TONY FULPS TO THE STANDARD.

RACKET HOLLER, Feberwary the 4th, 1866.

TO THE MISTER HOLDENS.—Gents, receivin the Guvner's messidge in due koarse of male, I hev red it considabel. It seems to me to be a tolabel fare dokiment in what it sez, but its peertist featur is in what it don't say. It never okkured to me, whitch at the time I talked with the Guvner at my tobakor wagin and he claiwed so, that he could hev put up sitch a dokiment as this is. Sum ov the nabors as heerd it red stood to it that Mister Pell writ it for the Guvner, but I tole em it was injurous to the Guvner to say so, and that I need the stile wer not Mister Pells. I used to delite in Mister Pells union artickals, to whitch when he was in the *Standard* onis he used to rite for that paper—rale union peeces they wer, full of star-sprangeled banners; and that's how I cum to noe that Mister Pell did'nt rite it, for if you'll beleave me, gents, I'm sumthin ov a judge of stile as well as tobakor. Howsomever my friend major Baggarly mout hev tetched it up, but as for the centiments of the dokiment I'm moarn certain they ar the property ov the Guvner hisself.

Well, messers Editurs, as I was sayin, the nabors and me hev talked moarn a little about the messidge and the stait ov the country. Ole Mr. Clump sez, sez he, that Guvner Wuth's a hole team, with a dog and a tar bucket under the wagin. He sez he noes by his messidge he's no union, but a tolabel well sesoned secessioner. Only tolabel, he sez. For, sez he, its plane to my mind that he don't like the military or the Freedmun's burow, and he don't like the radicals, as they call em. So far so good. But ef Mister Davis or Mister Benjimin wer writen a messidge, whitch they never will agin, he sed, with a grone, they'd a tole the North and the ole federal government what they thort ov em. So would a rale secession Guvner. But, sed he, we must put up with Guvner Wuth twell we can do better. I tole him in reply that Guvner Wuth to my noledge was a perfec gentelman in his manners, and as good a judge of tobakor as any in the Stait, but as for his politix I wer not answerabel. He mout do, and then agin he moutent. With that we shuk hans spontanous like, but as soon as I had dun it, gents, whitch it wer dun without reflexion on my part, I begun to konsider. How is it, sez I to myself, that I've shuk hans with ole Clump? Is it possibel that I've turned secessioner? What an awful reflexion to my never-dying sole, thort I, that I should ever meat ole Clump half-way in politix. Sez I Mister Clump, I aint at all agreeabel to you in politix. We ken never agree, and yet we've shuk hans and would make beleave that we are boath eatin outen the same dish with the same spoon. Mr. Clump he begun to bat his eyes and git hot, but I purceeded. Sez I Mister Clump, I've lived twell I'm nigh on to sixty year old. I kan make my affidavy that I never ronged my nabors, nor tole a rale serous lye, nor refused a naborly turn, and allers paid my taxes when they wer due, and allers paid the preechers, whitch they were tolabel severe onto me endurin the rebellion because I was a union and beleaved in Gineral Washington's government; and to think now, atter all this, that I hev countenanced a secessioner, or jined hans in politix with one as wanted to phite it out, is an onplush to my konscence I'll never git kleer of. Well, sez Clump, what did you do it fur? Ther wer no politix in my shake, he sed.—Then I begun to understand him. Sez I Mister Clump, I shuk for him as Guvner Wuth, a gentelman and a good judge of tobaker. The very thing I shuk for, sed he, and then we both larfed and shuk hans agin. Atter this I breethed freer, and actilly begun to think better ov ole Clump.

Gents, we're dead broak. Our ole Stait is thredbear, and the wind whissles almost to her very boans. We shall hev no money to speke ov twell the next crop goes out and fetches its returns. The Guvner and Legislatur ort to be as ekonomical as possabel.—I sarched the messidge keerfully with my specs, whitch they are the best specs in the naborhood, for sumthin on the subjec of ekonomy. I found nothin ov the sort. But I shall not blaim Guvner Wuth as long as the Legislatur sets him sitch a bad exampel. It met in a hurry, and it was expected, to whitch when my fren Mister Battell tole me ther wer nothin into the tresury, they would legislait in a hurry and adjourn in a hurry. But thar they set, and set, and set. We've heern up here in Racket Holler, that they've dubbled ther pay, and that money is so scace in Rolly the taverns hev fell in ther borde. Sitch settin, gents, hatches greenbax. It's a good business. All the peopel ask ov em is, ef they will set in this way, to fetch home as much of ther pay as they ken, atter squarin ther bills. I cea frum the papers that boath houses opens with prayer every day, whitch I hope, gents, sum of the preechers that offisiate won't pray too yernestly for President Johnson. Ther prayers wer not hoalsum fur Mr. Davis. The infurence is they were not heerd, and in konsequence Mr. Davis suffered. But as I was sayin, with prayers in both houses onct a day, and the number ov churches you hev in your town, and the good moral karacter ov members when they're at home electioneerin, it is to be hoped they will not squander ther money, or git nocked down and robbed ov it in onphrequented plaises.

And now, gents, when ar we to git back to the Union? It appears to me, taken a vew at these presents, boath sexions ar to blaim.—Our sexion sez it submits, whitch it wer obleeged to, and then it taiks credit for submitten, demans its rites, tells Mister Johnson and the North that the test oath, which ar a law of Congress, ought not to be notised, but that we ken go back in our own way with our own men, to whitch when we say this, we mean jest sitch men as ar acceptabel to the secessioners. We've been lookin and phiten for our rites these fore year, and we've found em. This looks purty in theory, but it won't do in practis. Sumtimes a feller thinks he's diskovered purpetrual motion, which he gives you a purty deschripshum ov it, but it won't run moarn a day or two. Its jest so with our rites and gitten back in our own way. The truth is, gents, we're as dependant on our uncel at Washington as ever an foreteen year old boy wer on his father for pokit change, when he hed none into his pokit.

It is writ in the Scriptur that the prodegal son went into a fur country ov his oan ackord. Nobody in the family wanted him to go, but with an are ov awthority he sed to his parient, give me my potion. Well, he got his potion and went, whitch when he stade a long time he got tolabel low down with the hogs. Atter a while the Scriptur tells us he cum to hisself. What do I do with that expresshun? Why, I say he wer crazy when he askt for his potion and left, and by onexpected sufferin he cum to hisself—that is, he got agin into his rite mind. He riz up and sed, I will go back to my farther. And gents, he went. He did'nt hobbel along and maik ugly faces when the thorns and briers stuck into his pheet, and when his kind parient cum out to meat him he did'nt dodge into anuther rode and tell his parient he'd be rekonsiled in that rode, in that time, and in that way, and no ther, and talk about his rites, and jestify hisself in goin off amung the hogs agin the wish ov the family. Nothin ov the sort. The ole man saw him a comin a long way off, and he run to meat him, and then the prodigal tole him what a sinner he hed been, and would'nt do so enny moare.—Ef he hed'nt been glad to git back, to see his parient and the family, and ef he'd a sulked and jestified hisself for his unfortenit konduct, and clamed his rites as soon as he struck the plantashun, befoar he got into the house, I would hev been the last reeder ov the Scriptures to hev blaimed the oldest boy for treetin him onkindly. Gents, the Scripturs is abel to maik us wise unto salvashun both fur this world and the next. We ar not told that the prodegal chainged the close to whitch he hed on when he got his potion and went. He returned in his rags, whitch when he looked onto em, as he did menny a time in his trubbels, they reminded him of home. No dout when he cum to hisself and saw how his close hed faded, and how his shews hed got hoals into em, and his stockins hed'nt been darned sense he left, and mary butten sowed on, to witch when he thought ov all this, it tetched his hart, and he sed I will go to my farther. Gents, if we want new close, and a big pheest, and a ring of shure enuf gold, to whitch shall be a sign unto us that we shall never leave the family enny moare, let us rize up and go back in our union rags. It won't do to hault and dodge by the way, and then present ourselves to our parient in secesh close. Sitch garbs is never tolerated on the plantashun, and never aloud in the house.

So mutch for the ole man and the prodegal, but, gents, what is the oldest son a tryin to do? Is he glad to cea his yunger brother, pore feller, whitch got his potion, and fell among the hogs, and then, atter a while, to whitch when he had suffered horribel, riz up and started back home? Gents, I beleave he is. But he eyes the ole man clostly as he falls upon the neck of the prodegal, and kisses him. Maybe he didn't hear the ragged brother when he tole his parient how sorry he was fur what he had dun. Maybe he's a littel proud. He's hed everything to hiself for menny a year, and bein ritch in these worlds' goods, maybe he's not as quick to pheel even for a brother as he should be.—Maybe so. But the prodegal's a littel proud too. His blud is as good as the oldest bruther's, and a brave hart beets under his rags. He's dun rong, monstously, awfully rong, and he moans and tells the ole man so, and promises in futer to be a good son. But the ole man's not quite reddy to trust him. He's not shure but he's fallen into the ways of the gentiles, for he sees some strainge close onto him, with sum of the saim close he wore away. He hisitates, and tells him to strip off the strainge close, and then he shall hev an invite into the house. And then the prodegal hisitates, to whitch he should not hev dun, but should hev took em off immejitly, whitch in fact he ort to hev left em behind him with the hogs. And jest here, gents, the oldest bruther objeks, and sez the prodegal mus'nt cum in and be his equal twell he agrees to put hisself on a level with the freed servants. The prodegal lifts hisself up in his rags and tells the oldest bruther that his blud furbids it. That the freed servants ar not fit, which his oldest bruther ort to noe it, to sheer in all the privilidges ov the family. That he's reddy, and more'n reddy to treet the freed servants with jestis, and he will do this under the eye of the ole man as long as he lives, but he can't equalize hisself unto em in governia the family. The ole man rebukes the oldest brother. He sez to him, son, all that I hev is thine. Atter I am gone you will govern, whitch if you will assoshiait your yunger bruther with you, the estait will be well manidged. I hev governed with as mutch mercy as jestis. See that you do so too. Ef you foce your prodegal bruther to a level with the freed servants, you will sink your oan blood, fur you are twin bruthers, and never should hev parted fur a moment; to whitch my son, sed he, if you foce your bruther to this, the family government will be injured, and the freed servants and the family that I hev razed up, will fall out and phite. And as fur the strainge close your yunger bruther, the prodegal, has on, they're an abominashun in my site, and I'm determined not to receive him into the house twell he taiks em off; and more'n that, ef he looks bak and moans atter the hogs, to whitch he fell among when he got his potion and wandered off, I will let him stay onto the plantashun, but will keep him out ov the house forever. But ef so be he will do what is rite, and act as he sed he would when I first met him, I will lead him into the house with my oan hand, and I will maik peece betwene your bruther and yourself.

What will be the end of the parabel it is not for me to say, but I'm jubus ov it. I'm afeard it won't turn out well.

Gents, the unfortenit kolored man hev been the cause ov all our trubbles. I think we've hed enuf ov him. We've hed him fur brekfus, far dinner, and fur supper. So fur as I am koncerned I wish all the kolered peopel wer in paradize. And yit, gents, they ar better than the ambishus white men as hev been usin em to git offis, to which I will say these ambishus white men ar no better in one sexion than anuther. Pore onsofistigaited descendent of Afric's golden sans. He's innosent, gents, ov all the blud that hev been spilt on his account. It wer the Afrigan whitch broak up the government, and it ar the Afrigan that keeps it broak up. I cea no remidy in the futer. Pandoria's box hev been opened by sum one, and no man seems to be abel to shet it. All we ken do is, jest as we ar doin up here in Racket Holler, look to providence fur his mercy and stan by Andy Johnson. Ef the lord ar not mersiful unto us as a peopel accordin to the multitude ov our cins, I ken cea no hope, to whitch when I think ov our condishun, we ar hare hung and breaze shaken over an awful hell; standin on slippery rox while firy billers roll beneath our onhallowed pheet. Excuse belia, gents. Ef enny thing could onhinge me, and kause me to neglec my bizness, to whitch when I do my tobaker sumtimes gits out ov case, it is when I feel serous about our distracted, ruint, god fursaken country.

Okashunally, gents, a stray *Sentenel* finds its way to Racket Holler. Ole Clump is mity fond ov it, because he sez it dig's Holden sum times. I tole him he was a monstous fren to Holden twell Holden got his pardon fur him, which ever sense he had been his enemy. That sum peopel seemed to konsider gratitude a kean sense of favors to cum, and sum men wer so mene they could'nt bare to be under oblegathuns to anuther, but waited them as hed dun em favors. He sed othin but batted his eyes and kep spellin out the hard words in the *Sentenel*. And I sed moarn that, ef it had'nt hev been fur Holden sum peopel as struts mity big at these presents, would hev had a tite neck ankisher with nothin to stan on. He grunted, batted his eyes, and kep spellin at the *Sentenel*.

Gents, ef so be, and it meats your approvel, advize our ole fren Mister Pell to open a schule, to whitch shall teech the truth, the hole truth, and nothin but the truth. Judgin frum his paper he's a gradyuate in that collidge. Ef the advertisen of the schule would be expensive, I'll bare my sheer ov the expence when I cum agin to Rolly. I'm moarn shure Guvnor Wuth will give our fren Mister Pell a sertifikat, to whitch shall bare testimony to his qualificashuns in these reeks. We need sitch a schule, and Mister Pell is the man to teech it.

Very respectably yours,

TONY FULPS.

—The Texas State Convention organized on 8th inst. It is said that it will incorporate into the Constitution the total abolition of slavery, and give negroes the right to testify in all courts, hold property, sue and be sued, &c. The Convention is divided between original secessionists and straight-out union men. Some members are in favor of negro suffrage. The President's mention voted against secession in the convention, but was subsequently a member of the Confederate Army.

—The Police had searched a house in Gardiner's-row, Dublin, supposed to be an Orange Lodge, and found in it a quantity of swords and bayonets, which they seized and conveyed to the Castle. The Police had also made some additional arrests of Fenians.—Further seizures of arms are also reported at Belfast.

Proceedings of the Legislature.

CALLED SESSION.

SENATE.

MONDAY, Feb. 13, 1866.

Prayer by Rev. Mr. Atkinson.

Mr. Howard, from the judiciary committee, to whom was referred the bill further suspending the operation of the statutes of limitations, reported back the same, with an amendment, and recommended its passage.

The committee to whom was referred the resolution providing for a refittal of the Governor's mansion, reported back the same, recommending its adoption.

Mr. Bynum, from the committee on finance, to whom was referred the resolution to ascertain what debts, devolved upon the State during the late rebellion, are void, submitted a report, specifying such debts as, in the opinion of the committee, should be liquidated. The resolution and report were ordered to be printed.

A message was received from the House concurring in the adoption of a resolution instructing the Secretary of State to furnish copies of the Revised Code, &c., to County Court Clerks, for the use of their respective counties.

A message was received from the House proposing to go into an election of one trustee for the University; which was laid on the table.

Mr. Gash introduced a resolution to change the rule of evidence. Passed first reading.

Senate bill to repeal an act entitled an act to establish the office Auditor of Public Accounts, was laid on the table.

On motion of Mr. Howard, the bill to repeal the 12th section of the 10th chapter of Acts of the Assembly, passed at the extra session of 1861, regarding the jurisdiction of courts in cases of creditors and debtors, was taken up. A warm and protracted debate ensued; when, on motion of Mr. Morehead, the bill was indefinitely postponed.

Mr. Cowles, from the committee on claims, to whom was referred resolution in favor of A. W. Fraps and Jacob Siler, reported back the same, recommending the adoption of the former and asking to be discharged from a further consideration of the latter.

Mr. McCloose presented two additional names for justices of the Peace for Hyde county.

Senate adjourned till 10 o'clock to-morrow.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

MONDAY, Feb. 12, 1866.

The House was called to order at ten o'clock A. M. Prayer by Rev. J. M. Atkinson.

The journal of Saturday was read and approved.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

Mr. Dickey introduced "a bill to renew the charter of the Hiwassee Turnpike."

Mr. Farrow, "a bill to appoint a board of Commissioners of Navigation." Passed its several readings under a suspension of the rule.

ON CALENDAR.

"A bill to authorize the construction of a Toll Bridge over the Catawba River, near Rock Island Factory" passed second reading.

"A bill to incorporate the Bladen Land Company;" a bill to amend the charter of the town of Graham; a bill to incorporate the Rudisill Gold Mining Company and an engrossed resolution to furnish clerks, not heretofore supplied, with copies of the Revised Code, passed their final readings.

On motion of Mr. Thigpen, a message was sent to the Senate, proposing that the two Houses proceed forthwith to the election of one Trustee of the University.

Mr. Murrill (by leave) introduced "a bill to amend the charter of the town of Jacksonville, Onslow County. The rules were suspended. The bill was amended on its second reading, on motion of Mr. Everett, by providing that in the election for commissioners of said town, the commissioner who received the highest number of votes, shall be the Mayor of the town. The bill as amended passed its second and third readings.

Messages were received from the Senate refusing to concur in House amendments to the "bill to furnish Clerks not heretofore supplied with copies of the Revised' Code, and asking the appointment of a committee of Conference; also refusing concurrence in the proposition to proceed forthwith to elect one Trustee for the University.

An engrossed bill to prohibit the sale of Spirituous Liquors in the town of Salem, had its first reading.

The House concurred in Senate amendments to the bill to amend the charter of the Tuckasegee and Keowe Turnpike Company; and also in the proposition (above) to raise a committee of Conference.

Mr. Allison presented the resignation of Messrs. A. D. McLean, A. H. Davis, R. W. Allison and W. W. Wheeler, Directors of the Insane Asylum. The letter of resignation was transmitted to the Senate.

Leave of absence was granted Mr. Caldwell of Guilford.

Mr. Jenkins of Warren, (by leave) introduced "a bill concerning Assignments. Ordered to be printed and referred to the committee on the judiciary.

Mr. McAden, from the joint select committee on salaries and fees, reported "a bill to regulate salaries and fees. Read first time and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Davis of Carteret, (by leave) a bill to amend the charter of the town of Beaufort. Passed its several readings under a suspension of the rules.

A resolution in favor of Drury King passed second reading.

Mr. Ashworth presented a petition from justices of the Peace of Randolph county, praying a repeal of so much of the ordinance of the State Convention, entitled, "Revenue" as requires Sheriffs to pay fines, forfeitures, etc., into the Public Treasury. Referred to the Finance Committee.

The House then adjourned until ten o'clock A. M. to-morrow. [Mr. Hoke presided to-day, at the Speaker's request, the latter being necessarily absent from his post.]

SENATE.

TUESDAY Feb. 23, 1866.

Prayer by Rev. Mr. Cobb.

A message was received from the House transmitting the following engrossed bills and resolutions:

A bill to incorporate Leaksville Male Academy; passed first reading.

Resolution to alter the county line between the counties of Mitchell and Yancey; passed first reading.

A message was received from the House concurring in the Senate amendment to the House bill concerning the Tuckasegee and Keowee Turnpike Road.

Senate bill to amend chapter 3d of the Revised Code, was laid on the table.

A bill to extend to widows time to enter dissent to the last will and testament of their husbands, passed second reading.

A message was received from the House asking acceptance of the resignation of Mr. K[illegible] from the board of Directors for the [illegible]lum. Resignation accepted.

[illegible] then addressed the Senate in [illegible] words, on the death of Senator [illegible]ston Sanders; and offered a tribute [illegible] to the deceased, which was unanimously adopted. [The speech will be published hereafter].

Mr. Morehead also spoke in brief but pathetic terms on the death of Mr. Sanders.

On motion of Mr. McKay, the Senate adjourned until to-morrow 10 o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

TUESDAY, Feb. 13, 1866.

The House was called to order at 10 o'clock A. M.

Prayer by Rev. N. B. Cobb of the Baptist Church.

The Journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Mr. Webb presented a petition from sundry magistrates of Orange county, praying the enactment of a law allowing compensation to Justices of the Peace for their services. Referred to the committee on Propositions and Grievances.

Mr. Blythe introduced a resolution that henceforth the House of Commons hold evening sessions commencing at 7 o'clock. Lies over one day under rule.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS.

Mr. McNair introduced a bill for the relief of Executors, Administrators, Trustees, Guardians, and other persons acting in a fiduciary capacity.

Mr. Waugh, a bill for the relief of Wm. Haymore, Sheriff of Surry.

Mr. Furr, a bill to establish a Homestead Freehold.

Mr. Baxter presented the resignation of Joseph Keener, Esq., as a Director of the Asylum for the Insane. Sent to the Senate.

A message was received from His Excellency, the Governor, in response to an inquiry as to the soundness of artificial arms, and the steps taken to supply artificial limbs to maimed soldiers under a resolution passed by this General Assembly. The message states that the Governor had corresponded with a number of manufacturers of artificial limbs, but had not received answers from all. From the information he had received, he was of opinion that the artificial arm was ornamental rather than useful. The message was accompanied by a letter from a North Carolinian engaged in the manufacture of artificial legs in Washington City setting forth the merits of "the Jewett leg," and suggesting the advisability of purchasing the right of said patent for the State of North-Carolina.

Another message from His Excellency, transmitted a communication from the Public Treasurer in relation to the custody of the public funds. These messages were sent to the Senate.

ON CALENDAR.

A bill to authorize the transfer of registered bonds of the State to bearer. Passed second reading.

Mr. Murrill rose to discharge a painful duty, in announcing to the House the death of his colleague, Mr. Isaac N. Sanders, Senator from Onslow. He briefly sketched Mr. Sanders' political career and paid a feeling and appropriate tribute to his memory.

Mr. Manly said he had frequently visited Onslow county, and formed there many warm and lasting attachments. He had known the deceased well from youth. He had known his highly respectable family before him.—He had been greatly shocked by the melancholy announcement this morning, and could only commend Mr. Sanders to the kindly recollection of his fellow members, as an intelligent, honest, amiable man—a man of sterling integrity and patriotic impulses. In respect to the memory of the deceased, he moved that the House adjourn until ten o'clock to-morrow. The House adjourned accordingly.

THE INTERVIEW WITH THE VIRGINIA DEPUTATION.

THE RIGHTS OF SOUTHERN LOYALTY.

The Government Must be Preserved Against Both Extremes.

On Saturday morning a committee from the Senate and House of Delegates of Virginia called upon the President, for the purpose of presenting him with resolutions adopted by the General Assembly of Virginia. The following-named gentlemen constituted the committee:

From the Senate—Messrs. E. F. Keen, A. S. Gray, and Dale Carter. From the House of Delegates—Messrs. John B. Baldwin, Jas. Marshall, P. R. Grattan, A. G. Pendleton, and Wm. T. Joynes.

The National *Republican* of Saturday evening contains the following report, prepared by an official reporter of the United States Senate:

This morning a committee of the Senate and House of Delegates of the State of Virginia called upon the President.

They were admitted to the Executive chamber about fifteen minutes before one o'clock, and the chairman, Mr. Baldwin, spoke as follows:

MR. PRESIDENT: We are a committee of the Senate and House of Delegates of the State of Virginia, sent to present to you in person certain resolutions which received the unanimous approval of the Senate and House of Delegates. With your permission, I will read them.

Mr. Baldwin here read the following resolutions:

1. *Resolved by the General Assembly of Virginia*, That the people of this Commonwealth, and their representatives here assembled, cordially approve the policy pursued by Andrew Johnson, President of the United States, in the reorganization of the Union. We accept the result of the late contest, and do not desire to renew what has been so conclusively determined; nor do we mean to permit any one subject to our control to attempt its renewal, or to violate any of our obligations to the United States Government. We mean to cooperate in the wise, firm, and just policy adopted by the President, with all the energy and power we can devote to that object.

2. That the above declaration expresses the sentiments and purposes of all our people, and we denounce the efforts of those who represent our views and intentions to be different, as cruel and criminal assaults on our character and our interests. It is one of the misfortunes of our present political condition that we have among us persons whose interests are temporarily promoted by such false representations; but we rely on the intelligence and integrity of those who wield the power of the United States Government for our safeguard against such malign influences.

3. That involuntary servitude, except for crime, is abolished, and ought not to be re-established, and that the negro race among us should be treated with justice, humanity, and good faith, and every means that the wisdom of the Legislature can devise should be used to make them useful and intelligent members of society.

4. That Virginia will not voluntarily consent to change the adjustment of political power, as fixed by the Constitution of the United States, and to constrain her to do so in her present prostrate and helpless condition, with no voice in the councils of the nation, would be an unjustifiable breach of faith, and that her earnest thanks are due to the President for the firm stand he has taken against amendments of the Constitution, forced through in the present condition of affairs.

Mr. Baldwin proceeded to say:

We come as representatives sent by one of the States of this Union to confer with our constitutional President in regard to matters affecting the Commonwealth. We come to you, Mr. President, and freely declare that the people of Virginia and their representatives accept the result and abide by the consequences of the late contest. Chief among the results is the universal conviction that the Union of these States is an established fact. We recognize this Government as our Government, its Constitution as our Constitution, and the rights which it promises are our rights. Another great result is the final overthrow of slavery. This has been concluded by a constitutional amendment. The General Assembly of Virginia is engaged earnestly in consideration of these subjects, and we can only say whatever policy may be adopted will be for the moral culture and improvement of the condition of the freedmen, and to treat them with harshness and injustice is against our feelings.

It is due, however, to you and to our people to assure you that the General Assembly, in declaring that policy of Virginia, is the expression of what your committee here know to be the truth. The General Assembly has but given voice to the feelings of the people. It is as a defender of the general Constitution that you deserve the confidence and support of the people of the United States. You have not only proclaimed that Constitution to be the supreme law of the land, but you have defended it.

RESPONSE OF THE PRESIDENT TO THE VIRGINIA LEGISLATIVE DELEGATIGN.

[Reported for the Republican by D. F. Murphy, Esq., Official Reporter to the United States Senate, and one of the conductors of "The Reporter."]

THE PRESIDENT. In reply, gentlemen, to the resolutions you have just presented to me, and the clear and forcible and concise remarks which you have made in explanation of the position of Virginia, I shall not attempt to make a formal speech, but simply enter into a plain conversation in regard to the condition of things in which we stand.

As a premise to what I may say, permit me first to tender you my thanks for this visit, and next to express the gratification I feel in meeting so many intelligent, responsible, and respectable men of Virginia, bearing to me the sentiments which have been expressed in the resolutions of your Legislature, and in the remarks accompanying them.

They are, so far as they refer to the Constitution of the country, the sentiments and the principles embraced in that character of the Government. The preservation of the Union has been, from my entrance into public life, one of my cardinal tenets. At the very incipiency of this rebellion I set my face against the dissolution of the Union of the States. I do not make this allusion for the purpose of bringing up anything which has transpired which may be regarded as of an unkind or unpleasant character, but I believed then, as I believe now, and as you have most unmistakably indicated, that the security and the protection of the right of all the people were to be found in the Union; that we were certainly safer in the Union than we were out of it.

Upon this conviction I based my opposition to the efforts which were made to destroy the Union. I have continued those efforts, notwithstanding the perils through which I have passed, and you are not unaware that the trial has been a severe one.—When opposition to the Government came from one section of the country, and that the section in which my life had been passed, and with which my interests were identified, I stood, as I stand now, contending for the Union and asseverating that the best and surest way to obtain our rights and to protect our interests, was to remain in the Union, under the protection of the Constitution.

The ordeal through which we have passed during the last four or five years demonstrates most conclusively that that opposition was right; and to-day, after the experiment has been made and has failed; after the demonstration has been most conclusively afforded that this Union cannot be dissolved, that it was not designed to be dissolved, it is extremely gratifying to me to meet gentlemen as intelligent and as responsible as yourselves, who are willing and anxious to accept and do accept the terms laid down in the Constitution and in obedience to the laws made in pursuance thereof.

We were at one period separated; the separation was to me painful in the extreme; but now, after having gone through a struggle in which the powers of the Government have been tried, when we have swung around to a point at which we meet to agree and are willing to unite our efforts for the preservation of the Government, which I believe is the best in the world, it is exceedingly gratifying to me to meet you to-day, standing upon common ground, rallying around the Constitution and the Union of these States, the preservation of which, as I conscientiously and honestly believe, will result in the promotion and the advancement of this people.

I repeat, I am gratified to meet you to-day, expressing the principles and announcing the sentiments to which you have given utterance, and I trust that the occasion will long be remembered. I have no doubt that your intention is to carry out and comply with every single principle laid down in the resolutions you have submitted. I know that some are distrustful; but I am of those who have confidence in the judgment—in the integrity—in the intelligence—in the virtue of the great mass of the American people; and having such confidence, I am willing to trust them, and I thank God that we have not yet reached that point where we have lost all confidence in each other.

The spirit of the Government can only be preserved, we can only become prosperous and great as a people, by mutual forbearance and confidence. Upon that faith and that confidence alone can the Government be successfully carried on.

On the cardinal principle of representation to which you refer I will make a single remark. That principle is inherent; it constitutes one of the fundamental elements of this Government. The representatives of the States and of the people should have the qualifications prescribed by the Constitution of the United States, and *those qualifications most unquestionably imply loyalty.* He who comes as a representative, having the qualifications prescribed by the Constitution to fit him to take a seat in either of the deliberative bodies which constitute the National Legislature, must necessarily, according to the intendment of the Constitution, *be a loyal man*, willing to abide by and devoted to the Union and the Constitution of the States.—He cannot be for the Constitution, he cannot be for the Union, he cannot acknowledge obedience to all the laws, unless he is loyal.—When the people send such men in good faith they are entitled to representation through them.

In going into the recent rebellion or insurrection against the Government of the United States we erred; and in returning and resuming our relations with the Federal Government, I am free to say that all the responsible positions and places *ought to be confined distinctly and clearly to men who are loyal.*—If there were only five thousand loyal men in a State, or a less number, but sufficient to take charge of the political machinery of the State, *those five thousand men, or the lesser number, are entitled to it, if all the rest should be otherwise inclined.* I look upon it as being fundamental that *the exercise of political power should be confined to loyal men;* and I regard that as implied in the doctrines laid down in these resolutions and in the eloquent address by which they have been accompanied. I may say, furthermore, that after having passed through the great struggle in which we have been engaged, *we should be placed upon much more acceptable ground in resuming all our relations to the General Government if we presented men unmistakably and unquestionably loyal to fill the places of power.* This being done, I feel that the day is not far distant—I speak confidingly in reference to the great mass of the American people—when they will determine that this Union shall be made whole, and the great right of representation in the councils of the nation be acknowledged.

Gentlemen, that is a fundamental principle. "No taxation without representation" was one of the principles which carried us through the Revolution. This great principle will hold good yet; and if we but perform our duty; if we but comply with the spirit of the resolutions presented to me to-day, the American people will maintain and sustain the great doctrines upon which the Government was inaugurated. It can be done, and it will be done; and I think that if the effort be fairly and fully made, with forbearance and with prudence, and with discretion and wisdom, the end is not very far distant.

It seems to me apparent that from every consideration the best policy which could be adopted at present would be a restoration of these States and of the Government upon correct principles. We have some foreign difficulties, but the moment it can be announced that the Union of the States is again complete, that we have resumed our career of prosperity and greatness, at that very instant, almost, all our foreign difficulties will be settled, for there is no power upon the earth which will care to have a controversy or a rupture with the Government of the United States under such circumstances.

If these States be fully restored, the area for the circulation of the national currency, which is thought by some to be inflated to a very great extent, will be enlarged, the number of persons through whose hands it is to pass will be increased, the quantity of commerce in which it is to be employed as a medium of exchange will be enlarged; and then it will begin to approximate, what we all desire, a specie standard. If all the States were restored—if peace and order reigned throughout the land, and all the industrial pursuits, all the avocations of peace—were again resumed, the day would not be very far distant when we could put into the commerce of the world $250,000,000 or $300,000,000 worth of cotton and tobacco, and the various products of the Southern States, which would constitute in part a basis of this currency.

Then, instead of the cone being inverted, we should reverse the position and put the base at the bottom, as it ought to be; and the currency of the country will rest on a sound and enduring basis; and surely that is a result which is calculated to promote the interests not only of one section, but of the whole country, from one extremity to the other. Indeed, I look upon the restoration of these States as being indispensable to all our greatness.

Gentlemen, I know nothing further that I could say in the expression of my feelings on this occasion—and they are not affected—more than to add that I shall continue in the same line of policy which I have pursued from the commencement of the rebellion to the present period. My efforts have been to preserve the Union of the States. I never, for a single moment, entertained the opinion that a State could withdraw from the Union of its own will. That attempt was made. It has failed. I continue to pursue the same line of policy which has been my constant guide. I was against dissolution. Dissolution was attempted; it has failed; and now I cannot take the position that a State which attempted to secede is out of the Union, when I contended all the time that it could not go out, and that it never has been out. I cannot be forced into that position. Hence, when the States and their people shall have complied with the requirements of the Government, I shall be in favor of their resuming their former relations to this Government in all respects.

I do not intend to say any thing personal, but you know as well as I do that at the begining, and indeed before the beginning, of the recent gigantic struggle between the different sections of the country, there were extreme men South, and there were extreme men North. I might make use of a homely figure—which is sometimes as good as any other, even in the illustrations of great and important questions—and say that it has been hammer at one end of the line and anvil at other; and this great Government, the best the world ever saw, was kept upon the anvil and hammered before the rebellion, and it has been hammered since the rebellion; and there seems to be a disposition to continue the hammering until the Government shall be destroyed. *I have oppose that system always, and I oppose it now.*

The Government, in the assertion of its powers and in the maintenance of the principles of the Constitution, has taken hold of one extreme, and with the strong arm of physical power has put down the rebellion. Now, as we swing around the circle of the Union, with a fixed and unalterable determination to stand by it, if we find the counterpart or the duplicate the same spirit that played to this feeling and these persons in the South, this other extreme which stands in the way must get out of it, and the Government must stand unshaken and unmoved on its basis. The Government must be preserved.

I will only say, in conclusion, that I hope all the people of this country, in good faith and in the fullness of their hearts, will, upon the principles which you have enunciated here to-day, of the maintenance of the Constitution and the preservation of the Union, lay aside every other feeling for the good of our common country, and with uplifted faces to Heaven swear that our gods and our alters and all shall sink in the dust together rather than this glorious Union shall not be preserved. [Great applause.]

I am gratified to find the loyal sentiment of the country developing and manifesting itself in these expressions; and now that the attempt to destroy the Government has failed at one end of the line, I trust we shall go on determined to preserve the Union in its original purity against all opposers.

I thank you, gentlemen, for the compliment you have paid me, and I respond most cordially to what has been said in your resolutions and address, and I trust in God that the time will soon come when we can meet under more favorable auspices than we do now.

Mr. Baldwin. Mr. President, as an assurance that we represent the sentiment of the State, I beg leave of you to introduce to you the members of the committee and to name the parts of the State from which they come, in order that you may be certified that this is a fair representation of all parts of Virginia. I introduce to you Mr. Keen, the Senator from Spottsylvania; Mr. Jones, the Delegate from Petersburg; Mr. Carter, Senator from the county of Russell; Mr. Marshall, Delegate from the county of Fauquier; Mr. Gray, Senator from the county of Rockingham; Mr. Pendleton, Delegate from the county of Giles; Mr. Grattan, Delegate from the city of Richmond. We claim this to be a fair and equally distributed representation of the people of Virginia.

The gentlemen named, as their names were mentioned, stepped forward and shook the President by the hand.

The President added: I am happy to meet you, gentlemen. As I said to another delegation the other day, I have no ambition and no object beyond the restoration of this Government. I feel that I am in a condition where I can afford to do right. I have occupied, during my career, many different posts in this Government. I started at one of the humblest cabins in the country, and I have passed through the State Legislature, the gubernatorial chair, both Houses of Congress, the Vice Presidency of the United States, to the position I now occupy before you. The climax, the acme, the summit of my ambition has been fully reached—yea, more than reached. If, now, I can only arrive at a point at which these States are all restored, each having its representation in the national councils, with the Union restored so that we can once more proclaim peace and good will among the people of the United States, it will be to me a happy day. I care not what may be said in taunt or jeer; I care not what may be insinuated; but I tell you that, whenever I shall have reached that point, the measure of my ambition will have been filled, and more than filled. I have no object beyond it. Oh, how proud and gratifying it would be to me to retire from this place, feeling and knowing that I had been instrumental in consummating this great end. [Great applause.]

The delegation then left the President's room, after each delegate again shook President Johnson by the hand.

Telegraphic.

Congressional.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—In the Senate, the credentials of Mr. Houston, Senator elect from Alabama, were presented, and ordered to lie on the table.

A resolution was offered for the appointment of a committee to investigate a charge of speculation against the government by cotton agents.

Johnson, of Md., made a speech in opposition to the proposed Constitutional amendment.

In the House, the Navy Appropriation bill was passed but nearly all the items for Norfolk and Pensacola navy yards were stricken out.

The House concurred in the Senate amendment to the Freedman's Bureau bill. Instead of confining operations to those States where the *habeas corpus* is suspended, it is of general application.

The bill now awaits the action of the President.

WASHINGTON, FEB. 13.—Senator Wilson, from the Military Commission, reported a bill fixing the military peace establishment. Eighteen regiments of veteran reserves, originally provided for, were omitted.

The Senate resumed the discussion of the representation amendment.

In the House, Mr. Bingham, from the Committee on Reconstruction, reported an amendment to the Constitution, that Congress shall have power to make all laws, which shall be necessary and proper to secure to citizens of each State, the necessary privileges and immunities of citizens in the several States, and to secure all persons in the several States equal protection to life, liberty and property.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.—The Senate resumed the consideration of the Constitutional Amendment in regard to representation. There was no vote. In the debate it was stated that the Post Office Department require eight thousand Postmasters in the South, but that only two thousand had been appointed, owing to the fact that others could not take the oath.

The House was engaged on the contested election cases.

A message was received by Congress, to-day, from the President enclosing a communication from the French Minister, in relation to a proposed international Conference; at Constantinople, on the subject of Cholera. Congress will consider the proposition.

Texas.

GALVESTON, Feb. —Resolutions were offered in the Convention declaring the ordinance of secession null and void, and denying the right of a State to secede.

A motion was made to lay the resolution on the table, which was defeated by a vote of 45 to 58.

Captain Semmes.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.—Captain Semmes has been allowed the privilege of exercising in the Marine Barracks. He appears to be in excellent health.

Execution.

LOUISVILLE, KY., Feb. 15.—The execution of Berry, the one armed guerilla, for committing eleven separate murders, is fixed to take place on the 3d of March