SOUTHERN PRESS.

WASHINGTON CITY.

SATURDAY, MAY 1, 1852.

Mr. ISRAEL E. JAMES, of Philadelphia, Mr. C. W. JAMES, of Cincinnati, and Mr. HENRY M. LEWIS, of Montgomery, Alabama, and their assistants, are our only travelling agents for collections.

Another Rebuke by the House of the Printing Committee.

Yesterday Mr. GORMAN, of the joint Committee on Printing, offered a resolution to print fifty thousand copies of the mechanical part of the Patent Office Report. We suppose this monstrous job and humbug has to be administered in broken doses to the House; or why a separate motion like this to print a separate portion of it?

Mr. CLINGMAN, we understand, objected, and said that there were unfavorable accounts abroad of the course taken by the committee, and before the House ordered any more printing, he thought it ought to have a report from the committee of what had been done. Mr. GORMAN then moved the previous question on his resolution, and on being requested by Mr. FITCH, of Indiana, to withdraw it for a few moments, declined, on the ground that it was insisted on by several gentleman near him. The vote was then taken, and resulted—yeas 46, nays 87. It seems from this that the coalition forces are extremely weak in the House, and yet on such a vote as this, two mighty organs, one of each of the great national parties, claim a title to public confidence. We suppose now that the Printing Committee, after such a signal rebuke as this, will hardly persist without an investigation. There is the report of the special committee yet to be received and acted on, and the truth is that as all parties are now going into a Presidential election, in which the enormous expenditures of the government will be rigorously canvassed, a good many prudent as well as honest men think that two or three hundred thousand dollars ought not to be taken out of the treasury without being able to show respectable reasons for it.

There appears, however, to be a cohort of partizans who are acting on the maxim of "save himself who can." They will grab the money if possible—and if the act should be condemned—why the money cannot be recovered.

The Printing Committee say they have not abandoned the contract with Mr. HAMILTON, and intend to hold him or his sureties responsible for the extra expense of the printing. How can this be done, when they give prices so much higher than the bid of Mr. TOWERS, *which he still offers to take from the committee?*

The truth is, it would be mean in the government to insist on this contract with HAMILTON. It is ruinous. And it is in fact abrogated. Let now the printing be given to the several newspaper offices at fair prices.

As for the movement that has been made, it proceeded on an overweening estimate of the strength of the *Union* and *Republic*. They have found their weakness. It has proceeded on the presumed weakness of this paper. We have corrected that blunder. And we advise that no such blunder be repeated.

Georgia Politics.

We insert the proceedings of the Union Democrats at Milledgeville, in another column. The Savannah *Republican*, one of the Constitutional Union organs, thus gingerly treads over the hot ashes:

SUPPLEMENTAL MEETING AT MILLEDGEVILLE.—After the adjournment of the Union convention, Friday afternoon last, a supplemental meeting was held by those who desired to be represented in the Baltimore convention. We are told there were from twenty-five to thirty persons present, and that it was composed alike of Union Whigs and Union Democrats, including some who were not delegates to the convention just adjourned. They do not go to Baltimore in defiance of the Union party, nor as its delegates. But the subjoined proceedings of the meeting, (for which we are indebted to the courtesy of our neighbors of the *Georgian*,) will show what action was taken.

The Milledgeville *Recorder*, the central organ of the same party, pursues the same line of treatment:

It will be seen by the published proceedings in another column, that a portion of the Union Democrats and Whigs, after the adjournment of the Union convention, assembled and determined to send delegates to the national convention to be held at Baltimore. The declared purpose of these gentlemen, as we understand, is to attempt to purge the Democratic convention of its incendiary element, to have the Constitutional Union platform adopted by that body, and to present, if possible, on this platform, an acceptable Presidential candidate to the South.

We have only to say at present, by way of comment, that we think our Democratic Union friends have undertaken a herculean labor,—one we fear greatly beyond their strength. If they can succeed in cleansing the Democratic Augean stable, we shall certainly rejoice in the achievement,—but utterly hopeless as we are of this, we confidently look to see these gentlemen in a very few weeks, shoulder to shoulder with their conferees of the Constitutional Union party, in selecting, and in the hearty support of *a real and true Constitutional candidate, chosen by the party which has dissevered all ties with the national parties of either side.*

Thus it will be seen that these fugitives from the Constitutional Union ark, are regarded as doves rather than ravens, and their speedy return confidently anticipated. If they can't get into the Baltimore convention, they will have nowhere else to go.

"The world has received its great lessons in religion, philosophy, and literature from the petty States. Plato and Aristotle were the citizens of a little republic, but have given those laws to the human mind all over the world of a *priori* and *posteriori* reasoning which we still obey.—*Southern Press.*

There, now, the editors of the *Press* have done something; they have found out the men who gave to the human mind the laws of a *priori* and a *posteriori* reasoning. Can't they tell us who that meritorious, but hitherto unknown individual was, that invented sleep?—*Louisville Democrat.*

No, we cannot. But we think that if it had been delayed until the present day, it would have been achieved by the first man that read the *Louisville Democrat.*

KOSSUTH AND BUNKER HILL.—The city authority of Charlestown, says the Boston *Traveler*, have declined to extend to M. Kossuth the hospitalities of the city of Bunker Hill. A motion to invite him to the city was made in the board of mayor and alderman, and carried by a vote of 4 to 2; but the common council refused to concur, and rejected the proposition by a vote of 9 to 6. The authorities of Portland have likewise declined to invite Kossuth to that city.

☞ While Southern men sit supine under the repeated assaults of Northern fanaticism, a warning cry comes from the North. So strong and resistless is that current becoming that even partizans feel the necessity of stemming it, before it sweeps away all before it.

The Albany *Argus*, a strong Democratic journal, thus protests against the last movement in Massachusetts:

NULLIFICATION IN MASSACHUSETTS. — The Senate of Massachusetts have passed a bill which proposes to take from the United States authorities, jurisdiction of a class of questions arising exclusively under the fugitive act, by the process of habeas corpus. This is practical nullification. It will, if passed and attempted to be enforced, bring the United States and State authorities directly into conflict. It is similar to the Vermont law, which has been received with such general execration among all beyond the ranks of the anti-slavery fanatics, and which has been productive of so much of irritation in the Southern quarter of the confederacy. It is one of the fruits of the "coalition" in Massachusetts, which elected Sumner and Rantoul to Congress—and which is seeking, through the abrogation of the plurality principle, to foist such partizans into the electoral college, against the will and wishes of a majority of the people. The re-enactment of the odious Maine law, is another of the highhanded attempts of this hybrid coalition.

It would not be at all strange if the Coalitionists who held the ascendancy in the House of Representatives, and who have exhibited a proneness to enact any and every enormity, should second the Senate in its efforts to nullify a law of the United States. Perhaps it is well that this incendiary spirit should have the opportunity to exhibit itself in its true colors and aims. It can scarcely fail to cure itself.

☞ A correspondent of the *Journal of Commerce*, at San Francisco, says:

"We have an immense emigration from Chili (of *peons*) and swarms of Chinese. Nearly 1,500, of the two races, have arrived in this city the past fortnight. The clipper ship Challenge is said to be on her way here from China, with 1,000 passengers."

A very large immigration from China is expected during the coming year. A San Francisco paper says:

Yesterday evening, about 500 Chinamen, who have lately arrived here, landed at Long Wharf, with all their baggage. The wharf was covered for a long distance with a perfect forest of baskets, hats, and long tails, rolls of matting and boxes were turned over in all directions, long poles flourished extensively, and each one appeared to be talking in self-defence, making a noise resembling a flock of crows discussing the merits of a corn field. A large number of persons were collected around, attracted thither by the noise and confusion incidental to the disembarkation of these followers of Confucius. Matters were at last apparently satisfactorily arranged, when each one shouldering a load that would test the strength of a dray horse, started up into the city in single file, to such places as were provided for them by their brethren.

SANDWICH ISLANDS.

VOLCANIC ERUPTION.—The volcano of Mauna Loa was giving a grand exhibition of natural pyrotechnics. The eruption is described as the most extensive which has taken place in those Islands. At last accounts fears were entertained that the beautiful town of Hilo would be destroyed by the molten river, which was coursing its way thitherward. The scene is described as one of awful sublimity and grandeur.

On the 17th of February, at twenty minutes past 3, A. M., a small beacon light appeared on the summit of Mauna Loa. The light increased until it looked like a rising moon. In half an hour brilliant columns of lava shot up against the heavens, and a general burst of blood-red fusion poured out of the same orifice apparently, which disgorged such awful floods in 1843. The molten flood rolled down the side of the mountain so rapidly that in two hours we judged its progress to have been fifteen miles, the whole lava glaring with great brilliancy. This flow continued through the day but with decreasing energy. It became sluggish by night, and the next day, or after twenty-four hours, no traces of it were visible from the station; no smoke by day, and no fire by night. This was a damper.

On the 20th the eruption was renewed. At first the stream shot directly down towards Hilo; but meeting some obstacle near the foot of the mount, its direction was changed to the north, towards Mauna Kea.

A vast area between the mountains is already filled with fire, and the scene by night is one of terrible sublimity. The red hot lava still rolls out of the side of the mountain in awful floods. It seems as if the bowels of Pluto were being disgorged. While I write, our whole atmosphere is filled with lurid smoke, through which the sun looks down upon us with a yellow and baleful light.

The horizon is hung in murky drapery; detonations, like distant thunder, are heard from the mountain, and capilliform filaceous vitrifactions are filling our streets.

By advices from Hilo to the 2d inst., we further learn that the stream of lava had burned through the woods to within fifteen miles of Hilo, and that it was still progressing. The current was not so rapid as at first, but it is gradually filling up all the inequalities of the ground, and it was supposed at that date that it would ultimately reach the sea, and discharge itself into the bay of Hilo.

The light at night was very brilliant, and at Hilo it was almost as light as day.

Report

Of the Superintendent of the Coast Survey to the Secretary of the Treasury, in relation to dangers in the vicinity of Assateague Lighthouse, on the coast of Virginia.

COAST SURVEY OFFICE,
April 19, 1852.

SIR: I have the honor to submit to the Department a report of the dangers in the vicinity of Assateague lighthouse, on the coast of Virginia, derived from Lieutenant Commanding JOHN J. ALMY, United States Navy, Assistant in the Coast Survey, who has been in charge of the hydrographic party working on that coast during the past season.

DANGERS IN THE VICINITY OF ASSATEAGUE LIGHTHOUSE.

Notes.—The lighthouse stands on an elevation about one mile distant from the beach, and is in latitude 37° 54′ 37″ north, and longitude 75° 21′ 04″ west from Greenwich.

In the list of dangers, the bearings, &c., within brackets, are true; those without are magnetic, or by compass. The distances are in nautical miles.

Winter-Quarter Shoal is one mile long, and one-third of a mile wide, running in a direction E. by N. ½ N., and W. by S. ½ S., [E. N. E. and W. S. W.] with not over 3½ fathoms water upon it. The least water is 12 feet, in several places at low tide. On the seaward side the soundings change suddenly from 9 to 4, and then to 2 fathoms. It is 6¼ miles distant from the nearest land, with 10 fathoms water between it and the shore. In clear weather the lantern of Assateague lighthouse is just visible from it. The centre of the shoal bears from Assateague light E. by N. ½ N., [E. by N. ½ N.,] distant 11½ miles. This is a highly dangerous shoal, as the soundings change suddenly, and lies directly in the track of vessels. The sea breaks upon it in heavy weather.

Chincoteague Shoal is a long narrow bank or ridge running in a direction N. E. ¼ E. and S. W. ¼ W., [N. E. ¼ E. and S. W. ¼ W.,] 4½ miles long, with an average width of a quarter of a mile, and distant from 4½ to 6 miles from the shore, with from 3½ to 5 fathoms water upon it. Its north end bears E. by S., [E. ¼ S.,] distant 7½ miles, and its south end S. E. ¼ S., [S. E. ¼ S.,] distant 5½ miles from Assateague lighthouse.

A dangerous shoal lies S. by E. ½ E. [S. S. E.,] distant 4¼ miles from Assateague lighthouse, with 13 feet water upon it.

Another, with 9 feet water upon it, lies S. ¼ E., [S. b. E.,] distant 4½ miles from the lighthouse.

Another, with 9 feet water upon it, lies S., [S. ¼ E.] distant 3¾ miles from the lighthouse.

Within a semicircle of 12 miles, Assateague lighthouse being the centre, the bottom is exceedingly broken and uneven. The general set of the current along this part of the coast is to the southward and westward; and vessels from the West Indies and Southern ports, bound into Delaware Bay, have been set in shore among these dangers by it. The coast in this vicinity is dangerous for large vessels navigated by persons not well acquainted with it. Vessels supposing themselves in this vicinity, after striking eleven and twelve fathoms water, should keep the lead going, and keep a bright look-out. In the day time large vessels should not approach nearer the land than eight or nine miles, with the trees just in sight from the deck; nor at night, even in clear weather, when coming from the southward, nearer than just to keep Assateague light in sight, until it is brought to bear, by compass, to the southward of west. After that it will be necessary to keep further off, and run it out of sight, in order to avoid "Winter-Quarter Shoal."

This light, in clear weather, at night can be seen at a distance of about twelve miles.

I would respectfully request authority to publish this communication.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
A. D. BACHE, Superintendent.

Hon. THOMAS CORWIN,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Union Democratic State Convention.

MILLEDGEVILLE, April 23, 1852.

At a convention of the Union Democracy of Georgia, assembled this day in the Representative Hall, on motion of Judge Lumpkin, of Floyd, Hon. John W. Anderson, of Chatham, was appointed president; and on motion of Lewis Tumlin, Col. Lindsay Johnson, of the county of Cass, was appointed vice-president; and Arthur Hood, of Gordon, was requested to act as Secretary.

Mr. Wm. H. Hull, of Clarke, moved that a committee of seven be appointed to prepare and report business for the action of the convention, which being unanimously agreed to, the president named the following gentlemen to compose the committee, to wit:

Messrs. Hull, of Clarke, Jackson, of Walton, Daniel H. Bird, of Cherokee, Dr. Miller, of Floyd, Carlton, of Campbell, and Saffold, of Morgan.

Mr. Hull, from the committee of seven, reported the following resolutions, to wit:

Resolved, That upon the existing issues before the country we adopt and affirm the principles of the national democratic convention of 1848.

Resolved, That the adoption of the compromise measures by the last Congress was in conformity with the principles affirmed in the foregoing resolution; and so regarding it, we heartily respond to an adoption of the following resolutions, introduced by two of our representatives, and adopted by a decided majority of that body, including two thirds of the Democratic members:

"*Resolved*, That we recognize the binding efficacy of the compromises of the Constitution, and believe it to be the intention of the people, generally, as we hereby declare it to be ours, individually, to abide such compromises, and to sustain the laws necessary to carry them out—the provisions for the delivery of fugitive slaves, and the act of the last Congress for that purpose, included; and that we deprecate all further agitation of questions growing out of that provision of the questions embraced in the acts of the last Congress known as the compromise, and of questions generally connected with the institution of slavery, as unnecessary, useless, and dangerous."

"*Resolved* That the series of acts passed during the first session of the 31st Congress, known as the compromise, are regarded as a final adjustment and permanent settlement of the question therein embraced, and should be regarded, maintained, and executed as such."

Resolved, That we will send twenty delegates to represent Georgia in the national Democratic convention to be held in Baltimore in June next—with a distinct understanding that the foregoing principles will be affirmed by that body, and that our delegates be instructed to present and urge their adoption as the only sound and reliable basis of action for the national Democracy.

Resolved, That the delegates to said convention have power to fill such vacancies as may occur in their body.

On motion of Judge Jackson, of Walton, the president and vice-president were authorized and requested to appoint the delegates to represent the State of Georgia in the Baltimore Democratic convention provided for in the foregoing resolution.

After consultation, the president announced the names of the following gentlemen as having been selected by the presiding officers as delegates—which was unanimously confirmed by the convention.

John H. Lumpkin, of Floyd, John E. Ward, of Chatham, James Jackson, of Walton, John Milledge, of Richmond, Lewis Tumlin, of Cass, A. H. Kenan, of Baldwin, Thomas P. Saffold, of Morgan, William Taylor, of Randolph, Arthur Hood, of Gordon, Marshal J. Welborn, of Muscogee, Luther J. Glenn, of Henry, John W. H. Underwood, of Floyd, Wm. H. Hull, of Clarke, George D. Rice, of Cobb, Thomas D. Harris, of Troup, Henry Jones, of Liberty, C. B. Welborne, of Whitfield, I. T. Irvin, of Wilkes, John S. Rowland, of Cass, James W. Armstrong, of Bibb.

On motion of Judge Jackson, the president was added to the delegation.

On motion of Mr. Thomas P. Saffold, of Morgan, the following were appointed a State executive committee, to wit:

Green B. Jordan, of Baldwin, H. V. M. Miller, of Floyd, Robert Collins, of Bibb, Hopkins Holsey, of Clarke, Orion Stroud, of Walton.

Capt. Wofford, of Cass, offered the following resolution which was unanimously agreed to.

Resolved, That the thanks of the convention are hereby tendered to the president and vice president for the able and satisfactory manner in which they have discharged their duties, also to the secretary for the satisfactory discharge of his duties.

On motion of Mr. Milner, of Cass, it was

Resolved, That the Union papers of the State are requested to publish the proceedings of this convention.

On motion of Mr. William T. Price, of Floyd, the convention adjourned *sine die.*

JOHN W. ANDERSON, President.
LINDSAY JOHNSON, V. Pres't.
ARTHUR HOOD, Secretary.

From the Federal Union (Democratic.)

Constitutional Union Convention, Georgia.

This body assembled in this place on Thursday last; and adjourned on Friday afternoon at half past 3 o'clock. There were 50 counties represented by 112 delegates.

The only interesting portion of the proceedings of the convention was on Friday morning, after the report of the committee of twenty-four. The first resolution was unanimously agreed to by the convention. When the second was read, Col. Thomas of Elbert, a Union Democrat, offered a substitute in lieu of the resolution reported by the committee. This move gave rise to an animated and rather angry controversy through the whole morning, and up to the hour of adjournment. Col. Thomas thought that the resolution offered by the committee was not sufficiently explicit; it did not say that the convention was opposed to being represented in the Democratic convention, nor that it favored the proposition. He believed that a large majority of the convention were opposed to sending delegates to Baltimore, and he wished the members to have the courage to say yea or nay to the proposition. He argued at length against the policy and expediency of the Union party affiliating with either national convention, and declared both parties unsound and unsafe repositories of the interest and welfare of the Union party. Judge Jackson, of Walton county, replied briefly to Col. Thomas. He was in favor of the resolution of the committee. He thought that the Union party could best carry out its principles by permitting Union Democrats to go to Baltimore, and using their influence to obtain of the Democratic convention a resolution affirming the finality of the compromise. He thought the substitute would tie the hands of the Union Democrats who believed it their duty to go to the Baltimore Democratic convention to watch after their principles as national Democrats. He thought that his position as a Union man did not cut him off entirely from an association with his national friends.

This speech brought out Mr. Jenkins, whose position was well known to be hostile to the proposition to send Union delegates to the Democratic convention. Mr. Jenkins' speech was listened to with marked attention. It was in truth an able effort. He contended that the Constitutional Union party, when formed in December, 1850, opened its arms to every man North, South, East and West, who would stand upon their platform. He contended that, if the Union party or any portion of it went into the Democratic convention, as many members on the floor desired, they would cut themselves off from those National Whigs, who had in good faith stood by the Georgia platform and the compromise. How, said he, will you ever get with Millard Fillmore and Daniel Webster if you unite with the Democratic convention? These distinguished Whigs were referred to in a most glowing strain of eloquent eulogy. Here Mr. Jenkins showed the cloven foot of Whiggery. He declared that the Whigs who stood by the Union and the Constitution were as justly deserving the regard of Constitutional Union men as were Democrats. He, however, did not demand of the Union party that they should be represented in the Whig convention—he was for standing aloof, and waiting the action of both conventions before he would commit himself to either. That course, he said, however inexpedient, was the only way in which to preserve the principles of his party. Just here, great excitement prevailed in the meeting, and men looked at each other in astonishment at the prevailing discord, and wondered how the matter could be amicably settled. Judge Cone followed Mr. Jenkins, endorsing his views and sustaining the substitute offered by Col. Thomas.

Mr. Kenan replied to Mr Jenkins—he represented those who were in favor of a representation at Baltimore. His effort was ingenious and effective—it told powerfully upon the convention. He declared that the Union party was not formed to put down the unsoundness of Southern Rights men on the slavery question, (Mr. Jenkins had urged that if the Union men went to Baltimore they would have to unite with "Southern secessionists" and Northern Free-soilers) Mr. Kenan thought that Southern Rights men could be trusted on the slavery question, and that on that question they could not be placed on a footing with Free-soilers. He was against sectionalism, and maintained that it was never the intention of the Union party to place that party in a sectional position which would be the case if it opposed acting with one of the national parties. He declared his preference for the Baltimore Democratic convention. Speeches were made by the President and others which we cannot notice particularly. Though a large majority of the convention were in favor of the substitute of Col. Thomas, for the sake of harmony, the majority accepted the original resolution, as they understood that the convention considered it tantamount to the substitute.

After passing the resolutions, elsewhere copied in our paper, the convention adjourned *sine die.*

From the Southern (Columbus, Ga.) Sentinel.

Georgia Politics.

The most remarkable feature in Georgia politics has been and is still the facility with which parties swap places and principles with each other. In the nullification controversy, the Whig party was the depositary of State Rights, while the Democratic party was the defender of the odious doctrines of the proclamation and the force bill. In a few years afterwards, the Whig party rallied to the support of the American system, and the federal heresies of Henry Clay; while the Democratic party received into its bosom the incomparable Calhoun, and incorporated into its faith the teachings of his almost inspired genius. In the late controversy between the North and South, the Democratic party of Georgia pushed State Rights to the verge of disunion in its gallant defence of the rights of the South, while the Whig party, in its zeal for nationality, denied the cardinal doctrine of the right of a State to secede from the Union, and kissed the rod which a tyrannical majority raised over the South. Now, the Democratic party, so fierce in its hostilities to Northern aggression, makes haste to extend a fraternal hand to disorganizing traitors, whose mouths are yet filled with denunciations of Southern institutions—whose purposes are yet fixed to overturn our society and bathe our land with the blood of our people—without one solitary stipulation in favor of our security and peace, or even an effort to erect the poor barrier of a resolution between us and our enemies. And what apology do these men give for their shameless desertion, we will not say of their plighted faith, but of home and hearthstone? None that we have ever heard but the cowardly excuse that they were beaten upon the issues of resistance and submission before the people they attempted to save. This is a lamentable fact, and we mourn over it in sackcloth and ashes every day of our lives. Would to God that the scales would fall from the eyes of the South and that she could see the frightful gulf upon which yawns at her feet! But is it generous, is it noble, is it brave, to desert the standard of your country when it trails in the dust? No, gentlemen, no. The true soldier in such an hour but stands the more steadfast to his post, and strikes quicker and heavier blows upon the ranks of the foe. Desertion in such an hour, and for such a cause, will destroy forever the faith of the people of Georgia, in the integrity and patriotism of the Democratic party. The Union party perceives these truths, and is framing its tactics for the coming elections in reference to them. It already has the prestige of the Union and victory on its side, and if it can add to them the semblance of devotion to the rights of the South, its triumph will be overwhelming. This it is rapidly acquiring. It has had the wisdom to hold aloof from national party associations, and thus keeps in line its incongruous battalions of State Rights men and Federalists—of Democrats and Whigs. By so doing it will be able to transfer them to whichever party bids highest for its support, and thus ensure a certain and splendid triumph to its cause in the coming elections.

We have no confidence in the professions of devotion to the South on the part of the Constitutional Union party. It forfeited its claim to sincerity when, in the face of the stupendous fraud by which the South was cheated out of rights which her sons had won by blood and valor, it ingloriously submitted to the outrage, and then staked the existence of the Union upon the repeal or modification of the fugitive slave law. But the majority of the people of Georgia have faith in its patriotism, and can only be won from their allegiance to it by the display of a higher patriotism by the Southern Rights party. An opportunity for this display is now offered. In the midst of defeat and overthrow and foul desertion, let Southern Rights men bear aloft the tattered standard of their country, and exhibit the proud spectacle of devotion and self-sacrifice to their countrymen, and thus deserve the confidence of the Southern people, and unless all our dreams of Southern chivalry are false, their generous hearts will appreciate their virtue and give them their confidence.

But if we fail in this, we shall at least preserve our own self-esteem and the respect of our enemies. If we cannot save our country, we can at least die for her.

Nor is our cause yet desperate. In this city, many of the truest and soundest citizens have not yet bowed unto Baal, and hold up our hands in the fight. From other parts of the State we receive words of encouragement, and we doubt not but that, *in due time*, the true voice of the South will swell above the petty din of partisan warfare, like the blast of a trumpet, upon the ear of our false friends and deceitful enemies. Cheer up, then, "friends of the fair and sunny South," "nor hate a jot of heart or hope."

"What though the field be lost?
All is not lost; th' unconquerable will,
And courage never to submit, or yield;
And what else is not to be overcome?

A Tour at the South.

WASHINGTON, March 9, 1852.

Messrs. EDITORS: Presuming that a brief notice of a few places through which I passed in a recent Southern tour would not be unacceptable to your readers, I herewith communicate it.

I took passage from this city on the steamboat Mount Vernon, at 9 o'clock, A. M., the gentlemanly attention of whose commander, with the beautiful scenery of the Potomac, made the trip to Aquia Creek, where we arrived in three hours, quite agreeable. There taking the Richmond railroad, we reached the pretty little town of Fredericksburg, fourteen miles from the Potomac, in less than an hour. Five o'clock found us at the State capital, Richmond. A portion of the territory traversed by this road is sterile, while another portion lies waste, having been worn out by improper culture.

Richmond lies on the north side of James river, at the head of navigation, and has a population of 40,000. Several large rolling and flouring mills and cotton factories are in operation here, all of which are driven by water, of which motive power a superabundance is furnished by the Kanawha and James river canal. An extensive basin has been made within the city limits, which is surrounded by warehouses to receive the produce brought from the upper country through the canal. Tobacco and wheat are its principal staples of trade, both of which, after being manufactured, are exported to other parts. The business part of the city lies along the river. The interior of the place, which occupies an elevated plain, and is built up with rich and tasteful private dwellings, greatly resembles the beautiful heights of our neighbor city Georgetown. The State capitol, a fine structure, modelled upon the *maison carree* at Nismes, overlooks the city and river. In the rotundo of this building is a statue of Washington, represented to be the most perfect likeness of that illustrious man in the world. A magnificent monument of the hero is also being erected in the adjacent grounds. The governor's residence near by is also a conspicuous edifice.

The natural advantages of this place give promise that it will hereafter occupy a prominent position among the cities of the Union. Indeed, the State of Virginia has more natural advantages than any other in the Union. Her coal and iron, as well as water power, are practically inexhaustible; but her citizens have hitherto been somewhat deficient in enterprize, so that they have not been largely developed.

A railroad of twenty-two miles takes you to Petersburg, a beautiful city, with a population of fifteen thousand souls. Its energetic citizens are pushing railroads into every section of the State, with a view to concentrate the produce and travel of the interior upon that point. Considerable rivalry exists between this place and Richmond to secure the Western business. Petersburg has a favorable position, owing to its fine water-power and easy access to the ocean. Being situated in a tobacco-growing region, large amounts of this staple are brought to its market, to be manufactured and shipped to other ports. It has within its limits large cotton factories and flour mills, driven by water-power, of which there is an abundant supply for many more.

At eight o'clock, P. M., we took the cars for Weldon, North Carolina, and Wilmington. After a night's ride we came, at seven A. M., on the following day, to Goldsborough. This road is well constructed, has but few curves, and is almost level, so that the motion of the cars was barely observable. The speed, too, was good, averaging twenty miles per hour; so that our iron pony brought us to Wilmington at ten o'clock A. M., where we were transferred to a substantial steamer bound to Charleston, South Carolina. Our passage down the Cape Fear river and the ocean was pleasant. A beautiful moonlight night and calm weather overcame the fears of those who had never been on the ocean before; while the efficient performance of the boat and the skill of her officers, contributed to render agreeable our trip of fifteen hours or so to that far-famed and hospitable city. The approach to Charleston reminds one of that into New York by the Narrows. This place is clearly destined to become the commercial emporium of the South-eastern portion of the Union. It is connected with the ocean by a beautiful bay of nine miles in width. It is now a large depot for the principal staple of the State—cotton—which it ships to the Northern cities and Europe. The appearance of the buildings is not especially inviting, owing to the inferior quality of the bricks of which they are built, (the clay they are made from being of bad quality,) and to the salt atmosphere from the ocean. It contains, however, a large amount of superb and showy private residences. The general deportment of its citizens is frank, courteous, and unpretending. A man is valued in Charleston according to his intrinsic merit; wealth, unaccompanied by good character, not being sufficient to command respect. A reverence for religious institutions is conspicuous among the citizens of this refined and intelligent city. The Sabbath is strictly observed, and the various churches well attended. Sullivan's, and other smaller islands interspersed through the bay, crowned with forts, present a captivating prospect. The churches, particularly the chief Episcopal one, of a costly order. I was told one of the steeples of that edifice cost $60,000. On the south side of the city is the Battery, to which the citizens resort in the evening to enjoy the sea breeze, and which is really a refreshing spot. A large military school, a State institution, is located in this city.

I took passage from this agreeable town in a magnificent steamer for Savannah. There are two water-routes between these cities, one following the sounds that are formed by the numerous islands along the coast, the other by the ocean direct. A night's sail brought us in view of the Savannah river, and at seven A. M. we were at the city. The land bordering that river is low, and subject to inundation. Savannah lies about eighteen miles from the ocean, on a high bluff, and is beautifully laid out. The streets are of great width, intersecting each other at right angles. At intervals of every four squares is a public square, an arrangement which contributes greatly to the health of its citizens. The population of the place is about fifteen thousand. It is a large depot for cotton and lumber from the interior, arriving by the river and railroad for foreign exportation. The lumber milling is carried on very extensively, as the article commands the best prices in the West Indies and South American markets.

The railroad thence to Macon reflects great credit on the enterprising company that built it. It is constructed upon an enduring liberal scale, and gives, by its speed and freedom from jar, great satisfaction to travellers. Its citizens are also engaged in the construction of a similar track to Augusta. My observation convinces me that the people of Georgia are ready for any enterprise tending to promote the interests of that rich State, properly styled the Empire State of the South. Savannah is a healthy town, having fine water and vegetables, as well as a uniform sea breeze.

A railroad jaunt of ten hours took me thence to Macon. Most of this track traverses a low, swampy, and unproductive district. The fifty miles nearest to Macon have a look of fertility and high cultivation. This is a pretty town, numbering about five thousand inhabitants, and is improving rapidly. Its streets are well laid off, and all proper regulations are made by the municipal authorities for health and comfort. Its hotels are of supetior order. The town is surrounded by hills, crowned with beautiful private residences, affording picturesque scenery. Being the centre of a great cotton region, a large amount of wealth is concentrated there. On a commanding and beautiful site, near the town, is an extensive and flourishing female seminary. Three railroads radiate hence—one to the great cotton region in the Southern part of the State, another to the town of Atlanta, and the third to Milledgeville and Savannah. Macon, owing to the rich planting interest surrounding it, and its concentration of railroads, bids fair to become an important city. It is evidently a most desirable place for a Southern residence. The iron horse took me in seven hours to Atlanta, a place rather awkwardly laid off, owing to the interference of the railroad tracks which intersect its limits. The steam whistle is heard here every hour of the day, announcing the arrival and departure of burden and passenger cars. There are here about fifteen hundred industrious, enterprising citizens. Its business grows solely out of the travel passing through it. Being in a high latitude, cool nights are experienced at this place, so that you may sleep comfortably under a blanket in summer. A railroad trip of ten hours set us down in Augusta. Being so fortunate here as to take lodgings at the United States hotel, I experienced great refreshment from the kind attention of its proprietors and the excellent viands served to its inmates. A population of about ten thousand is found at this place.

Its principal street is of handsome width, stretching more than two miles along the Savannah river. The town is lighted with gas. Cotton creates the chief trade here, although an extensive business is done in the wholesale supply of country merchants. It has extensive warehouses for the reception of cotton, which its merchants forward to Charleston by railroad and to Savannah by steamboat. Owing to its railroad facilities and to the water power which has recently been created by a canal to the river, also to its being the centre of a rich planting region, Augusta gives promise of becoming a large wealthy city. A ride of eight hours and 140 miles through a sterile district, although exhibiting many luxuriant cotton and corn fields, (some of which contained one thousand acres,) brought to my view the beautiful city of Columbia, S. Carolina. A field of cotton in full bloom, with its parti-colored flowers, is a pretty sight, especially when seen for the first time. This magnificent inland town has an elevated location, and is laid out on a tasteful plan. It offers, however, but little to stimulate the enterprise of its citizens, as almost its entire business grows out of the supplies called for by the neighboring planters. A railroad radiates hence to Charleston, with a branch to Camden; also similar roads to the northern and western portions of the State. The last mentioned is, however, unfinished. Its completion to its western terminus will, it is presumed, greatly enlarge the business of the place, as it will intersect another from Tennessee. Columbia offers to the view many sumptuous private mansions, surrounded with gardens, which are decorated with the flowers and foliage natural to the sunny South. It is the seat of a large college, which is well supported, owing to its being conducted by the most able professors in every department of science and literature. The very distinguished and eloquent Hon. W. C. Preston was till recently the president.

I now took the rails for Charleston, one hundred and thirty miles distant, on my homeward route. A rather boisterous steamboat passage of sixteen hours conveyed us thence to Wilmington, North Carolina, a commercial town, containing about 10,000 inhabitants, and lying on the Cape Fear river, about forty miles by water from the ocean, although only nine by land. This is a thriving enterprising place. Its chief trade is in lumber, naval stores, and turpentine, which productions it exports to the different American and foreign ports. Rice is the principal article cultivated by the planters in the vicinity. The railroad from Weldon terminates at this place, the pleasantest track on the whole line from the Potomac river, owing to its having but little grade, and a large proportion of straight line. I am informed that this costly road was constructed mainly by the enterprize of the citizens of Wilmington. They are also pushing to completion another road to intersect the Manchester and Charleston road, which, when completed, will shorten the passage and overcome the necessity of the objectionable ocean route now travelled. The cars conveyed us hence at a rate of twenty miles an hour, through a barren country, and swampy lands. The trees that we passed were hung with a sort of moss, which looked at a distance like bunches of flax carelessly thrown on them.

After a jaunt of fifty miles, we came to the little village of Warsaw, where we were transferred to stages. The people living in this part of North Carolina depend principally on the production of turpentine. The mode of producing it I will allude to. Early in the spring, incisions are made in the bodies of the pine trees, in the form of a pocket, to receive the turpentine as it runs therefrom. On some occasions, the bark and a portion of the sap are removed by a three cornered chisel to produce a flow of the turpentine. There are two species of pine, the broad and narrow leaved, the latter of which produces no turpentine. A good running tree will produce about three gallons of turpentine in a season. They will also run for many years before becoming exhausted.

After travelling through a low sultry part of the country I arrived at Fayetteville, about one hundred miles above Wilmington, at the head of navigation on the Cape Fear river. This town contains 3,000 souls, and is well laid out, but is rather stationary in the way of improvement. The citizens have of late, however, made commendable efforts, by the construction of plank roads and slack-watering the Cape Fear river, to bring trade to this place. Its business consists mainly in the reception and transportation of cotton. There are several flour mills and cotton factories in the vicinity, also an extensive United States arsenal.

I now bent my course to Raleigh, about sixty miles distant by stage route, crossing Cape Fear river at its highest stage of water in a rickety canoe. Our stages were well adapted to relieve persons afflicted with dyspepsia. The State Capitol at this place is one of the first in the Union, and adds much to the beauty of the town, the population of which is about 2,000. Raleigh is in a healthy section of country, and is selected as a summer residence by planters from the lower portion of the State. The dwelling-houses are built on a costly plan, combining comfort and convenience. A large portion of its citizens are wealthy and refined. There is at this place a large and prosperous female seminary, under the supervision of the Episcopal diocese of the State. The town is laid out with wide streets, radiating for the most part from the Capitol square, which gives it a handsome appearance. A railroad runs hence to Gaston and Petersburg. This has been in a bad condition for some time, but with great enterprise is now being relaid with substantial rails and other corresponding improvements.

Leaving Raleigh I pursued my way to Petersburg, Virginia, over a railroad which keeps the traveler in constant fear, owing to the numerous "snake-heads" that strike the cars, making a speed of only seven miles an hour. We were ten hours coming to Gaston, the junction of the Petersburg and Weldon road, where we left the Raleigh cars with much satisfaction, to be forwarded at a rapid rate on a good road to Petersburg. A pleasant car ride of about an hour and a half placed me again in Richmond. We now took a short railroad to Appomatox river, where we were put on board the beautiful steamer Augusta, bound for Norfolk. As we passed down the James river, amid beautiful scenery, our eyes turned eagerly to catch, if posible, a glance of Jamestown, celebrated as the first English settlement in America, but where is now to be seen only a solitary chimney. After a winding course, amid various islands, our boat came successively in sight of Hampton Roads, the Rip Raps, Old Point Comfort, and Norfolk. This ancient city is pleasantly situated on an expansive bay, admitting vessels of the largest draft up to the city. It is admirably placed for a large commercial emporium, and numbers a population of fifteen thousand.—There is a seeming lack of enterprise here, the citizens appearing satified with what Nature has done for them in giving them an advantageous position for commerce, and an abundant supply of good fish and oysters. The soil in the vicinity is rather poor, but susceptible of great improvement. It might be made by proper efforts the finest early vegetable market in the Union, as this class of productions are grown here several weeks earlier than at places north of the Chesapeake, and the facilities of sending them to distant markets are abundant. Richmond cuts off all the upper trade from this venerable town, which possesses natural advantages that the former has not; and which, by energy and enterprise, Richmond could be made to feel. Norfolk is a pleasant spot for a residence, as a sea breeze always sets into that port. Portsmouth, lying opposite, is quite a pleasant village, having about 2,500 inhabitants, with but little trade. Its principal commercial business is created by the Dismal Swamp canal and the adjacent United States navy yard; the former bringing large quantities of lumber, and the latter giving employment to a large number of mechanics in various branches. This navy yard is one of the largest in the United States, and all its buildings, dry-docks, &c., are arranged on a corresponding scale. The Seabo