

SOUTHERN RIGHTS CANDIDATES FOR THE STATE CONVENTION FROM NEW HANOVER COUNTY, Hon. WM. S. ASHE, ROBERT H. COWAN, Esq.

Mr. Hall's speech. We give to-day in full, on the fourth page, to the exclusion of several other matters, the very able speech made before both Houses of our State Legislature on Wednesday evening, the 13th inst.

Speaker Clark made a brief address in reply to Commissioner Hall, referring to the fact that the State had called a convention, of the action of which he could not speak in advance, but he could at least assure Georgia that no hostile foot shall ever march from or through our borders to assail her or hers.

How we stand. Within less than two weeks Abraham Lincoln, by the visitation of God, President elect of these disunited States, will have been inaugurated President. The Rail-splitter will occupy the seat of Washington—the Chicago platform will have taken the place of the Constitution, and Abraham Lincoln and Horace Greeley will have become the interpreters of the rights of States, and the amount of sovereignty which they will accord to them.

So much in regard to our own county. Let us say generally, that we cannot see the use, the prudence or the patriotism in a time like this, when there are so many real difficulties to be reconciled, and so much real demand for a Convention, of voting not to have one. We earnestly press this upon the attention of the people of both parties, or of all parties, or of no party—in plain, upon the attention of all citizens. Let us have this Convention. Let us settle our difficulties now, State and national, so far as we can settle them. There will never be a better time. Let us not quarrel among ourselves, but go up to the work calmly and steadily, and thoughtfully, as men and brethren, having a common interest and a common destiny.

On precisely this day (Monday) two weeks Abraham Lincoln will be inaugurated at Washington City, and before the swearing and tearing of the occasion is over, perhaps before it begins, troops now collected in Washington will be slipping down along our coast, seizing the mouths of our rivers and harbors, over-awing our citizens and stopping our commerce.

What has been done with the bill introduced by Mr. Hall, of New Hanover, for removing from the Constitution of the State the clause virtually disqualifying persons professing the Jewish religion from holding any office in the State? This sectarian exclusion is contrary to the spirit of the constitution and of the people and of North Carolina, and it is due to both that it should cease. The Jewish people of the State are true, if not numerous, and the exclusion is wrong in principle even if only one man suffered by it.

Excited.—Absalom W. Woodruff, a Republican lawyer of Patterson, N. Jersey, got off the following sentiment in a Republican meeting on Friday night: "He wished his God he had control of Hell for three days, in order that he might rain fire and brimstone on South Carolina."

At Montgomery another scene is being enacted. A noble and chivalrous son of Kentucky, but now the idol of Mississippi, his adopted State, has just been inaugurated as the first President of the Confederate States. Calmly but boldly he meets threats of coercion with the avowal of a firm determination to abandon no rights and submit to no wrongs.

Are You for a Convention? This is one of the questions which each citizen will be called upon to answer by his vote on the 28th inst. for this will be polls opened for the decision of this very question as to whether or not we will have a Convention. There will be a box opened for candidates for Convention, and another box in which will be deposited tickets having printed or written thereon "Convention" or "No Convention," as they may favor or oppose the holding of a Convention.

We do not mean here to speak of the gentlemen whose names have been brought forward or may hereafter be brought forward as candidates, but simply to express our trust that on one point at least we of this county may be agreed at the polls as we have been heretofore in public meetings. We mean with reference to the meeting of the people in Convention. We remember very well the large Union Meeting held in the Town Hall on Tuesday evening, the 11th day of December, 1860, at which Dr. Thos. H. Wright presided, and where resolutions were adopted, and among them the following:

Resolved, That a Convention of the people ought to be called by the Legislature to consider and determine what the interest and honor of North Carolina require her to do. These resolutions were unanimously reported by a committee composed of Messrs. O. G. Parsley, John Dawson, T. S. Pickett, T. W. Brown and Wm. A. Wright, and advocated by other leading members of the Union party. Indeed, we have yet to see the first resolution passed by any meeting in this section opposed to the holding of a Convention, or failing to recommend the assembling of such body. All the speakers of either party or opinion on other matters, where they have alluded to this matter at all, have expressed themselves favorably to a Convention.

Such being the facts of the case, we may fairly appeal to all, of every shade of opinion, to use their influence to bring out a full vote for "Convention" on that point all parties are agreed; to that policy all who have taken, or are likely to take, any public part, are pledged. We have too much confidence in the gentlemen who may differ from us in regard to what the action of a Convention ought to be, to doubt for a moment that they will redress their pledges in favor of the holding of a Convention, or that they will fail to use their influence in its behalf. We know that Messrs. Wright and Dawson, whose names have been inserted in the papers as candidates, by some of their fellow-citizens who desire to vote for them, have not changed since they reported the resolution above quoted. Indeed, without violating any confidence, we may speak authoritatively in regard to Mr. Dawson.

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Some Pig.—Mr. J. W. Taylor, who resides near Harrell's Store, New Hanover county, killed a porker on the 29th ult. that was only 2 years and 8 months old, and weighed 690 lbs., nett. Mr. Taylor is clearly of the opinion that New Hanover county can raise big hogs as well as Duplin and Sampson; and he thinks, with his neighbors, that it is right that the fact should be known. So do we.

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There are people South of New Jersey who evince the spirit, if they do not use the precise words, of Absalom W. Woodruff.

The bill passed to amend the charter of the Wilmington, Charlotte & Rutherford Railroad Company, provides for an additional exchange of State bonds for the bonds of the Company to the amount of \$1,000,000, being \$600,000 for the Eastern Section, (Wilmington to Charlotte), and \$400,000 for the Western section, (Charlotte to Rutherford). It also provides for constructing a link between this Road and the North Carolina Road at Salisbury.

The North Carolina University Magazine for March is received. The illustration is a portrait of James K. Polk engraved on steel, by H. B. Hall of New York, from a painting after Healy. The portrait is accompanied by a sketch of the life and services of Mr. Polk who was a native of North Carolina and a graduate of her University.

We notice that Sena. or Clingman has been invited to deliver the annual address before the two literary societies of the University, and has accepted the invitation.

A STEAMER AT MOREHEAD CITY.—The steamer Daylight, from New York, arrived at Morehead City on the 12th inst. She is 430 tons burthen, and is sent out by D. Colden Murray of New York.

Mr. Clingman.—Hon. T. L. Clingman made another speech in the U. S. Senate the other day. We have only a telegraphic report, in which it is stated that Mr. Clingman, while arguing for the rights of the South and for the right of secession, said he was willing to take Mr. Crittenden's propositions as a settlement of difficulties.

Suppose Mr. Crittenden's compromise, or something better, was tendered to the South by the Republicans, and such southern men as Clingman were to agree to it as a settlement, what would be the action of delegates elected to the North Carolina Convention pledged to go for secession? It seems to us that a man elected under a pledge to go for secession, without any reservation, would be bound to do so without regard to any sort of concessions that might be made by the Republican party.—Western Democrat.

Suppose Mr. Crittenden's compromise, or something better, shall be tendered to the South," does the Editor of the Western Democrat believe for a moment that the seceding States would accept it, even if Mr. Clingman would agree to do so. Mr. Clingman is not the whole South, and his agreeing to a compromise would not commit even North Carolina to adopt it. It is too late in the day to talk about compromises. None can be effected, and the border Southern States must decide to which Confederacy they will attach themselves, whether they will go where their interest lies, or whether they will remain where they are, and continue to give aid and encouragement, if not countenance, to Abolition fanaticism. There can be no half-way course now. North Carolina's destiny is to be decided in a few days. May we not appeal to our fellow-citizens to meet the issue like men, and place the State where she belongs. We have no compromises to offer,—we know of none likely to be preferred that we can accept honorably to ourselves. We speak plainly, because we wish to be understood. What might have been done three months ago, can not now be looked for at this late day, when about half the Southern States have already decided the question for themselves, and thus wholly changed the position of affairs. We have hardly an alternative left—North Carolina is bound to go with the South if her people pursue their true interests—as it is natural to suppose they will.

The new Government just formed at Montgomery has assumed charge of the questions and difficulties now existing between the sovereign States of the Confederacy and the government of the United States, relating to the occupation of forts, arsenals, navy yards and other public establishments.

This being the State of the case we must presume that all matters relating to Forts Sumter, Pickens, etc., will hereafter be attended to by the Confederate States and not simply by the individual members of the Confederacy. Before any attack is made on Sumter, no doubt Mr. Davis will make a formal demand upon Mr. Buchanan for its surrender, which will not be complied with and then the difficulty will commence, but not until after Lincoln's inauguration.

JOHN L. BRIDGERS and KENNETH THURGEN, have been nominated to represent Edgecombe county in the State Convention. They will certainly be elected. They are the States' Rights candidates. The Mass Convention that nominated them declared that neither the resolutions known as the "Crittenden Compromise," nor the Virginia Amendment, nor any similar resolutions, will not, and ought not, to be satisfactory to our people.

It is generally believed that all the panic got up about any violence at Washington on the 4th of March, was simply an excuse to concentrate troops there to be promptly disposable to send to points South. Say for instance to drop a few hundred into the mouth of the Cape Fear. Certain gun-boats too will be ready for the same kind of service, but that wouldn't be coercion or subjugation. Oh, no! Who before ever heard of an electoral vote counted under the shadow of artillery, or a President of the United States inaugurated at the point of the bayonet.

THE PHILADELPHIA BULLETIN, an able Republican paper, speaks the truth when, in its issue of Saturday, the 16th inst., it says: "If the Southern Border States go with the Cotton States, the attempt at coercion is idle." Of course it is. The only hope of the co-ercionists is a division of the South. Divide and conquer is an old maxim, yet a living practice. Wee to those who allow themselves to be so divided and so conquered!

We are requested to state that the anniversary of the "Duplin Biflenns," will be celebrated on Friday, 23d inst., at Kenansville. There will be target shooting for a prize. The public are invited.

Messrs. FERRISS: In accordance with previous notice, the citizens of Lower Black River District held a meeting on Saturday, the 16th inst. Much enthusiasm was manifested on the occasion, and secession was strongly advocated. The following resolutions were adopted: "That the adjustment of the existing sectional 'crisis' and quarrel between the Northern and Southern States, Calvin V. Hines, Esq., made a few brief remarks upon the great national calamities which originated in the election of 'Abraham Lincoln' to the Presidential chair of these United, or once United, States of America. He said: Since it was so, he had no objection to the secession of North Carolina, and would co-operate with the other seceding States as the only star of hope; and as all other hopes had fled, he was then an uncompromising secessionist."

The following names were selected as delegates to the County Convention, which is to be held in Wilmington on the 20th inst., for purposes known. They cordially coincide with the friends in Sandy Run and Calstock Districts, who preferred the names of Hon. Wm. S. Ashe, and R. H. Cowan, Esq., to represent the county in the State Convention.

In conclusion we will only say, that we were not a little surprised and gratified to see such unanimity in the opinions of the citizens of this district. If all the citizens and people of North Carolina were of the same stamp, Convention and Secession would be a self-evident conclusion, or, as South Carolinians would say, a conclusion foregone.

WASHINGTON, N. C., Feb. 16, 1861. Gentlemen: As I see it going the newspaper rounds that there had been seven guns fired in this town upon the reception of the news of the established Southern Confederation.—Messrs. Davis and Stephens at his head—I will give the facts as they were.

On last Monday the news did reach this place that a Southern Confederacy had been organized, and the Honorable Jefferson Davis and A. H. Stephens had been elected as President and Vice President of the same, and one of the Gov. of Georgia had taken charge of five New York vessels as a set off, collateral, for the seized Fire Arms by the New York City Police.

Whereupon a portion of our citizens caused to be fired five guns, to be classified as follows: One gun each for the six seceded States which framed said Constitution; one each for the President and Vice President, and one for the inimitable Governor of Georgia. Said guns were fired without any thanks to the submission sent in our town, called the Washington Dispatch, or any fears whatever from that quarter.

Meeting at Rocky Point.—A meeting of the citizens of Rocky Point district was held on Saturday, the 16th February, for the purpose of appointing delegates to the Wilmington Convention, to be held on Wednesday, the 20th inst.

Messrs. EDITORS: The Secessionists of the county of Orange have nominated Henry H. Nash, Esq., and Dr. Price Jones, to represent them in the coming State Convention. They are men of tried courage and ability, and declare for North Carolina and the Southern Confederacy, "come what may." Orange is alive and making strenuous efforts for the good cause. Military ardor is infused throughout the whole county, and after dark the light air of our quiet village is filled with the music of the drum and fife, and the tread of Southern warriors.

MORRIS STANDARD OF FEMALE BEAUTY.—The Moorish lady has but one object in life—that of getting as fat as she possibly can. The more flesh she makes the better is she pleased, as the Algerians look upon beauty in a particularly solid point of view; judging it a great measure by the comparative weight. It is a pound more than the Moorish bride or wife of securing her husband's affection—a by no means contemptible consideration in a country where wives form a staple article of commerce.

States' Rights County Convention.

WILMINGTON, N. C., Wednesday, Feb. 20th, 1861. Pursuant to notice, a Mass Convention of the States' Rights citizens of the county of New Hanover, assembled at the Court House at 10 o'clock, A. M.

On motion of S. R. Bunting, Esq., Wm. B. Meares was appointed President, and Wm. B. Meares and Owen Fennell as Vice Presidents. The organization was completed by the appointment of Walker Meares and John T. Moore, as Secretaries.

The President having explained the object of the Convention in a brief address, in which he dwelt upon the necessity of the South asserting her rights and her position in the Union, by compromise or re-constructions, the roll districts was called in order to ascertain how many districts were represented, when it was found that all but three districts were represented.

On motion of E. D. Hall, Esq., a committee of one from each district was appointed to report business for the action of the Convention. The President announced the following gentlemen constituting the committee: A. H. VanBokkelen, James Fulton, C. W. Burra, Dr. A. F. Newkirk, J. D. Nixon, E. D. Hall, D. McIntire, J. A. Corbett, C. V. Hines, W. A. Lamb, J. W. Pridden, W. S. Larkins.

The committee having retired for consultation, S. D. Wallace and R. K. Bryan, Esqs., having been called upon, delivered brief but forcible addresses. Before Mr. Bryan had concluded his remarks the committee returned, and through their Chairman, A. H. VanBokkelen, Esq., reported as follows:

Resolved, That by the triumph of a sectional party, in the election of a sectional candidate for the Presidency and Vice-Presidency upon a purely sectional platform, a point has been reached in the progress of our national affairs calling for the gravest deliberation on the part of the Legislature of North Carolina; and, where the Legislature of North Carolina has by law authorized the opening of polls on the 28th inst., for the election of delegates to a State Convention, as also to decide the question of the holding of such Convention: be it

Resolved, That we recognize the propriety and necessity of holding a State Convention for the consideration of the present dangerous position of our public affairs. Resolved, That in the opinion of this Convention the time has come when the citizens of North Carolina should take their destinies into their own hands, and no longer, by compromise and concession, pave the way for renewed aggression on the part of the North. Resolved, That the fortunes of the South, as well as the true interests, of North Carolina impel her to cast her fate with her sisters of the South, and not with her enemies of the North; and that she should be prepared to meet the promptest practicable action by which the State of North Carolina can be enabled to take her place with the Southern Confederate States. Resolved, That we denounce war, and trust that the good sense of the States of the North may save us from that painful alternative, but if such must come, we will resist coercion by force of arms, and we will not be intimidated.

Resolved, That this Convention do nominate and elect as fit and suitable persons to represent the County of New Hanover in the coming State Convention, and respectfully commends them to the support of all the States' Rights men within the County.

Resolved, That on any question before this Convention a majority of the votes of the districts, in which case each district shall be entitled to two votes. On motion of F. W. Brown, Jr., Esq., the report was accepted, and on motion of W. T. J. Vann, Esq., the names of Messrs. A. H. VanBokkelen and Owen Fennell, the names of Hon. W. S. Ashe, and R. H. Cowan, Esq.

On further motion, the report of the committee on the blanks so filled was unanimously adopted, and Messrs. Ashe and Cowan declared, by acclamation, to be the nominees of the Convention.

On further motion, a committee of three was appointed to inform Messrs. Ashe and Cowan of their nomination, and request their acceptance of the same; and also to invite them to be present at the ratification meeting to be held to-night at Thalian Hall. The President appointed on said committee, Owen Fennell, A. H. VanBokkelen and Dr. W. B. Meares.

On motion of E. D. Hall, Esq., it was requested that Vigilance Committees be appointed in each of the districts of this county for the purpose of seeing that all the votes in their respective districts shall be polled for the candidates of this Convention, and also for "Convention."

In accordance with the above motion, the following gentlemen were appointed Vigilance Committees for their respective Districts: Wilmington—John T. Moore, J. A. Corbett, W. B. Meares, N. Peden, W. B. Bidle, J. J. Cassidy, B. W. Berry. Upper Division—S. R. Bunting, J. J. Hedrick, J. D. Cumming, S. D. Wallace, Walker Meares. Middle South—J. G. Pickett. Middle South—Dr. A. F. Newkirk, A. J. Gray, John W. St. George. Lower South—John T. Moore, J. W. Pridden, G. W. Corbett, A. Prudden, A. M. Larkins. Moorish—Wm. B. Meares, Chas. Craig. Daily School—E. D. Hall, David Williams, J. P. Bannerman. Sandy Run—J. M. Foy, David J. Nixon, D. McMillan. Foy's Point—D. McIntire, Thos. H. Tate, Wm. M. Walker. South Washington—Dr. R. H. Tate, J. D. Powers, Wm. T. Bannerman. Rocky River—Owen Fennell, Dr. J. B. Seavy, J. A. Corbett.

Resolved, That we, the Southern Rights portion of the people of Brunswick county, do not believe that ours is a sectional candidate, but that we are, the people of the respective States are convinced of our right to judge of the mode, the measure and the means of a redress of those wrongs which have been inflicted upon us, and which are ready brought upon us, and which are laid up in store for our administration of a party whose chief characteristic has been hatred to us and our institutions.

Resolved, That we have never seen the Union which our fathers gave us, and that ought to have tempted us to leave it, but that we do not recognize that Union as now existing, and we will not be bound by it.

Resolved, That we love our brethren of the South better than we love the North, and that it behooves our beloved State to take her stand in the Southern Confederacy already formed. Resolved, That all honorable means to secure guarantees for our protection in this Union are already exhausted—that our petitions have been scornfully rejected, and that we are in a position to demand that the South cannot longer submit to the indignities she has thus received, with justice or honor to herself.

Resolved, That we shall ever believe that the white man is superior to the black, and that we will never submit to the political or social equality of the latter. Resolved, That we will not be bound by the proceedings of the meeting to be published in the Wilmington Journal and Herald, and Raleigh State Journal.

On motion, the meeting then adjourned. A. C. TOLSON, Ch'f. W. GALLOWAY, Secretaries. WASHINGTON HOLDEN, Sec'y.

BY TELEGRAPH.

INAUGURAL ADDRESS OF PRESIDENT DAVIS.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Feb. 19th, 1861. On yesterday, at 1 o'clock, amid an imposing display of citizens, military and ladies, the President elect—Gen. Jefferson Davis—was inaugurated as President of the Southern Confederate States. He said the States have asserted, and with the blessings of Providence, intended to maintain their position by achievements, and in a manner unprecedented in the history of nations.

The verdict of mankind will vindicate the rectitude of our conduct; he who knows the hearts of men will judge of the sincerity with which we have labored to preserve the government of our fathers in its spirit. The right solemnly proclaimed at the birth of the States, and which had been affirmed and re-affirmed in the Bills of Rights of the Union of 1789, undeniably recognize in the people the power to resume the authority delegated for purposes of government.

The sovereign States here represented, have proceeded to form this Confederacy, and it is by an abuse of language that their acts have been denominated revolution. Moved by no interest or passion to invade the rights of others— anxious to cultivate peace and commerce with all nations, if we may not hope to avert war, we may at least expect that posterity will acquit us of having needlessly engaged in it. Doubly justified by the absence of wrong on our part, and by wanton aggression on the part of others, there can be no cause to doubt that the courage and patriotism of the people of the Confederate States will be found equal to any measures of defence which their security may require.

Our true policy is peace, and the freest trade which our necessities will permit. There can be but little rivalry between ours and any manufacturing or navigating communities, such as the Northern and Eastern States of the old American Union.

It must follow, therefore, that mutual interests would invite good will and kind offices. If, however, passion or lust of dominion should cloud the judgment, or inflate the ambition of those States, we must be prepared to meet the emergency, and maintain by the sword the position we have assumed.

We have entered upon a career of independence, and it must be inflexibly pursued, even through many years of controversy with our late associates.

It is a just perception of our mutual interests shall permit us, we shall peacefully pursue our separate political career; but if this be denied, it will remain for us, with a firm resolve, to appeal to arms, and to invoke the blessing of Providence in a just cause.

As a consequence of our new condition, and with a view to meet anticipated wants, it will be necessary to provide a speedy and efficient organization of the Executive Department, having special charge of foreign intercourse, finance, military affairs, and the postal service.

For purposes of defence, the Confederate States may, under ordinary circumstances, rely mainly upon their militia; but it is deemed advisable, in the present condition of affairs, that there should be more force than is usually required on a peace establishment.

He recommends a Navy and other measures; and speaking of himself, says: You will see many errors to forgive—many difficulties to tolerate; but you shall not find in me either a want of zeal or fidelity to a cause that is to me highest in hope, and of most enduring affection.

FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON CITY, Feb. 20th, 1861.

Congress—Yesterday. In the Senate yesterday the Tariff bill was taken up, debated and amended.

The House refused to lay Stanton's force bill on the table by a large majority, and the bill was discussed.

Many border State members attacked it vehemently, as a declaration of war.

The Naval Appropriation Bill was discussed.

PEACE CONGRESS. Nothing of importance done yesterday. Some propositions will be adopted this week, but it will prove unsatisfactory to the slaveholding States.

VIRGINIA CONVENTION.

RICHMOND, Va., Feb. 20th, 1861.

Yesterday the convention listened to the eloquent address of Mr. Preston, Commissioner from South Carolina. A resolution was introduced in effect that Virginia should propose an ultimatum, and if not accepted, that she should leave the Union.

FROM MISSOURI.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Feb. 20th, 1861.

Returns of the election for delegates to the State Convention, indicate a Union majority in the State.

ARRIVAL OF THE STEAMSHIP JURA.

NEW YORK, Feb. 20th, 1861.

The Steamship Jura, arrived here yesterday from Liverpool, with dates to the 5th inst.

The Liverpool Cotton market opened 1-16d. to 3/4d. higher, but closed with a downward tendency. Breadstuffs closed with an upward tendency. Consols had declined.

LATER BY THE JURA.

NEW YORK, Feb. 20, 1860.

The English underwriters have increased the rates of insurance one per cent. on Southern cargoes.

The King of Naples had issued an appeal to the people of the Sicilies, offering them extraordinary concessions.

The Papal troops had been recalled to Rome.

The Sardinians had evacuated the Papal Provinces.

The advance in cotton was chiefly in the finer qualities. Flour was slightly higher. Wheat has advanced 1s. and Corn 6d. Rosin 4s. 7d. a 4s. 8d. Spirits Turpentine 30s. 6d.

ONE DAY LATER FROM EUROPE.

NEW YORK, Feb. 20th, 1861.

The steamship Fulton from Southampton, with dates from Liverpool to the 6th inst., arrived here last night.

The quotations for Cotton, by the previous steamer, were barely maintained.

The balance of her news is unimportant.

NEW YORK MARKET.

[At the close yesterday.]

NEW YORK, February 20, 1861.

Cotton firm, with sales of 2,500 bales; upland middling 11 3/4 a 11 1/2 cents. Floor firm; Southern 85 4/5 to 87 1/2 per bush. Mixed 1 cent higher. Corn has advanced 1 cent; wheat 1 1/2 cents, and Southern White 73 cents per bushel. Naval Stores dull.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

CONDENSED FROM OUR TELEGRAPHIC DISPATCHES.

The electoral vote was counted on the 13th inst., in presence of both Houses of Congress. Abraham Lincoln was declared as President and Hannibal Hamlin Vice-President of the United States of America.

The Light Artillery was near the capitol, ready to make a decent in case of interruption, and a considerable number of soldiers were in and around the capitol. Nothing occurred, and sensible people ridiculed those unnecessary precautions.

Mr. Lincoln's Indianapolis speech is looked upon as indicating a coercive policy, but his remarks at Cincinnati partially relieve them of that character; very partially, indeed.

Three boxes of ammunition bound for Savannah, Ga., was seized by the police of New York on the 13th inst.

The steamship New York from Southampton, with dates to the 29th ult., arrived at New York on the 14th inst.

The Italian parliamentary elections have resulted in favor of the ministry. Cavour from Turin, and Garibaldi from Naples, have been elected.

Russia has formed three grand corps d'armee.

The Post Office Bill passed the U. S. House of Representatives on the 15th inst.

The Peace Congress Committee reported on the 15th inst. in favor of Mr. Guthrie's plan of adjustment. A minority report was also made.

The Southern Congress has passed an ordinance continuing in office the former Collectors and Assistants from New York on the 15th inst., with one hundred and fifty men to reinforce Fort Pickens, at Pensacola, Fla.

On the 15th inst., the Virginia Convention elected their Printer, and appointed Monday following for the Southern Commissioners to address the Convention. Gov. Wise defended himself against the charge of an intention to invade Washington and a desire to suppress Letcher.

The steamship City of Baltimore, with Liverpool dates to the 31st ult., has arrived at New York. The bombardment of Gaeta has been suspended. Cotton has declined 3/4d. on the week's sales. Sales on Monday and Tuesday reached 12,000 bales. Market closed dull. Flour and wheat steady. Corn advanced 6d. Provisions were depressed. Rosin firm at 4s. 7d. a 4s. 8d. Spirits Turpentine 31s. Consols closed at 91 3/4 a 91 1/2.

There is but slight hope entertained of any satisfactory result from the Peace Congress. They will probably adjourn to-day, Wednesday. It is understood that the report of the Committee was rejected Saturday.

The steamship Africa, has arrived at New York from Liverpool with dates to the 22d inst. The firing on Gaeta had recommenced. The Sardinians were pursuing the reactionists into the Papal Territory, and several fights had occurred.

Cotton.—The sales of the week reached 33,000 bales. A quiet market, with a decline in the sales of the week, but closed firm, and partially advanced 3/4d. on Saturday. Breadstuffs were quiet. Rosin was steady at 4s. 7d. a 4s. 8d. Spirits Turpentine 31s. Rice dull.

Congress.—In the House, on the 18th inst., Stanton, of Ohio, introduced a bill to authorize the President to employ the militia to suppress insurrection, and protect the Federal property. A bill was passed authorizing the issue of \$50,000 Treasury notes. The Colorado territorial bill was also passed.

The State Convention of Maryland, called by the people, met at Baltimore on the 15th inst. 21 counties were represented. Judge Chambers of Kent county was chosen permanent President. A business committee was appointed. The rules of the legislature were adopted. Some discussion was had as to the propriety of asking the Governor to co-operate. The Convention then adjourned until Tuesday.

Important speech of President Davis.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Feb. 17.—The trip of President Davis from Jackson to Montgomery was a continuous ovation. He made twenty-five speeches on the route, returning thanks for the assembling of the people, eulogizing the military and political progress of the people, and firing and cheers at all the different depots.

The committee of the Montgomery city authorities, met. President Davis about 80 miles below here, and formally received him. Two fine military companies, from Columbus, Ga., joined in the escort at Opelika. All reached here last night, about 10 o'clock, amid cannonading and shouts.