Staunton Spectator.

STAUNTON, VA.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1860.

The Legislature—How it should Proceed.

The Governor having issued his proclamation convening the Legislature on the 7th of January that body will meet whilst the public mind will be laboring under the excitement consequent upon the secession, in all probability, of one or more of the States, and the contemplated secession of others. It will be a time when there is danger that inflamed passion, and not cool reason, will govern the actions of men. We hope that the members of the Legislature will not be impelled, by passionate impulse, to commit any imprudence which will tend to aggravate instead of mollifying the evils with which the country is now afflicted. If the Legislature proceed calmly and dispassionately to the performance of its legitimate duties, great good may result from its having been convened in extraordinary session. To do this, it must confine itself to the enactment of laws under the Constitution. If it shall attempt to do more, it will transgress the authority with which it is empowered by the people. The people have delegated to the Legislature the power to enact laws in conformity with the Constitution, but have not delegated to them the power to change the Government in any respect. The Legislature has not only no power to change the existing relations which subsist between the Federal and State Governments, but it has not even the power to call a Convention for that purpose. It can *recommend* the call of a Convention, and submit the question of "Convention or no Convention" to the people for *them* to determine whether or not a Convention for a particular purpose shall be held. As there is a constant tendency in power to steal from the many to the few, and as ceaseless vigilance is the price of Liberty, it should always be borne in mind that the *people* in their highest sovereign capacity, in solemn convention assembled, determined the relations which should subsist between the citizens of each State and the Federal Government, and that the power to change these relations has never been delegated by them to the Governor and members of the Legislature, but wisely reserved that power to themselves. The power which *created* is the only power which can, properly, *destroy*—the power which determined these relations, is the only power which can, rightfully, change them, and that power belongs alone to the *people* in their *sovereign* capacity, and not to any of the mere servants of the people appointed or elected for the purpose of administering, not *establishing*, Government. If, then, there be a majority of the Legislature in favor of holding a Convention, let the question, "Convention or no Convention," be submitted to the vote of the people, who alone have the power to say whether such a body shall be held or not—the day of election being postponed sufficiently long to give the people time to canvass the important questions which would be likely to engage the attention of the members of that body. If they determine by vote in favor of "Convention" they should then, at some appointed time, elect their Representatives.

Treasonable Desertion.

If a soldier deserts the army he suffers the penalty of death. If desertion on the part of a soldier renders him deserving of death, what penalty should be inflicted upon those Senators who are now resigning their seats and deserting their posts of duty, when, by so doing, they are betraying the trusts confided to them, and surrendering the government into the hands of the enemies of Southern institutions. If they remain steadfast at their posts and faithful to their constituents, the enemies of the South can do us no possible injury, as the Senators can control all the appointments of the Executive to suit themselves. Any Senator who, under these circumstances, should voluntarily desert his post of duty should be deemed a traitor to the South.

Actions speak louder than words, and the mere professions of fidelity to the South should be deemed false and hypocritical on the part of those who surrender the power of appointment into the hands of the Black Republican President. They profess to be the friends of the South, *par excellence*, and whilst expressing their devotion to the South, they surrender the citadel which effectually protects the South, and become thereby the indirect allies of the Black Republicans, for it will serve the purposes of the latter just as well to get the majority in the Senate by the desertion of the Southern Senators as by election on the part of Black Republican Legislatures. It seems that some of the disunion Senators are determined to do for the Republicans that which they could not do themselves, to wit: give them a majority in the Senate that they may have the power to make appointments to suit themselves without regard to the rights or wishes of the South.

To Whom Honor is Due.

It is now ascertained that the vote of this State has been cast for Bell and Everett. The increased vote given in this county saved the State. All honor to those good, active, working Union men who did all they could to increase the vote for Bell and Everett. The large vote for the Union ticket in this county is due, we think, more to the active services of Bolivar Christian, Esq., than to those of any other single individual. He was Chairman of the Executive Committee for the county, and performed the laborious duties devolved upon him in such manner as to reflect great credit upon himself, whilst he advanced the great Union cause in which all were so deeply interested. The services of so efficient a campaigner cannot be dispensed with. We hope that when his services are again desired that he will be ready and willing to give them to the good people of glorious "Old Augusta."

☞ The arrest and indictment in the United States District Court at Chicago of nine of the parties engaged in the recent rescue of a fugitive slave in that city, including the justice who issued the warrant for the arrest of the girl for a breach of the peace, by the United States Marshal and the Deputy Marshal who served the warrant, is a fact of favorable significance at the present, time.

Augusta Union Meeting.

We have only time and space to mention the fact that the county of Augusta has spoken her sentiments in reference to the present condition of public affairs, and to refer the public to the proceedings of the meeting found in another column. Look to the resolutions and "read, ponder and inwardly digest." We hope the Press generally will notice and publish them.

☞ The "Tenth Legion," a Breckinridge Democratic paper published in Woodstock, Shenendoah county, says "that the Democracy of the old Tenth Legion are neither secessionists nor disunionists. They are loyal to the Constitution and Laws of the land."

☞ We had sufficient snow here on Friday morning last to cover the ground. It did not lie long as it was followed by rain.

☞ We call attention to the advertisement of De Forest, Armstong & Co., on the first page.

A Suggestion—Constitutional Mode of Dissolving the Union.

As South Carolina feels "cabined, cribbed, confined" in the Union, and is exceedingly anxious to "go out" for recreation, the question arises, "Can her wishes be gratified in conformity with the Constitution, or must she, *nolens volens*, be 'kept in' *vi et armis?*" As the Constitution provides that the Government may be changed by the concurrent action of three-fourths of the States, may not the consent of three-fourths of the States, made known in the way provided by the Constitution, be sufficient to enable her to depart in peace. The action of three-fourths of the States binds the other fourth. If the same power which can bind, can also unbind, three-fourths of the States can release South Carolina from her obligations to remain any longer a member of what she deems an "accursed Union."

Though we would oppose the exercise of this power to expel a State from the Union which desired to remain, yet we would willingly see it exercised in reference to a State which was determined to go, even at the hazard of drenching the country with blood. We think there would be no difficulty in securing the consent of three-fourths of the States to the peaceable departure of South Carolina. We can see no reason why any should object. This mode of proceeding would be regular and Constitutional, and would prevent all the inconceivable horrors consequent on civil war. Let Congress, then, as soon as it convenes, recommend all the States to call Conventions to determine the wishes of each State in reference to the withdrawal of South Carolina or other discontented States.

This is a suggestion which it would be well for the people and Congress to consider before submitting the issues between the seceding States and the Federal Government to the dread and stern arbitrament of the sword.

The theory that any State can secede at will without regard to the interest or consent of other States is fallacious; for that theory is based upon the assumption that each State is not only the equal of each other State, but that *one* State is the equal of *all the other States*, which is disproved by the fact that any amendment made to the Constitution of the United States by the concurrence of three-fourths of the States is binding upon the other fourth, though they may dissent from the three-fourths. If each were equal to *all*, as the secession theory assumes, no amendment could be made except by the concurrence of *all* the States.

Hon. Jno. T. Harris.

From the abstract given in the last issue of the "Valley Democrat," of the speech delivered on the 19th inst. in Harrisonburg by Hon. Jno. T. Harris, we are satisfied that he made an able and sound Union speech. He showed that there could be no danger of hostile legislation, and no danger of having very objectionable men appointed to office, as the Republicans will be in a minority in both Houses of Congress. Lincoln will be impotent for mischief. In reference to pecuniary considerations he said:

"It has been estimated that a Southern confederacy would cost about $18,000,000 per annum. That, as a new government, we would have but little commerce, and we would be required to raise this amount by direct taxes.—Virginia's portion, by this estimate, would be little less than $2,000,000 per annum, which, with her heavy debt, and high State taxes, she is little able to bear. Another effect of disunion would be to reduce, perhaps, 50 per cent, the price of negroes." * * * * *

"He appealed to Virginia to stand firm, with one eye on the North, watching and guarding our rights, and the other on the extreme South, exhorting them to return to the government of their fathers. By pursuing this course, she might produce a reaction at the North and a happy reunion at the South." * * *

"He was opposed to telling South Carolina in advance, that we do not wish to secede, but we cannot remain in the Union if you go. It was but an invitation to her to go, and Virginia would do what she had never done before, *follow*." * * * * * * *

"He was opposed to any convention which had for its object, directly or indirectly, the dissolution of the Union for existing causes."

Mrs. Lincoln.

Will it not seem strange to our readers to hear that Mrs. Lincoln is a pro-slavery woman? Yet we were recently informed by a gentleman who is a near relative of her's, and who is himself from a slave State, that such is the fact.

He knew her in Kentucky, where they both formerly lived, and on seeing her some two weeks since, he asked her if she had modified the opinions she formerly entertained in favor of the institution? She replied, she had not; that on the contrary, her convictions in favor of it had strengthened since her residence in Illinois. —*Charlottesville Review.*

If it be true that husbands are but Lieutenant Governors, whilst wives are the Governors, and it be also true that Mrs. Lincoln is pro-slavery, there need be no fear that the President elect will do anything to impair the institution to which his wife is so truly devoted. Having made all the capitol out of Sambo that he could he will now be willing to allow him to repose in peace.

"Hitched and Dragged."

The *Richmond Enquirer* persists that Virginia is hitched to the Southern States, and that she will be dragged into a common destiny with them. In a late issue it repeats the language as follows:

We unhesitatingly reiterate our former remark that Virginia, "hitched as she is to the Southern States, will be dragged into a common destiny with them, no matter what may be the desire of the people." We designed by the remark to characterize the folly of the independent position recommended to the State. We are prepared this morning to offer to our readers evidence of the fact that Virginia is "*hitched*," and we thank Heaven, forever "*hitched*" to the Southern States, so firmly that neither the folly nor the treason of any recreant man can separate their destiny.

The Right Position.

The "Weston Herald," a Breckinridge paper published in Lewis county, says:

"We hold it to be the duty of all to submit to the regular constituted authorities of the country. * * * * * * * *

"Let us then calmly await the issue of events—giving to the new Administration a fair trial, and upon the first attempt to infringe upon our rights, the South will be united as one man and the tyrant hurled from power amid the scorn, hisses and execrations of mankind."

Jacob R. Stevens, Esq.

This gentleman has become associate editor of the "Southerher and Advertiser," published in Rome, Georgia. Mr. Stevens is a fluent writer, and is enough of a "Salamander" to enjoy the fires which now seem to be burning so furiously in that Southern clime where he has recently pitched his tent of habitation.

Is it True?

It is rumored here that it has been ascertained by examination that the vote of Virginia was cast for Gen. Harrison in 1840. Will some of the papers at Richmond publish the facts in reference to the vote given at that time?

Banks Suspending.

Owing to the political crisis the Banks North, South, East and West are, one after another, in rapid succession, suspending specie payments.—They have acted wisely to prepare in time for the financial crisis which will soon be upon us.

☞ Both branches of the Georgia Legislature have unanimously passed a bill to call a State Convention to take into consideration the present political crisis.

☞ The Minute Men in Norfolk are mounting the blue cockade in considerable numbers.

South Carolina and Virginia.

Let those in Virginia who sympathize with the Disunionists of South Carolina see how Virginia is scouted, spurned and insulted by them. They charge that Virginia is demoralized and that they could not consent to go into conference with her. Read what the most influential organ of the Disunionists says, and then see if you are prepared to go with them. If you have any State pride you cannot. The "Charleston Mercury," in a recent article, says:

"Virginia may now call, but the South will not answer. She is completely demoralized in the estimation of the South; and no Southern State, intent on vindicating her rights and preserving her institutions, would go into a conference with her. She has placed the Union above the rights and institutions of the South, and will only seek a conference with the Southern States in order to bring them down to the level of her fatal Union policy. Virginia and the other frontier States may as well at once understand their position with the Cotton States. They are not expected to aid the Cotton States in protecting themselves and redeeming their liberties. They will practically aid the Northern States in attemping to obtain in the South an acquiescence in the rule of abolitionists at Washington. The Southern States, however, will disregard their counsels. They want *no conference but in the Convention which will assemble to frame the Constitution and complete the organization of a Southern Confederacy.* They intend to secede from the Union and construct a Union among themselves, and will be glad to find Virginia and the other border States in counsel with them after this great Revolution. But if these value their own dignity, or respect our wishes, let them keep aloof from us until they are prepared to dissolve their connection with the present Union, and to unite their destinies with that of the other Southern States. If they will not be our friends, let them not be our enemies, by unsolicited and undesired efforts under whatever amiable pretext—of preserving an abolished Union, to subject us to the sectional despotism of a consolidated government under the control of Abolitionists at Washington. The day for new guarantees is gone. Henceforth we are two peoples."

"A United South."

Under this caption the last "Spirit of Democracy," a zealous Breckinridge paper, has a very good article in opposition to the rash proceedings of the cotton States. We give below a few extracts from it:

"How can the South be united? Can she unite upon the opinion that the election of Lincoln is sufficient cause to dissolve this Union? We think she cannot. We think that the cotton States ought to pay some respect to the wishes of the border States, and to their opinion on this subject, if their desire is to obtain united action. They certainly know that Virginia is as much interested in "the institution" as they are. They certainly cannot doubt our loyalty to the South, because we say the election of Lincoln is not sufficient cause, when even their truest son said: "When I am asked to raise the flag of revolution, I am asked to do an unconstitutional thing according to the Constitution as it now exists &c." If Mr. Yancey could say this, may not we." * * * * * * *

"For one or two States to go out of the Union now, is suicidal. As Mr. Boyce of South Carolina, is reported to have said: South Carolina has no right to do an act which brings such responsibilities upon sister States, friendly to herself, and having common interests with her.—All that Virginia asks is patience, prudence and fortitude. We can bear a little evil better than a great one." * * * * * * *

"It is not so much the fear of consequences—though God only knows what would follow—as it is the fear of doing what they consider a wrong thing—which keeps Virginia firm to the Union." * * * * * * * *

"Let us not bring this great question up upon an issue upon which we ourselves cannot unite. It is the consciousness of right that Virginia wants." * * * * *

"Rashness may destroy the hopes of the South and paralyze her arm when the time to strike has come. Let the Cotton States wait, remembering that in "Union there is strength," and that passion constitutes no part of the wisdom of a great statesman."

A Republican jubilee took place at Springfield on the 21st inst. Mr. Lincoln was serenaded, and made a speech. He thanked his friends for the honor conferred on him, and rejoiced with them in the success of their cause. He said, "In our rejoicings, let us neither express nor cherish harsh feelings towards those differing with us. Let us at all times remember that all Americans are brothers of a common country, and should dwell together in bonds of fraternal feeling." He excused himself from further speaking, after repeating his thanks.

Senator Trumbull, of Illinois, followed him, and said that, though Mr. Lincoln was elected by the Republican party, yet as Chief Magistrate of the Republic, he will neither belong to that nor any other party. When inaugurated, he will be as ready to defend and protect the State in which he did not receive a solitary vote as that which gave him the largest majority.

The Union Forever.

We endorse the following extract taken from the address recently issued by the State Central Committee of the National Union Democracy of Maryland:

"The painful contemplation of disunion—of the destruction of the last hope of mankind in the success of free government, must close our eyes to that future which lies beyond it.

'The Federal Union, it must be preserved.'

This is now our creed, and with heart and hand, it is our first and last, and highest and holiest duty to stand by and maintain it. To this end we exhort all good men, and invite their co-operation, regardless of political creed, or party relations. Before the question of the success or failure of our Union, parties sink into insignificance, since if it be lost all is lost."

For the Spectator.

Military Compliment.

At a meeting of the Augusta Rifles, held at Fishersville, on the 3d inst., it was

Resolved unanimously, That herewith the thanks of the Augusta Rifles are tendered to the West Augusta Guard for the very cordial, gallant and liberal manner with which we were received and entertained by them on our late visit to Staunton.

Resolved, That the Officers of the Rifles take pleasure in expressing their acknowledgments to the officers of the Guard, and especially to Captain William S. H. Baylor, for the courteous and very hospitable manner in which they were entertained by him.

Ordered that these resolutions be forwarded to the Staunton papers with the request that they be published. GEO. W. GUTHRIE,

Nov., 1860. Secretary.

This Congressional District.

Counties.	Bell.	Breckinridge.	Douglas.
Rockbridge,	1231	361	641
Augusta,	2553	218	1094
Highland,	218	171	256
Pendleton,	393	238	113
Hardy,	894	335	74
Rockingham,	883	676	1354
Shenandoah,	430	1883	167
Total,	6607	3882	3699

Gov. Magoffin, of Kentucky, has published a letter opposing and deprecating the secession of the Cotton States as not justified by the election of Mr. Lincoln, and urging that "the geography "of this country will not admit of a division—"the mouth and sources of the Mississippi River "cannot be separated without the horrors of "civil war." Kentucky, the Governor says, cannot sustain South Carolina "in this movement merely on account of the election of Lincoln." Additional importance is given to this letter on the supposition that it expresses substantially the sentiments of Mr. Breckinridge.

MR. LINCOLN AT CHICAGO.—Mr. Lincoln arrived at Chicago, on the night of 22d inst. He made two short speeches in which he asked to be excused from referring to politics. He said: "I think the people will ever do well if done well by. I will try to do well by them in all parts of the country, North and South, with entire confidence that all will be well with all of us."

AUGUSTA COUNTY UNION MEETING!

Pursuant to adjournment, a large meeting of the friends of the UNION in the county of Augusta, irrespective of parties, was held in the Court House, on Monday, November 26th, 1860,—Hon. ALEX H. H. STUART in the Chair, and JOHN L. PEYTON acting as Secretary.

Mr. Stuart explained to the meeting the misapprehension as to his remarks in regard to the position of J. T. Harris, M. C., and mentioned the receipt of a letter from Mr. Harris, expressing his strong attachment to the Union.

The Committee, composed of the following gentlemen,—Hon. A. H. H. Stuart, Chairman, Hugh W. Sheffey, Gen. K. Harper, Col. J. B. Baldwin, G. B. Stuart, John L. Peyton, John McCue. Joseph A. Waddell, Robt. Guy, John D. Imboden, Benj. Crawford, Geo. M. Cochran, jr., and Col. Geo. Baylor, appointed at the last meeting to report resolutions to this meeting, presented through Hugh W. Sheffey, the following

PREAMBLE AND RESOLUTIONS:

The people of Augusta in general meeting assembled, solemnly impressed with a sense of the danger which instantly threatens the existence of the Government and the Union of these States; cherishing a hereditary loyalty to the Constitution of the United States; citizens of a commonwealth allied to the South in its domestic institutions, affections and sympathies; but bordering on the North, and, therefore, in immediate contiguity to the perils which may follow a dissolution of the Union; far more vitally concerned in the issues of the conflict between the contending sections of the country than our more Southern brethren can possibly be; as deeply aggrieved as they by the recent election of a sectional President; as keenly alive as they to the aggressive tendency of the step just taken by the North; and as firmly resolved as they to resist infractions of their constitutional rights; yet unwilling to believe the experiment of Republican Government a failure, deem it to be their privilege, and, in view of the important interests at stake, their duty, speaking to the North as well as to the South, calmly, but firmly to declare—

1. That the Constitution of the United States, under the protecting power of which the country has become so strong at home and so respected abroad, with checks and balances so wisely adjusted, by which abuses are controlled and grievances are redressed; imperfect it may be in some respects: working hardly it may be on some occasions, is nevertheless the easiest yoke of government a free people ever bore, and yet the strongest protector of rights the wisdom of man ever contrived, and so long as it continues to secure our equality and rights as citizens of a common country "in the fullness of its spirit and to the highest extent of its honest interpretation" we will stand by and maintain it.

2. The Union of these States, still esteemed by them, as it was 64 years ago, by the "Father of his Country," as the "palladium of their political safety and prosperity—as the main pillar in the Edifice of their real independence—the support of their tranquility at home—their peace abroad and of that very liberty which they so highly prize," is, as it has ever been, the object of the unwavering attachment of the people of Augusta; and as for them and their households they will cling to it until the stern command of honor and the conviction that their rights can no longer be preserved under it, shall compel them, in sorrow, to let it go!

3. That the right of each State to form and regulate its own domestic institutions is perfect and complete under the Constitution, and that any organizations or discussions in other States intended to impair that right or incite forays upon our borders for the purpose of disturbing our peace or robbing us of our property, are flagrant wrongs and breaches of faith inconsistent with the tranquility of the Union.

4. That, apart from the consideration of the question whether, as Virginia declared in 1798, should be the case, to justify *her* in "interposing to arrest the evil" of Federal power, there has *yet* been, on the part of the General Government "a deliberate, palpable and dangerous exercise of *other powers not granted* by the Federal compact," and apart also from the consideration of the right in itself and the expediency in other respects of State Secession from the Union, it is the opinion of this meeting that, bordering as Virginia does, on that portion of the Confederacy from which danger to the institution of slavery is threatened, so far as her interests in that institution are concerned, secession is no remedy.

5. That sympathizing deeply with their brethren in the extreme Southern States in their sense of the outrage inflicted on the sentiments of the South by the election of Lincoln; but having still an abiding faith, if not in the sense of justice, in the intelligent self-interest of the American people; and confiding in the efficacy of Constitutional means to protect their rights *within* the Union, the people of Augusta, as brothers speaking to brothers, bound together by the most sacred ties, beseech the gallant and patriotic people of the Cotton States to pause and calmly consider the yet unimagined evils which must result from a dissolution of the Union; and, before taking the step from which there will be no receding, to unite with Virginia in testing the efficiency of remedies provided by the Constitution and *within* the Union!

6. That not regarding the mere election of any citizen to the Presidency in accordance with the Constitution and the laws as sufficient cause for breaking up the government, and therefore in the spirit of patriotic forbearance, being willing to yield obedience to the Constitution and to acquiesce in the recent decision of the Northern people, with no purpose to threaten or intimidate, but speaking as brave men to brave men, appealing to their loyalty to the Constitution and the Union, and to their regard for the peace, concord and continued happiness of a united country, the people of Augusta, who have been wont in times past as Washington taught them "indignantly to frown upon the first dawning of every attempt to alienate any portion of our country from the rest, or to enfeeble the sacred ties which bind together the various parts," solemnly declare to the people of the non-slaveholding States, that the vexatious agitation of the subject of slavery in Congress and in the Northern communities, the disturbance of our peace by the dissemination of incendiary documents in the South, the invasions of our rights of property in slaves by emissaries sent into our midst to decoy our slaves from our homes, the disregard by the Governors and the people of the non-slaveholding States of their Constitutional obligations in respect to the rendition of fugitives from service and from justice, the practical nullification by many of their State Legislatures of the "Fugitive Slave Law" and the organization and triumph of a sectional party, united together by sentiments deemed to be hostile to the South, whose recent victory has been heralded by one high in its ranks as "the death blow to slavery" constitute such grievances and outrages to the feelings and rights of the people of the South, as will, if persisted in, extend over the whole South the fatal sentiment of disunion now so fearfully on the increase; and the people of Augusta, convinced that there can be no permanent Union without a strict adherence to the Constitution and a just enforcement of Federative obligations upon the authorities and people of the States, think they have a right to ask, nay respectfully to urge, as essential to continued brotherhood between the North and the South that the people of the non-slaveholding States require their public servants to observe their constitutional obligations to the South, to remove from their statute books the acts intended to thwart, if not to nullify, the act of Congress concerning fugitive slaves, and that they instruct their representatives as we shall instruct ours, to keep from the halls of Congress that bitter apple of National discord—the agitating discussion of the subject of slavery.

7. That we cherish the sincerest sympathy and most fraternal regard for those noble and true men in the non-slaveholding States who have battled so gallantly against faction and fanaticism in defence of the Constitution of the country and the rights of the South; and that we are unwilling to desert them; and that we yet hope, with their aid, to beat back the enemies of our peace and bear aloft, in triumph, "not a stripe obliterated nor a star obscured," the glorious flag of the Union.

8. That our Senator and Delegates be requested, in the discharge of the responsible duties which will soon devolve upon them, in the spirit of harmony and conciliation attempted to be expressed in these resolves, to bend all their energies to keep Virginia to her moorings as "the Flag Ship of the Union," and to induce her, placed as she is between the North and the extreme South, with moderation, forbearance and wisdom worthy of her ancient renown, to exert her power and influence to preserve on the one hand, the known and equal rights of her own people as citizens of a common country, and on the other, the harmony of the Union and the integrity of the Constitution: and to this end they are authorized at whatever cost, calling to their aid, if need be, the wisest and most patriotic citizens, to adopt such measures as their judgments shall approve, to carry out the great work of mediation and pacification, which the people of Augusta invoke the General Assembly of Virginia to undertake.

Mr. J. H. Skinner moved as a substitute the following resolution, which was rejected:

Resolved, In view of the wrongs which have been done to Virginia and her sister Southern States by the unconstitutional and unfriendly action of the Northern States of the Confederacy, growing out of the hostility entertained by them to the institution of domestic slavery, and in consideration of the dangers with which we are threatened by the inauguration of a sectional Republican Administration, elected upon principles which, if carried into action, would be destructive of our equality, our interests, and our safety, and injurious to our honor, it is proper and all important in our judgment that a Convention of delegates of the people of Virginia should be held at an early day, to consider of the state of the Federal Union, to preserve said Union, if it can be done consistently with our rights under the Constitution, and at all events to protect the State of Virginia from any detriment.

A lengthy discussion took place upon the resolutions, in which the following gentlemen participated: Gen. W. H. Harman, Col. John B. Baldwin, R. D. Hill, J. A. Harman, Jas. H Skinner, T. J. Michie, Gen. K. Harper, J. D. Imboden, Jacob Baylor, A. Koiner, and Dr. E. G. Moorman.

The vote upon the preamble and resolutions was taken *seriatim* and they were passed by very large majorities.

On motion they were directed to be signed by the President and Secretary, and published in the papers of the State generally.

A. H. H. STUART, PRESIDENT.

JOHN L. PEYTON, Secretary.

☞ Papers of the State requested to copy.

Hon. A. H. Stephens of Georgia.

On the 14th inst., this distinguished gentleman delivered an address in Milledgeville, Georgia, in the Hall of the House of Representatives. Mr. Stephens is is one of the ablest men of the South, and is as truly devoted to the interests of the South as any man within its borders. He is a Democrat, and in the recent canvass supported the claims of Stephen A. Douglas. His speech is "wise, conciliatory, patriotic, devoted to the South, and urgent in defending the rights of Georgia, yet it is moderate and temperate in counsel, eloquent in thought and convincing in argument." We are sorry that we have not space to publish the whole speech, as we should like to have it read and pondered by all. We give as much, in the following extracts, as we have room for:

"The first question that presents itself is, shall the people of the South secede from the Union in consequence of the election of Mr. Lincoln to the Presidency of the United States? My countrymen, I tell you frankly, candidly and earnestly, that I do not think that they ought. In my judgment, the election of no man, constitutionally chosen to that high office, is sufficient cause for any State to separate from the Union. It ought to stand by still and aid in maintaining the Constitution of the country. To make a point of resistance to the Government, to withdraw from it because a man has been constitutionally elected, puts us in the wrong. We are pledged to maintain the Constitution. Many of us have sworn to support it. Can we, therefore, for the mere election of a man to the Presidency, and that too in accordance with the prescribed forms of the Constitution, make a point of resistance to the government without becoming the breakers of that sacred instrument ourselves? withdraw ourselves from it?

"Would we not be in the wrong? Whatever fate is to befall this country, let it never be laid to the charge of the people of the South, and especially to the people of Georgia, that we were untrue to our national engagements. Let the fault and the wrong rest upon others. If all our hopes are to be blasted, if the Republic is to go down, let us be found to the last moment standing on the deck with the Constitution of the United States waving over our heads. [Applause.] Let the fanatics of the North break the Constitution if such is their fell purpose. Let the responsibilty be upon them. I shall speak presently more of their acts; but let not the South, let us not be the ones to commit the aggression. We went into the election with this people. The result was different from what we wished; but the election has been constitutionally held. Were we to make a point of resistance to the Government and go out of the Union on that account, the record would be made up hereafter against us.

"But it is said Mr. Lincoln's policy and principles are against the Constitution, and that if he carries them out it will be destructive of our rights. Let us not anticipate a threatened evil. If he violates the Constitution, then will come our time to act. Do not let us break it because, forsooth, he may. If he does, that is the time for us to strike. [Applause.] I think it would be injudicious and unwise to do this sooner.—I do not anticipate that Mr. Lincoln will do anything to jeopard our safety or security, whatever may be his spirit to do it; for he is bound by the constitutional checks which are thrown around him, which at this time renders him powerless to do any great mischief. This shows the wisdom of our system. The President of the United States is no Emperor, no Dictator—he is clothed with no absolute power. He can do nothing unless he is backed by power in Congress. The House of Representatives is largely in the majority against him. * * * *

"When I look around and see our prosperity in everything, agriculture, commerce, art, science and every department of education, physical and mental, as well as moral advancement, and our colleges, I think, in the face of such an exhibition, if we can without the loss of power, or any essential right or interest, remain in the Union, it is our duty to ourselves and to posterity to—let us not too readily yield to this temptation—do so. Our first parents, the great progenitors of the human race were not without a like temptation when in the garden of Eden.—They were led to believe that their condition would be bettered—that their eyes would be opened—and that they would become as Gods. They in an evil hour yielded—instead of becoming Gods they only saw their own nakedness.

"I look upon this country with our institutions as the Eden of the world, the Paradise of the Universe. It may be that out of it we may become greater and more prosperous, but I am oandid and sincere in telling you that I fear if we rashly evince pasaion and without sufficient cause shall take that step, that instead of becoming greater or more peaceful, prosperous and happy—instead of becoming Gods, we will become demons, and at no distant day commence cutting one another's throats. This is my apprehension. Let us, therefore, whatever we do, meet these difficulties, great as they are, like wise and sensible men, and consider them in the light of all the consequences which may attend our action. Let us see first clearly where the path of duty leads and then we may not fear to tread therein. * * * * * *

"Now then my recommendation to you would be this:—In view of all these questions of difficulty, let a convention of the people of Georgia be called, to which they may be all referred.—Let the sovereignty of the people speak. Some think that the election of Mr. Lincoln is cause sufficient to dissolve the Union. Some think those other grievances are sufficient to dissolve the same, and that the Legislature has the power thus to act and ought thus to act. I have no hesitancy in saying that the Legislature is not the proper body to sever our Federal relations, if that necessity should arise. An honorable and distinguished gentlemen the other night (Mr. T. R. R. Cobb) advised you to take this course—not to wait to hear from the cross roads and groceries. I say to you you have no power so to act.

"You must refer this question to the people and you must wait to hear from the cross roads and even the groceries; for the people in this country, whether at the cross roads or the groceries, whether in cottages or palaces, are all equal, and they are the sovereigns in this country.—Sovereignty is not in the Legislature. We, the people, are the sovereigns. I am one of them and have a right to be heard, and so has any other citizen of the State. You legislators, I speak it respectfully, are but our servants. You are the servants of the people, and not their masters. Power resides with the people in this country.

"The great difference between our country and all others, such as France and England and Ireland, is that here there is popular sovereignty, while their sovereignty is exercised by kings and favored classes. This principle of popular sovereignty, however much derided lately, is the foundation of our institutions. Constitutions are but the channels through which the popular will may be expressed. Our Constitution came from the people. They made it, and they alone can rightfully unmake it.

Mr. Toombs—"I am afraid of Conventions."

Mr. Stephens—"I am not afraid of any Convention legally chosen by the people. I know no way to decide great questions affecting fundamental laws except by representatives of the people. The Constitution of the State of Georgia was made by representatives of the people chosen at the ballot box.

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"My honorable friend said last night, 'I ask you to give me the sword, for if you do not give it to me, as God lives, I will take it myself.'

Mr. Toombs—"I will." [Applause on the other side]

Mr. Stephens—"I have no doubt that my honorable friend feels as he says. It is only his excessive ardor that makes him use such an expression; but this will pass off with the excitement of the hour. When the people in their majesty shall speak, I have no doubt that he will bow to their will, whatever it may be, upon the 'sober second thought.' [Applause.]

"Should Georgia determine to go out of the Union, I speak for one, though my views might not agree with them, whatever the result may be, I shall bow to the will of her people. Their cause is my cause, and their destiny is my destiny; and I trust this will be the ultimate course of all. The greatest curse that can befall a free people is civil war.

"But as I said, let us call a Convention of the people. Let all these matters be submitted to it, and when the will of a majority of the people has thus been expressed, the whole State wil present one unanimous voice in favor of whatever may be demanded; for I believe in the power of the people to govern themselves, when wisdom prevails and passion is silent."

A scald or burn can be easily cured by the use of Perry Davis' Vegetable Pain Killer. It is equally effectual in curing headache, pain in the stomach or bowels, dysentery, diarrhea and cholera. No family should be without it.

CONGRESS.—The second session of the 36th Congress will commence on next Monday, the 3d of December, and terminate by constitutional limitation on the 4th March.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES

Cure Cough, Cold, Hoarseness, Influenza, any Irritation or Soreness of the Throat, Relieve the Hacking Cough in Consumption, Bronchitis, Asthma, and Catarrh. Clear and give strength to the voice of

PUBLIC SPEAKERS AND SINGERS.

Few are aware of the importance of checking a Cough or "Common Cold" in its first stage, that which in the beginning would yield to a mild remedy, if neglected soon attacks the Lungs. "*Brown's Bronchial Troches*," containing demulcent ingredients, allay Pulmonary and Bronchial Irritation.

BROWN'S TROCHES "That trouble in my Throat, (for which the 'Trochus' are a specific,) having made me often a mere whisperer." N. P. WILLIS.

BROWN'S TROCHES "I recommend their use to PUBLIC SPEAKERS." REV. E. H. CHAPIN.

BROWN'S TROCHES "Great service in subduing HOARSENESS." REV. DANIEL WISE.

BROWN'S TROCHES "Almost instant relief in the distressing labor of breathing peculiar to ASTHMA." REV. A. C. EGGLESTON.

BROWN'S TROCHES "Contain no Opium or anything injurious." DR. A. A. HAYES, Chemist, Boston.

BROWN'S TROCHES "A simple and pleasant combination for COUGHS, &c." DR. G. F. BIGELOW, Boston.

BROWN'S TROCHES "Beneficial in BRONCHITIS." DR. J. F. W. LANE, Boston.

BROWN'S TROCHES "I have proved them excellent for WHOOPING COUGH." REV. H. W. WARREN, Boston.

BROWN'S TROCHES "Beneficial when compelled to speak, suffering from COLD." REV. S. J. P. ANDERSON, St. Louis.

BROWN'S TROCHES "Effectual in removing Hoarseness and Irritation of the Throat so common with SPEAKERS and SINGERS." Rrof. M. STACY JOHNSON, La Grange, Ga., Teacher of Music, Southern Female College.

BROWN'S TROCHES "Great Benefit when taken before and after preaching, as they prevent Hoarseness. From their persistent effect, I think they will be of permanent advantage to me." REV. E. ROWLEY, A. M., President Athens College, Tenn.

BROWN'S TROCHES ☞ Sold by all Druggists at TWENTY-FIVE CENTS A BOX. ☜

Nov. 27, 1860—6moif.

TRUST SALE OF REAL ESTATE.—By virtue of a deed of trust executed by Andrew Lockridge, to secure a certain debt due by said Lockridge to Edgar Campell, which deed is of record in the office of the County Court of Highland county, the undersigned, as trustee in said deed, will, on the 26TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER next, proceed, on the premises, to sell to the highest bidder, at public auction, for cash, all the lands which descended to the said Andrew Lockridge from his father, Robert Lockridge, dec'd., lying and being on the waters of the Bull Pasture River in the county of Highland aforesaid, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy the purposes of said deed of trust. Said lands are particularly described in the report of Commissioners appointed by the Circuit Court of Highland county, to make partition of the lands of the said Robert Lockridge, dec'd., between his heirs at law, in a suit recently decided in said Court between Jacob S. Keister and wife, plaintiffs, and David Lockridge and others, defendants. The title to said land is unquestionable, but the undersigned, acting as trustee, will convey only such title as is vested in him by the said trust deed. B. B. CAMPBELL, Trustee.

August 21, 1860—tds.

POSTPONEMENT.

The sale of the above named property is postponed till the 26TH OF OCTOBER, 1860.

Oct. 2, 1860. B. B. CAMPBELL, Trustee.

FURTHER POSTPONEMENT.

The sale of the above named land is postponed to the 30TH OF NOVEMBER, next.

Oct. 30, 1860. B. B. CAMPBELL, Trustee.

Still Further Postponement.

The sale of the above named land is postponed to the 5TH DAY OF JANUARY, 1861.

Nov. 27, 1860. B. B. CAMPBELL, Trustee.

A VALUABLE FARM FOR SALE.—The subscriber desires to sell his FARM, situated near Stribling Springs, and lying on both sides of the Warm Spring & Harrisonburg Turnpike, and about 12 miles from Staunton. The farm contains 550 Acres, 230 acres of which is cleared, and the balance heavily timbered. The soil is of good quality and in a high state of cultivation. There are FOUR DWELLING HOUSES on the land, a good Barn and Stable, and all other necessary out-houses. Also a good SAW MILL. This land is situated in a good neighborhood—is well watered, and capable of being divided into two nearly equal tracts—and I will sell it altogether or in parcels to suit the purchaser.

Persons desiring to buy will call and examine for themselves, or address me.

JNO. W. HOGSHEAD,

Nov. 27, 1860—tf. Parnassus, Va.

BOOK BINDING in the City of Richmond has at last been brought to perfection. At the Mechanics' Exhibition just closed we had the pleasure of examining a Ledger and Journal bound in pannel style, beautifully embellished with gilt, and finished in the most exquisite manner. Both volumes were fitted on rollers skillfully inserted in the boards to prevent rubbing, and the ruling in each was not only neat but elegant.

These Books were gotten up under the direction of Mr. Jos. J. English, foreman of J. W. Randolph, by whom he has been constantly employed for more than twenty years.—*Richmond Dispatch.*

AT 121 MAI