THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL.

WILMINGTON, N. C., THURSDAY, FEB. 14, 1861.

THE ELECTION

For *Convention* or *No Convention* takes place in every county throughout North Carolina on the 28th of this month, February. At the same time polls will be opened for the election of Delegates to said Convention.

Every county is entitled to as many Delegates as it has Representatives in the House of Commons.

MASS CONVENTION.

We have within the last few days published the proceedings of meetings held in the county, which nominated or recommended candidates to be voted for on the 28th inst. by the States Rights or secession party of New Hanover county as delegates to the State Convention. The Cape Fear Minute Men held a meeting at the Court House last night, when they passed resolutions on the same subject. It will be seen that these resolutions name Wednesday next, the 20th inst., for the meeting of the people in Mass Convention to select candidates. We have no doubt that Wednesday next will be as early as a mass meeting can be had—and take occasion here to request, and at the same time to urge upon the people of the country to respond to this call, and assemble here, as many as can leave their homes, for a general consultation. Let us have as large an assemblage of the bone and sinew of the country as possible. Let *them* bring forth their most able men—men in whose hands *they* are willing to place the destinies of the cause of their best interests in the present crisis—men who are known to be with the South, and who are, and will be found battling for our rights to the last.

It is hardly necessary for us to say here that the three meetings which have already been held, suggest the names of the Hon. Wm. S. Ashe and Robert H. Cowan, Esq. These gentlemen, we have every reason to believe, will be as acceptable to the masses as any that can be brought forward—but in saying this much, we do not wish to embarrass the Convention. We only allude to their names here as having been already brought prominently before the people. It is sufficient to say that we fully endorse the resolution adopted by the meeting last night, that we pledge ourselves to support the nominees of said Convention, "provided they are uncompromising secessionists." The state of the country demands this much of every true friend of the South.

☞ Since our issue of Saturday the great and leading topics of conversation on our streets and in all other places, (Churchs excepted,) when men do congregate, have been the stay-law passed last week by the Senate of this State, and, as we are assured, almost certain to be passed by the House of Commons; and next to this we have had the news that the provisional Congress or Convention, at Montgomery, had chosen Jefferson Davis, President; and A. H. Stephens, Vice President, of the Southern Confederacy, all these arrangements being of course in their nature temporary and provisional, but indicating a determination to stand the hazard of the die and see the thing out to the bitter end.

Opinions differ with regard to the operation of the proposed stay-law. From what we have been able to learn, the preponderating sentiment here is against it, the general opinion being that its operation will be injurious, not simply to the creditor class, but also to the debtor. Such appears to be the prevailing conviction among the merchants and traders here, or a vast majority of them. A meeting was held on the subject in the Town Hall on Saturday night, of which the proceedings will be found in to-day's paper. They will be laid before both houses.

We have not seen the Act at length, and therefore cannot speak of its details with certainty. Until we do so see the bill we forbear any decided expression of opinion. We are aware that anything purporting to be for the relief of the people asserts, in virtue of its title, a high claim upon the attention of legislators, especially at a time like this; we are also ready to give credit for sincerity to the authors and supporters of such bill or bills, still we cannot help asking ourselves whether, in practice this or that bill will answer the purpose for which it is designed—whether it will, in fact, tend to the relief of the people. This admits of serious doubt. We can only trust that the bill, if passed, may not result in giving to these doubts a disastrous confirmation. We hope, however, that we may be mistaken, both in the terms of the bill and in the operation of its provisions hereafter.

If possible we will obtain a copy for publication to-morrow. We can only remark, as a general thing, that all attempts to interfere with the regular course of trade, or change the obligations or sanctions of contracts, or of the laws for their enforcement existing at the time of their being made, are almost certain to result in injury to "the people," however much they may tend to ease or assist particular persons. The difficulties under which the people labor and from which relief is sought are the result of panic—of want of confidence. Nothing that does not tend to remove this panic, and to restore this lost confidence can really afford healthy relief to the people at large. This cannot be done by lessening any security or adopting any panic measure.

Daily Journal, 11th inst.

DR. DEEMS' SCHOOL AT WILSON.—Dr. Deems has lately added materially to his schools, which have been heretofore so universally popular that a word of commendation from us is deemed hardly necessary. Doctor D. has lately procured the services of Thomas W. Peirce, A. M., formerly Professor of Languages in the Florida State Seminary, at Tallahassee. This gentleman now occupies the same position in Dr. Deems' school. We are gratified to learn that the school is in a flourishing condition, and that the improvements lately effected are calculated to make it still more attractive, and still more worthy of a liberal patronage than ever heretofore. We have every reason to believe that every effort will be made to give entire satisfaction to those who may patronize the institution.

☞ P. J. SINCLAIR, Esq., of the Fayetteville North Carolinian, has commenced the publication of the Tri-Weekly North Carolinian, which is intended as a campaign paper and news journal, to be continued for six weeks. It will take strong Southern Rights ground, and no doubt be as its Editor promises, a spicy sheet. Price for the campaign only 50 cents. Published every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. Send in the cash and take the Tri-Weekly.

We are requested to state that there is something wofully wrong on the mail route from Raleigh to Onslow C. H. A correspondent says he mailed a letter at Raleigh on the 27th of January, which reached Richlands on the 4th of February—eight days on the route—when three or four days, at farthest, is sufficient time.

☞ T. J. Purdie, Esq, is the Southern Rights candidate for convention in Bladen. Mr. Purdie's former political classification was that of an old line whig.

The Opposition candidate is George Cromartie, Esq. Mr. Cromartie leans to the old Federal consolidation notions.

Our Raleigh correspondent says that the following gentlemen were on Friday last elected Trustees of the Insane Asylum, for the next two years:—Dr. Pride Jones, Dr. P. T. Henry, J. W. B. Watson, S. H. Rogers, L. Hinton, Esqrs., and Doct. Williamson.

From the Daily Journal, 12th inst.

The Stay-Law, etc., in the Legislature.—The Danville Connection.—Ad Valorem and Compromises Generally.

Anxious to see the Act generally known as the "Stay Law," which is now before the House of Commons of this State and also to give our readers an opportunity of seeing it for themselves, we telegraphed yesterday to a friend in Raleigh to send us a copy, if possible, by return mail. He writes us that the Act has not been printed and it was impossible to get a copy made for us before the mail closed yesterday afternoon. We learn from a private source that the law is nearly certain to pass the House of Commons, but with modifications;—among others one requiring security to be given by parties availing themselves of the stay.

A bill to charter a road from the Company's Shops to Milton, in Caswell county, with the right to connect with the Richmond and Danville Railroad, passed its third reading in the Senate yesterday. This is the "Danville Connection" which has been so much talked about.

This, or a similar bill, has already passed the House and will no doubt become a law, so we may as well make up our minds to it at once. We thought at one time that this action might have been staved off for a few years longer, but never doubted that it would sooner or later be forced through. It is an illustration of the value of compromises. A few years ago the so-called North Carolina Railroad was brought forward and accepted as a compromise, the friends of the Charlotte and Danvillie project agreeing to accept it as a substitute for that project. How long has that compromise stood? What has been its result? Why, it has stood about half a dozen years, and the result has been that the State money has built the largest part of the Charlotte and Danville Railroad.

Again, what are the compromises of the Constitution of 1835 worth now, when it appears to be the political interest of some parties to agitate for their repeal? The clause relating to the taxation of negro slaves was allowed to stand undisturbed until the representatives of the large slave-holding and tax-paying counties had been persuaded into agreeing to incur a heavy debt for the developement of the resources and the enhancement of the value of real estate in other sections. When this is done, *then* comes the turn—*then*, after the debt has been contracted, comes the demand for a change of the basis under which, when contracted, it was agreed that it should be paid.

When we find things like this at home among the staid and law-abiding people of North Carolina, what have we to expect of compromises made with the people of sections having little or no interest in common with us, and whose course for many years has been that of hostility; whose language has been that of abuse? No compromise in public matters survives long after it becomes the interest of one party to violate it, unless the other party has the absolute physical or political power to prevent such violation. All the Crittenden compromises on earth, founded on mere words, would end in the same, almost before the ink with which they were written had dried.

The history of the world shows that compromises seldom survive the mutual power of the parties to enforce them, and then only just so long as neither party may be tempted by any views of real or supposed interest to violate them. It is not so pleasant to have to come to this conclusion; but it is one to which the student of history must come. Man is frail and imperfect, no doubt; and we must take things as we find them, taking nothing upon trust that we can reduce to certainty,—least of all in public matters,—and looking always to power and interest as certain to over-ride mere pledges, promises or guarantees on paper.

Before closing this rather scattering article, we wish to add a word or two on the *ad valorem* question. We went into the discussion of the whole matter pretty fully last summer, and with all the little ability we could bring to bear upon it. We have little now to add, and nothing to change. We still think it would be impolitic to place permanently any heavier burdens upon any kind of produc ive labor than it now bears, since the tendency would inevitably be to drive it to other States, where, if the burdens are not absolutely less, the soil and climate render them comparatively trifling when the greater productive power of labor is taken into the account. We also think and contend that it would be wrong to change the provisions of the constitution of 1835 with reference to the payment of debts contracted under such provisions, since this would be in effect changing the character of the security for such debts, besides shifting the responsibility of portions of the payment of such debts from one set of shoulders to another, contrary to the constitutional understanding and arrangement existing at the time of their being contracted.

So much for these matters. Lately, in speaking of the proposed State Convention and its powers, supposing then that it would be less restricted than it is, we suggested that its action might change the relations of the State to the existing confederacy and to the world, such changed relations requiring some changes in the organic law of the State to prepare her for her new position. We suggested that any *new* debt or expenditure in the nature of a war debt or otherwise, arising out of the action of the Convention in changing our Federal Relations, would stand on a different basis from the debts already contracted, and, being incurred as much for the protection of slave property, and perhaps more so than for any other class of property, slave owners would willingly come forward to contribute their full share, or more than their full share, of the burden of taxation rendered necessary by such debt or expenditure, whether in the form of an *ad valorem* tax or otherwise, as might seem best. Reasoning from this we recommended that the Convention should thus far and no farther modify the organic law—that is with reference to the expenditures hereafter to be made, or debts hereafter to be contracted in the nature of war expenditures, or debts and consequent taxes, and none others. This has been represented as an abandonment of our position of last Summer. We have only to remark, as already stated, that we have abandoned no one position that we assumed last Summer, and would vote against the bill now before the Legislature just the same now as formerly, and on principle. What others may do is for themselves to decide. We speak for ourselves. The very hypothesis upon which our suggestions were made does not exist—the Convention could not adopt them if it would, and we only refer to them now for explanation, not as having any actual present value.

MEETINGS IN THE COUNTY.—We publish to-day reports of the proceedings of two meetings of the people held in this county, one at Sandy Run, and the other at Caintuck. These meetings were held to take into consideration the present state of our Federal Relations in view of the approaching election for delegates to our State Convention.

It will be seen that both declare unanimously in favour of R. H. Cowan, Esq., and Hon. Wm. S. Ashe as the candidates of the Southern Rights party of this County for the position of delegates to represent New Hanover in the approaching State Convention.

We presume that all the other precincts will hold meetings within a few days and declare their preferences. Such persons as may prove to be the choice of the majority ought to receive the unanimous and earnest support of the Southern Rights men of the county.—*Ib.*

COMMISSIONER FROM GEORGIA.—We learn from Raleigh, that S. Hall, Esq., Commissioner from Georgia, has presented his credentials, and a committee has been appointed to make arrangements for his reception. We presume he will address the Legislature at an early day.

DUPLIN COUNTY.—We are requested by citizens residing in different sections of the county of Duplin, to state that there will be a *Mass Meeting*, or Convention of the people of said county, held at Kenansville on Saturday next, the 16th inst., the object of the meeting being to centre down upon two suitable persons as candidates to represent the county in the approaching State Convention of North Carolina.

This course is recommended because of the fact that at meetings held in different precincts, different gentlemen have been recommended, and it is thought best to secure harmony by concentration, as above suggested.

We are further requested to state, that the citizens will be addressed at the several precincts between this and the 28th instant, by speakers advocating the Southern Rights cause.

☞ Judge Osborne and Wm. Johnston, Esq., of Charlotte, have been nominated candidates to represent Mecklenburg county in the approaching State Convention. They both favor the immediate secession of North Carolina from the present Confederation and her prompt union with a Southern Confederacy. They will be elected we presume. Those opposed to such action have not yet got out candidates.

☞ Henry A. Ellison, Esqr., has been nominated as one of the candidates as a delegate to the State convention from Beaufort county. We do not know how Mr. E. stands on the secession question. Many years ago, he was a State Rights Whig. Mr. Ellison is now in Alabama, where he has a large Turpentine farm near Mobile.

We have not heard who the other candidate is.

☞ E. A. Thompson, Esq., and Geo. V. Strong, Esq, have been nominated as candidates to represent Wayne county, in the State convention. They both go for secession.

☞ The Virginia State Convention met at Richmond yesterday. All eyes will be turned towards Virginia for the next several days.

There is a strong probability that the Peace Congress will not be able to effect any compromise. See dispatches in to-day's paper.

☞ We are indebted to an unknown friend for a copy of Mr. Bridgers' speech before the House of Commons on the Convention question.

☞ Dr. Thomas Bunting and Wm. S. Devane, Esq., are candidates for convention in Sampson.

☞ We publish below the bill which has already passed the Senate of this State, and is now before the House of Commons, called and known as the *Stay-Law*:

A BILL *to alter the jurisdiction of the Courts of the State and the rules of pleading, for the relief of the people.*

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same*, That hereafter the superior courts of law shall have original and exclusive jurisdiction of all suits or actions for debts and demands due on bonds, promissory notes, bills of exchange, covenants for the payment of money, accounts, judgments, and all other contracts for money demands, except official bonds, and bonds of guardians, executors, and administrators, and except cases in which a single magistrate has jurisdiction by existing laws, and the same shall be cognizable only in said courts, and the judges thereof are hereby declared to have full power and authority to give judgment and award execution, and all necessary process thereon, and shall have, use, exercise, and enjoy the same power and authority, rights, and privileges in respect thereto, as were used, exercised, and enjoyed by any former judges of the superior courts in respect to matters of a like kind heretofore cognizable in said courts.

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted*, That the defendant in any of the aforesaid actions or suits shall appear and plead at the second regular term after the term to which the writ shall be returnable, otherwise the plaintiff may have judgment by default, which in actions of debt shall be final, unless when damages are suggested on the roll, and in that case, and in all other cases specially provided for when the recovery shall be in damages, a writ of enquiry shall be executed at the next succeeding term: *Provided*, That when a plaintiff in any suit on a single bond, a covenant for the payment of money, bill of exchange, promissory note or signed account, shall obtain judgment final at the second term after the term to which process shall be returned in any action of debt, he may execute his enquiry the same term as to interest and the value of any foreign currency or money for which suit may be brought.

SEC. 3. *Be it further enacted*, That all bail bonds in any of the aforesaid suits or actions shall be conditioned for the appearance of the defendant at the second regular term after the term to which the writ is returned.

SEC. 4. *Be it further enacted*, That all suits now pending in the county courts for demands of a similar nature to those of which this act gives exclusive jurisdiction to the superior courts, not tried and determined before the ratification of this act, and all actions of a similar nature which are brought and made returnable to the several county courts may, at the option of either party, be transferred to the superior courts, and the first shall stand for trial, at the second term of said courts, and the second shall be plead to at the second term, and stand regularly for trial at the next term thereafter.

SEC. 5. *Be it further enacted*, That in all cases provided for in the foregoing section, the clerks of the several county courts shall certify to the said superior court a transcript of the proceedings of said county court as in cases of appeals: *Provided*, no Attorney's fee shall be taxed except in the said superior courts.

SEC. 6. *Be it further enacted*, That all warrants which have already been brought, and which have not been tried and determined before the ratification of this act, or which may hereafter be brought, shall not be returned for trial until six calendar months after the same are served.

SEC. 7. *Be it further enacted*, That this act shall be and remain in force for two years and no longer.

SEC. 8. *Be it further enacted*, That all laws and clauses of laws coming in conflict with and within the meaning and purview of this act, be and the same are hereby repealed.

SEC. 9. *Be it further enacted*, That this act shall take effect and be in force from and after its ratification.

For the Journal.

WILMINGTON, Feb. 11th, 1860.

Pursuant to call, a meeting of the Merchants, Traders and Citizens generally, assembled at the Town Hall on Saturday night last, to take into consideration the Bill for the Relief of the People, usually known as the "Stay Law;" when on motion of Walker Meares, His Honor John Dawson, the Mayor of the Town, was called to the Chair, and on motion of J. P. Robinson, Esq., Walker Meares was requested to act as Secretary.

The Chairman upon taking his seat briefly explained the object of the meeting; when, on motion of O. S. Baldwin a Committee was appointed to draft Resolutions. The Committee was composed of Messrs. O. S. Baldwin, James Anderson, G. R. French, J. P. Robinson, W. A. Gwyer.

After a brief interval the Committee through the Chairman, O. S. Baldwin, reported the following preamble and resolutions:

WHEREAS, The bill for the delay of the collection of debts in this State, usually known as a "Stay Law," has passed the Senate in our Legislature now in session. Therefore, we, merchants, and dealers and citizens of Wilmington, without distinction of party or calling, do hereby

Resolve, That in our opinion the credit of the State of North Carolina, which has hitherto held, and has justly been entitled to, an enviable place in the financial world, will be seriously injured and the State be affected in her material interests, and receive a severe check to her general prosperity by the passage of said law.

Resolved, That such a law will tend to create distrust, destroy confidence, and materially injure our credit at home and abroad.

Resolved, That in our opinion the present exigencies of the times *do not* demand such a law, and both debtor and creditor will be materially injured by such Legislative interference with existing laws of trade.

Resolved, That in the opinion of this meeting, such a law would be equally detrimental to the merchant and the trader, and tend materially to the injury of *every class of our citizens*. Indeed it is regarded by us as more akin to repudiation, which North Carolina will never sanction, whatever may be her trials!

Resolved, finally, That, entertaining these views, we earnestly urge our members in the House of Commons to oppose the passage of this bill, and do sincerely trust that the good sense and honest impulses of the Representatives of the people in the House of Commons, will prompt them to defeat a bill fraught with such evils, and so glaringly opposed (though not technically) to the obligations of contracts.

On motion of W. T. J. Vann, Esq., the resolutions were adopted without a dissenting voice.

The meeting was then entertained with remarks from Messrs. French, Gwyer and Baldwin, showing the true tendency of the "Stay Law," and the injury that must be inflicted upon our community by its passage.

On motion of Mr. O. S. Baldwin, a committee was appointed to proceed to Raleigh and lay before our Representatives the proceedings of this meeting. The Chair announced the following gentlemen to compose said committee, viz: Messrs. J. R. Blossom, T. C. Worth, G. R. French, R. S. Cowan, M. London, O. P. Meares.

On motion, the Chairman was added to the committee.

On motion, of W. T. J. Vann, Esq., the Secretary was requested to enclose a copy of the proceedings of this meeting to each of our Representatives in the House of Commons, with the request that they lend their best endeavors to defeat the bill.

On motion of J. L. Hathaway, Esq., the Secretary was requested to hand each of our editors a copy of these proceedings, with the request that they publish them.

The meeting then adjourned.

JOHN DAWSON, Chairman.

WALKER MEARES, Secretary.

For the Journal.

Meeting of the Cape Fear Minute Men.

WHEREAS, By Proclamation of His Excellency, Gov. Ellis, the people of North Carolina are to select delegates to a State Convention on the 28th day of February, to decide upon such action as the present critical condition of Federal affairs may demand; and whereas, upon matters so grave and important, it is very desirable to have concert of action, and that all parts, as well as the whole county of New Hanover, may be properly represented: Be it therefore

Resolved, 1. That the citizens of every Captain's District in the county of New Hanover be respectfully requested, and they are hereby especially invited, to assemble in *Mass Convention*, in Wilmington, on Wednesday, the 20th day of February, inst., for the purpose of nominating County Candidates for the approaching Convention.

Resolved, 2. That while we each may have personal preference for delegates to the State Convention, we cheerfully pledge ourselves to support the nominees of the Mass Convention; provided said nominees are uncompromising secessionists.

Resolved, 3. That a committee of five be appointed to make arrangements for the proposed County Convention.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That Hon. W. S. Ashe and Robt. H. Cowan, Esq., be respectfully recommended as suitable candidates for the State Convention. ROBT. G. RANKIN, Chief.

J. H. RYAN, Acting Secretary.

For the Journal.

Meeting in Caintuck District.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—A large portion of the citizens of Caintuck District, in public meeting assembled, passed the following preamble and resolution:

WHEREAS, The Legislature has at last passed a bill leaving it to the people of the State to decide on the 28th inst., whether we will have a Convention or not, and at the same time to elect members of said Convention. Therefore,

Resolved, That we recommend to our fellow citizens the names of Robert H. Cowan and the Hon. Wm S. Ashe as our first choice as delegates thereto; nevertheless, we will willingly vote for any able and true Southern Rights men, and no other. CAINTUCK.

February 7th, 1861.

For the Journal.

Flag Raising.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—According to previous notice through the Journal and otherwise, a goodly number of the citizens of Rock Fish District, Duplin county, met at Mayer's store on the 2d inst., for the purpose of raising a Secession Flag. A beautiful pole, selected with great care, tall and symetrical, reminding one of the "mast of some high Admiral," had been procured, and a very handsome Flag prepared.—Everything being ready, the Flag was raised amid the shouts and bravos and cheers of the multitude. In addition to this hearty recognition of the "symbol of our sentiments," as the Flag reached the summit, gracefully unfurling to the breeze, it was saluted by a volley from the guns of the young men.

Messrs. W. R. Ward, John Murphy and Thomas Carr, being severally called upon, made effective and patriotic remarks, suitable to the occasion and the manifest feeling which pervaded. In fact, there was a great deal of enthusiasm exhibited, as there would have been over any other manifestation of an intention to sever the connection between the North and the South. If the questions involved in the present crisis are anywhere thoroughly comprehended and appreciated, it is in Duplin, and especially in this District. They know the wrongs the South has suffered, and the insult and ignominy we will have to endure if we submit to the rule of Lincoln; and what's more, they know the remedy; and a more determined, thorough-going, resolute set of Secessionists is not to be found.

The Flag which was raised on this occasion, is a red ground or body, a large white Star in the middle, (for the Southern Confederacy,) surrounded by fifteen small Stars, denoting the fifteen Southern Slave States.

Respectfully, &c., STATES' RIGHTS.

Duplin, N. C., Feb'y, 1861.

For the Journal.

Southern Rights Meeting at Sarecta, Duplin Co.

Pursuant to public notice, the citizens of Smith's district, Duplin county, met at Sarecta, on Saturday the 9th day of February, 1861. The meeting was organized by calling Z. Smith, Jr., Esq., to the Chair, and requesting John R. Miller and John Howard to act as Secretaries. The Chairman explained the object of the meeting in a few brief remarks, when on motion, S. M. Grady, Jno. Smith and James O'Daniel were appointed a committee to draft resolutions for the consideration of the meeting. The committee reported the following resolutions which, after being read, were unanimously adopted, viz:

WHEREAS, The present condition of our national affairs *demands* that every community should express its views, therefore, be it

Resolved, 1st, That the cause of South Carolina is the cause of the whole South.

Resolved, 2d, That we approve the wise and patriotic course pursued by the Chief Magistrate of our State, whom we will stand by to the end.

Resolved, 3rd, That we are opposed to submitting to the rule of a Northern High Tariff Coalition, whose object is to rob the South of four thousand million dollars worth of her property, and tax her to maintain the Government of her robbers, as well as *ultimately* to connect Church and State, and quarter their clergy (who have been trying for 25 years to incite our slaves to cut our throats) on the National Treasury, and that we will resist this coalition to the last; whilst we hereby tender our gratitude to such of our Northern brethren as have always so nobly and fearlessly advocated our rights.

Resolved, 4th, That in our opinion, the honor, interest and safety of the Southern States demand that they should forthwith secede from the Federal Compact, and form a Southern Confederacy, regardless of compromises, concessions and guaranties that may be proposed by the North.

Resolved, 5th, That in our opinion if there was not a slave in the Southern States, they should disconnect themselves from this New England, puritanical, Maine-liquor-law, consolidating, federal, whig, know-nothing, abolition, monopolizing, manufacturing, coolish Aristocracy: especially since their descendants in the North-Western States have united with them for the purpose of taxing the South to maintain the Government. For, as it is not against the interest of the North-Western States to manufacture their own articles of necessity, the main burthen of taxation will fall upon the South, as her soil and climate make it her interest to engage in Agriculture altogether—to grow cotton, rice, tobacco and turpentine, and the agricultural States have to bear nearly all the burthens of taxation.

Resolved, 6th, That to those citizens of New Hanover and Brunswick Counties, who took possession of Fort Caswell, our thanks are due, and hereby tendered, and we do not know which to admire most, the patriotic spirit which prompted them to take possession of the Fort, (under the circumstances,) or their prompt vacuation thereof by order of Gov. Ellis.

Resolved, 7th, That any person in this district who is not willing, at any sacrifice, to defend the rights thereof, and consequently the rights of our county, State, and the whole South, is not fit to live therein, and is hereby requested to leave.

Resolved, 8th, That we do not consider that South Carolina was precipitate in passing her Ordinance of Secession; whilst we are actually ashamed that, through the disaffection of a few members of our Legislature, North Carolina has to submit to Black Republican rule, which, however, we hope will be for only a short time.

Resolved, 9th, That we hope our Senators in Congress will not resume their seats in the U. S. Senate after the 4th of March.

Resolved, 10th, That we tender our thanks to Mr. Buchanan for refusing to reinforce the Forts at Charleston in December.

Resolved, 11th, That we recommend that a county convention be held at Kenansville, on Thursday, the 21st February, for the purpose of nominating two suitable persons to represent Duplin county in the State Convention, to assemble at Raleigh; and that each precinct in the county be requested to send delegates thereto.

Resolved, 12th, That we recommend William W. Miller and William J. Houston, Esqs., to the voters of this county, as suitable persons to represent us in the State Convention.

On motion, the following persons were named as delegates to the County Convention from this District—viz: John Smith, Jacob Smith, S. M. Grady, Q. R. Miller, Jas. O'Daniel, Fred'k. Grady, J. H. Mercer, Z. Smith, Jr., Ivy Smith, and John Mercer.

On motion, a copy of the proceedings of this meeting be forwarded to the Wilmington Journal for publication, and that all political papers in this Congressional District be requested to copy.

On motion, the meeting adjourned.

ZACHEUS SMITH, JR., Ch'n.

JOHN R. MILLER, JOHN HOWARD, } Secretaries.

For the Journal.

Meeting at Sandlin's Store.

A number (some forty or fifty) of the citizens of Limestone precinct, at Sandlin's Store, Duplin county, on Saturday the 9th inst., met for the purpose of taking steps to provide for the representation of Duplin county in the ensuing State Convention, to be held for the consideration of federal affairs. When on motion of Wm. J. Sandlin, Wm. B. Southerland, Esq., was called to the Chair, and Stephen M. Hines was requested to act as Secretary.

Mr. William Sandlin then proposed the following Resolutions, which were adopted:

Resolved, That we, the people of this precinct, have despaired of an honorable and equitable settlement of the unhappy difficulties which divide the Union, and we therefore declare ourselves in favor of *immediate secession*.

Resolved, That we recommend as candidates to represent this county, in said Convention, William J. Houston and James Dickson, Esqrs., and we pledge them our cordial support.

Resolved, That we recommend the holding of a county convention at Kenansville on Monday the 18th inst., to nominate two suitable persons to represent the county in said Convention, and that this meeting will appoint nine delegates to meet other delegates of the county at said time and place.

The Chairman appointed the following delegates, viz: Wm. J. Sandlin, Wm. Sandlin, Hiram T. Sandlin, Wm. J. Sharpless, Thomas Davis, Thomas Gresham, Stephen H. Judge, Robert Sandlin and Bryan Bishop.

On motion of Amos Quinn, the Chairman and Secretary were added to the list of delegates.

The Chairman was requested to furnish the proceedings of this meeting to the Wilmington *Journal* for publication.

W. B. SOUTHERLAND, Chairman.

STEPHEN M. HINES, Secretary.

TIT FOR TAT.—Greeley laid out Seward at Chicago, and Seward lays out Greeley at Albany. The last blow was severe. It was Greeley's last chance, for his party will be swept from power forever in the next election.—*N. Y. Day Book.*

For the Journal.

Secession Meeting.

Pursuant to notice, the people of Sandy Run District, New Hanover county, assembled for the consideration of the present condition of national affairs, and to express their views in relation thereto. Dugald McMillan, Esq., was called to the chair, and D. J. Nixon was appointed secretary.

R. H. Cowan, Esq, then proceeded, in compliance with previous request, to address the people upon the question of secession. He reviewed the past course of the Black Republican party, and deduced from their principles, as laid down in their platforms and expounded by their chiefs, the course they would pursue towards the South. He showed clearly that submission on the part of the South was ruin, utter and hopeless, and powerfully impressed upon his audience the necessity of determined action. He raised his voice against all compromises, and advocated the secession of the State from the Union.

After the close of Mr. Cowan's speech, on motion, a committee consisting of R. K. Bryan, L. W. Howard, A. J. King, R. C. Nixon, and J. C. Shepard, was appointed to draft resolutions for the action of the meeting. After consideration, the committee reported the following preamble and resolutions:

WHEREAS, The election of Abraham Lincoln to the Presidency of the United States, upon a sectional platform, and by a sectional vote, evinces on the part of a majority of the Northern people a fixed determination to degrade the Southern States and trample upon the rights of the Southern people. Therefore,

Resolved, That the dignity of the State and the welfare of the people of North Carolina demand that she should take the steps necessary to avert the evils which would follow upon submission to Black Republican tyranny.

Resolved, That we recommend to the people of New Hanover county, to hold meetings in the different Captain's Districts *on Monday, the 18th February*, or on some previous day, and appoint five delegates from each district, to a Convention of the county, to be held in Wilmington on the 20th inst., which shall proceed to nominate two candidates to represent New Hanover in the State Convention, upon the platform set forth in the foregoing resolution.

Resolved, That the delegates from this district are requested to present to the county convention the names of R. H. Cowan, Esq., and Hon. Wm. S. Ashe, as suitable representatives of the county in the State Convention.

Resolved, That the chairman of this meeting be requested to appoint four delegates, who, together with himself, shall represent this district in the proposed County Convention.

[Under this resolution, the following persons were appointed: R. K. Bryan, D. J. Nixon, L. W. Howard, J. C. Shepard.]

Resolved, That copies of these proceedings be sent to the publishers of the Journal and Herald, at Wilmington, with the request that they be inserted in their daily and weekly issues.

These resolutions were unanimously adopted.

Mr. Charles D. Allen then being called out, addressed the meeting at some length in a forcible and eloquent manner, advocating prompt secession, and declaring that death is better than submission.

After the close of Mr. Allen's remarks, the thanks of the meeting was voted to Messrs. Cowan and Allen, for their effective and patriotic speeches on the occasion.

On motion, a committee of ten persons was appointed to attend the polls and bring out the full vote of the District on the 28th inst. The following persons compose this committee: A. L. Nixon, A. J. King, S. Atkinson, J. M. Foy, M. C. Nixon, H. W. Nixon, A. J. Westbrook, D. K. Futch, Jesse W. Batson, and Isaac James.

DUGALD McMILLAN, Chairman.

D. J. NIXON, Secretary.

From Washington.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11.—The receipts from customs at New York last week were $555,000, or only a shade above half what they were in the corresponding week of last year. Facts of this sort, occurring every week, speak volumes upon the disastrous consequences to the North of the falling off of the Southern trade. They also expose the utter folly of adopting a protective tariff bill, which, in excluding certain classes of imported article, will destroy revenue.

Postmasters are required by law to take an oath to support the constitution of the United States. Many Postmasters in the seceded States strike out from the form of oath sent them by the Postoffice Department to sign and swear to the words, "*of the United States.*"—This, being an avoidance of what is required by law, necessitates a discontinuance of the office.

The Postoffice Department declines to make appointments of postmasters, upon resignations, where it is apparent that there is collusion between the person who resigns and the one whose appointment is asked by the former.

Judge Hillyer, the able and popular solicitor of the treasury, will resign to-morrow and leave immediately for Georgia, his native State.

There was much excitement to-day in all parts of the city through the diffusion of a report that the British consul at Mobile had been tarred and feathered. Such a dispatch reached the President on Saturday, but he discredited it.

I hear that ex-President Tyler expresses fears that the Peace Convention will not adopt any measure that will be satisfactory to the border slave States.

Credit is given in treasury circles to the statement that northern bank presidents will decline to take further notice of the government securities unless compromise is effected between the sections upon the slavery question.

I hear that there are many other provisions in the proposition of Mr. Guthrie in behalf of the Kentucky delegation, and above referred to, but I give the leading one. A proposition for a congressional code to uphold and protect slavery in Territories found no favor in the committee.

The Kentucky proposition for compromise was adopted to-day in the sub-committee of the peace convention as a sort of preliminary step. It prohibits slavery in the Territories north of 36.30, and in all the territory south of that line slavery is recognized as it exists in Southern States of the Union. The rights of slaveholders shall be protected by the United States courts and all departments of the Territorial government, according to the laws of the States from which slaves were taken. States north or south of the said line to be admitted into the Union with or without slavery, as the constitution of such new State may provide.

The most venemous opposition in Congress to concession and conciliation proceeds from men who were until latterly democrats. This was manifested to-day in its most malignant phase by a Northern Senator.

Capt. Morrison, of the revenue cutter Lewis Cass, sent his resignation to the Treasury Department, and acknowledged that he had surrendered his vessel to the State of Alabama. It will be seen, however, by the following order, that no resignation, under such circumstances, will be accepted. Capt. Breshwood's resignation, when received, will no doubt be disposed of in the same way.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, Feb. 11, 1861.

J. J. Morrison, of Georgia, a Captain in the revenue cutter service of the United States, late in command of the "Lewis Cass," having, in violation of his official oath and of his duty to the government surrendered his vessel to the State of Alabama, it is hereby directed that his name be stricken from the roll of said service. By order of the President of the United States,

JOHN A. DIX,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Wm. M. Steaurt, of Washoe, has written to Representative Burch, of California, and enclosed him the caption of a memorial, which is being extensively signed by the citizens of Nevada Territory, praying the organization of that Territory. Mr. Steuart is a son-in-law of Ex-Governor H. S. Foote, and a lawyer of ability. He says that Nevada is unsuited to slavery, but this makes no difference to the people, who will have speedily a government to protect their increasing interests from Mormon rule.

The Governor of California recommends an extension of the eastern boundary over Washoe. The House territorial committee was to-day, at the instance of Mr. Burch, instructed to report on the subject.

Correspondent Balt. Sun.

FROM WASHINGTON CITY.—*Washington, Feb.* 10.—The Committee appointed by the Peace Conference will probably make their report on Tuesday. Various plans are before them. From what has privately transpired the border States resolutions appear to meet with much favor. The general impression is that the Conference will adopt some such measure, including the division of the territories by the line of 36 deg. 30 min.; north of it slavery is to be prohibited; south of the line, there will be neither Congressional nor Territorial interference with the subject, which will be left for the determination of the people when they form their State Government. The acquisition of future territory not to be so easily consummated as heretofore.

Some members of the Montgomery Congress have just advised their secession friends here that Ministers have been selected to represent the interests of the Southern Confederacy in Europe.

Michigan Democratic State Convention.

DETROIT, Feb. 9th.—The Democratic State Convention to nominate a candidate for Judge of the Supreme Court met in this city yesterday. Resolutions declaring devotion to the Union, opposing coercion, and favoring compromise were adopted. These resolutions are to be forwarded to Washington, the convention claiming to represent a majority of the people of the State.

BY TELEGRAPH.

FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON CITY, Feb. 12, 1861.

Senate.—Yesterday.—The Naval Appropriation bill was debated.

In the House, Mr. Craig of North Carolina, offered resolutions recognizing the independence of the confederative States, which were referred. A resolution was adopted declaring that neither Congress, the people or the free States have any constitutional right to interfere with slavery in the *States*. This resolution was introduced by Mr. Sherman, and was unanimously adopted. [There is nothing in all this to cause any hope of a compromise. It is exactly what the most ultra abolitionists have always conceded.—*Journal.*]

Mr. Lincoln left Springfield yesterday, en route for Washington.

From Tennessee.

The latest news from Tennessee, goes to confirm previous reports that the election in this State, as far as heard from, is largely against immediate secession, and considerably against a Convention.

FROM MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA.

Mr. Stephens, in a mild speech, has accepted the election of Vice President of the Southern Confederation. Hon. Jefferson Davis, President elect, was expected to arrive yesterday.

FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON CITY, Feb. 13th, 1861.

PEACE CONGRESS.

Six States having seceded, [and formed a Southern Confederacy.—JOUR.] every remaining State but one would have to vote in favor of an amendment of the Constitution, according to the recommendation of the Peace Congress; and this is generally believed to be impossible. So the Peace Congress, whatever it may do, will probably fall short of accomplishing the end desired.

CONGRESSIONAL.

In the Senate on yesterday, the Naval Appropriation Bill was up. An amendment was adopted to build seven Steam Sloops-of-War. The Bill passed as amended.

In the House—The Secretary of the Treasury sent in a communication stating that there was only half a million in money in the Treasury, and that ten millions would be required before the fourth of March.

Report says that the Indian Trust Fund Committee's report shows that late Secretary Floyd gave acceptances amounting to nearly seven millions of dollars. Messrs. Thompson and McClelland are blamed for carelessness in keeping the bonds.

The Pacific Rail Road bill was debated.

LINCOLN AT INDIANAPOLIS.

Lincoln's speech at Indianapolis is regarded as indicating a determination to deny the right of secession, and to recover the seized property, and to collect the revenue from the seceding States.

THE SOUTHERN CONGRESS.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Feb.