Richmond Dispatch.

BY COWARDIN & HAMMERSLEY.

THE DAILY DISPATCH is served to subscribers at SIX AND A QUARTER CENTS PER WEEK, payable to the Carrier weekly. Price for mailing, $4 a year, or $2.50 for six months, in advance.

THE SEMI-WEEKLY DISPATCH is issued every Tuesday and Friday at $2, in advance.

THE WEEKLY DISPATCH is issued every Friday, and mailed to subscribers at $1 per annum.

THURSDAY MORNING....APRIL 4, 1861.

DAILY DISPATCH.

VOL. XIX.--NO. 78. RICHMOND, VA., THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 1861. PRICE ONE CENT.

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VIRGINIA STATE CONVENTION.

FORTY-SECOND DAY.

WEDNESDAY, April 3, 1861.

The Convention assembled at 10 o'clock.—Prayer by the Rev. Mr. WILLIS, of the Baptist Church.

EQUALITY OF TAXATION.

Mr. STUART, of Doddridge, being entitled to the floor on Mr. Willey's resolutions, proceeded to address the Convention. He regretted that so few of the Eastern members were in their seats, because it was to them that he desired chiefly to direct his remarks. He had listened with much pleasure to the speech of Mr. Wise on the preceding evening, and gave his assurance that his efforts would be met by the Western people in a spirit of fraternity.—He could not fold his arms and say "all is well," for we were involved in questions of great difficulty and doubt. Alluding to the charge of unsoundness on the slavery question, he said that no charge of that nature had been made by any Eastern man; to a Western member belongs that *honor*, for he alone had done it.—He (Mr. S.) claimed, that notwithstanding the drawbacks of unjust legislation, the West was true to the institution of slavery, and true on principle; if the East was true, it was true from interest. Why, then, would they not trust this question in the hands of Western men? He contended that the position of Virginia as a slave State demanded the protection asked for by the West, in order to develop its resources and maintain its character as a part of the Old Dominion. It was the duty of the East to extend the olive branch, in order to unite the whole State, and bind all the people together in defence of her rights.—His people were willing to protect the institution of slavery, but they insisted that this property should be taxed as their horses and cows were taxed. Unless the demand were granted, they would have but a poor excuse to go before their people and ask them to protect the East, telling them at the same time that it was in the power of Eastern men to protect the West, but they refused it. If this was persisted in, it would be as easy to move the Alleghanies from their base as to convince the West of the propriety of going out of the Union for any present grievances.

The hour of half-past 10 having arrived, Mr. Stuart suspended his remarks, and the Convention went into

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE,

Mr. SCTHALL taking the chair, for the purpose of considering the report of the Committee on Federal Relations.

Mr. NELSON, of Clark, said that, with the permission of the gentleman from Fauquier, (who was entitled to the floor,) he would make a further correction of the report of his remarks, in the Richmond *Enquirer*, for, in making the first correction, the printers had made it much worse than it was originally.—He had some regard for the reputation of the University of Virginia, and insisted upon his Latin being reported correctly. The quotation from Virgil which he used was "*Tanta ne ira animis celestibus?*" They had printed it, "*Tantam ira animus celestib.*" He had, in his written speech, used a Greek quotation from Homer—the famous advice of Hipolochus to his son, Glaucus, when he went to the Trojan war: "*Aien aristeuein kai upetrochon emmenai allôn made genos aischanemen*"—"In every glorious act and strife to shine the first and to not let our ancestors disgrace his birth;" but, as they had no Greek type, he authorized them to leave that flourish out. He had, however, in his first correction, insisted that the printers should take the *legs* from Triptolemus Yellowley; but they had still got him as Triptolemus Yellow*legs*. He hoped he would be at last set right before the public.

Mr. SCOTT, of Fauquier, being entitled to the floor, said if the Committee had confined itself to the discussion of the several propositions reported, greater progress would have been made towards a disposal of the questions before it. He felt some reluctance to trespass upon the patience of the Committee; yet there were some propositions on the table which had not yet been touched, and to those he intended to address himself. This Union, which we had heretofore regarded as perpetual, was broken up, seven States having withdrawn, and the entire country was now threatened with destruction. It was in view of this fact that the Convention was assembled, to legislate, in this emergency, for the safety and honor of Virginia. It was a misfortune, that when the interests of the Commonwealth demanded the best exertions and wisest counsels of her sons, that we were so circumstanced as to make it difficult to agree upon that course which ought to be followed. Yet might the, not, by prudence and conciliation, agree upon something which would meet the exencies of the case? Elected by counties, coming from all parts of this extended Commonwealth, we necessarily in our own persons represent the varied interests which are found to exist in these wide limits; and if a cause is sought for the diversity of opinion which characterizes this body, we have only to look abroad to the State we represent for an explanation. He then alluded to the varied interests of the several sections, showing that in these was founded the conflict of sentiment in regard to the mode of settling the question at issue. He maintained that it was our duty to consult the interests of the entire State, and so to act as to meet the views of the people of the whole Commonwealth.

He was a portion of the State which was as deeply interested in the settlement of this question as any other portion. He lived on the borders of the Potomac, and the people there were connected commercially with the people of Maryland and Pennsylvania. If cut off from those advantages, a blow would be struck at their vital existence.

Mr. HALL, of Wetzel, desired to inform the gentleman from Fauquier that he was mistaken as to the important points of trade for the West. The most important point was New Orleans. The pork, potatoes, and other produce were boated down, and on the route had to meet the competition of the free States, as well as at the end of the route.

Mr. SCOTT said he had supposed that the salt, coal and oil of the West found its market in the States bordering on their territory. The cattle of the West find a market in Pennsylvania and Maryland, and none of that great trade has its direction South. Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, and even New York, furnish the market which that great staple of Western Virginia finds practicable. He did not know about the pork and potatoes—they might be boated down the Ohio, to find a market in the South; but he spoke from information derived from others in regard to the salt, coal and oil, and in regard to the cattle trade he spoke from his own knowledge.

He urged with force the position that this Convention ought to look to the whole and act for the whole, and shape their measures with respect to all interests. Where opinions conflict, we must yield to circumstances, and compromise with each other.

Here were various propositions which he purposed to consider, and inquire which was the best calculated to subserve the purpose of securing that safety which the interests of the Commonwealth demand. His sympathies, interests, feelings and instincts all attached him to the South, and if the alternative were presented to him of going with the Northern States, or with the Southern Confederacy, he would unhesitatingly say with the latter.—But he designed to consider whether, by proper amendments to the Constitution, a plan might not be matured for the reconstruction of the Union upon a basis acceptable to all the Southern States. In this connection he took up the majority report, which concedes that without the proposed changes in the organic law of the country, it is unsafe for Virginia to remain a member of the Federal Union. He repudiated the idea that any one who advocated that report could be deemed a submissionist. He went on to consider the position of the Border States, whose interests and opinions were similar to those of Virginia, and whatever affected one affected all, rendering it necessary that they should act together. It was only necessary to satisfy our Western fellow-citizens that by any action we might adopt they were not to be separated forever from the Border States, to bring them to consent to the policy proposed. There was an encouraging prospect of united action among the Border States, and it seemed impossible to conceive that Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois would ever consent to a separation from the States with whom their interests were so intimately connected. The purpose is to secure united action on the part of all the Border slave States; that when one secedes, all shall secede; thus bringing about the necessity for a reconstruction of the Union. But others said no; they contended for immediate secession. Yet they were not agreed among themselves upon the policy to be adopted. One says, go to the Southern Confederacy, and unite the fortunes of Virginia with them; another says no—that's precipitate; you cannot get to the Southern Confederacy; you must wait for the co-operation of North Carolina and Tennessee. He would ask, then, if it would not be well to seek that co-operation before seceding? This, he thought, was the policy of the gentleman from Princess Anne.

Mr. WISE hoped the gentleman would not undertake to state his position. He would do it at the proper time himself, if he had the things to do so. While up, he would correct the gentleman from Fauquier in his assertion that there was not one member who, in debate here, or in the Committee of Twenty-One, or elsewhere, had avowed or declared the doctrine of "submission." He would inform him, if he was in this predicament, that on the 10th of March a member of this body, who represents the county of Marshall, (Mr. Burley,) presented resolutions here not only avowing submission, but upholding the right of coercion, and worse, the right of revolution against the State. One member had here avowed a doctrine worse than submission, and he believed there were others just as bad.

Mr. SCOTT would not undertake to criticise the resolutions of the member from Marshall; he was here, and could speak for himself. If he was an exception, so far as he (Mr. S.) was informed, he constituted a solitary exception. He would leave the gentleman from Princess Anne to explain his own position, though he understood that he, like the gentleman from Bedford, (Mr. Goggin,) was for immediate secession, but did not contemplate an immediate conjunction with the Southern Confederacy; that he was one who would wait for co-operation. Mr. Scott then went on to urge the necessity of a consultation with the States whose co-operation was desired, before withdrawing, and leaving them in another Government. Immediate secession, so far from being a measure of peace, he believed would be a measure of war. Within sixty days it would bring on a collision—collision with the Federal Government. He therefore rejected it as a measure of unnecessary war; unnecessary, because, if we consulted with the Border States, such a consultation would lead to a peaceable solution of the difficulties.

After elaborating upon this point, Mr. SCOTT proceeded to develop what he conceived to be the hidden motive of those who opposed the presenting of propositions of adjustment to the North—stating in effect his apprehension that they feared the propositions would be accepted by the North.

Mr. WISE desired to be informed if the gentleman classed him among those who entertained this hidden motive.

Mr. SCOTT said he did not have him in his mind.

Mr. WISE thought this was strange, when he had classed him with the gentleman from Bedford.

Mr. SCOTT said he was now speaking of another class.

Mr. WISE said that so far as he was concerned, he wanted to form a better union of both the North and the South. What he did fear was the effect of the mode of adjustment proposed by others.

Some remarks were made by the CHAIRMAN to the effect that he did not consider the gentleman from Fauquier as impugning the motive of any particular member; had he done so, he would have called him to order.

Mr. SCOTT disclaimed any such purpose; it was his design to attribute the action of different members to a motive having in view the reconstruction of the Union upon one basis or another, which, though opposite, plainly showed that there were no disunionists *per se* in this Convention. He then went on to enforce the positions previously advanced, and subsequently alluded to the mighty progress of the American Republic, expanding from the Atlantic to the Pacific, until it had reached a point in the foremost rank of nations. Its products had grown to such proportions as to become a necessity to the industry of the world. Might we not look with feelings akin to admiration upon its grandeur? It was not strange, then, that we should find in a Virginia Convention, one sentiment of love for the Union running through the entire mind. All admitted this, and yet there was a division of opinion which he feared would keep us apart to the end. Was there no mode by which we could avoid the Scylla on the one side or the Charybdis on the other? no middle passage, through which all could arrive at a safe and satisfactory conclusion? Such a desirable result might be attained by an agreement upon the plan proposed, assuming that the interests of Virginia would be best protected in a Southern Confederacy when the Border States were there with her. Necessity might compel her to go without them; but choice, never. He took a position upon his amendment offered on Saturday last, providing that after the failure of the efforts of the Border States in primary Conventions, should they fail, a Congress of such States shall be called for the purpose of recommending a Constitution upon which the Union of all the States may be safely reconstructed. This he considered a middle ground upon which all parties might stand. It was said by some that the propositions would be rejected by the North, and that therefore it would be idle to present them.—He, however, could see no reason why they should not defer so much to the opinions of others, as to go through the brief space which these forms and ceremonies would occupy, to prove the justice of their conclusions.

He had left his home for this Convention, full of hope for an adjustment of all the pending difficulties; but he was sorry to say that this hope, if not entirely vanished, had now become very faint. Two plans had been proposed; one through amendments to the Constitution through the Peace Conference, and another through a National Convention, called on the demand of two-thirds of all the States. The first had been appealed to and failed, for the Peace Conference propositions had been repudiated by Congress. The other was impracticable, for the seceded States would not enter into such a consultation, which would be necessary in order to carry out the plan, since they were not recognized by the North as a separate and independent Government. Although he had little hope of an adjustment now, he was willing to appeal to it, in deference to the opinions of others; for in the event of a failure, we should then all be united.

He did not believe it was practicable now to procure a reconstruction of the Union through amendments to the Constitution, nor did he believe in the practicability of immediate secession. There would be as little hope from one side as from the other. The Border States had only to stand firm upon their own soil, going with neither wing, but bring both to their position. If the Border States agreed to withdraw from their association with the Federal Government, he contended, that Government would necessarily have to abdicate the Federal Capital. The Government would then be ours, and with such a prestige of greatness, there would be no difficulty in drawing either section to the common centre. This plan of reconstruction and restoration he believed was practicable, and looking upon the others as impracticable, he rejected them and adopted this because of its practicability. None of the others, in his opinion, met the exigencies of the case.

Mr. SCOTT continued to speak until 2 o'clock, when the Committee took a recess until 4 o'clock P. M.

Evening Session.

The Committee re-assembled at 4 o'clock, and Mr. SCOTT being unable to proceed in consequence of hoarseness, yielded the floor, after thanking the Committee for the patience with which they had listened to his remarks.

Mr. RICHARDSON, of Honover, then addressed the Committee. After some introductory allusion to the fact that he had not heretofore trespassed upon the time of the body, he went on to revert to the origin of the Government, and to the fraternal feelings which had existed on the part of the South towards the North, until the Northern people broke up that friendly sentiment by their own aggressions; showing that they, with England, were responsible for the establishment of the institution of slavery here, and after having forced it upon us, now desired to destroy our safety and happiness. He demonstrated by facts occurring throughout the progress of the anti-slavery agitation, that a continuance of the present Union with the North was utterly impracticable. Republicanism of modern days, as he showed from declarations of their leading men, was the child of abolitionism. The crisis now upon the country he considered a fearful one. Seven States had left the Union, and others threatened to follow. The question arose, what is to be the destiny of Virginia? In his judgment, the destiny of Virginia was with the South. He was for a Union of the whole South, but if this could not be obtained, he would have the Union as strong as Virginia could make it.—He had little hope of any adjustment that would bring the North into a position to do justice to the South. It was a forcible argument in favor of immediate action, that while we were waiting, the whole business of the country was prostrate, under the uncertainty of the future. He thought the State should at once place herself in a position of security in the house of her friends. He did not agree with the gentleman from Fauquier, that secession would be a measure of war; for every movement that strengthened the hands of the South, would be another barrier to any attempt at coercion. The separation of the Southern States, he feared, was eternal; for unless the abolitionists entirely abandoned their position, it would not be difficult to demonstrate the utter hopelessness of a reconstruction.

He drew a contrast between the Constitution of the Southern Confederacy and the oppressive and odious legislation of the Federal Government, and went on to criticise the report of the committee, deeming the guarantees there demanded as utterly insufficient.—He would be satisfied with nothing short of perfect equality. He held that the Commonwealth of Virginia should immediately resume the powers which she delegated to the Federal Government, and place herself in a situation to make absolute demands as a condition of any future reconstruction of the Union.—The report of the committee, he argued, contained declarations which Southern men should never assent to. He would not vote for anything that did not give our property the same protection in the Territories that was given to the property of Northern men who emigrated thither. It held out the idea that there was a moral degradation in the institution of slavery. After a glance at the 8th resolution of the report, which he did not consider strong enough, the 11th resolution was referred to as the most remarkable of all. It gives to the Northern people *carte blanche* in the matter of time to make responses to the demands.—He thought there would scarcely be a response from the abolition crew, in answer to demands for justice, before the time of the blast of the Archangel Gabriel's trumpet.—Such an indefinite proposition he entirely opposed. The report also gave to the North everything they wanted, while to the South it secured no protection, for it took from us that which we already had under the Dred Scott decision. In answer to the argument of the gentleman from Prince George, (Mr. Rives,) who brought it down to a calculation of dollars and cents, he said that no such consideration should recompense us for a sacrifice of principle. But the argument was demonstrated by Mr. RICHARDSON to be a mistaken one, by a mathematical calculation in regard to the number of slaves annually run off upon the underground railroad.

Viewing the question of secession in connection with the circumstances that surrounded us, he argued that the interests of the constituent body required that Virginia should secede. Every gentleman here admits that when oppression becomes intolerable, we have the right of revolution. He had shown that the wrongs inflicted upon us were intolerable, and therefore we had the right of revolution, *a fortiori* we had the right of secession; for the sovereign power of a State might exercise the same right that was accorded to organized bodies of men. Because we had thus far submitted to wrong, it was no reason why we should submit forever.—On the contrary, he considered it a forcible argument in favor of present resistance.

At this point Mr. RICHARDSON moved that the Committee rise, which motion was agreed to, and the Committee rose and reported progress.

Mr. WILSON, of Harrison, moved an adjournment; and a division being called for, the vote resulted—ayes 37, noes 35—no quorum voting.

The Convention then adjourned.

THE SOUTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD.—At a meeting of the stockholders of the Southern Pacific Railroad, held in New Orleans, Tuesday last, the President of the company, Col. V. K. Stephenson, in the course of a brief history of the organization, said if secession had been postponed for thirty days the friends of the enterprise would have obtained from Congress all they desired. The resources of the company for the completion of their great work were thus stated by Mr. Stephenson:

1. The Pacific Railroad bill passed by the House of Representatives secured to this company thirty-six millions of dollars and the right of way through the Territories, with a grant of land amounting in the aggregate to about fifteen millions of acres. 2. A contract had been made with a wealthy French company, Messrs. E. de Bellot, Des Manieres Bro. & Co., which secured the rapid construction of the road to the Pacific ocean. These French capitalists, under this contract, agreed to furnish $1,200,000 to pay for the fifty miles of road now being built by DeGraff & Co., leaving a surplus to meet contingencies.

When, however, the political affairs of the nation first assumed their present threatening aspect, the Messrs. E. de Bellot & Co declined to engage in the enterprise, but wrote that they were ready to confirm the contract upon receiving evidence of the restoration of peace, and of a permanent Government.

Mr. Stephenson proposed as a relief for the existing embarrassments of the company that every man who held stock in the road should subscribe for as much more as would be equal to an advance of one dollar on each share of his stock; a proposition which is said to be favorably entertained.

REMOVALS, APPOINTMENTS, &c.—We find the following in the Washington Republican:

Removed.—R. E. Whitlock, of D. C.; C. J. Pennington, of Maryland; R. Cochran, of N. C; J. F. Reeve, of Virginia; J. W. Smith, of Virginia; G. H. Chatterton, of Missouri; J. H. Benton, of Missouri; Joel Button, of Vermont; J. C. McCall, of New York; Royal Holcomb, of Virginia, and D. McCarty, of New York, clerks in the Census Bureau, have been removed, in order to reduce the clerical force. W. A. Cave, of Va., a clerk in the same Bureau, has resigned.

Lewis S. Hayden, of Maryland; F. B. Schaeffer, of Maryland; L. B. Dunn, of Arkansas; Frederick Schmidt, of Pennsylvania; B. Smith, of Arkansas, and W. A. Lindsay, of Pennsylvania, second-class clerks, and D. Crawford, of Pennsylvania, fourth-class clerk, have been removed from the Indian Bureau. Also, the following:

A. J. Sanderson, a second-class clerk in the Land Office; Malcolm Wallingsford, of D. C., a first-class clerk in the Secretary of Interior's office; James B. Nourse, of D. C., a second-class clerk, and Wm. L. Bailey, of Virginia, a third-class clerk, in the Quartermaster General's office; J. T. Winslow, of N. C., a second-class clerk in the Bureau of Construction, and Jesse Mann and H. L. Chapin, watchmen in the Navy Department.

Appointments.—Winslow M. Watson, of Va., has been appointed a first-class clerk in the Paymaster General's office; Hastings Gehr, of Pa., has been appointed to a vacant first-class clerkship in the Bureau of Topographical Engineers; Wm. A. Ogle, of Pa., has been appointed a first-class clerk in the Adjutant General's office. [J. F. Cain, a clerk in the Adjutant General's office, has not been removed, as reported.] James Kelly and Theo. McGhee have been appointed watchmen in the Navy Department, in place of Messrs. Mann and Chapin, removed. Peter L. Foy has been appointed postmaster at St. Louis; Allen P. Richardson at Jefferson City, and Chas. L. Muller at Hannibal, Mo.

THE NEW MAIL AGENT.—We learn that Mr. Bruce, the Mail Agent on the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, was waited upon yesterday by a deputation of citizens of Culpeper Court-House, and informed that he would not be allowed to pass through that village again as Mail Agent. Mr. B. replied that he would do so, no matter what were the consequences; and thus, if both parties preserve a bold front, we may expect to have a lively time in old Culpeper in a few days.—*Lynchburg Republican.*

Mr. Bruce, in charge of the United States mail, says the Alexandria Gazette, went through to Lynchburg on Monday, and returned Tuesday. He was not molested at any point on the entire route.

THE "TIMES" ON SECESSION.—The London Times of the 18th, in remarking upon President Lincoln's Inaugural Message, asks:

Would it not be better to recognize at once the formation of the Southern Confederacy, and to think a little less of constitutional powers and decorums which can end in nothing but civil war, and a little more on negotiation and arrangement, by which alone that civil war can be averted? It would be an intelligible course were the President to say that he is going to negotiate for peace, or that he is going to enforce a return to the Union by arms; but to say that he is going to exercise the powers of the Constitution, ignoring altogether the fact of secession, is to make war certain while cutting off any opportunity for negotiation.

FROM VENEZUELA.—Files from Laguayra, Venezuela, are to March 14. General Paez arrived at that port on the 13th, on board the Joseph Maxwell, from Philadelphia, and was received with every mark of respect. A salute of thirteen guns was fired, and speeches delivered. M. de Toureil, French Charge d'Affaires in the absence of M. Mellinet, who is in Europe, died at Carracas on March 1. His funeral was attended by all the dignitaries of the Republic and the foreign representatives. The Canary Islanders were returning in considerable numbers from San Domingo, most of them in a very destitute condition. The greatest harmony prevails for the present between Spain and Venezuela. The affair at Valencia, which we noticed the other day, was simply an *emeute* by a battalion of Government troops stationed at that place, who took possession of the town during the night and liberated all the prisoners. During the next day they were attacked and dispersed, with a few killed and wounded.

RESISTING A UNITED STATES CONSUL.—The United States Consul at Surinam, South America, is having difficulty with the Government there. It seems that an affray took place among the crew on board an American vessel lying in that port, by which one of them got hurt with a knife. Our Consul arranged the affair, and concluded to send one of the men to the United States for trial. He had him imprisoned until the vessel was ready for sea; but when he wished to place him on board of her, the authorities refused to give him up, claiming the exclusive right to try him in their courts. The vessel was detained two days, and finally went off without him. We understand that our Consul has sent off to St. Thomas for a man-of-war, and has forwarded dispatches to Washington regarding the affair.—*New York Post.*

THE FIRST AND LAST SLAVES IN KANSAS.—Among the passengers by the steamer Matagorda, which sails this morning for Texas, is our esteemed friend, Gen. J. W. Whitfield, formerly of Kansas, and who was a delegate from that Territory to Congress during the latter part of Mr. Pierce's and the first part of Mr. Buchanan's Administration. Gen. Whitfield has located in Texas, and takes with him the first negroes which were carried to Kansas, and the last to leave it.—*New Orleans Picayune.*

FROM THE SOUTH.

The Montgomery Advertiser explains that the regular Confederate Army is not to be composed of the State troops, now being turned over to the Government by States.—This is only the Provisional Army enlisted for one year. The regular army will be enlisted for a longer period, and will be officered by appointees of the Central Government.—The Montgomery papers furnish the following items of interest:

Col. J. W. Echols, the Commissary General of the State of Alabama, has just returned from a long and laborious trip through several of the Western and Northwestern States after supplies for the Alabama army. He has made ample provision for supplies for twelve months, which are now in Mobile and New Orleans. The duties of Col. Echols' office were hard and trying, having been forced to travel through snow, bad weather, and the abode of Black Republicanism. The Montgomery Advertiser, of the 29th, contains proposals from Postmaster Reagan for mail bags; for printing blanks and paper; for wrapping paper, twine and sealing wax; for circular marking and rating stamps; for stamped envelopes; for mail locks and keys; and for postage stamps. These proposals will be received until the 1st of May.

Five millions of the loan will be offered on the 17th of April, for which bonds, with coupons attached, or stock certificates, at the option of the subscriber, will be issued, in sums from $1,000 to $50. Preference will be given to the smaller amounts, in the event of an excess of subscriptions over the amount required. The bonds run for ten years, with interest at eight per cent. per annum, payable semi-annually. By the issue of bonds of small denominations, the benefits of the loan are placed within the reach of all classes of our people.

A correspondent of the Charleston Mercury, writing from this place, speaks of the offer of a loan of $200,000—which we mentioned some days ago—as having been made to the Secretary of the Treasury. This is an error, as we learn. The money was offered, for defence, *without interest*, to be repaid at the convenience of the Government, by Mr. S. Hart, a most patriotic and popular citizen of El Paso, Texas; and his proposition to advance the $200,000, and, if necessary, *have it doubled and more than doubled by his friends*, was made directly to the War Department. Mr. Hart, we believe, is now one of the Commissioners of Texas to New Mexico, &c.

President Davis has issued a requisition for 6,000 troops, viz: 2,000 from Louisiana; 1,500 from Mississippi; 1,500 from Alabama; and 1,000 from Georgia. The destination of these troops is Pensacola, and the object to take Fort Pickens, if it is not surrendered under the demand of the Government of the Confederate States. A number of the troops from Mississippi and Louisiana have by this time probably arrived at Pensacola, and the others are on their way or under marching orders.

The Savannah Republican, of Monday, says:

The steamer Georges Creek, Capt. Willetts, from Baltimore, in coming up the river, was brought to on Saturday night last, by the battery at Fort Jackson. The Georges Creek, it appears, having, when abreast of the Fort, no lights observable, was hailed, and giving no answer, two blank cartridges were fired at her; still failing to answer, two balls were fired at her, one of which passed over her bows, and the other over her stern, which immediately brought her small boat to the Fort to explain her position.

Mr. T. F. Leake, of Tippah county, Miss., has tendered to Gov. Pettus five thousand dollars for the use of that State, and about the same amount in the hands of S. Apperson & Co., of Memphis, which is at the service of the Confederate States, if needed.

The following are extracts from the letter of an officer in Fort Pickens to a friend in St. Louis:

FORT PICKENS, March 18, 1861.

We left Old Point on the 24th of January, and came on the Brooklyn by Abaco, the "Hole in the Wall," and the Bahamas (my third trip through here;) stopped at Key West for coal, and arrived off Fort Pickens about the 5th of February.

On the 8th of February I was ordered into the fort.

We have hard work, plenty of guard duty, and plenty of anxiety. The Brooklyn, with our men on board, is anchored off the bar about four miles distant. She is accompanied by the frigate Sabine and sloop-of-war St. Louis. The Government at Washington consented, some time ago, to make an agreement with the authorities on the Secession side, to this effect: That if the reinforcements on the Brooklyn were not landed, no preparations for an attack would be made. So we stay as we were. The fleet is hanging on. The sloop-of-war Wyandotte (fourguns) is lying in the harbor abreast the Fort, and everything is *apparently in statu quo.*

We have finished mounting guns and getting in all our wood, and completed those little defences necessary to enable a small command to beat off thousands.

The enemy has mounted, under command of Capt. O'Hara, formerly of the Second Cavalry, some four or five guns at Fort McRea, bearing directly on us. And at the light-house they have two or three heavy columbiads, nearly enfilading our front face, while at Barrancas they have a large number of thirty-two pounders, and between this and the navy-yard are two or three batteries. So you see we are girt by a wall of fire.

Now and then they change commanders over there, and the work of negotiatiation has to be done all over again. Col. Bragg was the last one to get command, and he had to know of *us* what the status was.

I use to like to tell you of the "flank defence," the grape, canister, shells, fire balls, mortars, columbiads, magazines, mines, scarp and counter-scarp, the pickets and guards, the long roll, and the alarm; but I cannot now.

The New York Express says:

The State of South Carolina has paid for the first seizure of property made by the State after the act of secession, the amount being for a cargo of cement shipped by Delafield & Baxter, of this city, upon the order of Col. Foster, of the U. S. Engineer corps, and intended for repairs at Fort Moultrie. The vessel arrived at Charleston the very day Major Anderson took possession of Fort Sumter, and was immediately seized and held by order of Gov. Pickens. In a very handsome manner, after correspondence, Gov. Pickens has now assumed the further responsibility of relieving both the U. S. Goverament and the shippers in this city, by forwarding a draft in New York funds, which has been duly honored and paid.

TREASURY CIRCULAR.—The following circular has just been received at New York from the Treasury Department at Washington:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, March 30, 1861.

SIR: The control of the warehouses of the Government in the several ports in the States of South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Florida and Texas, having been usurped under the alleged authority of these States, and the officers of the Customs acting under the authority of the United States having been forcibly excluded from their proper functions in the custody of merchandize and superintendence of the entries for warehousing and withdrawal, it has become impracticable to continue the privilege of bonding for transportation to those ports.

Collectors of Customs are accordingly hereby instructed that no entries for transportation in bond to those ports can be permitted until otherwise directed by this Department.

[Signed]

Very respectfully, your ob't serv't,

S. P. CHASE, Sec. of the Treasury.

A. Schell, Esq., Collector of Customs, New York City.

THE NEW TARIFF.—Nominally, the new tariff went into operation on Monday; but as, by the tariff act, all goods in port could be entered under either the new or the old rates, at the option of the importer, only those goods upon which the duties are reduced by the Morrill tariff came in under it. Besides the goods in port, all shipped from foreign countries on or previous to the 17th of March may enter under either tariff. This will make the work of the Custom officials very complicated, as in many cases two entirely different routines will be followed. A new bureau for the determination of values may be necessary. Under the old law, nearly all the duties were *ad valorem*, and the importer had only to pay his duties and receive his goods. By the new act a sum will be required as a deposit sufficient to cover the probable levy of duties. The merchandize is to be weighed, gauged, or measured, or threads are to be counted, and thus the quantity and quality determined, after which the duties are arranged and deducted from the sum deposited, and the balance, if any, returned to the importer. Instruments of various kinds will be required for ascertaining the quantities and values of merchandize, such as scales and weights, measures, provers for counting threads, magnifying glasses, gauges, and hydrometers.

PROTECTION OF STRANGERS IN NEW YORK.—A bill is now before the New York Legislature for the better protection of strangers and citizens in the city of New York, and to incorporate the New York Passenger and Baggage Train Company. It is evident that a law should be passed which shall proffer the unwary stranger and the defenceless citizen a sure protection from the impositions of hack drivers, and often from ruffianly violence.

SHOCKING FRATRICIDE.—The Union Springs (Ala.) Journal, of the 27th ult., states that Thomas H. Paulk, of that place, was killed by his brother W. A. Paulk, on the Thursday previous. The family, consisting of the mother, two brothers, wife of Wm. A. Paulk and Joshua Paulk, were at breakfast. Rising from the table, Joshua Paulk and deceased had retired to another room, and were seated, conversing, when William A. Paulk entered, armed with a double-barreled shot gun—denounced deceased for having threatened his life, and swore he "would kill him first," leveled his gun and fired, first one barrel and then the other, both shots taking effect in the face. The deceased, without uttering a word or attempting to rise, fell lifeless to the floor. The assaulting party, with his wife, immediately fled, and have not since been heard from. No less than three out of six brothers of this family have come to an untimely end.

PREDICTED TWENTY-FOUR YEARS AGO.—It is a remarkable fact that the present secession movement was foreshadowed just as it has occurred in a work called the "Partisan Leader," attributed to the pen of Judge Upshur, of Virginia, who was killed by the bursting of the Peacemaker. In that work, under the guise of a novel, it was professed that coming events were described. The Gulf States, it was described, had seceded in consequence of the election of a Northern President, and Virginia and other Border States were about following suit. An attempt was made to form treaties with foreign nations, and free trade was established, which gave the South an unexampled career of prosperity. The current of events twenty-four years later has given these predictions the form of fulfilled facts.

THE STOCK IN RICHMOND.—The Fredericksburg Herald, noticing the visits of merchants of that city to Richmond, says:

The merchants of Fredericksburg who visited Richmond recently, and whose purchases were considerable, were surprised to find wholesale dry goods houses of such extent prepared with superior assortments of goods suited to Virginia trade, and offered at prices quite as low as in Northern markets. If the merchants of Virginia have any desire to build up a home market, we are assured they will find, by a visit to Richmond, that they can do so without any sacrifice.

SNOW STORM IN ST. JOHN, N. B.—A letter from St. John, N. B., says: "We have had the most fearful snow storm ever experienced in this colony since its settlement. There is now from seven feet of snow on the level, and more probably it will average eight feet. In the streets in this city the snow is twelve to fifteen feet deep, and photographists were occupied yesterday in getting the extraordinary scenes."

A REPUBLICAN POSTMASTER PROHIBITED FROM SERVING.—A German named Miller, at one time proprietor of a lager beer saloon in Hannibal, Missouri, having been appointed postmaster of that town, under Mr. Lincoln's Administration, the citizens waited upon him shortly after his return from Washington, and notified him that he would not be permitted to serve, let the consequences be what they may. So says the Hannibal Democrat.

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.—A number of municipal elections took place on Monday. In St. Louis the Anti-Black Republican Union ticket triumphed by from two to three thousand majority. In Cincinnati, Toledo, and Cleveland, Ohio, the Democratic Union tickets were successful. In Annapolis, Md., the Union men elected their candidates for Mayor and City Council without serious opposition.

REAL ESTATE IN NEW YORK.—It is said that real estate has depreciated so much in certain portions of New York, that a mansion on Fifth Avenue, valued at $45,000, was sold, a few days ago, for $20,000, and one of the most magnificent stores, recently erected on Broadway, with the expectation of being rented for from $35,000 to $40,000, will not command $15,000.

OBSERVATORY BLOWN DOWN.—During the heavy gale of last Tuesday, the observatory at Valley Forge, Chester county, Pa., overlooking the camping ground of the revolutionary army, was blown down. It was octagon in form, about 40 feet in height, with a spiral stair-case in the centre, and was erected many years ago, by Mr. Chas. H. Rogers.

APPOINTMENT.—Dr. Thomas C. Atkinson, who was formerly assistant master of road on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and more recently Superintendent of the Lonaconing Coal Mines, has been appointed master of road on the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad, leading from Lynchburg to the Tennessee line.

NEWS FROM RIO JANEIRO.—Bark A. Pendergast, from Rio Janeiro, February 16, which arrived at New Orleans, Monday, reports the yellow fever raging there. The political news from the United States had unsettled everything in a business way, and great anxiety was manifested regarding the troubles.

GLYCERINE is a peculiar liquid; it seems to hold a place between water and oil, as it partakes of the qualities of both. It unites with water, alcohol, lard and tallow, and it makes an excellent liniment. Nitro-glycerine is a terrible poison: a drop of it is sufficient to produce the death of a human being.

A GENTLEMAN.—The long-mooted question of "What is a gentleman?" has at last been settled, at least in the latitude of Kentucky. In that State, a gentleman is—he who looks out of the window while his guest helps himself to whiskey!

LOUIS NAPOLEON has decided that a movable photographic establishment shall be attached to every regiment in the French army, under an officer versed in all the details of the art. During the battle, their duties will consist of printing blood and thunder with sunlight.

THE BODY OF HON. J. SHERIDAN HOGAN FOUND.—The body of Hon. John Sheridan Hogan, a member of the Canadian Parliament, who disappeared very mysteriously something over a year ago, was found in the river Don, near Toronto, on Saturday night.

A MODEL LEGISLATURE.—The late session of the Legislature of Maine was the shortest in duration for twenty years, being 74 days, during which it passed 171 acts, and 93 resolves, including apportionments of the State for Senators, Representatives, and members of Congress.

HEAVY PRODUCE SALE.—A provision house of Terre Haute, Ind., on Saturday last, sold to a firm in Baltimore, Md., 300 hogsheads of bacon, at 7a9 cents per lb., delivered at Terre Haute, the gross purchase reaching $25,000. The contract was made by telegraph.

SETTLED WITH AND DISCHARGED.—Dr. John T. Horne, a dentist, of Anderson, S. C., was detected last week in mischievous correspondence with Black Republicans, and sent off to Indiana. The Gazette says, when he left his hair was cut very close—on one side.

A LARGE MEETING was held at "Skinquarter," Chesterfield county, Va., on the 2d inst., at which resolutions in favor of secession were adopted. The meeting was very large and enthusiastic.

FOR THE PENITENTIARY.—At the late term of the Circuit Court for King George county, Va., Shelton who seriously wounded Clift at a fishing shore in that county, was sentenced to the penitentiary for a term of three years.

SUDDEN DEATHS.—Two Germans were killed by lightning during a thunder storm, at St. Louis, Monday. Two Irishmen stabbed in political melees there on Saturday night, have since died.

SOURCE OF THE "NORTHERN LIGHTS."—Oil has been discovered at Aurora, N. Y., and the fact has caused considerable sensation. This must be the source of the "Aurora *Borealis*."

OLD ABE'S HOURS.—The National Intelligencer is requested to announce that hereafter the President will receive no visits on business except between the hours of 10 o'clock A. M. and 1 o'clock P. M.

Signor Voluti, who was a famous tenor in Europe forty or fifty years ago, died quite recently at the age of eighty years.

W. J. Humphreys, convicted of the murder of Thomas Lee, in Newton county, Ga., has been sentenced to be hung on the 4th of May.

Ex-Govern