Daily Appeal.

MEMPHIS.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1860.

Largest Circulation in the City

Reading Matter on Every Page.

REMOVAL—NOTICE.

The APPEAL office has been moved to our new building, corner of Union street and Front Alley, where all persons having business with the office, are requested to call in future.

SHALL WE HAVE A SOUTHERN CONFERENCE?

As far as our observation has led us to notice, we have discovered only two classes of persons who have persistently opposed the contemplated project of a southern conference among the slave States. First, we have the disunionists per se, who are advocating a separate State secession, for fear that the wrongs of the South may possibly be redressed in the Union, and the ambitious designs of trading politicians be thus effectually circumvented by the triumph of justice and the vindication of man's capacity for self-government. Then we have the timid and temporizing sycophants of "the Union at all hazards," who look upon the Government, as it is, in the light of a paramount political good; preferring to kiss the rod that smites them, rather than resort to the manly expedient of resistance to the oppressor—who fear that the North may not recede from its intolerable policy of continued aggression upon the institution of slavery and the rights of the South, and "the glorious Union" thus be razed to the ground and reduced to fragmentary elements whence it sprung. Discarding the idiotic views of each of these classes, we have reason to believe that a medium compromise can be found in the adoption of the plan which has been suggested by Messrs. STEPHENS, JOHNSON, FITZPATRICK and others, of convening delegates from the slave States in general assembly, and reasoning upon the course which wisdom, moderation, justice and truth may dictate. We have, after careful deliberation, adopted this proposed plan, believing it the only one which, under present circumstances, can possibly avert the horrors and savageries incident to the industrial and financial disaster that must inevitably follow the secession of semi half dozen only of the States of this Confederacy.

First: It will serve to conciliate the differences between the two classes whom we have designated, and thus produce concert of action among the slave States, who her for resistance in or out of the Union. Freedom of thought and opinion necessarily give rise to diversity of conclusion, founded in the honesty of conviction. If no conference or interchange of thought shall take place among the antagonistic elements thus created, argument will be followed by a bitter and intolerant warfare among ourselves; the breach continuing to grow wider, and the conflict more unrelenting, until we shall present the pitiable spectacle of a people who desire the same end, actually wrangling with discordant bigotry as to the best means by which that end shall be consummated. A conference will serve as a tribunal of arbitrament—an Areopagus, so to speak—to whose decision the antipodal hierarchs of Missouri and South Carolina, of Maryland and Mississippi, will alike be compelled to subordinate their opinions, and thus give us a united South.

Secondly: Such a convention will give us an interlude between the present and the time of the holding, in which to make proper preparations for the emergency of dissolution, should such be the verdict of that body. We need the united counsels of our State governments and the congregation of our sovereign. We need some steps toward pulling ourselves in a defensive attitude, so as to maintain the action we shall have taken, and, if necessary, meet the bayonet and the bullet with the carbine and the cannon. We are now in no condition to face such a not improbable contingency. Not a single Southern State is prepared for immediate secession, but they have only in distant contemplation the adoption of measures that will facilitate the "accomplished fact" of independence, and aid in mitigating the evils to which we allude as inevitably being consequent upon fundamental changes in forms of government. In time of peace we should be prepared for war.

Thirdly: We must do not so degrade ourselves of moral force to our position and conduct before the civilized world. In the language of the Declaration of Independence, "a decent respect for the opinions of mankind requires that we should declare the causes that impel us to separation." We must be justified by the pen of the historian in the course which we adopt in seeking upon these causes. Our inception as an independent sovereignty, if the fates shall so cast our horoscope, should be legitimate, honorable and just, and in case of conflict upon the field of battle, let it be told in Gath and published in the streets of Ashelon, that, as with our revolutionary fathers, nothing was left to shield us from oppression, save "an appeal to arms and to the God of hosts." With a united front among ourselves, with the sympathy of foreign powers, and with the full consciousness of having done every honest duty during and rebellion at home, we can then openly and aggressive from abroad. Without resorting to the criminal perpetration of our Government upon the constitutional basis of equal and exact justice to all sections, or in its disruption because the ear of fanatic or shall prove impenetrable to the appeals of that justice, our only hope is in a Southern Confederacy.

"SOUTHERN CONFEDERACY."

We publish this morning upon our first page, a most able, eloquent, and logical article upon the subject of a southern confederacy, extracted from the *New York Tribune*, to which we refer to it was furnished from the polished pen of W. W. CLARK, Esq., formerly a citizen of the State of Georgia, and now of New York city.

The tone of our editorials show wherein we differ from some of the positions assumed by the writer; yet such is the masterly manner in which he handles his subject, such the boldness with which he grapples with the dogmas of abolitionists, and such the clearness and comprehensiveness of his views, that we cannot deny our readers the pleasure of its perusal. In times like these, the mind of the reading public ought not to be tied down to the particular position of this or that newspaper, nothing—as must necessarily follow—a tissue of his partisans and, not unfrequently, jaundiced and perverted views. Anti-slavery partisan is an ancient adage, founded in wisdom and justice, and one whose suggestion, if followed, cannot fail in directing an eventuality in the highway that leads to truth. The times are perilous indeed, and demand the calm, sober, and liberal discussion of the issues before the country. If the argument on both sides is presented to the minds of the people, the "golden mean" between the two extremes cannot fail in proving the compromise whose adoption will come as oil upon the troubled waters of our political Galilee. A free, intelligent people have nothing to fear from argument and discussion. They have invariably proved self-corrective in error and falsehood, and but serve to render doubly sure the undeniable fact, that

"truth, crushed to earth, will yet rise,
"Error, wounded, writhes in pain,
"And dies amid her worshippers."

MEETING OF THE CITIZENS OF MEMPHIS LAST NIGHT.

In accordance with a call previously made for a public meeting, a large and enthusiastic multitude of the citizens of Memphis assembled at Exchange building on last night, after early gun-light, for the purpose of deliberating upon the present state of political affairs. On motion, JAMES EDDY was called to the chair, and S. T. MORGAN and J. D. WILLIAMS appointed secretaries.

The following committee were appointed to draft resolutions to be presented to the meeting for adoption: ED. PICKETT, Jr., S. B. WILLIAMSON, JAMES HAMILTON, THOMAS J. NELSON, SAM. TATE, J. KNOX WALKER, and JOHN MARTIN.

Several acts of resolutions were read by various persons, and referred to the committee for consideration.

Speeches were made by the Hon. SOLON BEALAND, R. G. PATTON, Esq., T. H. LEGWOOD, E. F. LOWRY, W. E. POSTON, and others, during the time the committee had retired.

After an hour's retirement, the committee returned, presenting a majority and minority report.—Messrs. PICKETT, WILLIAMSON, HAMILTON, NELSON and TATE, signing the former; Messrs. WALKER and MARTIN the latter.

After the reading of these reports, Col. POSTON rose forward and proposed a substitute for the two, amid the most intense excitement. About this juncture the wildest, most disorderly and boisterous confusion prevailed in the crowd. Cries of "Order!" "Silence!" and similar ejaculations were elicited from the throng. All sorts of colleges upon the Union were received with groans and hisses, and continued clamor for the action States made the "welkin ring." At one time it was feared that the meeting would break up in general confusion and without any determinate action, but the noise was sufficiently quelled to furnish an opportunity to hear the sense of the multitude touching the issues under discussion. The resolutions of Mr. POSTON were then offered, and were passed by a crowd, nahe majority. They are as follows:

1. *Resolved*, That the "irrepressible conflict" is upon us.

2. *Resolved*, That we accept that conflict.

3. *Resolved*, That the executive of Tennessee convene the legislature for the purpose of calling a convention, to determine what shall be the action of the State.

4. *Resolved*, That the convention of Tennessee request a convention of the fifteen Southern States to determine what shall be the action of the South.

5. *Resolved*, That the State of Tennessee will stand by the action of the southern convention—bring it weal or woe.

A motion was then made to adopt the majority report by way of amendment, which passed by an overwhelming majority. These resolutions are as follows:

WHEREAS, the agitation of the slavery question has for a series of years jeopardized the interest of the people of the Southern States of this Union, and having eventuated in a series of acts by Northern State legislatures designed to destroy the constitutional rights of the South, and whereas, the new dominant party of the North have for years waged an edicts war against their southern brethren, not only to destroy their constitutional rights, but to degrade them as a people before the civilized world; and this sectional party by an aggregate numbers having successfully elected a President to the Federal Government, by electing to the Chief Magistracy one who is pledged, as the author of their creed, to an "irrepressible conflict" with the Southern States; and whereas, the time has arrived when the South cannot any longer submit to such outrage without dishonor,

Be it therefore resolved by this meeting, That we fully concur in the movement made in other States for the call of conventions, and as a necessary step for successful co-operation on the part of Tennessee, we respectfully suggest to and urge upon his Excellency the Governor of this State, the importance of calling the legislature together at the earliest practicable period, in order that suitable measures may be devised for carrying out the wishes of the people in regard to the startling issues that are now before them.

Resolved, That the hostile attitude of the Northern States toward the southern portion of the Confederacy, as evidenced by a long series of outrages, and finally terminating in the election to the Presidency of the bitter and uncompromising enemy to our institutions is utterly inconsistent with the further continuance of the Union, unless we can be guaranteed adequate protection; and therefore, if the South means it to the plain dictates of honor and self-preservation, promptly to withdraw from the Confederacy without a full and complete redress of grievances be tendered by the people of the North.

Resolved, That we cordially recommend action and concert of action among our southern brethren, and we pledge ourselves, in the event that justice from the people of the North is not promptly rendered, and guarantees for future protection insured, that we will seek that protection and redress out of the Union, which has been so pertinaciously denied us within it.

Resolved, That we would not submit to the contempt by the General Government of any State that may feel itself so aggrieved by its action as to induce it to secede from it.

ED. PICKETT, JR.
S. B. WILLIAMSON,
JAS. HAMILTON,
T. A. NELSON,
SAM. TATE.

After the adoption of the resolutions the meeting adjourned, at 10 o'clock.

NORTH CAROLINA.

Gov. ELLIS, of North Carolina, in his message to the legislature, makes the following military recommendation. As the Old North State is one of the soundest States in the Union with regard to slavery, and has always cherished a just attachment to the Federal Union, the recommendation of her governor will be read with interest and respect:

Ours is a government of public opinion and not of force; and the employment of the military force to control the popular will would, if successful, result in a galling and intolerable despotism.

The prevention then, of civil war and the preservation of peace among us are the great objects which North Carolina should resolve upon securing, whatever changes the Government may undergo.

In view of the perilous condition of the country, it is not my opinion, becoming a patriot that we should have some consultation with those States identified with us in interest and in the wrongs we have suffered; and especially bringing together the chief magistrates. Any act of ours would if necessary materially affect them, it would be but consistent with the amicable relations that have ever existed between us, and would give the new dominant party of the North time for years waged an edicts war against their southern brethren, not only to destroy their constitutional rights, but to degrade them as a people before the civilized world; and this sectional party by an aggregate numbers having successfully elected a President to the Federal Government, by electing to the Chief Magistracy one who is pledged, as the author of their creed, to an "irrepressible conflict" with the Southern States; and whereas, the time has arrived when the South cannot any longer submit to such outrage without dishonor,

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Gov. Ellis