we have not long advocated secession as a remedy, but since day since the election of LINCOLN has the APPEAL counseled a submission to his Administration upon the Chicago platform. We have from that very hour urged resistance. We hoped, and earnestly hoped, that vital concessions would be made by the Republican party, which might enable us to live in the Union with some assurance of peace and safety. We did revere the Union as our fathers made it, and it was with feelings of the most poignant grief that the conviction was at last forced upon our minds that there was no earthly hope of its preservation, consistently with the honor and safety of the South. The determined, stiff-neck and uncompromising hostility of the Republicans, their stubbornness and blind fatuity was not fully and completely displayed until after Congress was convened, and the various propositions of compromise patriots were all sternly and insultingly rejected. It was then that we drew the sword, and threw aside the scabbard.

But while you were reproaching us for our youth, consistency required that you should have recalled to memory that you were scarcely *dry behind the ears*.

You will not claim that you favored secession in your columns prior to the election; for you well remember the days of torpor, when we had you suspended on the tender hooks of a few direct questions, that needed but categorical answers for solution, and yet you poured forth two columns of what proved to be thin blood and water, that escaped from your wounds. But we will not remind you more of these things which must be painful to your minds to recall—the days of your agonizing and bloody sweat.

We stand in the same ranks now, neighbors; those who were generous foes should be liberal friends; and as we are assembled around Bethesda, waiting for the angel of the Lord of nations to trouble the pool, let us unite in one hearty union of prayers for his speedy coming, so that this afflicted nation may bathe therein, and be healed of its leprosies.

☞ We had the pleasure yesterday of meeting our old friend, the Hon. O. R. SINGLETON, late Representative in Congress from the State of Mississippi. He was returning home with his family, not deeming it consistent with a proper self-respect, or in accordance with the wishes of his constituents, to remain in Congress after his State had withdrawn from the Union. We learned from Mr. SINGLETON and the entire Mississippi delegation, both Senators and Representatives, had withdrawn from Congress. Col. JEFF. DAVIS is detained at Washington by sickness, and Secretary THOMPSON is remaining there a short time for the purpose of ferreting out, as far as possible, the late frauds and peculations perpetrated in the Department of the Interior.

MILITARY COMPANIES AT OXFORD, MISS. Two volunteer companies have been recently organized in the spirited county of Lafayette. One is called the LAMAR Rifles, and is commanded by Capt. GREEN, and the other is named in honor of the gallant major of the First Mississippi Rifles, and is called the Bradford Rifles. Capt. GREEN passed through the city yesterday on his way to St. Louis to obtain arms for the companies.

CHASE HAS ACCEPTED THE POSITION OF SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.—The Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia *Press*, now the confidential organ of Lincoln, says that Gov. Chase has accepted the position of Secretary of the Treasury under President Lincoln. With Seward as Secretary of State and Chase as Secretary of the Treasury, Lincoln's cabinet will be of the darkest abolition hue possible.

A. M. LOONEY, of MAURY.—The Nashville *Union* publishes the following disatch, showing that Hon. A. M. LOONEY, of Maury county, advocates the true southern policy:

COLUMBIA, January 14.—A. M. Looney has made a powerful speech in favor of going with your sister States South. He is a Great enthusiasm prevails! Excitement intense.

ARKANSAS RAILROAD BRIDGE.—The Madison *Pioneer* hopes that the bridge across the St. Francis will be entirely completed by the 1st of May next. It will be a fine one and a credit to the Memphis and Little Rock railroad.

ARKANSAS STATE SENATOR.—In the recent election for State senator to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of WM. A. JONES, the vote stood WINN 283, MOSELEY, 260, JOHNSON 176.

ARKANSAS CONVENTION ACT.

The following is the convention act as passed by both branches of the legislature of Arkansas, on the 14th inst.:

AN ACT to provide for a State convention.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas*, That the governor shall issue his proclamation ordering an election in all the counties in this State, submitting to the people the question of "Secession" or "No Convention," to be held on the eighteenth day of February, 1861, which election shall be conducted as State elections are now conducted; *Provided*, That in the sheriffs of the several counties shall be required to give but ten days' notice of said election.

Sec. 2. *Be it further enacted*, That if said election the people shall also vote for a delegate or delegates to said convention, and each delegate elected shall be made a special receiver of said county, which shall be one of the tified vote of his county on the question of convention or no convention, which vote from all the counties shall be opened by the governor, auditor, treasurer and secretary of State, or any three of them on the second day of March, 1861, and if on counting the votes of all the counties of this State it shall appear that a majority of all the votes are for a convention, then the governor shall immediately issue his proclamation requiring the delegates elected in the several counties to convene in the capital on the following Monday, and organize themselves into a State convention by the election of a president and such other officers as may be required, and in case of sickness, or any other unavoidable cause to prevent any delegate to the convention from getting to the capital, he shall have power to send up the returns of his county by a special messenger selected by himself.

Sec. 3. *Be it further enacted*, That the delegates, or special returning officers shall be paid mileage at the same rate that members of the general assembly are paid, to be certified by the president of the convention, if one be organized, and if not, the auditor is required to issue his warrant for the same, taking the mileage account of the members of this general assembly as a guide to regulate the amount to which the delegate, or delegates coming from the same county may be entitled.

Sec. 4. *Be it further enacted*, That the officers and members of said convention, if it shall be organized, shall be paid the same per diem pay that members of the general assembly are paid; their accounts therefor to be certified by the president of the convention, and the secretary shall certify the account of the sergeant-at-arms.

Sec. 5. *Be it further enacted*, That each county in this State shall be entitled to elect as many delegates to said convention as it is now entitled to members in the lower house of the general assembly, and the qualifications for a delegate shall be the same as now required for a member of the House of Representatives.

Sec. 6. *Be it further enacted*, That fifty members of said convention shall be necessary to constitute a quorum to transact business.

Sec. 7. *Be it further enacted*, That if any seat in the convention hereby provided for be contested, the convention shall have power to determine such contest, as the general assembly has to determine contests for seats in either house, in the manner now prescribed by law.

Sec. 8. *Be it further enacted*, That upon the organization of said convention it shall take into consideration the condition of political affairs, and determine what course the State of Arkansas shall take in the present political crisis.

Sec. 9. *Be it further enacted*, That a sufficient amount of money be and the same is hereby appropriated out of the State treasury to pay the necessary expenses of said convention, which one be called.

Sec. 10. *Be it further enacted*, That this act shall take effect and be in force from its passage.

TELEGRAPHIC ITEMS FROM OUR EXCHANGES.

MILLERSBURG, January 15.—A large number of delegates have arrived. The Hon. E. A. Hansell, of Mason, and Asbury Hull, of Athens, are spoken of for president.

Much has been said in the southern papers, lately coming from some of the ablest leading which the State.

The Hon. James L. Orr, commissioner from the South Carolina, is here, and perhaps several It has been

SAVANNAH, January 15.—The legislature slave code this session, and will confine its which as far as possible, during the session, business arising from the action of the a little time. The governor's message urges Secession of Alabama states being placed upon the most efficient war footing, and the appointment of a military board by the legislature. The legislature having read the governor's message adjourned until to-morrow.

MONTGOMERY, January 15.—The convention mode of keeping session all day.

DEATHS AND INJURIES.—January 15.—The Rails for property stolen at secession bill all Capt. Gerald's company, and Mr. Mabry was near Winchester, kept by a negro named Spillman, where he found a quantity of jewelry and some hundred and fifty ladies' dresses. The jewelry and some of the best silk dresses were taken to jail, where any one having lost such articles can call and examine them. Spillman states that he exchanged goods from his store for the articles in question, but from the neatness and richness of some of the dresses, the account is considered improbable. Among the other property is a gold silver premium cup having on it the inscription "Mary H. Mackie," a larger silver cup, the inscription "A. D.," a number of silver pitchers, several gold watches

Patent Machine Steamboat & Mrg. Co.

Dissolution.

NOT IN THE RACE.

EDITOR APPEAL: "Memphis Mechanic" has been called on to become a candidate for the State convention. It is to be inferred from the card of "Civis" that he has at least a fancy for the mythical personage who has semi-occasionally figured in the columns of the APPEAL, whatever might be his opinion of him, who by accident and and without right, adopts this signature. In my opinion (privately) "Civis" is a man of taste and judgment; and though there will doubtless be an army of candidates for the exalted and responsible position he would assign me, my native modesty forbids my assent to the wishes of the Roman "citizen." How could I compete with those who have been announced as the very men for the convention by "Many Citizens," by "Many Voters," by "A Host of Friends," and another, it is said editorially, by one of the morning papers, will be forced into notoriety by his friends. "Memphis Mechanic" could never triumph over opponents who enter the contest under auspices so favorable and so infallible. It has occurred to me that when I wish to become a candidate for the convention, I would myself write a card, sign it "Four Thousand Voters," and get some friend to take it to a newspaper and have it published, and then prepare a flaming response expressive of my gratitude to the "Four Thousand," aforesaid, and thus announce my pretensions. A better plan may be to grow carry with a local editor over a bottle of *Piper Heidsick*, and get him to blow me editorially into notoriety. Whether he could so "raise the wind" as to elevate me to the place designated, is a very different affair.

To all strangers, I would say to "Civis," that unlike many others, I am unwilling to assume the vast responsibility attaching to the position of a member of the State convention, unless it was in really forced upon me, of which there is no possibility. The chief duty of a member of Congress is to watch the current of popular sentiment in his own district, lest it should blow it a-aid and then to draw his salary with commendable promptness. Should a national idea find an entrance there, the cranium of an ordinary Congressman would explode like a pocket pistol. We want no ordinary men, no ambitious professional politicians in this State convention; we must have those who thoroughly comprehend the issues on which Tennessee must now act in her sovereign capacity—issues which involve not only our own lives, happiness, and fortunes, but those of future generations through all coming time. Honest, upright statesmen should alone have seats in the supreme council of the State. With this appreciation of the duties and responsibilities of those who will represent West Tennessee, I am willing to confess my own incapacity for the task, even should I undertake it, who have less of brains, intelligence and "sense" than "Civis" has enough of them. With such gratitude for the kindness of "Civis," I am,

MEMPHIS MECHANIC.

THE SOUTHERN FEDERAL CONSTITUTION.

EDITORS APPEAL: As dissolution and the organization of a new southern confederacy are admitted on all sides to be fixed, though unaccomplished facts, it is proper for us to begin to consider what alterations three-quarters of a centuries' experience under the old Constitution has suggested. All admit that its fundamental principles, its distribution of power, and modes of operation are most wise and admirable. But since its adoption there have been vast changes in the condition of the Union. Extraordinary revolutions in the commerce and industry of the country, new habits of life, radical changes of opinion, and new elements of wealth, new forms of currency and new means of intercourse. What might have been wise restrictions and limitations at the time of the formation of the old Constitution are now useless restraints, and what might then have been left safely to discretion and interpretation, require now to be strictly defined.

The tendency of all our modern improvements, especially the new means of intercourse, has been forcibly and rapidly to increase and centralize the powers of the General Government. As its mandates are carried upon the currents of electricity instantly to every district of the country, and executed in less time than it formerly took to deliver them, its energies and power have increased with the progress in the facilities of disseminating its will and orders. The most distant parts of the Union are now more in subjection to its executive, have freer intercourse—and, if distance be measured by time, are nearer to each other than New York and Buffalo were in 1812. What might have been dangerous theories of State rights in 1790, when the States were received by time, so far apart, and when the ties of the Union had not been strongly cemented by intimate social, and commercial intercourse, would now be the only safe constitutional doctrines and provisions to save the States from sinking into provinces under an imperial government.

The doctrines of the federalists may have saved the Union when the adhesive ties were weak, and the centrifugal forces strong; but now their converse is demanded to defend the States from the absorbing influences of the Federal Government, which has been concentrating upon itself all the elements of secession and insidiously extending its influence and power by exciting its hopes and emoluments; while the States, as they numbers multiply, sink into insignificance, and their power and honors are sought only as avenues to federal advancement, for which ambitious politicians are subserviently yield State rights and interests.

The chief fear and the greatest error of the framers of the Constitution was the idea that the Federal Executive would be able to maintain itself against its co-ordinate branches, and the assaults of the States. Our experience has proven it to be, instead of the feebleest, the strongest power in the Government, bearing, through the dispensations of patronage and honors, almost imperial sway over the judicial and legislative departments, and impelling them, in a party organization, to policy and doctrines upon the States. The influence of the Federal Executive has proven dangerous to the liberties and morals of the people, and the independence of the States. It is an illegitimate power attained by the dispensation of patronage. In a revised constitution, the power should be greater restricted, and save, if possible, the Union of these great States, and win back to this proud Confederacy all those bright and glorious stars that have strayed from our Revolutionary sky, instead of consulting the people of Missouri. For this reason I still cling to the Union of these States, that union that was baptised in the blood of our patriot ancestors. Are we to hesitate here? It seems to me it would be madness and folly. My friend has asked, are you for disunion? Such a proposition I would be ashamed to hear the Mexican soldiery with "bloody hands to hospitable graves?" I recollect that when Scott led his glorious army to the palace of the Montezumas; when Quitman, that noblest Mississippi's gallant son, whose name is linked with honor in the defense of our country, called upon a New York colonel to assault a battery. There was no word of response. Turning from the silent New York regiment to the colonel of an Indiana regiment, he received the same silent response. The Palmetto regiment, that had left South Carolina with one thousand strong, and had buried seven hundred of the gallant band upon Taylor's line, was in the rear of these two regiments, and old Quitman—I can see him now—riding like Tarleton in his stirrups, his hat off, head and cried at the top of his voice, "Where, oh, where are my glorious Palmettos?" There was no response, but every hat left the heads of the gallant remnant of that glorious regiment, and two hundred and seventy-five proud soldiers obeyed the orders of Gen. Quitman, and swept over the last Mexican from their guns. Sir, is that State to be treated in this emergency? Is coercion to be brought to bear upon a people who, whenever our liberties have been at stake, have rallied the rampants in the fire of the enemy, and wrapped their dead bodies in the flag of their country? [Voice—"No."] I have heard it said, and it came upon my ears like the knell of departed hopes, that we strew the beds of flowers upon our broad prairies at night and hear the hiss of the rattlesnake as we move along—that South Carolina had traitors. Yes, she had her traitors, and what was their fate? Wherever they were found, the ponds of the country and the hangman and his halter settled the question of their treason to the South, and their infamy lives to day, unconcerned at the action of South Carolina and her people be reproved by the fate of the traitors of South Carolina.

The next charge, I suppose, that will be whispered upon the breath of heaven will be against Mississippi. She is a younger Sister in the Confederate States South Carolina. Why does not know that that gallant State rendered herself immortal as she grasped the waving flag of victory at Buena Vista, when every patriot heart in this great land of ours was sinking at the thought that Taylor and his gallant army must fall before Santa Anna and his host of Mexican lancers? There, upon that battle field, the proudest pages in modern history, we find Gen. Taylor, a man of indomitable courage, placing his army in a situation that victory and defeat hang equipoise between the one and the another—and now, in the hour of uncertainty, when all is likely to be lost to the American General, Davis, the gallant Senator of Mississippi, led the Mississippi rifles into the very jaws of death, and drove Santa Anna and his lancers back upon the mountains, and victory once more perched upon the proud banner of our country. Sir, these men are our brethren and our friends. Their interests are identical with ours, and is it not the duty of the great State of Missouri to meet them in council, and consult together, and save, if possible, the Union of these great States, and win back to this proud Confederacy all those bright and glorious stars that have strayed from our Revolutionary sky, instead of consulting the people of Missouri. For this reason I still cling to the Union of these States, that union that was baptised in the blood of our patriot ancestors. Are we to hesitate here? It seems to me it would be madness and folly. My friend has asked, are you for disunion? Such a proposition I would be ashamed to hear the Mexican soldiery with "bloody hands to hospitable graves?" I recollect that when Scott led his glorious army to the palace of the Montezumas; when Quitman, that noblest Mississippi's gallant son, whose name is linked with honor in the defense of our country, called upon a New York colonel to assault a battery. There was no word of response. Turning from the silent New York regiment to the colonel of an Indiana regiment, he received the same silent response. The Palmetto regiment, that had left South Carolina with one thousand strong, and had buried seven hundred of the gallant band upon Taylor's line, was in the rear of these two regiments, and old Quitman—I can see him now—riding like Tarleton in his stirrups, his hat off, head and cried at the top of his voice, "Where, oh, where are my glorious Palmettos?" There was no response, but every hat left the heads of the gallant remnant of that glorious regiment, and two hundred and seventy-five proud soldiers obeyed the orders of Gen. Quitman, and swept over the last Mexican from their guns. Sir, is that State to be treated in this emergency? Is coercion to be brought to bear upon a people who, whenever our liberties have been at stake, have rallied the rampants in the fire of the enemy, and wrapped their dead bodies in the flag of their country? [Voice—"No."] I have heard it said, and it came upon my ears like the knell of departed hopes, that we strew the beds of flowers upon our broad prairies at night and hear the hiss of the rattlesnake as we move along—that South Carolina had traitors. Yes, she had her traitors, and what was their fate? Wherever they were found, the ponds of the country and the hangman and his halter settled the question of their treason to the South, and their infamy lives to day, unconcerned at the action of South Carolina and her people be reproved by the fate of the traitors of South Carolina.

WASHINGTON NEWS.

We clip the following special dispatch from the Cincinnati *Commercial*, Black-Republican. We give it for what it is worth, premising that the profane language attributed to Mr. LINCOLN is an invention of the writers own brain:

WASHINGTON, January 16.—The Crittenden resolutions were defeated to-day in the Senate, by the adoption of Clarke's (Senator from New Hampshire) amendment. It is stated that several Republican Senators voted for the latter, because they knew Democrats had the majority to defeat it. Bot Sidell, Benjamin, Wigfall, Hemphill, Johnson, of Arkansas, and Iverson did not vote. Cameron moved immediately a reconsideration. Much excitement exists among Union men. Secessionists are jubilant.

The levee last night at the White house was for the first time crowded with Republican members. Douglas and Crittenden are preparing a new plan for adjustment. Lovejoy is going to take the floor and make a rabid speech. Lieut. Hall says Anderson has provisions for three or four months. He can easily shell the city and the batteries on Morris island.

Lamar telegraphs that there is great danger in Mississippi that the first false step will send them all to hell. Andrew Johnson says that if ten leading mischief-makers from the North, and ten from the South, could be hung, peace would be restored immediately.

Mr. Holt has written to Gov. Pickens that Anderson must have his mail matter, not occasionally, as caprice may suggest, but regularly; otherwise mail facilities, which are as expensive to the Government, will be withdrawn from the State.

Commissioner Hayne, of South Carolina, had an interview with the President, who received him coldly and formally. South Carolina claims the evacuation of Fort Sumter, but Buchnanan will not listen to the suggestion. Fort Sumter is your grapes for the seceders.

Breckinridge is not acting with the seceders but with the border States. OREGA.

From the Charleston Courier.]

WASHINGTON, January 14.—Senator James S. Green, of Missouri, made a formal demand for an explanation from Secretary Holt, with regard to the quartering of United States troops at the public buildings in St. Louis. Mr. Holt has refused to comply with the demand, and it is understood that Mr. Green will make the matter the subject of a strong speech in the Senate. He has telegraphed Governor Jackson, of Missouri, to take decisive measures for ousting the government troops.

Mr. Toombs, of Georgia, left this city for home last night. There was a startling rumor yesterday, though not generally credited, that troops would be ordered to defend him from a mob. Ball will be promptly furnished, in case an order is issued for his arrest for treason against the Government.

Col. I. W. Hayne, commissioner from South Carolina, and Lieutenant Hall, bearer of despatches from Major Anderson, have arrived in this city.

The remaining Senators from the seceding States will hold a conference to determine what is best to do in the present position of affairs. It is believed by many that they will determine not to quit their seats, but remain and prevent the encroachments of the Administration.

Gov. Hicks, of Maryland, refused the urgent request of a very influential committee, which visited upon him to-day, to convene the legislature of that State.

On Saturday, the account of Gov. P. W. Pickens as United States Minister to Russia, was finally adjusted at the office of the First Controler. There was a balance due him by the Government of one thousand seven hundred dollars. The Controler has passed the account and directed it to be paid. A draft for the amount has been sent to the United States Treasurer at Charleston, who, it is presumed, has funds enough to meet it.

A resolution was offered in the House this morning, but laid over, calling upon the Secretary of the Interior for copies of all deeds made by the Southern States ceding the lands for the forts, arsenals, etc., to the Government of the United States.

WASHINGTON, January 14.—Several additional officers of the Federal navy have tendered their resignations, which will be accepted in the interest of the revenue cutters or ships of war to which they are attached or stationed being ordered upon any coercive mission.

Speaker Pennington, of the House of Representatives, has announced himself in favor of a national convention of the people of the United States, to settle existing difficulties.

McIntire's nomination to the collectorship of the port of Charleston, will now be confirmed, it is thought. So long as Senators Clay and Toombs remained in the Senate they were members of the committee. One of them was chairman, and a report to the Senate has been delayed for this reason. Mr. Bigler, of Pennsylvania having succeeded to the chairmanship, it is right to suppose he will, in a short time, get a report upon the nomination of the President.

Lincoln has thus far failed to obtain the consent of a single southern man to serve in his cabinet. Mr. Scott, of Louisiana, to whom an appointment was tendered, has declined to serve in the Black-Republican Administration. Mr. Dudley Mann, of Virginia, has written to Mr. Dudley Mann, Esq., leaves here to-day at two o'clock for Europe, entrusted with the business of South Carolina. Mr. Mann is on a mission to secure direct trade between South Carolina and Europe. He is said to go out provided with letters from the governors of South Carolina and Georgia.

Senator Crittenden's resolutions will come up in the Senate to-morrow as the special order, with the distinct understanding that their consideration be continued until a final vote is moved upon their adoption or rejection.

Col Isaac W. Hayne hopes to obtain an interview with the President to-morrow.

Mr. Holt has refused the submission of Major Anderson before the President to-day—immediately after arriving in the city. A Cabinet meeting is called to consider the documents he brings.

The Administration has, for the present, rescinded all orders directing war steamers to proceed to Charleston, as was at first telegraphed to the country.

Mr. Bigler, of Pennsylvania, introduced a bill for holding a general election of the people of the United States, on the 12th of February, upon amendments to the Constitution.

From the Mercury.]

WASHINGTON, January 14, 8 P. M.—Messrs. Hayne and Hall arrived at four o'clock this afternoon, but have as yet, had no interview with any member of the Cabinet. Hayne is in session till a late hour waiting their attendance. I understand that very consideration of the Charleston embroglio is postponed until to-morrow, as all the members of the Cabinet profess ignorance as to the object of this visit.

The President is evidently alarmed at the serious aspect of affairs, and the abolitionists express fears that the President is giving way.

The report of the select "crisis" committee of thirty-three, which was presented to the House to-day, is ridiculed by southern men. The committee made the report by a bare majority, nearly all the southern men voting against it. Crittenden's resolutions have been made the special order for to-morrow, the abolition Senators objecting to a vote being forced upon it to-day.

They have hitherto regarded Maryland as the break-water of the secession movement. But Senator Kennedy told them to-day that this was the last chance, and that if the resolutions were voted down, Maryland would be heard from. Some of the members, to meet the issue presented by the abolitionists, were astonished them. Preston King, of New York, approached Kennedy after the adjournment, and asked him if he would vote for it.

Kennedy replied that he meant what he said—that if the abolitionists voted down Crittenden's resolutions, Maryland was ready for civil war. A Black-Republican Senatorial caucus was immediately called for to-night.

THIRTY-SIXTH CONGRESS.

SECOND SESSION.

[CONCLUSION OF TUESDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.]

WASHINGTON, January 15.—*Senate*—Mr. Bayard presented a memorial from the citizens of Delaware, without respect of party, praying for the passage of the Crittenden resolutions. These resolutions embody the import of no more than the public sentiment of the slaveholding States will demand. He will vote for the resolutions, and speak on them at some time.

Mr. Seward presented the memorial of Mr. Samuel F. B. Morse, the illustrious inventor of the electro-magnetic telegraph, praying Congress for an extension of one of his patents, which constitutes his title to the property in that invention. He asks the extension of one that expires earliest, in order to protect his property. Referred to the committee on patents.

Mr. Seward also presented memorials of citizens of New York, considering the state of the Union.

Mr. Kennedy presented a memorial from the citizens of Frederick county, Maryland, without regard to party, asking the adoption of the Crittenden resolutions.

Mr. Cameron presented a resolution changing the name of the steamboat John C. Fremont, of Pittsburg, to Herndon. Passed.

Mr. Bigler presented eight different memorials, praying for the proposition of Mr. Crittenden to submit as amendments to the Constitution. Tabled.

Mr. Wilson moved to take up the resolutions proposed as amendments to the Constitution of the United States.

Mr. Powell presented the proceedings of the Democratic convention at Louisville on the 9th January, condemning a resolution favorable to the Crittenden compromise.

Mr. Hale objected to receiving that not officially directed to the Senate.

Mr. Powell. The resolutions express attachment to the Union, and protest against coercion.

Mr. Hale insisted upon his objection, and moved that the document be laid on the table.

The special order, Mr. Crittenden's resolutions, was taken up.

Mr. Clark moved an amendment, striking out the preamble and the first resolution, and proposing instead the following:

Resolved, That the Constitution of the United States, and the laws made in pursuance thereof, and treaties made under the authority of the United States, shall be the supreme law of the land, and the judges in every State shall be bound thereby, any thing in the constitution or laws of any State to the contrary notwithstanding.

Mr. Bigler presented memorials numerously signed by the citizens of New York, in favor of the propositions of the border committee.

The House went into committee of the whole.

Mr. Garnett favored a separation of the Northern and Southern States, each to its own customs, with an alliance for defensive purposes, which would secure all the advantages without the evils of the present political system.

Mr. Holman argued against secession. The people he represented would rally and preserve the Union.

Mr. Morris followed in a speech which was very bitter on the President and his course toward Mr. Douglas.

Mr. Thomas of Tennessee, got the floor.

The committee rose and the House adjourned.

Senate.—The Vice President presented a message from the President, answering the Senate resolution of inquiry as to his appointment of Hon. Joseph Holt to perform the duties of Secretary of War, made vacant by the resignation of Mr. Floyd. He fully sets forth the legal reasons.

Mr. Rice, of Minnesota, introduced a resolution praying for the appointment of a special committee of the Senate, with instructions to inquire into the expediency of passing a general act for the admission of a new State, and a readjustment of the limits of California, Minnesota and Oregon.

First. The admission of New Mexico, to be bounded north by 37° lat., east by Texas, south by Texas and the Mexican boundary, west by 114° of longitude.

Second. The admission of Kansas to include the present Territories of Kansas and Utah, east of 50 deg. longitude, and a small portion of New Mexico north of latitude 38, and that portion of Nebraska which lies south of latitude 43 deg.

Third. An enlargement of the jurisdiction of Minnesota, to embrace the Indian territory of Dacotah and the portion of Nebraska lying north of latitude 43 deg.

Fourth. To enlargement of the jurisdiction of Oregon, so as to include the Territory of Washington.

Fifth. The readjustment of the State of California, so as to include that portion of Utah and New Mexico lying west of 114 deg. longitude.

On motion of Mr. Bigler, Mr. Crittenden's resolutions were taken up.

Mr. Latham, of California, opposed the amendment of Mr. Powell, if the amendment is seconded to take a position for Missouri in the present crisis. We are arrayed as legislators of the people, to call a State convention upon this or any other question. The power to call State conventions belongs to the legislature. It is given to the legislature by the people by every election.

Now, gentlemen may think that capital is to be made, and that peace is to be obtained and the Union to be perpetuated by inaction. Sir, this argument is like pictures drawn in fancy colors, by gentlemen, who, in all human probability have never felt the instincts, and dare to take the northern chair in case of dissolution. It is necessary for Missouri to go with the South. With her proud prairies, whose virgin soil has never yet felt the track of the plow, she can feed the sugar, rice and cotton plantations of the South, and with her mineral wealth, she can supply the entire North, and in one single year, in the event of certain contingencies, will bound forward beyond all New England. I am not looking at this matter in the light of dollars and cents. The personal rights of man are beyond all such questions. Are we to be thrown from the propriety of our course by the question of dollars and cents or the crisis of any other? State rights to what our situation would be alienated from the South. We should become the allies of the North. We have $100,000,000 of slave property. If we refuse to submit our fortunes with our southern brethren in the convention, and break up the foundation of this Government, what become of this hundred million of slave property? Then the damning doctrines of Seward and Lincoln will be carried out, and the slavery of Missouri will be confined to the limits of this State, and forced, in time, to strip itself to death. Hence, I hold that in the event the Union must go, Missouri must take her position with Kentucky or Virginia. She must be a member of a Southern Confederacy, or sink into absolute degradation. I hope the amendment will be adopted, and that we will proceed to vote.

Mr. Powell. The resolutions express attachment to the Union, and protest against coercion.

Mr. Hale insisted upon his objection, and moved that the document be laid on the table.

The special order, Mr. Crittenden's resolutions, was taken up.

Mr. Clark moved an amendment, striking out the preamble and the first resolution, and proposing instead the following:

Resolved, That the Constitution of the United States, and the laws made in pursuance thereof, and treaties made under the authority of the United States, shall be the supreme law of the land, and the judges in every State shall be bound thereby, any thing in the constitution or laws of any State to the contrary notwithstanding.

Mr. Bigler presented memorials numerously signed by the citizens of New York, in favor of the propositions of the border committee.

The House went into committee of the whole.

Mr. Garnett favored a separation of the Northern and Southern States, each to its own customs, with an alliance for defensive purposes, which would secure all the advantages without the evils of the present political system.

Mr. Holman argued against secession. The people he represented would rally and preserve the Union.

Mr. Morris followed in a speech which was very bitter on the President and his course toward Mr. Douglas.

Mr. Thomas of Tennessee, got the floor.

The committee rose and the House adjourned.

Senate.—The Vice President presented a message from the President, answering the Senate resolution of inquiry as to his appointment of Hon. Joseph Holt to perform the duties of Secretary of War, made vacant by the resignation of Mr. Floyd. He fully sets forth the legal reasons.

Mr. Rice, of Minnesota, introduced a resolution praying for the appointment of a special committee of the Senate, with instructions to inquire into the expediency of passing a general act for the admission of a new State, and a readjustment of the limits of California, Minnesota and Oregon.

First. The admission of New Mexico, to be bounded north by 37° lat., east by Texas, south by Texas and the Mexican boundary, west by 114° of longitude.

Second. The admission of Kansas to include the present Territories of Kansas and Utah, east of 50 deg. longitude, and a small portion of New Mexico north of latitude 38, and that portion of Nebraska which lies south of latitude 43 deg.

Third. An enlargement of the jurisdiction of Minnesota, to embrace the Indian territory of Dacotah and the portion of Nebraska lying north of latitude 43 deg.

Fourth. To enlargement of the jurisdiction of Oregon, so as to include the Territory of Washington.

Fifth. The readjustment of the State of California, so as to include that portion of Utah and New Mexico lying west of 114 deg. longitude.

On motion of Mr. Bigler, Mr. Crittenden's resolutions were taken up.

Mr. Latham, of California, opposed the amendment of Mr. Powell, if the amendment is seconded to take a position for Missouri in the present crisis. We are arrayed as legislators of the people, to call a State convention upon this or any other question. The power to call State conventions belongs to the legislature. It is given to the legislature by the people by every election.

Now, gentlemen may think that capital is to be made, and that peace is to be obtained and the Union to be perpetuated by inaction. Sir, this argument is like pictures drawn in fancy colors, by gentlemen, who, in all human probability have never felt the instincts, and dare to take the northern chair in case of dissolution. It is necessary for Missouri to go with the South. With her proud prairies, whose virgin soil has never yet felt the track of the plow, she can feed the sugar, rice and cotton plantations of the South, and with her mineral wealth, she can supply the entire North, and in one single year, in the event of certain contingencies, will bound forward beyond all New England. I am not looking at this matter in the light of dollars and cents. The personal rights of man are beyond all such questions. Are we to be thrown from the propriety of our course by the question of dollars and cents or the crisis of any other? State rights to what our situation would be alienated from the South. We should become the allies of the North. We have $100,000,000 of slave property. If we refuse to submit our fortunes with our southern brethren in the convention, and break up the foundation of this Government, what become of this hundred million of slave property? Then the damning doctrines of Seward and Lincoln will be carried out, and the slavery of Missouri will be confined to the limits of this State, and forced, in time, to strip itself to death. Hence, I hold that in the event the Union must go, Missouri must take her position with Kentucky or Virginia. She must be a member of a Southern Confederacy, or sink into absolute degradation. I hope the amendment will be adopted, and that we will proceed to vote.

From Richmond.

RICHMOND, January 15.—Mr. Neill offered the following preamble and resolution:

Whereas, The sending the reinforcements into the forts and arsenals of Virginia, has caused uneasiness, and is a source of disquietude to the citizens of the commonwealth; therefore,

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to inform the governor of Virginia of the object of the Government in sending increased forces into the forts and arsenals of this State, and whether, in his opinion, the object of the creation of said strongholds for the defense of the property of Virginia, is necessary.

Laid over.

House.—Mr. Pulliam offered a joint resolution to postpone the Pacific railway bill and take up the joint resolution to amend the Constitution.

Ayes.—Messrs. Benjamin, Bigler, Brich, Clingman, Crittenden, Fitch, Green, Hemphill, Johnson (Tenn.), Kenney, Lane, Mason, Nicholson, Pearce, Polk, Powell, Pugh, Rice, Saulsbury and Sidell—21.

Nays.—Messrs. Anthony, Baker, Bingham, Cameron, Chandler, Clark, Collamer, Dixon, Doolittle, Durkee, Foster, Foot, Foster, Grimes, Gwin, Hale, Harlan, Latham, Seward, Simmons, Sumner, Ten Eyck, Trumbull, Wade, Wilkinson—20.

Mr. Sumner called for the yeas and nays on this question.

Mr. Rice objected to the iron being necessarily American. The price should be only $15,000 per mile from Lake Superior to the Rocky Mountains. There is not a clause in the bill which binds the stockholders in anything whatever.

Mr. Gwin said his constituents were in favor of the bill and were willing to take anything offered.

The Government has the first mortgage on the road within twelve months after the bill becomes a law. The greatest obstacle will be overcome, we will have a road over the Sierra Nevada to the Washoe mines.

After debate, Mr. Bragg moved to amend the first section by adding the words "and said acts of corporation shall have been submitted to approval by the Congress of the United States." Carried, 31 against 15.

Mr. Benjamin offered an amendment prohibiting the company from acting in the capacity of bankers to circulate their paper as drafts.

Mr. Bragg offered an amendment to limit the time of the corporation. Afterward withdrawn.

Mr. Benjamin offered an amendment in the 24th and 30th lines, to strike out the words "majority of such grantees admitted as associates," and insert "shall choose associates, to become subscribers and corporators with the original corporators named in the bill."

Pending a vote, adjourned.

House.—Mr. Cox's speech in the House yesterday discussed the following propositions:

First, That secession is not a right in any possible relation.

Second, That it is revolution, though owing to our peculiar government, not involving such consequences as in other countries.

Third, Every effort of conciliation should be exhausted before threat of force is applied.

Fourth, That if the Southern States be forced fully in secession from aggression, it will be impossible to unite the northern or any other portion of the southern people in repressing revolution.

Fifth, That if the South will make a patient endeavor, equal to the great interests involved, to secure her safety in the Union, she will succeed either by the Crittenden, Douglas or Rice propositions, or a salutary approximation to them. If she deserts her friends and the Union for such unjustifiable causes as the election of Lincoln, which, if we be considerately, it will be impossible for the conservative elements to prevent civil war. But if she remains patiently in the Union, and is then denied, she will receive no detriment, and her departing will be peaceful.

Sixth, That in the present state of facts, so long as the revenue can be collected on land and sea, or ships can be loaded which have not the national clearances, and the Federal Government, that is, the Government de facto as well as de jure, and this statute, the Executive is bound to maintain the legal authority of the Government. For this proposition he (Cox) had already voted.

Seventh, Not until revolution becomes so formidable as to be irresistible, would it be proper to inquire whether coercive measures would be both suicidal to the Union and criminal to mankind.

WASHINGTON, January 16.—*House*—Mr. Cox of Ohio presented the resolutions passed by the legislature of Ohio, expressive of attachment to the Union, against the right of secession, declaratory that the rights should be maintained, and against one State intermeddling with the affairs of another.

He said that, hitherto the legislature had not sustained the action of Congress upon resolutions, the State has already began the work of constitution by giving a chief stab to the personal liberty bills, and he had been assured that the week will go on till every trace of the slavery legislation shall be removed from her statute books, and full justice been done to all sections.

The resolutions were laid on the table, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Briggs, of New York, presented memorials numerously signed by citizens of New York, in favor of the propositions made by the border State committee.

The House, on motion, went into committee of the whole to secure direct trade between South Carolina and Europe. He is said to go out provided with letters from the governors of South Carolina and Georgia.

Senator Crittenden's resolutions will come up in the Senate to-morrow as the special order, with the distinct understanding that their consideration be continued until a final vote is moved upon their adoption or rejection.

Col Isaac W. Hayne hopes to obtain an interview with the President to-morrow.

Mr. Holt has refused the submission of Major Anderson before the President to-day—immediately after arriving in the city. A Cabinet meeting is called to consider the documents he brings.

The Administration has, for the present, rescinded all orders directing war steamers to proceed to Charleston, as was at first telegraphed to the country.

Mr. Bigler, of Pennsylvania, introduced a bill for holding a general election of the people of the United States, on the 12th of February, upon amendments to the Constitution.

From the Mercury.]

WASHINGTON, January 14, 8 P. M.—Messrs. Hayne and Hall arrived at four o'clock this afternoon, but have as yet, had no interview with any member of the Cabinet. Hayne is in session till a late hour waiting their attendance. I understand that very consideration of the Charleston embroglio is postponed until to-morrow, as all the members of the Cabinet profess ignorance as to the object of this visit.

The President is evidently alarmed at the serious aspect of affairs, and the abolitionists express fears that the President is giving way.

The report of the select "crisis" committee of thirty-three, which was presented to the House to-day, is ridiculed by southern men. The committee made the report by a b