

The dispatches in another column would indicate that South Carolina is bent on secession, not as Jo Lane would say, and that Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Mississippi, and perhaps Louisiana, would follow her example. Our hope is that they may be allowed to depart peacefully, if they really wish to go. They (or a portion of them at least) have been a clog on the liberal action of the Government by their weight in Congress, and particularly by their votes against the Pacific Rail Road, the Homestead Bill, which benefits to the West would be almost incalculable—they have acted like brakes on the wheels of the Government, except whilst running down the inclined plane of Slavery-Extension—and when once this incubus-weight is detached, our grand country will bound forward like a giant unfettered, nor stop in its course till its destiny be accomplished. Let them go—they will take off only two millions of whites and the same number of niggers—the mulattoes in proportion to the Democrats. Just think of it—two million whites and two million niggers—mying nothing of the Democratic mulattoes—breaking off from this Government, and expecting to stop its progress! Great God! was ever such fatuity exhibited before, except in the addled brains of some nuttous-headed squirts of Democracy in Oregon! Twenty-eight millions will remain under the old Star-Spangled Banner, forming the freest, happiest, most prosperous, and in time to come the most magnificent nation on the globe!

—All sorts of compromises are being proposed at Washington. We hope the Republicans will offer none. All propositions of that sort should come from the other side. This, we are glad to see, is their resolve. We are firmly of the opinion that this whole secession move is a concerted plan between Buchanan and the fire-eaters. His acts of late, together with his piling Message, plainly show this.—The defenseless condition of the Forts at Charleston, and the repeated refusal of the President to listen to the appeals of the commandant for more men and ammunition, are almost direct proof of Buchanan's complicity with the secessionists of the South in their mad attempts upon the integrity of the Government. Gen. Cass understood this, and resigned, washing his hands of any connection with the damnable plot.—If any further proof were wanting, look at Buchanan's retention in his Cabinet of that miserable Disunion rascal, the up-headed, big-bellied Cobb, who is as destitute of financing abilities as a jackass, and whose notorious incapacity has reduced the Treasury of the United States to actual bankruptcy, and to a condition lower than it has ever reached since the foundation of the Government! He at last has resigned the position which he so long disgraced, and from which an upright Chief Magistrate would long ago have kicked him out. The scheme of Buchanan and the fire-eating scoundrels is no doubt to crowd matters to the utmost extremity, and thus force the North into some sort of a compromise of the Constitution. We trust our friends will stand firm, and permit no tinkering with that noble instrument, under whose auspices we have grown and prospered for seventy years. If any States have passed into violation of its spirit, let those enactments be repealed as unconstitutional and void. These laws seem to form the burden of complaint of the more reasonable of the Southern States, and we hope their appeals for redress will be met in a spirit of conciliation and good will. This will nullify the schemes of Old Buck and his Disunion confederates, and leave them no other alternative but to come back into the Union, or to go ahead and form their Cotton Confederacy, with the risk of being thrashed into good manners by Spain, at the first interference with Cuba.

—One thing, at least, is certain: We are done with Democrats for President, now and forever. One of the evils our country has had to suffer from the section that is about retiring from the Union, has been their weight in the Electoral College, which of late years has invariably been cast for Pro-Slavery Democrats.

—A Cotton Confederacy!—composed of two millions of whites, living upon the sweat and blood of two millions of poor niggers!—not counting the large number of Democratic mulattoes! Why wouldn't have the moral force in the world of the one-horse "Pacific Republic" which some poor fools on this coast have gabbled about as a possibility!

SPORTSMEN, ATTENTION!—We call the attention of sportsmen and others to the advertisement of Mr. Wilde in another column. Mr. W. has recently refitted his shop in a superior style, and is now prepared to execute work with neatness and dispatch. We can confidently recommend Mr. Wilde to the favor of the public.

THANKS.—We are indebted to A. Helbrook, Esq., for a copy of the S. F. Bulletin, containing the very latest news from the East.

Arch-Bishop Blanchet will please receive our thanks for his kindness in furnishing us with late papers.

PROLIFIC FIVE.—Mr. George Graham, of this county, has a Merino ewe, which has produced six lambs in fourteen months.

OREGON CITY MARKET.—Wheat, 55c; Flour, \$3.50; Oats 25c; Butter, 20c; Eggs, 25c.

quashed to us. The federal relations of States to each other under the Constitution, the powers delegated to the General Government, the reserved rights of the States, and the authority, if there be any, by which a State can dissolve its connection with the rest, together with the duties of the General Government in case of secession; and above and beyond all, the mighty consequences of such an attempt, are subjects well worthy of the gravest investigation.

Whether human wisdom will be adequate to devise the best possible means for meeting the issues that will unquestionably be made up before many years, is by no means certain—but if those issues should be precipitated upon us during the next four years, there is no man we would sooner see in the Presidential chair than Mr. Lincoln. In our humble judgment, he is, in all the sterling attributes that rendered the name of Jackson immortal, not a whit behind him who throttled treason in 1833. In saying this, we must not be understood as indicating that Mr. Lincoln will consider it necessary to pursue the precise course that was adopted by Jackson. A disease which in Jackson's time exhibited itself only in an ugly ulcer on a "dishonorable member" of the body politic, may not require the same kind of a remedy after it has considerably blotched over the surface of the nether extremities. We believe that Mr. Lincoln will be up to the requirements of the case, let the disorder exhibit itself as it may—that is, as nearly up to it as any other man would.—Let him do his duty, and he will have the backing of an irresistible power as the "Northern swarms" that once overran all Europe.

Of the aspects of disunion, we shall have more to say hereafter.

FLOUR FOR LIVERPOOL.—We learn that H. E. Hayes, of this county, and C. B. Hawley, of Yauhill, are now having ten thousand bushels of wheat ground up, at the Willamette Falls Mills, at this place, for immediate shipment to Liverpool.—Mr. Hayes goes to San Francisco in a few days, to be ready to receive the flour and ship it on board a clipper for Liverpool.—These gentlemen have stood by a long while for some one in Oregon to act as a pioneer in this or a similar enterprise, but finding that they would likely have to wait 'till the cows come home' before any one of sufficient energy would step forward, they concluded to embark in the business at once themselves. We hope their undertaking will be rewarded with complete success, and that others, profiting by their example, will engage in the same business, and thus build up a traffic between Oregon and the East. No more opportune time than the present could be taken, we think.

Since writing the above, we have understood that the enterprise of Messrs. Hayes and Hawley has stimulated action on the part of others, and that another lot of five thousand bushels is ready to be ground at the same Mills, for shipment to the same market. The flour, of course, will be of the best Oregon manufacture, and we are pleased to state that the brand of the Willamette Falls Mills stands A No. 1 wherever it has been introduced.

Bad Boys.—An unusual spectacle in our usually quiet little city is the number of rowdy boys that have of late been making night hideous with their antics. Some of these clays are of that peculiar period of adolescence, when one is neither a boy nor a man—the time of life usually known as the pin-feather state—the period of transition from boyhood to manhood, when the voice becomes hoarse, as though it passed through a throat lined with saw-dust, and all their actions are of that character belonging to the gawk—the most disgusting period of human existence.—We regret to notice among them some smaller boys whose parents would confer a great favor upon the public by keeping them at home out of mischief. We hear of two lads who were rudely insulted the other evening whilst returning from church, by this same class of bipeds of which we have been speaking. A few more such capers as they have been cutting lately, will probably cause these sprightly youths to appear before the Recorder. If so, their case shall be reported for the benefit of the public.

Correspondents will please have patience—our poetical contributors especially—the lady ones particularly. "Amicus" shall be heard next week. "Trumps" is in a desperate way. The singular letters which he has received from up country are enough to trouble an equal temper. 'T' shall have 'em published next week. Those 'gals' are curious 'critters'.

NEW YEAR'S ADDRESS.—We had intended to present our readers with an address on New Year's Day, but through some mishap the manuscript did not reach our office until a few days ago. However, as it has some bearing on the political aspects of the times, we shall accommodate our readers with the address next week.

We received through Tracy & Co. Express this week a sum of money, but without any direction as to its application. Will the sender please inform us?

We notice that the Oregon Democrat has come out under the auspices of P. J. Malope, Esq., as editor.

tion relative to ex-Secretary Cobb prevailed, with dissenting voices. Some members objected, as it would be complimenting him in a manner not accorded to the Commissioners.

The Convention held an evening session, at which the Alabama and Mississippi Commissioners were introduced, when they addressed the Convention. The speeches of both were moderate in tone, and were principally designed to show that they acted by authority of the Governor of their States, and at the desire of a majority of the people.

A resolution was adopted appointing a committee to draft an ordinance of secession. Another resolution, authorizing any member to hand in a draft or scheme, was discussed.

Cheves remarked that the great aim was to prevent disunion. "The first thing was to break the chain of the Union; and the next thing would be, to study the point of direction."

Hayne contended that secession was simply a matter of the secession of South Carolina, and that there had been a sufficient expression of opinion to guide the Committee upon secession. All were unanimous. He wanted the Committee to be possessed of the greatest intellect.

The Convention, on the 17th, adjourned from Columbia to Charleston. They arrived at the latter place on the 18th, and had a grand military reception. Fifteen guns—one for each slave State—were fired. Complimentary speeches were made, and there was great applause.

The Convention assembled at 4 o'clock: 150 members present. The galleries were crowded with ladies. The Committee to prepare an address appointed Rhett, Chairman. A resolution was submitted and laid over for the appointment of four Standing Committees on Relation with slaveholding States—Foreign Relations, Commercial Relations, and Constitution of the State.

Mr. McGrath offered a resolution that so much of the President's Message as to what he designates property in the United States be referred with instructions to report what such property consists of, how acquired, whether the purpose for which acquired, can be enjoyed by the United States after secession, consistently with the dignity and safety of the State, and that the Committee report on the value of United States property not in South Carolina, and value her share on an equitable division among the States. (Applause in the galleries.) The resolution was made the order for to-morrow. The same disposition was made of a resolution to appoint five citizens as a Council of Safety, to act with the Governor. An address from a portion of the Georgia Legislature was laid on the table. Adjourned.

The Convention reassembled on the 19th Dec. The President read a telegram to Elmore, Alabama Commissioner, in the following words:

Tell Convention to listen to no proposition of compromise or delay.

Gov. MOORE. It was received with loud applause. McGrath's resolution was then considered. Miles stated that he had no idea the President would send reinforcements, as he had so stated in conversation, and subsequently in writing. He (Miles) had been informed that the forts will be taken because they are necessary to our safety.—There were only 65 men at Fort Moultrie, and he felt the necessity of being watchful, lest a few men at Charleston might seize the fort in the night. Let us wait; delays will be to our advantage.

The resolution was adopted. A resolution was introduced for the appointment of a Commissioner to each Slave State, bearing the plan of proceedings, in advance of secession, to prepare each State willing to unite with South Carolina in the adoption of a Confederacy based upon the Constitution of the United States, and recommending those uniting to elect members to the House and Vice President of the new Confederacy.

On Dec. 20th, Ingalls reported an ordinance of secession, which declares the repeal of the ordinance of May 20th, 1788, whereby the Constitution of the U. S. was ratified, and all acts of Assembly ratifying the amendments to that Constitution, which passed unanimously, at quarter past 1: 169 members voting.

The news spread rapidly, and there was immense cheering. It was ordered that the Clerk telegraph to the Members of Congress, at Washington.

The news produced intense excitement among the members of Congress, and for a long time confused its proceedings.

The Pacific Rail Road Bill passed the House, Dec. 20, by a vote of 99 to 78.—The bill provides for a Central and Southern Road.

Gen. Cass has resigned the office of Secretary of State, because the President refused to send reinforcements to the forts at Charleston, as urged by Maj. Anderson, the commandant there. Atty Gen. Black was appointed in his place.

Cobb, of the Treasury, has also resigned. Douglas has decided to support Crittenden's propositions.

Seward denies that the Albany Journal expresses his views.

LINCOLN IN NORTHWESTERN VIRGINIA.—The Wheeling Intelligencer truly calls Ritchieville, Va., the most glorious place this side of the Elysian Fields. "Just think of a clear 104 votes for Old Abe, down there—52 votes more than Douglas got—83 more than Bell got, and 113 more than Breckinridge—and 56 more than Fremont got in the county!"

Under the head of "The Pashanle Bourbons Killed Off," the Wheeling Intelligencer congratulates its readers on the handsome Republican vote—some 1,200—just cast in the Northwestern section of Virginia. It says: "The Republicans have fairly conquered a peace for that sentiment which does not believe that Slavery is the paramount interest of the State, and one which ought to be discriminated for at a heavy expense to all the other interests. It will now be just as respectable to be opposed to the unjust pretensions of Eastern Virginia, as it has been heretofore to be subservient to them—and instead of representatives being selected for their soundness on the nigger, they will be selected for their soundness on our own interests."

our territorial relations and the suppression of filibustering among our people. He commends the Attorney General for his distinguished services in testing the claims to lands in California, which have been urged under title by Mexican grants. He closes by recommending the people of Kansas, who are suffering for bread, to the tender sympathies of the people of other portions of the Union.

Arrival of the Pony Express.

Dates to December 21.

THE PACIFIC RAILROAD BILL PASSED THE HOUSE!

Congressional Proceedings.

The Senate, on the 18th December, passed Powell's resolution for the Committee of Thirteen on the State of the Union, to which Lane's and Crittenden's resolutions were referred. Lane's provides for a convention of delegates of all States, previous to which Southern States in convention may decide on conditions necessary to their peace and safety; also, that the Federal Government abstain from employment of force towards any State, and if there is any danger of collision, the Federal forces and State forces be promptly withdrawn.—Crittenden's comprehends the following amendments to the Constitution:

First, Extension of the Missouri Compromise line. Territory now or hereafter acquired and of which slavery is prohibited. The same shall be recognized and protected with regard to slave property, and not interfered with by Congress.—The States to be admitted whenever they shall have population sufficient for a member of Congress.

Second, Congress shall have no power to abolish slavery in States permitting it.

Third, The same relative to the District of Columbia as was organized.

Fourth, Congress shall not interfere with the transportation of slaves.

Fifth, Provides for the payment for fugitive slaves by counties in which rescued—the county to have recourse against residents.

Sixth, No future amendments to the Constitution are to interfere with slavery.

Seventh, It extends the repeal of the Fugitive Slave Law, and the effect of execution of laws to suppress the revival of the slave trade.

Mr. Crittenden pressed the amendments with a powerful appeal to the conservative sentiment of the Union, urging concession as indispensable to the salvation of the Union, and said, as sure as he stood there, disunion would follow unless some thing was done. He feared it would swallow old Kentucky, as true a State as yet exists in the Union.

Mr. Salisbury was prepared to accept Crittenden's proposition.

Mr. Hale wanted to know whether Wigfall or Crittenden, whose demands widely differed, was authorized to speak. He did not think past experience in geographical lines would be respected, and was not willing to urge acceptance to the full extent. Crittenden's proposition, though he liked many things in it, would not please his people, whom he thought had given pledge of fealty to the Union, and would give it still.

Mr. Johnson of Tennessee argued against the right of secession, and though the North might violate the Constitution, he saw no reason why the South should follow in revolutionary acts.

In the House, on the 18th, amendments to the Pacific Telegraph act were offered.

The Pacific Railroad bill was taken up, and the Speaker decided it must be considered in Committee of the Whole, as it made a money appropriation. Numerous bills were laid aside to reach it.

The House, this day, twice refused to adjourn over the holidays.

Several bills were considered in Committee of the Whole, one making appropriations in the case of the captured Africans, and after discussion, was adopted.

The Senate, on the 19th, was addressed by Mr. Johnson, of Tennessee, who took ground in favor of suppressing secession by force, as rebellion.

Mr. Lane replied, declaring that old Democrats would not march under the bloody banner of the Senator from Tennessee.

Mr. Sibley and Mr. Gwin pronounced as false reports that they had denounced the President.

St. Louis, Dec. 18.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECESSION CONVENTION OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

The South Carolina Convention assembled on the 17th of Dec. at Columbia, in the midst of a panic created by the small-pox, which was intensely raging among the citizens and strangers. Many members of the Legislature had gone home by consequence. Some members of the Convention were young in appearance, but generally they were middle-aged, and so far, calm and unimpassioned.

Jamison was appointed temporary Chairman.

the House of Representatives, in February, 1861. This amendment was rendered necessary in order to prevent a recurrence of the dangers which seriously threatened the existence of the Government during the pendency of that election, and the article, for its own amendment, was intended to procure the amicable adjustment of the conflicting constitutional questions like the present, which might arise between the government of the States and the United States. This appears from contemporaneous history.

In this connection, I shall merely call attention to a few instances in Mr. Madison's justly celebrated report in 1799, to the legislature of Virginia. In those he ably and conclusively defended the resolutions of the previous legislatures. These were mainly founded upon protests of the Virginia legislature, against the alien and sedition acts, as palpable and alarming infractions of the Constitution. In pointing to the peaceful and constitutional remedies, and he referred to none other, which the States were authorized to resort to on such occasions, he concluded by saying that the legislators of the States might have made direct representations to Congress, with a view to obtain a rescinding of the offensive acts, or they might have represented to their respective Senators in Congress their wish, that two-thirds thereof would propose any explanatory amendment to the Constitution; or two-thirds of themselves, if such be their opinion, might by an application to Congress have obtained a convention for the very same object. This is the very course which I earnestly recommend.

In order to obtain an explanatory amendment of the Constitution on the subject of slavery, it might originate with Congress or the State legislatures, as deemed most advisable to attain the object. The explanatory amendments might be confined to the final settlement of the true construction of the Constitution on these special points; 1st, an explicit recognition of the right of property in slaves in the States where slavery now exists, or may hereafter exist. 2d, The duty of protecting this right in all the common Territories throughout their territorial existence and until they shall be admitted as States into the Union, with or without slavery, as their Constitution may prescribe. 3d, A like recognition of the rights of the master to his slave who has escaped from one State to another, to be restored and delivered to him, and the validity of the Fugitive Slave Law, enacted for this purpose, together with a declaration that all State laws impairing or decreasing the right, are violations of the Constitution, and consequently null and void.

It may be objected that this construction of the Constitution has already been settled by the Supreme Court of the United States, and what more ought to be required? The answer is that a very large proportion of the people of the United States will controvert the correctness of the decision, and never cease from agitation, or admit its binding force, till clearly established by the people of the several States in their sovereign character. Such an explanation would, it is believed, forever terminate the existing dissensions, and restore peace and harmony among the States.—It might not be doubted that such an appeal to the arbitration established by the Constitution itself, would not be received with favor by all the States of the Confederacy. In any event, it ought to be tried in a spirit of conciliation before any of these States shall separate themselves from the Union.

When I entered upon the duties of the Presidential office, the aspect neither of our foreign nor domestic relations was at all satisfactory. We were involved in dangerous complications with several nations, and two of our Territories were in a state of revolution against our Government. A restoration of the African slave trade had numerous and powerful advocates. Unlawful military expeditions were countenanced by many of our citizens, and were suffered in defiance of the efforts of our Government, to escape from our shores, for the purpose of making war on the inoffensive people of neighboring republics with whom we were at peace. In addition to these and other difficulties, we experienced a revulsion in monetary affairs soon after my advent, proving of unexampled severity and of ruinous consequences to the country. When we take a retrospect of what was then our condition, and contrast this with its natural prosperity at the time of the late Presidential election, we have abundant reason to return our grateful thanks to that merciful Providence which has never forsaken us, as a nation, in all our trials.

[The foregoing is the President's views at length upon the present domestic troubles. We make an abstract of the remainder of the Message as follows.]

Foreign Relations.—He speaks with much satisfaction respecting the amity and friendly commercial relations which now exist between us and foreign powers. Especially does he dwell upon the advantages we have gained by our policy toward China and Japan.

All our difficulties with the British Government have been settled, except that of the North-Western Boundary—San Juan Island—and that is now in negotiation. American claims against the governments of Spain, China, New Grenada, Costa Rica and Nicaragua, are settled, or are in a fair way for settlement. In regard to Mexico, the condition of affairs is not changed.

He laments the refusal of Congress to accede to his recommendation to march a force into the interior of Mexico, and thro' to protect the rights of American citizens, and close its treaties with the Constitutional Government of that country as the only means left to him.

Slave Trade.—Pacific Rail Road.—The President says the feeling in favor of a revival of the slave trade has died away. He repeats his recommendations in favor of a Pacific Rail Road.

The Tariff.—He says the tariff must be revised and changed for the purpose of raising revenue.—He repeats his arguments in favor of specific duties, which will protect the government against fraud and encourage the domestic industry of the country. He urges this view of the subject upon Congress.

He repeats his adherence to his former opinions relative to the Loosomton Constitution.

Of the finances, he says that the expenditures for the year ending June 30, 1860, were \$39,845,474.72, and the estimated amount required for 1861 is \$62,000,000.

He recommends the appointment by Congress of a special day before the 4th day of March in every other year, for the election of Members of Congress throughout all the States.

He congratulates the country on the state of