Domestic News.

REMARKS OF MR. F. W. PICKENS, (of South Carolina.)

ON THE RIGHT OF SLAVES TO PETITION.

House of Representatives, February 11.

The following resolution, "That any member who shall hereafter present any petition from the slaves of this Union ought to be considered as regardless of the feelings of the House, the rights of the Southern States, and unfriendly to the Union," having been rejected on the 9th inst., and being reconsidered, the following was offered as a substitute for it, viz. "The Hon. John Q. Adams having inquired of the Speaker whether it would be in order for him to present a petition purporting to be from slaves, and the Speaker having appealed to the House for instructions, Resolved, That the House cannot receive the said petition without disregarding its own dignity, the right of a large class of the citizens of the South and West, and the Constitution of the U. States." The following was also offered: "Resolved, That slaves do not possess the right of petition secured to the people of the U. States by the Constitution."

The above being under consideration—

Mr. Pickens, of S. Carolina, said it was not his intention to enter now minutely into any argument touching the great and delicate questions involved in the subjects before the House; but he rose merely to put himself right before the country. He had refused to vote on the motion for consideration, and would now refuse to vote on all the propositions made. He did so, under a solemn and profound conviction that, as a representative from a slaveholding people, he could not and would not compromise their rights or stain their honor by participating in proceedings, when by the rejection of the first resolution, they had received a deep wound, and which were now calculated to mislead and deceive his country.— Those who had rejected the first resolution the day before yesterday, had thereby created, politically speaking, a negative pregnant, and indirectly declared that slaves had a right to petition this House. And this right was openly maintained in the debate by the leading speakers who opposed the resolution. They had taken the responsibility of inflicting a wound upon the Constitution and the Union, and had done so by a deliberate vote; and he (Mr. Pickens) was for letting them now take the responsibility of healing that wound themselves. As long as that resolution remained negatived, he felt it to be an outrage and insult to his constituents; and he, as their representative, had refused to vote for reconsidering, as he asked no favors and begged no mercy. He called upon gentlemen from the slaveholding States to beware how they moved in this matter. It involved consequences of the deepest and most delicate importance. We stand upon a precipice at whose base the waves of anarchy and discord dash their foaming surges. Let no man be deceived. If blood is to come of these transactions, I desire to clear my skirts of it.

The substitutes proposed are calculated to delude and lull into false security the South. They change the issue made upon the odious and offensive resolution now proposed to be reconsidered. They are calculated to produce a false impression. Many claim the right for slaves to petition as a natural inherent right, above the constitution, and will vote the substitutes, not because slaves have no right to petition, but because they have no right as "secured to the people of the United States by the constitution." Let the original odious resolution which is now reconsidered be directly voted upon, and if gentlemen have changed their opinions, let it be adopted. If you intend to save the country, come up to the mark like men. We profess to be outraged by the rejection of that resolution and we should be satisfied with nothing less now than its adoption. This is due to us—it is the issue you have made. No sir, you cannot adopt that resolution. I believe the votes then given to be the deliberate sentiments of this House. And if gentlemen, like fawns, now tremble at their own shadows in the brook—if, under party discipline, and under party screws, they come forward and pretend to give justice, let them do it openly. But let no man expect me to aid him in support of substitutes by which my country shall be deceived and deluded on the vital questions involved. I desire my constituents to know the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. If I stand on a volcano, I desire to know it, by looking on the smoke.

I believe the recorded vote on the rejected resolution to be the sentiment of a majority of this House; and I believe that they represented their constituents; that that vote is a correct exponent of the sentiment of the non-slaveholding States in this confederacy. If this be not true, and I am mistaken, (in which I hope most sincerely I may be,) then let those gentlemen reverse the vote then given, as they can do if they choose. But I will not aid them in producing a false result before the country. I cannot, after the proceedings of the last few days, and particularly on the day before yesterday, partake in any course by which I may be drawn under the majority of this House, and forced into a position which I cannot control, and which may mislead and deceive the South as to the real feelings that exist in other portions of the Union towards them and their institutions. Mr. Speaker I may be mistaken, but this course is from a solemn sense of my duty. I trust, on this subject at least, I have no factious feelings towards any man or set of men; but I feel pained and deeply wounded at the foreboding state of things. I have seen enough in the last few days to force upon me the melancholy conviction that there is not spirit or courage enough in the country to save our rights and our institutions.

I have said that I believe the vote upon the original resolution to be a correct exponent of the feeling and the sentiments of the non-slaveholding States of this Confederacy. Look at Pennsylvania; and while we are discussing these topics and witnessing these scenes in this House, what do we see there? A State Convention of 200 delegates from different parts of the State, assembled at Harrisburg, to devise ways and means by which to abolish slavery throughout this land. They appeal to the laborers of the north against slave labour, on the ground that it comes into competition with them. Look at their Governor, appealing to them to put down "the dark spirit of slavery" in his public message to the Legislature. Do you suppose that the Pennsylvania Representatives did not represent the sentiments of their State on the resolution rejected? Sir, it is a vast mistake. They knew well what they were doing. Look to a recent letter, published from a distinguished divine, distinguished for his extensive influence over the intellect and learning of his country, and what do you see? You see him soiling the mantle of christian charity by wrapping under its broad folds those who are loathsome from their leprosy, and whose foul embrace is death. You see him holding up to the world these men as the peculiar and chosen defenders of the liberty of speech, of writing, and of thinking. He has the effrontery to say, that "he is not even sure that he would have the privilege he then enjoyed, of writing at his desk, if it were not for the abolitionists." Sir, it is such men as Dr. Channing who are now moving down upon public sentiment, and make the ground upon which your northern fanatics are to fight their battles. Tell us not the miserable stuff that we give them ground by making issues here. We must make the issues you choose to tender, or give up our country to plunder and murder. Charge not us with these things. We are false to our people if we remain here silent, and beg mercy and forbearance at your hands. Do you suppose that the Representatives from Massachusetts did not vote as their constituents would have done if they had been here? If you intended to produce any such impression upon the country by now changing the issues through substitutes, it will be delusion and falsehood. No sir, we have seen the lightning flash, and let us not close our eyes from its glare.

When I came on, at the first of this Session, I inquired of a gentleman, a member of this House, in whose veracity and judgment I have the highest confidence, as to the state of public feeling then existing at the North on the subject of abolition. He informed me that he thought it was running out, and in all probability, from what he then could see, that in a few years it would be lost. This was his deliberate opinion at that time. It made an impression upon me, and I began to think things were exaggerated. I was silent, and said but little connected with this subject until within the last few days. But sir, yesterday morning after the decided vote on the rejection of that resolution, which created such intense excitement, the same gentleman came to me and said, with much anxiety, that he felt bound to explain to me what he communicated at the first of the session; he says now, he was mistaken entirely as to the strength of the abolitionists, and was afraid he had led me into some error on that point. He was now satisfied there was more excitement than he had any idea of at first; that he had just received twelve petitions on that subject, signed by more than a thousand of the most active and influential citizens of his district, who were men, not women, (as most of the signers usually are,) and that he believed the cause was increasing and powerful. This was from the State of New York. And, in justice to the gentleman, I will say, that he communicated these facts because he tho't he ought to do so, as he had made a different impression upon me at the first of the session, when I inquired of him on the subject for information. These are the facts which we all know to be passing before our eyes every day, and it is treason in us to cry "all's well."

Mr. Speaker, we must meet these things. I cannot say what the people of the entire slave holding region will do. I am not authorized to speak for them, and knowing what I do, I tremble for the future. But there is one State that I feel some sort justified in speaking for; a State with whose people it is my pride to have the name I bear identified to the third and fourth generation; a people for whose honor and whose liberties the blood of my ancestors has been shed over every battle field, from the sea coast to the mountains. I know not what course other people will pursue, but the people of that State, which I have the honour in part to represent, I know, are ready, if need be, to sleep in an entrenched encampment; they are ready to kindle their beacon fires over a thousand hills; and, if the worst is to be forced upon them, they can, in the last resort, throw around themselves a rampart, beneath whose battlements many a gallant son can find at least a soldier's grave, and transmit to posterity the rich inheritance of a glorious name.

Sir, I desire to trammel no individual, and I now declare on this trying occasion that I utter the instinctive feeling of my own heart, without concert or consultation with any man. I work in no party ties or party trammels, for the personal aggrandizement of any human being living. I look not beyond the confines of my own State. I have no earthly ambition but to be identified with her interests and her honour.

As long as the vote on the original resolution, remains unreversed, I feel bound, from the most solemn convictions of my judgment, to refrain from participation in proceedings which I fear are too well calculated to delude the country. Let those who have insulted us, and wounded the constitution, now withdraw the insult, and heal the wound. *I shall refuse to vote*—either for or against the substitutes. I feel bound to do so, and shall wait in silence your decision—a decision upon which the future fate of this country depends.— Upon this subject I can never make a compromise.

In what I have said I desire to offend no man. I attribute no improper motives to any gentleman. Others may differ from me. I allude to no individual. I have uttered what I felt on this painful occasion. I leave others to pursue their own course, and the responsibility be with them.

Newspaper Statisticks.—In Spain there are 12 newspapers in Portugal 17, in Switzerland 36, in Belgium 62, in Denmark 80 in Austria 82, in Russia and Poland 84, in Holland 150, in Great Britain 274, in Prussia 288, in the other Germanic States 305, in Australia 9, in Africa 12, in Asia 28, and in America 1,138. The total number of newspapers published in Europe is 2,148.

NAVY-YARD SOUTH OF CHESAPEAKE BAY.

Letter from the Secretary of the Navy, transmitting a copy of the Report of Commissioners charged with the examination of Harbours south of Chesapeake Bay, with a view to the establishment of a Navy-Yard.

Feb. 2d, 1837. Read and laid upon the table.

NAVY DEPARTMENT, February 1, 1837.

Sir—In compliance with a resolution of the House of Representatives of the 28th ultimo, I have the honour to transmit, herewith, a copy of the report of the Commissioners charged with the examination of ports and harbours south of the Chesapeake bay, with a view to their comparative advantages for the establishment of a Navy Yard.

I am, with great respect,
Your obedient servant,
M. DICKERSON,
Secry of the Navy.

To the Hon. Speaker of the H. of Representatives.

The undersigned, Commissioners under a resolution of the Senate of the U. States "to survey and examine ports south of the Chesapeake, with a view to their comparative facilities and advantages for the establishment of a Navy-Yard," have the honour to report:

That they have given to the subject all the reflection which its national importance demands; have personally inspected the several ports whose draught of water gave claim to public attention; and have maturely weighed their relative pretensions to the favourable consideration of the Government:

The undersigned, in arriving at a preference for a particular port, have discarded all prejudice of a local or sectional nature, and have solely been influenced by a strict regard to the public good. As a basis for their decision they have looked to fundamental principles, and have been guided by the great desiderata in a naval establishment on shore. They may be classed under the following heads, and obtain value in the order in which they stand, viz.

1. A sufficient depth of water to permit free access at any state of tide, for the heaviest class of ships of war.
2. Defence by land and by water.
3. Resources and supplies of every kind for the speedy equipment of fleets.
4. Salubrity at every season of the year.
5. Ample supply of fresh water.
6. Facility for wharfing and docks.

As no port south of the Chesapeake possesses all these advantages, (and indeed, there is but one in the whole Union which does possess them,) it has become the duty of the undersigned, by the resolution of the Senate, to designate that one which seemed to them to have the greater number of approximating qualifications.

CHARLESTON, S. C.

The port of Charleston, being the first in magnitude, and also first in the order of inspection, claimed their primary attention. This harbour has been repeatedly surveyed, and recently by competent officers of the United States army. The chart projected by them has been tested by the undersigned, and the result proved its essential accuracy; from which, together with a naval survey in 1825, and valuable information obtained from experienced pilots and other sources, it would seem to be established that the bar at the mouth of the harbour is the main obstacle to its present usefulness as a naval station; for, being deficient in depth of water, no vessel larger than sloops of war can pass, and they only at high tides, and with a smooth sea.

This bar, which is of sand, forms an almost continuous chain of breakers, running nearly parallel with the coast, for nine or ten miles. The tides and freshets of the river have broken through this barrier, and four channels have been formed for the discharge of the waters. Three of them are now incapable of being navigated by large vessels, and the fourth, the main channel, is liable to great changes from heavy gales. Within twenty years it has been entirely removed from its former site. It is displaced by more than half a mile; and where formerly passed in security ships of 17 and 18 feet draught of water, now rolls a dangerous breaker. The undersigned, in contemplating the possible obliteration of the present ship channel by the deposite of some future gale, do not regard it as a lasting injury to the port; for they believe that a new, more convenient, and perhaps, deeper channel may be effected by obstructions in the tide-way, which shall guide to a given point on the bar the vast and swift column of water composing its freshets and ebbs. Such is observed to be the action produced by the fortification now being erected in the river, which has already, this incomplete and not very extensive, caused, in the opinion of pilots, the over-fall channel to be considerably deepened. The effect of so much power, directed on such an easy substance as this bar, when aided by dredging machines, cannot be questioned. The noble harbor within, sufficient in every respect to accommodate a large fleet, and of the heaviest draught, the great seat of southern wealth and southern commerce, all seem to bespeak for it a generous expenditure of the national treasury. But these speculations, whether true or otherwise, belong to the engineer, whose knowledge of currents and their effects will have due weight in such a contingency. Charleston is now considered accessible with a draught of 17½ feet, but with the aid of steam, a good tide, and smooth water, a ship drawing 18½ feet may be safely conducted. The average rise of the tide is 6 feet, which is increased or diminished by the violence and duration of the seaward or landward winds; and this rise and exterior influence is applicable to all the harbors of the Carolinas and Georgia. There can be no difficulty in obtaining eligible sites for a navy-yard, whenever it may be resolved to establish one in Charleston.

BEAUFORT, S. C.

This harbor was surveyed by Lieut. Stockton in 1828. His report has been tested by soundings and observation, and its general correctness ascertained. The arm of the sea which enters between Hunting and Hilton's island is known as Port Royal sound. It is sufficiently deep and spacious to accommodate the largest fleets, but, like all the ports south of the Chesapeake, labors under the disadvantage of having a bar placed at its entrance. From the bar to Beaufort the distance is about 18 miles. A better position for a navy-yard can be found in the vicinity of Beaufort than at the town. The bar has an average depth of 17 feet, which permits, with a full tide, the passage of a frigate. Beaufort is placed in the line of internal navigation between Charleston and Savannah, and, hence, if blockaded by an enemy by sea, has a safe and speedy transport of supplies. The absence of a fresh-water river and marshes seem to assure as great a degree of health as in any of the southern harbors.

SAVANNAH, GA.

The bar at the mouth of the Savannah River is the deepest and most accessible on the Southern coast. The average depth is 19 feet at low water; and hence, with a full tide, a frigate may pass in safety.— But although thus favoured at the entrance, these advantages are soon lost in ascending the river. The first point of effectual defence, salubrity, and locality for a navy-yard, is Cockspur island, situated five miles within the bar, and two miles within the river; but a frigate cannot reach this point by reason of an extensive sand bank half a mile below it, on which but 14 feet at low water can be obtained. In ascending still further up, the shoals are frequent, and of less draught of water; and the river, at first brackish, becomes fresh; and hence, in so low a latitude, and surrounded by marshes, is unhealthy in summer.

DARIEN, GEORGIA.

Merchant ships of heavy burden can enter the port of Darien; but it is unsuitable to naval purposes, by reason of its unfavorable locality, being surrounded by swamps and morasses, and on account of its being placed on a fresh water river, which in so low a latitude, must cause unhealthiness.— The port of Darien can have no greater pretension than the ingress of a sloop of war; and hence, cannot compete with the deeper harbors in the same State.

BRUNSWICK, GEORGIA.

The waters forming the port of Brunswick, are generally designated as Turtle river; but properly speaking, it is an arm of the sea, which, entering between the islands of Jekyl and St. Simons, flows into the interior for upwards of 20 miles forming a wide, deep and swift column. As no fresh water empties into this basin, it is always salt, free from freshets, and alluvial deposites; and hence, from an early period of time, no change whatever has been perceptible in the soundings or general character of the port. For from the large islands of St. Simon's and Jekyl, which are distant from each other about one mile, and running seaward for six miles, are found, jutting two extensive sandpits. At low water portions of them are laid bare; and unless the sea is unusually smooth, they form, in nearly the whole extent, continuous lines of breakers. Between these lines of surf lies the channel, which is three quarters of a mile wide between the spit-heads, and which enlarges to a mile soon after entering. Between the spit-heads we found 22 feet at low water. Proceeding towards the land, by traversing the whole breadth of the channel, the soundings gradually shoaled to 18 feet, which is the least draught of water found in the channel-way. About one mile within the spit-heads, is the "middle ground," which is a bank of sand resting on the southern or Jekyl spit, and jutting into the channel-way some 200 fathoms; but leaving a sufficiently wide eighteen feet passage towards the St. Simon or northern spit, for a large ship even with an adverse wind; the middle ground has but 14 feet at low water. Entering still further up, the soundings gradually grow deeper, so that when between the islands it has obtained a depth of 12 fathoms. The vessel is now in safety. On the right is St. Simon's sound, which, together with similar water courses still farther north, affords a safe internal navigation to steam boats and crafts to Savannah and Charleston. To the left is the arm of the sea (called the "Turtle river,) from which, by Jekyl and Cumberland sounds is an internal navigation as far as St. Mary's. The course from sea to the mouth of the harbor is nearly west northwest keeping the northern breakers on board; the channel then runs south and southwesterly, and making a short turn to the northwest we arrive at the town of Brunswick—insignificant at present; but destined, we believe, though her rail road and canal, to future importance. A shoal of soft mud close to and below the town seems to indicate some other point in the harbor as a more suitable position for a navy yard. We believe Blythe island on the opposite shore to be most eligible. It contains some hundred acres, covered with timber, and every way convenient for wharves, docks, &c., and for a nursery of the live oak; it is distant from Brunswick two miles, and has bold water to within a few fathoms of the shore. There is no doubt that the port may be strongly fortified. The islands of St. Simon and Jekyl present suitable positions for extensive works; and sand shoal two miles within, and in the centre of the *river* (dry at low water) affords a third basis for powerful defence, and steam batteries will complete the whole. The average rise of the tide is 6 feet, which gives at high water, on the bar, 28 feet; sufficient for a frigate. It is deemed healthy; and the absence of a fresh water river, or fresh water swamps, seems to justify the opinion.

ST. MARY'S, GEORGIA.

The harbor of St. Mary's on the south frontier of Georgia has a bar similar to that of Charleston, in its general features and depth of water, it is subject to the same vicissitudes from great gales. In 20 years, the ship channel has been forced to the southward; and the site of the passage where formerly passed the largest sloop of war in the navy, is now filled up to eight feet.— Under the most favorable circumstances of wind and tide, the present ship channel may be stated at 13 feet low water; the average rise of the tide is six feet. The localities are unfavorable for the establishment of a navy yard; and, regarding the harbor in every light, we feel compelled to express an opinion adversely of St. Marys, as a port suitable for naval purposes.

KEY WEST AND THE TORTUGAS.

Circumstances beyond our control, and known to the department, have prevented an extension of our survey to Key West and the Tortugas; but our knowledge of those places, obtained in the course of service, justifies us in pronouncing an opinion adverse to them in the establishment of a navy yard.

Key West is but a small island, distant from the main; and the Tortugas a cluster of islands still smaller. The one can have but limited resources; the other, none whatever, however fresh water. Being *islands*, and incapable of succor in the presence of a superior force, they must eventually perish when cut off from supplies. The more valuable either might become by the establishment of a navy-yard, the more it would invite attack from a powerful enemy. Their position is no doubt commanding, but we deem them not worthy of greater value, when *fortified*, than to afford a rendezvous to our cruisers, and to give shelter and protection to them when pressed by a pursuing enemy.

THE COMPARISON.

The undersigned, in obedience to a resolution of the Senate, have arrived at the point where they are directed to report on the "comparative advantages and facilities of ports south of the Chesapeake, for the establishment of a navy yard." Depth of water and easy access, being objects of the first consideration, they are of opinion that the ports of Charleston, Darien, and St. Marys, being deficient in the depth of water to permit the entrance of a larger ship than a sloop of war, are unfit to compete with the frigate harbors of Beaufort, Savannah and Brunswick.

The preference is narrowed down to one of these: and having duly weighed their relative pretensions, we have no hesitation in preferring Brunswick. Beaufort must yield to her in the essential points of depth of water; easy access, and capability of defence. Savannah must give way, for her easier access and greater depth of water on the bar, cannot be carried up the river to a site safe from the sea and an enemy, and applicable to the establishment of a navy yard.

If a frigate could but reach Cockspur Isl. and the opinion expressed in favor of Brunswick might be recalled. Brunswick is the most southern frigate harbor on the Atlantic sea board. Placed near the great outlet of the commerce of the West Indies and the Gulf of Mexico, her position in a state of maratime warfare would be invaluable, since the navigating interests of an enemy must pass by her door. All of which is respectfully submitted,

M. T. WOOLSEY,
ALEX'R. CLAXTON,
E. B. SHUBRICK.

December 26, 1836.

CHARLESTON, Feb. 27.

Highway Robbery & attempt to Murder—Mr. Nelson Alexander, from Winnsborough, S. C. was waylaid near the Eight Mile House, early on Saturday morning, and robbed of $3800. The particulars, as far as they have come to our knowledge, are as follows:

Mr. Alexander, on Thursday last, was accosted near the Race Course, by a man calling himself Wm. Granger, who had with him two boys for sale, saying that he had two more at his plantation, near the Eight Mile House, and that if he would meet him there on Friday, he would shew the others. Accordingly, Mr. A. went to the place designated, but not meeting G., he remained at the Four Mile House on Friday evening, when he proceeded to the Eight Mile House, where he remained during the night. He started early on Saturday morning for town, and after proceeding a short distance, fell in with three men, among whom he recognized Granger. They prevailed on him to dismount, and after doing so, G. threw his arms around him, and one of his accomplices, filling his mouth and eyes with a substance pronounced, by the now attending physician, of a poisonous nature, dragged him in the woods, kicked and bruised him dreadfully and robbed him of all his money. Mr. Alexander now lays dangerously ill at the Eight Mile House, but he has all the attendance from his friends in town that can be possibly bestowed upon him.—*Courier.*

[From the Charleston Mercury, March 1.]

LATEST FROM FLORIDA.

By the schr. *S. S. Mills*, Capt. Southwick, arrived yesterday from St. Augustine we learn that two of Gen. Hernandez's negroes who were captured last year by the Indians, had made their escape and returned to St. Augustine on Saturday last, 25th instant, who stated that about four hundred Indian Warriors of Philip's Gang, had concentrated near Pila lokahah, and that Abraham had gone into Gen. Jesup, and given himself up, where he intended to remain.— Large numbers of Indians are reported being in the vicinity of Mosquito. Thus ends another *truce* farce.

By the schr. *Polly*, Capt. Felker, arrived from Jacksonville, we also learn that Gen. Jesup had sent to Garey's Ferry for 400 horses to renew the Campaign, the Chiefs not having come in according to agreement, and that the Steamer *Forrester*, had been despatched to Savannah on Saturday last.

From our Correspondent.

ST. AUGUSTINE, Feb. 27, 1837.

The War not ended yet.—On Saturday night last, information was received from General Jesup's Camp, at Dade's Battle Ground, and we regret to state, that it is far from cheering. It is stated that the Indians have held no talk; nor have the chiefs returned as they agreed to. Gen. Jesup was to wait until Saturday, when he would re-commence hostilities. About one hundred Indians had been in the Camp and Abraham were allowed free ingress and egress. On Saturday night last Gen. Hernandes's two negroes, Aleck and Stephen, who were taken by the Indians in May last returned, having effected their escape on horseback. We have not seen them, but we learn that they state, that there is a great deal of dissension in the nation. The Chiefs are willing to give up, but the young Warriors are averse to it—that they have plenty of ammunition—that Philip's tribe at Topkoliky have not been disturbed—and that they have a force of more than 400 fighting men—that in the attack upon the breast work at Lake Monroe, they lost one killed and three wounded—and that the party did not know of the Armistice. A report prevails among them that Gen. Jesup, in holding out the offer of a talk, intends to get them hand cuff them, and ship them off, and this has prevented their attending. Many of them are now going South with their families. These negroes are to be examined in relation to the correspondence which has been carried on with the negroes in town, and much interesting information is expected to be obtained from them. They are in prison.

The Hostile Creeks.—The hostile Creeks it appears have betaken themselves to the country around Pea river, on the Florida line. The Montgomery Advertiser states that there are at least six hundred men in pursuit of them. A skirmish took place between a party of them and some of the settlers in that region on the 12th instant in which it is said six Indians were killed.— The indefatigable General Welborne and his command are said to be in the pursuit.

We understand that the settlers on the Indian lands have come to the determination to remove the (so called) friendly Indians into the interior of the State, where they will be surrounded by the whites, and where their sense of prompt punishment will deter them from the commission of crime.—*Columbus Sentinel.*

The Milledgeville *Federal Union*, of the 21st inst. says—"A party of hostile Creeks, after their battle with Gen. Wellborn's company, suddenly directed their course south, towards the Bay of Escambia. Discovered on their route, low down in Alabama, they were surrounded by parties of white men, and their whole force was near being captured; but they fought desperately—and after losing a number of their men, they eluded their pursuers. They had hoes with them, and it is conjectured, that they intend to make a lodgment, at least for one season, in the thinly settled country about the Escambia.

"A part of the hostile Creeks, after Wellborn's battle, returned, it is said, to Lieut. Sloman's camp, and that among them were eight wounded warriors."

[From the United States Telegraph.]

TO THE PUBLIC.

The undersigned is compelled by other indispensible engagements to withdraw from the publication of the "United States Telegraph," the subscribers to which will hereafter receive in its stead "The Reformer," a new paper published in this city by Messrs. William W. Moore & Co. and edited by Richard K. Cralle, Esq.

DUFF GREEN.

Washington City, Feb. 21, 1837.

The principles and purposes of the Reformer are set forth in the subjoined prospectus of Mr. Cralle, whose services we have engaged as the sole and exclusive editor of the paper. It will be published daily at ten dollars per annum—tri-weekly during the Session of Congress, and semi-weekly during its recess at six dollars per annum, payable in advance.

WILLIAM W. MOORE & CO.

Washington City, Feb. 21 1837.

PROSPECTUS.

It is now most apparent that the Executive Department has absorbed nearly all the powers of the Federal Government, and that nothing short of a radical reform can prevent its from sinking into a practical despotism.— More than the first step has been taken that leads to this result. No man can contemplate the events that are daily transpiring before us, and remain blind to the truth.— Powers that defy all constitutional restraints have been usurped by the Executive; and, more than this, have been transmitted in obedience to his will. The President has nominated his successor, and by means of the patronage of Government, has placed him in the Chair of State. If some decisive measure be not adopted, this example will be followed by his successors, until an entire change is effected in our institutions. To prevent a result so disastrous to human liberty, there must be a rally of all those who are in favor of preserving our free institutions. The purpose of the Reformer is to effect this, and to direct it most efficiently to the object in view.

Executive usurpations may be traced to an excessive revenue; and the consequent lavish expenditure growing out of it—to the vast influence it exercises through its control over the public lands—to its arbitrary power of dismissing from office independant and capable agents, and of rewarding its partisans without regard to merit, at its mere will and pleasure—and to the use it recklessly makes of the sectional differences growing out of the conflicting interests incident to a country of such vast extent as ours. To counteract these evils, the income must be limited to the wants of the Government—economy and accountability must be enforced in every department of the public expenditures—faithful and capable officers must be placed beyond the caprice of Executive will—and the various and conflicting interests of our country must be reconciled, and brought to harmonize. Without this, it will be in vain to contend against Executive usurpation. No force of eloquence or argument can resist them, so long as the self-sustaining means are left in its control. Without these, and reformation will necessarily take place. The Government will be put to the necessity of looking to the honest means for its support, when it can no longer rely on the means of corruption to sustain itself and power.

We pledge ourselves that The Reformer will enforce these principles; and regard no man, or influence, but in reference to these important objects. The times demand energy and concert of action. If the fatal example of Executive interference in the election of the people be not rebuked, it is easy to foresee that the example will become a precedent for the future, and what is now regarded with abhorrence, will, after a few repetitions, be considered as of the necessary principles of Government. This is certain—and we appeal to the virtuous and patriotic every where—to those who love the institutions of the country—who place a just estimate upon the public liberty—who regard the interests of themselves and their posterity—to sustain us in our efforts to secure these inestimable benefits.

Experience has shown that, without a rally of the good and virtuous, it is impossible to support a bold and patriotic press in this city. Hitherto, none which has not been supported by the patronage of the Government, has paid the expenses of publication. In the face of past experiment, the publishers have dared to make the present effort, in the hope that the manifest disorders of the times, and the certain consequences which, without a radical reform, must ensue will rally the country to their support, and by this means aid them in securing the great object which we all have in view.

RICHARD K. CRALLE.