Richmond Dispatch.

BY COWARDIN & HAMMERSLEY.

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THURSDAY MORNING.....DEC. 13, 1860.

DAILY DISPATCH.

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SECESSION MOVEMENT AT THE SOUTH.

Letter from Secretary Cobb—Union Movements at the North—The Call of the Mayor of Philadelphia for a Union Meeting, &c.

Col. Philip St. George Cocke, of Powhatan county, Va., has written a letter to the Richmond Examiner on the present state of affairs. After recounting the injuries inflicted on the South by the North, he says:

What, then, shall we do? Virginia and the South do? We should promptly and with one voice say to the North—You have violated the spirit and broken the letter of the great constitutional compact which our fathers made unto your fathers. You have set at naught the laws of God and man; and you have broken all the bonds that can bind man to his fellow man. You stand convicted of sedition, perjury and treason. You have rendered it impossible that we of the South can consent longer to live under the same government with you. You have subverted the Constitution of your country. You have destroyed the union of these States.

The supreme law of self-defence and self-preservation—our duty to ourselves and our property—our duty to mankind and to God—require that we should separate from you peaceably if we can, forcibly if we must.

Let, us, then, boldly, promptly and unitedly exercise the inalienable rights of freemen.—Let there be no discord and divisions amongst us.

If we hesitate, or are divided, our enemies will triumph, and we shall soon be made to bend the neck and pass under the yoke of slavery and despotism of Northern masters, who will quickly inaugurate in our midst a reign of terror of which history has as yet recorded but faint and feeble prototypes in the massacres of St. Domingo and the horrors of the French revolution.

If, on the contrary, the South is true to herself—true to her posterity—true to man and to God—she will arise in the majesty of her might. She will shake off her enemies! She will defy them! And she will roll back upon the demon of Abolitionism, of Red and Black Republicanism, a withering and a damning defeat!

Let us of the South, then, invoke the spirit of our fathers of the first American Revolution, when they declared themselves independent of Great Britain. Let us *instantly prepare ourselves*, and let us, *in due time and form*, proclaim our separation from the North, and our separate and independent existence as a people; and let us, like our forefathers, pledge to each other in the maintenance of that position our lives, our fortunes, and sacred honor.

Your fellow-citizen,
PHILIP ST. GEO. COCKE.

Nov. 30, 1860.

N. B.—I am not to be understood as advocating or advising what is called immediate secession, nor indeed any precipitate or aggressive action that might invite or provoke a physical contest with the North. We are in the right—let us by all means continue to occupy that position. We have only to know our rights, and to be determined to maintain them. We must, however, *take time* for conference, for deliberation, for *preparation*, for arming and organizing our military, and for framing the Constitution of our new Confederacy. No Southern State can, without great imprudence, danger and injustice to all the rest, move until all are ready to move, and should, in the meantime, get ready to move, especially ready in a *military sense*, before political measures shall precipitate us, while as yet unarmed, into civil war. Upon these points I may hereafter ask to be heard.

In Caroline county, Va., on the 10th inst., a meeting was held, which adopted resolutions advising a convention in this State, denying the right of coercion, and asserting the right of secession.

The letter of Secretary Cobb to the people of Georgia has just been printed, and will be dispatched South at once. After referring to the origin and purposes of the Black Republican party, he says:

Can there be a doubt in any intelligent mind that the object which the Black Republican party has in view is the ultimate extinction of slavery in the United States? To doubt it is to cast the imputation of hypocrisy and imbecility upon the majority of the people of every Northern State who have stood by this party through all its trials and struggles to its ultimate triumph in the election of Lincoln. I am sure that no one can entertain for them individually or collectively less personal respect than I do, and yet I do give them credit for more sincerity and intelligence than is consistent with the idea that in obtaining power they will refuse to exercise it for the only purpose for which they professed to seek it. I do believe that with all their meanness and duplicity they do hate slavery and slaveholders quite as much as they say they do, and that no argument addressed to their hearts or judgments in behalf of the constitutional rights of the South would receive the slightest consideration. What might be effected by an appeal to their fears and cupidity I will not now stop to discuss.

In the nomination of Mr. Lincoln for the Presidency the Black Republicans gave still more pointed expression to their views and feelings on the subject of slavery. Lincoln had neither the record nor the reputation of a statesman. Holding sentiments even more odious than those of Seward, he was indebted to the comparative obscurity of his position for a triumph over his better known competitor. By the boldness and ability with which Mr. Seward had advocated the doctrines of the "higher law" and the "irrepressible conflict," he had exhibited to the public a character so infamous that even Black Republicans would not hazard the use of his name. To find a candidate of the same principle and less notoriety was the great work to be performed by the Chicago Convention. That only was successfully discharged in the selection and nomination of Mr. Lincoln.

He closes as follows:—

The facts and considerations which I have endeavored to bring to your view present the propriety of resistance on the part of the South to the election of Lincoln in a very different light from the mere question of resisting the election of a President who has been chosen in the usual and constitutional mode. It is not simply that a comparatively obscure abolitionist, who hates the institutions of the South, has been elected President, and that we are asked to live under the administration of a man who commands neither our respect nor confidence; that the South contemplates resistance even to disunion. Wounded honor might tolerate the outrage until by another vote of the people the nuisance could be abated, but the election of Mr. Lincoln involves far higher considerations. It brings to the South the solemn judgment of a majority of the people of every Northern State—with a solitary exception—in favor of doctrines and principles violative of her constitutional rights, humiliating to her pride, destructive of her equality in the Union, and fraught with the greatest danger to the peace and safety of her people. It can be regarded in no other light than a declaration of the purpose and intentions of the people of the North to continue, with the power of the Federal Government, the war already commenced by the ten nullifying States of the North upon the institution of slavery and the constitutional rights of the South. To these acts of bad faith the South has heretofore submitted, though constituting ample justification for abandoning a compact which had been wantonly violated. The question is now presented, whether longer submission to an increasing spirit and power of aggression is compatible either with her honor or her safety. In my mind there is no room for doubt. The issue must now be met or forever abandoned. Equality and safety in the Union are at an end, and it only remains to be seen whether our manhood is equal to the task of asserting and maintaining independence out of it. The Union formed by our fathers was one of equality, justice and fraternity. On the 4th of March it will be supplanted by a Union of sectionalism and hatred. The one was worthy of the support and devotion of freemen, the other can only continue at the cost of your honor, your safety, and your independence. Is there no remedy for this state of things but immediate secession? None worthy of your conservatism has been suggested, except the recommendation of Mr. Buchanan, of new constitutional guarantees, or rather the clear and explicit recognition of those that already exist. This recommendation is the counsel of a patriotic statesman.—It exhibits an appreciation of the evils that are upon us, and at the same time a devotion to the Constitution and its sacred guarantees. It conforms to the record of Mr. Buchanan's life on this distracting question—the record of a pure heart and wise head. It is the language of a man whose heart is overwhelmed with a sense of the great wrong and injustice that has been done to the minority section, mingled with an ardent hope and desire to preserve that Union to which he has devoted the energies of a long and patriotic life. The difficulty is that there will be no response to it from those who alone have it in their power to act. Black Republicanism is the ruling sentiment at the North, and by the election of Lincoln has pronounced in the most formal and solemn manner against the principles which are now commended to the country for its safety and preservation. As a matter of course they will spurn these words of wisdom and patriotism, as they have before turned their back upon all the teachings of the good and true men of the land, or else they will play with us it their insidious warfare to delude the South into a false security, that they may the more effectually rivet their iron chains, and thereby put resistance in the future beyond our power. They have trampled upon the Constitution of Washington and Madison, and will prove equally faithless to their pledges. You ought not, cannot trust them. It is not the Constitution and the laws of the United States which need amendments; but the hearts of the Northern people. To effect the first would be a hopeless undertaking, whilst the latter is an impossibility. If the appeal of the President was made to brethren of the two sections of the country, we might hope for a different response. Unfortunately, however, Black Republicanism has buried brotherhood in the same grave with the Constitution. We are no longer brethren dwelling together in unity. The ruling spirits of the North are Black Republicans, and between them and the people of the South there is no other feeling than that of bitter and intense hatred. Aliens in heart, no power on earth can keep them united. Nothing now holds us together but the cold formalities of a broken and violated Constitution. Heaven has pronounced the decree of divorce, and it will be accepted by the South as the only solution which gives to her any promise of future peace and safety.—To part with our friends at the North who have been true and faithful to the Constitution, will cause a pang in every Southern breast, for with them we could live forever peaceably, safely, happily. Honor and future security, however, demand the separation, and in their hearts they will approve, though they may regret the act.

Fellow-citizens of Georgia, I have endeavored to place before you the facts of the case in plain and unimpassioned language, and I should feel that I had done injustice to my own convictions, and been unfaithful to you, if I did not in conclusion warn you against the dangers of delay, and impress upon you the hopelessness of any remedy for these evils short of secession. You have to deal with a shrewd, heartless and unscrupulous enemy, who in their extremity may promise anything, but in the end will do nothing. On the 4th day of March, 1861, the Federal Government will pass into the hands of the abolitionists. It will then cease to have the claim either upon your confidence or your loyalty; and in my honest judgment, each hour that Georgia remains thereafter a member of the Union, will be an hour of degradation, to be followed by certain, speedy ruin. I entertain no doubt either of your right or duty to secede from the Union. Arouse, then, all your manhood for the great work before you, and be prepared on that day to announce and maintain your independence out of the Union, for you will never again have equality and justice in it. Identified with you in heart, feeling and interest, I return to share in whatever destiny the future has in store for our State and ourselves.

VIRGINIA AS A MEDIATOR.

The New York Journal of Commerce appeals to Virginia to act as a mediator in the present crisis:

In the discussion and adoption of every important national measure, Virginia has ever been found in the right place, or not far from it. She took the lead on the question of abolishing the slave trade, as the debates in the Convention that made the Constitution will show. She bore her full share in the war of the Revolution, and in the work of forming the Constitution and gathering the original thirteen scattered and separated colonies into one great State. In the great nullification struggle of 1832-'33 she was ready to act a part worthy of her position and renown. She sent one of her ablest sons, the late Mr. Leigh, as a commissioner, or sort of ambassador, to South Carolina, who pleaded in a masterly manner, in large assemblies of the impetuous people of the Palmetto State, the cause of Union.

This same mission she has again to perform, and ever her just and honorable influence over the people of all the extreme Southern, or "Cotton States," She can do what no other State can do. And one may address to her the language that was addressed to the Hebrew maiden that had been exalted to the throne of a great monarch: "Who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"

It is true, Virginia has no Watkins Leigh in these days; she has no James McDowell, who would so well have performed such a mission. But has she not a Hunter, a Mason, a Macfarland, a Boteler, a Rives, a Bocock, a Stuart, and many other able and prudent men who are fit for this mission? Certainly she has. And she has a Winfield Scott, who has won as many laurels as a *peacemaker* as he has as a *General*; and this is saying much. Blessed are the "peacemakers." The greatest of all blessings is their's—the Saviour of men being judge. Let General Scott unbuckle the sword and go down and *talk* with those firey children of the ardent South. We cannot doubt his willingness to undertake the mission. Let him go; let many go, if it be necessary. And may God bless their noble mission, and save this people from committing the rash and dreadful crime of national suicide.

In the meantime there is a great work to be done at the North.

THE SOUTH CAROLINA ARMY BILL.

A letter from Columbia, S. C., says:

The Army bill is now in the Senate. It lies there like so much dead waste paper and ink. The labors of the House Committee of Military are of no avail, for, singular to relate, the sagacity of the Senate has induced it to take no action on the matter. It passed the House by a large majority, and was immediately rushed into the Senate without time to print with the numerous amendments.—All the Democrats were able to secure in the way of choosing the military officers, to lead the army of 10,000, was a concession to the effect that the volunteers who would enlist should be allowed to elect their officers up to, as far as Colonel. The Governor is authorized to appoint the remainder. There is yet another Democratic restriction, and that is the selection of Colonel and all below him in grade by the volunteers from among themselves. This will effectually cut off a large number of Southern United States Army officers, who are supposed to be inclined to enlist in the cause of South Carolina. The Governor, however, has the power under the bill, of choosing United States Army officers or others for the higher military posts.

The Senate yesterday refused to consider the above bill as passed by the House. It refused to put it in the special order, and it is to all intents dead. The popular objection against it among the fighting men—the rank and file of the military companies—is very great. I learn from many in the ranks of the Columbia military that there are whole battalions ready to volunteer as one body if they are given the election of their own officers, but not one will go in otherwise. This is the general sentiment of the people throughout the State. The working-men go heart and soul against the bill.

MOVEMENT IN NEW YORK.

The Herald of Tuesday says:

A number of our influential merchants assembled in the Mayor's office yesterday afternoon and held a private meeting for the purpose of considering what action, if any, the city of New York should take in view of the present perilous condition of our national affairs. Although the meeting was preliminary, and the proceedings were principally confined to suggestions and consultation, there is reason to believe that the movement contemplated is of an important character, and when fully matured and announced, may prove of invaluable service in restoring harmony and peace to our distracted country. The meeting was strictly private, so that its proceedings cannot now be publicly made known.

THE CALL IN PHILADELPHIA.

The Mayor of Philadelphia has issued the following call for the Union meeting in that city:

Citizens of Philadelphia—At a time when the continuance of our National Union is in peril, and the breaking up of our Confederacy appears to be imminent, it is proper that a loyal people, casting off the spirit of party, should in a special manner avow their unfailing devotion to the Union and their abiding fidelity to its Constitution and laws. To this end, by the advice of the Councils of Philadelphia, I earnestly invite you, laying aside your several callings, to assemble at the State-House, at noon of Thursday next, that, with an honest sense of your responsibility as American citizens, you may counsel together to avert the danger which threatens our country, and that, relying upon the favor of Almighty God, you may seek to perpetuate for yourselves and your children the blessings of constitutional liberty.

THE PULPIT AND THE COUNTRY.

Bishop Clarke, of Rhode Island, preached a sermon on Sunday evening, at Providence, in behalf of the Union.

The Boston Traveller of Monday has the following:

Bishop Fitzpatrick (Catholic,) yesterday requested his congregation to offer up prayers to Almighty God to preserve the American Union, and in the course of his discourse he characterized our nation as the freest on earth. Rev. Mr. Johnson, of Bowdoin Street Church, also prayed for the Union. Other clergymen touched upon the condition of the country.

The Rev. Dr. Dewey and the Rev. Chandler Robbins delivered discourses in favor of the nation.

Bishop Brownell, of Conn., and Bishop Meade, of Va., have issued prayers suitable to the crisis.

THE FREE STATES IN THE EVENT OF A WAR.

If the Black Republicans succeed in breaking up the present Confederacy, as seems to be their aim, by forcing the Southern States to secede, do they expect to have peace at home, in their union of free States? If they expect such a thing, they will be doomed to a bitter disappointment.

Having the control of the Federal Government after the 4th of March, they will, unless they make sufficient overtures to the South, have to decide whether they will allow the Southern States to secede peacefully, or whether they will resort to coercion and war to keep them in the Union. Should they choose coercion and war, they will have to rely upon Northern armies of invasion.—These armies will have to be raised in the Northern or free States. Who will enlist or volunteer? Not the Democrats, not the Bell-Everett men, and these comprise the bone and sinew of the North. Nor yet the moderate and conservative men in the Republican ranks, nor the ranting New England parsons, nor the Black Republican editors and orators—they love to quarrel, but leave others to do the fighting. But suppose the force to be raised—what then? Will the good and true men of the North, who have no cause of quarrel with the South, stand by and see this abolition army of invasion start southward on its mission of murder, treason and rapine? No, never. It will have to conquer here, before it strikes a blow on Southern soil. A civil war here will have to be put down before the abolition army can commence its Southern crusade.—*Philadelphia Pennsylvanian.*

BERGER'S FEATS AT BILLIARDS.—Berger is astonishing the Philadelphians with his wonderful feats at billiards. The Gazette, of Tuesday, says:

About a hundred and fifty gentlemen amateurs witnessed last night the initial exhibition of Mr. Berger in this city, a limited number only being admitted. The wonderful things that Berger can do with billiard balls entirely stultify all theories of gravitation, and of the forces centripetal and centrifugal. He strikes a ball, it goes from him, describes a series of angles, and hitting every object at which it is aimed, comes back, as real estate deeds read, "to the place of beginning."

Among the most wonderful feats of Berger's repertoire are what he calls the hat shots. He places his hat upon the table, a ball in front of it, and another behind. The cue ball strikes the object ball, jumps over the hat, takes the lower and side cushions and caroms over the red. To "carom" is to kiss, or, in other words, to strike. The second hat feat is equally wonderful. After striking the object ball the cue ball describes a circle around a hat, and caroms upon (strikes) one of the reds without touching a cushion. Another marvelous feat: The cue ball, after striking the object, jumps over the cue, and still returns sufficient retrograde force to carom upon one of the reds.

But a marvelous feat is this: The cue ball, after striking the object ball, jumps on the cushion, and rolling upon it returns to the table, and taking the lower cushions, caroms upon one of the rest. These are only a few out of the fifty unaccountable shots made by Mr. Berger, and the reader will understand the earnestness of the applause when it is understood that the beholders were, for the most part, the most expert amateurs in the city.

After it is part of the exhibition was finished, Mr. Berger played a French game game with Mr. Phelan, beating him eighty points in the hundred.

CENSUS STATISTICS.—It is well known that the census returns of Cincinnati by the U. S. Marshals gave great dissatisfaction to the citizens: so great, in fact, that the city government ordered a new enumeration to be made, with the following result:

Total population	171,293
U. S. Marshal's return	161,000
Error of the latter against Cincinnati	1,293

The following table shows the value of real and personal property in Hamilton county, in which county Cincinnati is, from 1829 to 1859—a period of thirty years:

Year.	Value of Real Pr.	Value of Personal Pr.	Total Value.
1829	$4 604 017	$1 410 5 9	$6 014 556
1835	7 346 666	2 023 673	9,372 339
1841	5 805 450	4 965 040	10,710 494
1847	40,574 259	11 527 766	52,650 025
1853	68,935 950	37 812 829	117 821,620
1859	82 324 856	37,183,314	119,508 170

Difference in favor of 1859, during the thirty years, is, for real property, $77,720,839; personal property, $35,772,775; total value $113,493,614. Upon which there was a tax last year of $1,996,592.73.

END OF THE BURCH DIVORCE CASE.—The trial of the suit of Mr. Burch, of Chicago, against his wife, for divorce, was concluded Monday, at Naperville, Illinois. The jury rendered a verdict for Mrs. Burch, the defendant. A dispatch from Chicago says:

The jury was out an hour and a half, and returned with a verdict in favor of Mrs. Burch. The verdict was received with demonstrations of enthusiasm, which spread rapidly through the village. Counsel for the defence made a motion for the custody of the children and alimony. The Court then adjourned. The trial lasted nineteen days. The news reached here at seven o'clock, and was received with great rejoicing by the friends of Mrs. Burch. One hundred rockets were fired from the roof of the Tremont House.

SOUTH CAROLINA LEGISLATURE.—A proposition is before the South Carolina Legislature to appropriate $30,000 to aid in deepening the harbor of Charleston, and $50,000 to erect buildings to be used as arsenals and depots for the ordnance, arms and munitions of the militia of Charleston. There is also a bill preventing free negroes entering into mechanical pursuits, or riding in carriages or other vehicles unless accompanied by a white person. Another bill pending authorizes the Board of Ordnance to make contract with such responsible persons as shall, within the period of fifteen months, establish and put in operation within the limits of the State, or in any one of the cotton-growing States, an armory capable of turning out ten thousand stand of small arms, of standard military patterns, for the delivery to South Carolina of fifty thousand dollars' worth of small arms annually for the term of five years.

A MELANCHOLY END TO AN UNFORTUNATE LIFE.—A young widow woman, who gave her maiden name as Catharine Hall, and said she was from New Albany, Ind., was killed in attempting to get upon the New Albany train, at Greencastle, the other day, after the train was in motion. She said that she had been to Kansas under promise of marriage, and, being grossly deceived and deserted, she had started home penniless and alone, stealing rides until the conductors put her off, and begging food at stations until the next train came along. She had got nearly home, and, having been put off this train, had run back and caught hold of the rear car to steal a ride a little further.—She welcomed her death.

AN UNFORTUNATE VESSEL.—The schooner Shipcarpenter, of Dover, Del., was in collision, on the night of the 30th ult., with the schooner Shark, off Barnegat, N. J., and foundered in a few minutes. The captain, his wife and the crew saved themselves with difficulty, but a child of the captain, aged 2 years, was drowned. The same schooner, when under the command of Captain W. H. Burrows, a few years ago, ran down a vessel at sea, and suit was brought, which was decided against Captain Burrows, which so affected him, that he has been, ever since, a hopeless maniac, in the alms-house of Kent county.

CONSPIRACY IN HAYTI.—The Watchman, of Kingston, Jamaica, states that a plot has been laid to disturb the peace of the country. The conspirators, having been discovered, were apprehended, and having been tried, three were sentenced to be shot, which sentence had been carried into execution. Throughout the entire country congratulatory addresses from the inhabitants had been sent in to the government, expressive of their readiness at a moment's call to put down anything or persons that would tend to disturb the peace of the country.

NOW AND THEN.—Living was cheap enough in the olden time. Socrates is supposed to have lived upon an income of seventy-five dollars; but he lived worse than a beggar.—His coat was shabby, and he wore the same garment both winter and summer; he went barefooted; his chief food was bread and water; and as he entered in no business to mend his estate or income, it is not wonderful that his wife scolded. Demosthenes, his sister, and their mother paid for their board $165 a year, and provided the house into the bargain.

CIVIL WAR IN CARTHAGENA.—The Kingston Journal, of the 29th ult., says: By the arrival of the steamer Plantagenet, we learn that the civil war in Carthagena has broken out afresh and with renewed vigor. At the time the steamer left fighting was going on, and such was the anarchy reigning that the British subjects—among them the Consul—had to take refuge on board her Majesty's steamer Cadmus, which was lying in port at the time. The fighting was chiefly in ambush, and a great many were killed and wounded.

A LARGE FLEET.—Some six hundred canal boats, loaded with grain and produce, we learn from the Syracuse Journal, of the 8th instant, are now detained in the Erie Canal, near that city, by ice.

RECEIPTS OF COTTON IN NEW ORLEANS.—Twenty thousand four hundred and eighty bales of cotton, valued at over a million of dollars, arrived in New Orleans during thirty-six hours, ending at six P. M. on the 3d inst.

FROM WASHINGTON.

[SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE OF THE DISPATCH.]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10, 1860.

Union saving is now the order of the day. Every man I meet, barring only the disunionists *per se*, has a plan of his own. Not ten minutes ago, a gentleman of more than ordinary intelligence said: "We must look upon this matter in the light of business. We must wind up the old concern. Meantime, let the sign stay up—the Government go on collecting and paying debts. If any of the partner States want to go out, permit them. Don't fight, for the sake of the reputation of the firm. Let the members that remain in see if they can't come to an understanding. Some of them as can agree, must take the Government and administer on the effects. Those who can't agree, must go scot free and set up for themselves."

As my individual views have no place here, my duty is done in stating matters as they are, not as I would have them. Whatever plans arise shall be given to your readers impartially.

Burnett and Ex-Gov. Smith are discussing whether Hawkins shall be excused. It is just a waste of time. Burnett has well said that the time for saving the Government is not by eulogies on the Constitution, but by prompt action. The Crisis Committee, as it is called, with or without Hawkins and Boyce, will not reach a conclusion satisfactory to anybody but a few people who desire the Union under any circumstances.

It would tickle you to hear Republicans talking about the South. They speak as if the South belonged to another sphere. "Are these Southerners generally intelligent?" inquired one of them, in my hearing, the other day.—"Why," replied an Ohio man, "they can tell more about your own district than you can tell yourself."

"Ah! indeed. But the lower class there—they are grossly ignorant, aren't they?"

Then the two agreed that in the South there was both a higher and a lower class than in the North, evidently thinking all the slaveholders aristocrats, and the poor whites on the level with European peasants.

A member from Virginia has just told me that if there be any change at all, (which he doubts,) it is favorable for the Union. The tone of the Northern press is softening.

I was informed this morning that the Rev. Mr. Stockton's sermon last Sunday, which I heard so highly lauded, was covertly abolition in its tendencies. You see the Republicans may control not only the House, but the whole government.

A Yankee has declared in this city that if the South goes out of the Union, he and others in Boston will fit out little vessels to run up all our bays and rivers and steal negroes.—And what do you suppose he intends doing with them? Liberate them? Not at all; but sell them in Cuba.

A Baptist gentleman of influential position here, expresses the opinion that a political division of the country will have as happy an effect as the religious divisions which have already occurred. Formerly, when Baptists of the South met Baptists of the North, they quarreled. Now that they have nothing to do with the question of slavery, they meet kindly and in a true Christian spirit.

Secretary Cobb's resignation is not yet officially announced, owing to the fact that his address is not yet ready for the press. This is the latest version. ZED.

REMARKABLE EXECUTION.—Robert T. Williams, a magistrate, was executed at Leakesville, N. C., on the 7th inst., for the murder of Peggy Aisley, a young woman whom he was charged with having seduced, and whose body he was said to have burnt. The only traces of the deceased ever found were some hair-pins and charred human bones, supposed to be hers, which were discovered in the prisoner's log-pile. On the scaffold Williams protested his innocence, and said he forgave the jury, as he would have given the same verdict himself on the same evidence. Rev. R Shrieve, the uncle of the condemned man, officiated at the gallows, and, in the course of some remarks made before his prayer, said that the prisoner, his nephew, had given him evidence, twenty years ago, that he was a child of grace, and that he believed it now. He prayed fervently in behalf of his "unfortunate brother" in Christ; said that "if he were guilty, may he repent." After the conclusion of his prayer, the prisoner then shook hands with his friends.—This last act affected him greatly, moving him, as well as others, to tears. He then stood up for the rope to be adjusted about his neck. While this was being done, he seemed to be perfectly calm and composed. All arrangements being completed, the Sheriff announced to him that his time to live was one minute. Williams replied "farewell friends, all," which were the last words he said. At each announcement, by the officer, that his time was drawing to a close, he recognized it by a bow of his head. At the expiration of the minute the platform fell, and terminated his earthly existence.

SOCIALISM IN ARKANSAS.—Some time since, a community of men and women was established at Harmony Springs, in Benton county, Arkansas, for the avowed promotion of "moral, social, intellectual and spiritual happiness." According to a paper published by the community, some of its peculiar tenets were community of property, a vegetarian diet, "reform" in the marriage relations, and a general seeking after the true, with a corresponding disregard of the artificial. Dr. J. E. Spencer and wife stood at the head of the concern, managing its affairs, and exercising a general superintendence. Recently, says the St. Louis Republican, some members of the Society became skeptical of the Doctor's antecedents, and began an investigation. Among other things, it was ascertained that the Doctor's wife was only an "affinity," for whom he had deserted his legal spouse, and that the virtuous pair had run away from Rochester, N. Y., to escape being mobbed. The Doctor and his "affinity" got wind of what was going on, and packing up all the goods belonging to the community which they could lay their hands on, together with all the money in the treasury, and the titles of all their estates, suddenly left, under pretence of being absent a few days. But the runaways were pursued on horseback, overtaken and carried back, when they were compelled to make restitution of the stolen articles. They were then suffered to depart. The Doctor was postmaster at Harmony Springs, and among the developments alluded to was the discovery that he had been in the habit of opening letters, reading their contents, and re-sealing them with paste, being thus able to foretell the arrival of letters by mail, and what they would contain. Wonderful mystery of spiritual power!

ENGLISH REASONS FOR WEARING THE MUSTACHE.—A curious inquirer in London has been able to draw up a table of the different reasons for wearing a mustache. Having questioned not fewer than one thousand persons so adorned, their answers have helped him to the following result: To avoid shaving, 69; to avoid catching cold, 32; to hide their teeth, 5; to take away from a prominent nose, 5; to avoid being taken as an Englishman abroad, 7; because they are in the army, 6; because they are rifle volunteers, 221; because Prince Albert does it, 2; because it is artistic, 29; because they were singers, 3; because they travel, 17; because they have lived on the continent, 1; because the wife likes it, 8; because they have weak lungs, 5; because it acts as a respirator, 29; because it is healthy, 77; because the young ladies admire it, 471; because it is considered "the thing," 10; because his uncle did not, 1.

MURDER AND "LYNCHING."—There were two families—Mooney and Wilborn—residing some time ago in Nacogdoches county, Texas, between whom a bitter feud existed. Not long since, the Mooneys moved to Concord, Hardin county, and had been but a few days in their new location when Wilborn and his three sons, heavily armed, made their appearance, and finding Mooney in a store, they shot him, wounding him badly. They then followed him to his residence, and finished him with their guns and knives, and also shamefully abused his wife. Meanwhile, the neighbors gathered around, and arrested the murderers, who were put under a strong guard for the night. The next morning, the father and the three sons were found just outside the town, hanging to separate trees, and dead.

SINGULAR FREAK OF NATURE.—The Marlboro' (Maine) Mirror says:—"We have been shown apples and blossoms from the farm of Joseph Benson, Hollis, Me. It seems that the tree has been blossomed *five* times during the past season. The first crop of apples were very large, the second somewhat smaller, yet eatable. These two crops were gathered previous to the first of October. Since then the tree has blossomed three times, setting fruit twice. Crop number three measures two and a half inches in circumference, and crop number four quite small, while the fifth are only perfect blossoms. The tree has once lost all its leaves, and at the time of writing it is covered with green foliage, looking much as it did in June."

A HALE OLD MAN.—Capt. Nathan Jaquith, of Winchester, Mass., a man in his *eightieth year*, walked to Lowell, eighteen miles, to spend Thanksgiving with Mrs. L. Eames, his daughter. He accomplished the journey in five and one-half hours, without fatigue. His friends tried to persuade him not to attempt it, and furnished him with tickets; but he wanted to show what an octogenarian could do, and declined to ride.

THE LOSS OF THE DONNA ISABEL.—The Brazilian war corvette Donna Isabel, which was lost on her way from Marseilles to Lisbon, was recently at New York, and while there her crew and commander attracted much attention by their bravery in extinguishing a fire on a neighboring vessel. From there she went to Europe. A letter says:

On her arrival in Europe the Donna Isabel was ordered to the Mediterranean, and anchored in the Bay of Naples most opportunely. When the King of the Two Sicilies was on the eve of losing his capital, the Donna Isabel took on board the sister of the Emperor Don Pedro and her children, and carried them to Marseilles. While in this latter port her crew had another opportunity of displaying their gallantry, which is not generally known, and which, as calculated to increase the interest that the American people must naturally feel for the fate of the unhappy vessel, we take pleasure in recording. A steamer, in which Mr. Preston, our Minister to Spain, was passenger, ran upon the rocks in a gale of wind, and was in imminent danger of going to pieces; and although boats were sent to her assistance from the French and Spanish men-of-war lying at Marseilles, yet it was due to the activity and courage of the officers and crew of the Donna Isabel that the steamer was rescued from her dangerous position.

On her passage from Marseilles to Lisbon, being bound to Rio Janeiro, the Donna Isabel met with her unhappy fate, adding one more to the numerous disasters annually recorded in those stormy seas. Of her crew, which numbered ever two hundred officers and men, only ninety-two were saved.

POLITICAL.—At the meeting of the Union party of Portsmouth, Va., Tuesday night, it was decided not to have either an illumination or procession in celebration of their recent victory in carrying Virginia. This action was eminently proper under present circumstances, and must beget a spirit of moderation. A resolution was offered and adopted in commendation of Millson's course in the late Presidential contest, and another for a future meeting to express their views on the crisis.

A LADY ADVOCATE REWARDED.—Miss Shedden, who has advocated before the Court of Probate of London the rights of legitimacy of her father, has received a letter from Miss Burdett Coutts, expressive of her deep sympathy for the lady's position, and congratulating her on the zeal she has displayed. The letter was accompanied with a check for £200, for Miss Shedden's use during the proceedings.

THE BELT GIVEN UP.—From Bell's Life we learn that Sayers has given up the Champion's Belt, though not without reluctance, and that it has been handed over to the Staleybridge Infant. Some $600 remain to be paid on the new belts, and Bell's Life appeals to the friends of Sayers and Heenan to raise it at once, otherwise they must remain with the maker.

CORN IN ILLINOIS.—Corn, however scarce it may be in Missouri and Kansas, is plentiful enough in Illinois. The Warsaw Journal says: "The way corn is coming in to this city, is cheering indeed—each distillery receiving not less than 100 wagon loads daily, while our warehouses and temporary corn-houses are receiving to their capacity. The price is 20 cents per bushel."

LARGE SALE OF NEGROES.—The Huntsville (Ala.) Advocate says the sale of the negroes (165 in number,) belonging to the estate of Samuel Townsend, deceased, was commenced in that place on Monday last. The terms were twelve months' credit, with interest from date. The prices brought were high—negro men bringing $1,500, $1,600 and upwards, and other qualities of negroes in proportion.

SENATOR CLAY RESIGNED.—The Montgomery Advertiser of the 7th, says: "We have before us a letter from the Hon. C. C. Clay, Jr., tendering to Gov. Moore his resignation of the office of Senator of Alabama in the Congress of the United States, to take effect on the 4th of March next, unless the State should at an earlier day dispense with his services in that body, as he fondly hopes and expects."

A CONGRESSIONAL JOKE.—Mr. Porcher Miles, of the Charleston district, excused himself and his colleagues from voting on the question of a select committee, intimating, in substance, that before it could report its conclusions South Carolina would be out of the Union, and he himself, instead of being Miles in Congress, would be Miles away.

MURDER TRIAL.—The trial of the chief mate Paul for the murder of Captain Burton, of the American bark Alvarado, in Kingston harbor, commenced before the Chief Justice, at the Kingston District Court, on the 20th ult., and was concluded on the 22d, when the jury, without hearing counsel for the defence, returned a verdict of not guilty.

THE DEAD ALIVE.—About a year ago, the Probate Court of Hamilton county, Ohio, granted Letters of Administration upon the estate of a wealthy farmer. On Friday last, the identical man whose property had been "administered" to, called on the clerk of the Probate Court and demanded the restoration of his property.

A LONG TIME COMING.—The creditors of the Baron de Arago, an English insolvent debtor, who some five and twenty years since failed to meet his engagements, have just received notice, after waiting for a quarter of a century, that they may now get a dividend of five pence on the pound.

ADVANCE IN SALT.—The sudden closing of lake navigation has caught the people of Chicago, Ill., and Milwaukie, Wis., with a very short supply of salt on hand. There is a deficiency of nearly 70,000 barrels each in the two cities named, and the price has already advanced about 40 per cent.

SUDDEN DEATH AT A PRAYER MEETING.—Benj. Mead, aged eighty-four years, dropped dead at the Market street morning prayer meeting, in Newark, N. J., on Monday, from disease of the heart.

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