, now in force or use till the first of November, subject to the Constitution of the