

"Spare that Flag."

The following beautiful lines were written
by a gentleman holding a distinguished position
under the Federal Government in Wash-
ington city:

PARODY.

"WOODMAN, SPARE THAT TREE."

Madman, spare that flag!

Torch not a single star;

From sea to mountain's crest;

His stripes have gleamed afar;

Twas our forefathers' hand

That gave it as we see it;

Tear, madmen, let it stand,

Your flag shall harm it not!

That flag of Liberty.

Whose glory and renown

Are spread o'er land and sea;

And would ye strike it down?

Madmen, spare your flag!

Cut not its stripes born free;

Our country's ensign still

Struck with celestial dyes!

On Ocean's wave and heath,

In battle and in blast,

Our fathers cheered beneath,

Or nailed it to the mast;

A tear for those who fell,

For those who lived, renown,

Be theirs, leave the flag to us;

While we have an arm to save

Your flag, shall harm it not.

Our heart strings round thee cling,

And our lives for thee we give;

On field and deck thy wing

Has been a freeman's shield!

Old flag, the storm still brave;

And traitors, leave the flag to us;

While we have an arm to save

Your flag, shall harm it not.

The family sitting room.

The following article is copied from the

Household, a monthly magazine,

published in Ohio. "This is the pleas-

antest room in the house. It is that

which the heart of the absent, or home-

sick child, always turns to; it is the Ca-

ba of every domestic Mecca. It is the

room that makes home, and hence, we call

it the family room. There is the fountain

of the household life; hence, to many of us

it is known as the living-room. Though

these words are not found in any dictio-

nary, they are found in every heart. Here

the family sit together—here those do-

mestic accomplishments, writing, sewing,

and reading, are carried on; here is the

only room that is found in every house—

large or small. There may be no parlor,

no dining-room, no bedroom, no kitchen,

but a family room there always is. It

may be used for a drawing-room, or a din-

ing-room, or a sleeping-room, or even a

kitchen, but it always remains the family-

room. All other uses are temporary and

exigent, this is permanent and perpetual.

As this is the pleasantest in the heart,

it should be made the pleasantest in the

house. It should be large and airy; its

location should be in the center of the

house, and its furniture should be plain

and comfortable. If there is space enough,

a few flower-pots should grace one of the

windows. A book-case is indispensable,

and children's books to fill one or more of

its shelves. "Robinson Crusoe," "Arabian

Nights," and "Pilgrim's Progress" should

not be wanting in any family that can

afford them. Engravings, now so

cheap and good, and particularly stereo-

scopic views, ought to be the aim of every

householder. It is not to be said, how-

ever, that every one can afford to get what

he really wants. What we cannot afford to get,

is what our envy or vanity craves. The

best things for us are those which our

heart desires—which we can appreciate—

which express our character, and are an

extension of ourselves. Whether such

things are books, pictures, or flowers, we

can get them; and these, as belonging to

the heart, belong to the family room. The

THE MICHIGAN LEGISLATURE.

Senate Resolutions and Discussion on the

Crises.

In the Senate, on Monday, the 14th

inst., Mr. INGERSOLL, of the Committee

on Federal Relations, submitted the

following majority report:

That they had approached the mat-

ter referred to them in a spirit of that

devoted love and veneration for the con-

stitution and government of the Feder-

al Union which has ever characterized

the people of Michigan. No State in the

bright galaxy which compose our

common country has derived more ben-

efit as a people, or has greater cause to

revere this system of government, so

framed by the sagacity of our early

statesmen as to leave to every State its

own social and political individuality,

and yet unite the whole in one grand

confederation, having a common diplo-

macy, a common system of customs, a

common coinage, and a common power

of defense from domestic violence or

external aggression, though differing

widely from each other, not merely in

geographical position and natural pro-

ductions, but in social structure and in

industrial pursuits. An experience of

seventy-five years under the operations

of our constitution has wedded us to

this practical system of government,

and proved that nothing but this wise

combination of Federal and State unity

which the genius of its founders de-

vised, and which their successors have

faithfully developed, could have given

free play to such an endless variety of

peculiar characteristics, and at the same

time welded together into one con-

sistent whole such a multiplicity of

different and sometimes conflicting in-

terests. This benefit has been co-equal

and co-extensive with the country; and

yet, at a time of profound national

prosperity, when the progress of the

United States of America has exceed-

ed the most extravagant anticipations

of the Confederacy, for real or

fancied grievances, after vanishing

threats for more than a quarter of a

century, have met in conventions, under

the sanction of State authorities, and

solemnly declared themselves independ-

ent Powers, no longer owing allegiance

to the government of the United States.

The committee need not at this period

discuss the cause of this rebellious con-

duct, nor would it be fitting the dignity

of a proud and loyal State to proffer

excuses to a sisterhood that has

been up to this time in no way

involved in our common government.

While we should ever be willing to con-

ciliate a complaining section of our

country, it is not for Michigan to com-

promise her principles or her honor in

any amicable appeal to traitors or re-

bels, or any other than such as the

dignity of outraged law requires. To the

Union-loving members of the Confed-

eracy, however, the Peninsular State

should address herself in terms of frat-

ernal regard, as due to their valor and

unwavering patriotism in resisting the

seductive appeals of those who seek

their estrangement and court their power

as allies in the perfidious rebellion.

Admiring the loyalty and firmness of

the Union-loving citizens and represen-

tatives of Delaware, Maryland, Vir-

ginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Missouri,

and North Carolina, who are foremost

in resisting secession, we should particu-

larly regard those States with that full

consideration which their patriotism and

self-sacrificing devotion demand.

In the present exigency, Michigan

should well be mindful of the sacred

surrender of important rights, or sac-

rifice of vital principle. The more

pride of opinion is base selfishness,

where a fatal embarrassment of devo-

tional friends is the issue and utter

estrangement is the deplorable result.

In this light alone the committee

have acted under the solemn impres-

sion that Michigan has no desire to im-

pair any constitutional right of a sis-

ter State, and that, while she would

draw around every citizen of her

Commonwealth the strongest guaran-

tee of protection and defense, she has

no disposition to refrain from the in-

mediate modification of any law upon

her statute book that may be found to

conflict with the constitution of the

United States or any law of Congress

in pursuance thereof.

With the expression of these brief

views a majority of the committee re-

port the accompanying resolutions back

to the Senate, and submit the following

as a substitute therefor, and recom-

mend that every citizen of Michigan

ground on which every citizen of Michi-

gan and all parties in the North may

stand firmly and united, without the

sacrifice of a single principle of politi-

cal right."

JOINT RESOLUTIONS OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN.

Whereas, The acts of evil and mis-

guided men who are seeking to destroy

this government, as well as the noble

efforts of patriotic citizens who are

striving faithfully to avert such a wick-

ed and calamitous issue, alike render it

proper for the State of Michigan to ex-

press her views upon this crisis, and to

place upon record the position which she

CONGRESSIONAL.

Congressional.

Washington, Jan. 21.

Mr. Hunter, from the Committee on Finance, reported the Indian appropriation bill and asked to be excused from further service on the Finance Committee. He said it was evident that the party in the majority in the Senate would soon be changed, and he thought it justice to himself and the Senate that he be excused.

Mr. Hunter has been chairman of the Committee on Finance for fifteen years. He was excused.

Mr. Bigler presented a petition asking the passage of the Crittenden resolutions. Laid on the table.

Mr. Latham was excused from service on the Territorial Committee.

Mr. Polk presented a petition from the citizens of Missouri, the signatures occupying fifteen quires of folio cap, wrapped in the American flag, inscribed "Love the North, South, East and West," asking the passage of the Crittenden resolutions. Laid on the table.

Mr. Saffell asked the Senate to take up the message of the President in answer to his resolution in relation to his appointment of an acting Secretary of War. He also offered a resolution as follows:

Resolved, That in the opinion of the Senate, the reasons given by the President in his message for not communicating to the Senate, at an earlier date, the fact of having appointed Jos. Holt acting Secretary of War, are not satisfactory; also:

Resolved, That the ground assumed by the President for making such an appointment during the session of the Senate at variance with the whole spirit of the Constitution, and with the true intent and meaning of the act of 1795. Laid over under the rules.

Mr. Yulee, of Fla., announced the withdrawal of himself and colleague from the Senate.

Mr. Clay also read the withdrawal of the Alabama Senators.

Mr. Clay charged the Republicans as being the authors of the trouble which caused secession, and the Republican platform he declared a declaration of war against the lives and institutions of the South.

Mr. Fitzpatrick endorsed his colleague's remarks.

Mr. Davis that the separation of Mississippi terminated his functions here. In parting, he said he felt no hostility toward any Senator, and hoped that relations between them might be peaceful, though we must part. If he had offended, he would make an apology and all repentation for such offense. As the Senators from Florida, Alabama and Mississippi left, all the Democratic Senators crowded about them, shaking hands, Hale and Cameron being the only Republicans doing so.

On motion of Mr. Seward, the Kansas bill was taken up.

Mr. Green withdrew his amendment creating Jefferson territory.

Mr. Fitch again offered an amendment in regard to the Judiciary.

Mr. Douglas opposed any amendment.

Mr. Seward said it was contrary to all custom to introduce this provision.

Mr. Fitch's amendment was agreed to, 29 to 28.

The Kansas bill was then read a third time and passed—yeas 36, nays 16.

The Crittenden resolutions were taken up.

Mr. Bigler spoke at considerable length in favor of their passage, and urged the necessity of a convention of the people to decide upon the question.

He urged the Republican Senators to consider the necessity of the passage of these or similar resolutions. He appealed to the South to consider if its rights could not be obtained in the Union. He opposed secession, but could not see how they could coerce a State. Coercion was delusion.

Mr. Cameron would not make a speech for though his colleague offered the olive branch, the other side would not listen or respond. He was inclined to do all he could to save the Union.

Mr. Green said the well-known patriotism of the Senator from Penn. precluded the necessity of watching him, but the other side could not hear the words of patriotism.

Mr. Cameron was sorry that the Senators who left would not wait till they heard from Pennsylvania.

Mr. Iverson asked if Mr. Cameron approved of Bigler's speech? He said no, never; because Lincoln must submit to Virginia and other States which formed the Constitution, which limits the power to be exercised. Whoever receives the majority of the Electoral votes must, under the Constitution, be President. He saw, nothing in the Personal Liberty bill justifying dissolution. There was a disposition in the Northern Legislatures to strike them from their statute books, but the South was apprehensive of the future. The territorial question was already settled by the Constitution, and settled in favor of the South, and he therefore supposed no danger was apprehended from that source, and consequently there was no justification in dissolution. He would have Virginia defend her rights, secured her by the Constitution, to the last end; but some State-rights men want to throw away these blessings. Only to show her right to do so. He thought South Carolina, instead of withdrawing, should have called a convention with Confederate States, and made known her grievances and her purpose to withdraw; but having withdrawn, should not be coerced in any form. He advocated a convention, to see what should be done with seceding States. He approved of the general tone of Mr. Corwin's speech, while he dissented from the admission of New Mexico. He deemed her admission for so responsible a position. He concluded with an earnest hope that the Union would still be preserved, and seceding States restored to their original position.

Alabama not a unit.

From the Nashville, (Tenn.) News.

Dispatches from Montgomery, and private advice from Huntsville and Athens, say that Col. Nich. Davis affirmed that North Alabama would not submit to the ordinance of secession, unless confirmed by a vote of the people. Mr. Yancey replied that South Alabama would compel them. Col. Davis answered that, when they dared attempt it, he would head an army and meet them at Sand Mountain and try the issue there.

The secession and stripes are floating in Huntsville and the people of that place defy the world to take them down.

Mr. Crittenden urged the importance of the measure, and spoke against the postponement.

Adjourned.

House.—Mr. Lovejoy asked leave to present a memorial from certain Methodist clergymen of Illinois.

Mr. Burnett—I object. Let them attend to their own business.

Mr. Florence—Let us hear what they have to say.

Mr. Burnett—I think Congress capable of managing the legislation of the country, and with due respect to the clergy, I think that they ought to attend to the duties of their legitimate sphere, apart from politics.

Mr. Lovejoy—The memorial asks for protection from religious persecution.—One Methodist clergyman has been hanged in Texas, simply for his religious opinions.

Mr. Burnett—I have no objection to the memorial being laid on the table. It was so ordered.

Mr. Florence presented memorials from Philadelphia, signed by citizens of all parties, including some who voted for Mr. Lincoln, asking for an adjustment of the difficulties on the Crittenden plan.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter signed by the Alabama delegation withdrawing from further participation in the deliberations of the House in consequence of the secession of that State.

The following is the letter of the Alabama Representatives, announcing their withdrawal:

Washington, Jan. 21, 1861.

HON. WM. PENNINGTON,

Speaker of the House of Representatives:

Sir,—Having received information that the State of Alabama, through a Convention representing her sovereignty, has adopted and ratified an ordinance by which she withdraws from the Union of the United States of America and resumes the powers heretofore delegated to the Federal Government, it is proper that we should withdraw from the same, and through you to the House of Representatives over which you preside and announce our withdrawal from the further deliberations of that body. The causes which, in the judgment of our State, render such action necessary, we need not relate. It is sufficient to say, that duty requires our obedience to our sovereign will, and that we will return to our homes, sustain her action, and share the fortunes of our people.

Your obedient servants,

Signed, GEO. S. HOUSTON, SYDENHAM MOORE, DAVID CLOPTON, JAS. L. PUGH, J. L. McCURRY, JAS. L. STALLWORTH.

The communication was laid on the table and ordered printed.

Mr. Colfax introduced a resolution for a suspension of all facilities in the seceding States. Referred to the Postoffice Committee.

Mr. English offered a resolution that the Committee of thirty-three be instructed to take necessary measures to carry the Crittenden compromise into practical effect, and moved a suspension of the rules. Lost 67 to 92.

Mr. English wished the country to notice that the Republicans would not allow a vote.

Mr. Snow—The Republicans will vote when they choose.

On motion of Mr. Morris the Committee on Judiciary was instructed to inquire into the propriety of amending the neutrality laws to prevent military expeditions being allowed to aid the seceding States.

The report of the Committee of thirty-three came up and Mr. Corwin addressed the House.

Mr. Corwin said the withdrawal of a State does not necessarily make the enforcement of the laws subversive of peace, and showed that Personal Liberty bills do not affect the rights of the South, arguing that laws for the recapture of fugitives depend on the Federal Constitution. Such laws having been approved by the Supreme Court, render opposing State laws null. Southern newspapers and orators have magnified a hundred times the fugitive laws, and have represented the Republican administration. He showed that the fears of amendments to the Constitution to the detriment of the South, by the Republicans, were groundless, saying that twelve more free States were necessary to furnish the requisite votes for such an end. The committee propose as an amendment, that any change relative to slavery be dependent on the action of every State, and asked what more is demanded? He showed that the condition of a large portion of the territories precluded slavery. Slavery is already established in New Mexico; why not admit her at once, thus banishing forever this firebrand? If these difficulties are not remedied, he would not attempt to lift the curtain from the future, and predict the consequences which may follow the prevailing delusion.

Mr. Milson said the worst sign was, the levity, with which disunion was regarded. He had been asked if Virginia should submit to Lincoln? He said no, never; because Lincoln must submit to Virginia and other States which formed the Constitution, which limits the power to be exercised. Whoever receives the majority of the Electoral votes must, under the Constitution, be President. He saw, nothing in the Personal Liberty bill justifying dissolution. There was a disposition in the Northern Legislatures to strike them from their statute books, but the South was apprehensive of the future. The territorial question was already settled by the Constitution, and settled in favor of the South, and he therefore supposed no danger was apprehended from that source, and consequently there was no justification in dissolution. He would have Virginia defend her rights, secured her by the Constitution, to the last end; but some State-rights men want to throw away these blessings. Only to show her right to do so. He thought South Carolina, instead of withdrawing, should have called a convention with Confederate States, and made known her grievances and her purpose to withdraw; but having withdrawn, should not be coerced in any form. He advocated a convention, to see what should be done with seceding States. He approved of the general tone of Mr. Corwin's speech, while he dissented from the admission of New Mexico. He deemed her admission for so responsible a position. He concluded with an earnest hope that the Union would still be preserved, and seceding States restored to their original position.

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Adjourned.

The Odd Fellows on the Union.

OLD FELLOWS' HALL, Detroit, Jan. 17, 1861.

The M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Michigan, I. O. O. F., having in his annual report recommended that the Grand Lodge take some action on the state of the country, a special committee of five was appointed to report such action as they might deem appropriate. The committee submitted the following report, which was unanimously adopted.

B. VERNON, Grand Secretary.

To the Right Worthy Grand Lodge of Michigan:

We have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of that part of the Most W. Grand Master's report in regard to the present condition of the country, respectfully reported:

That your committee feel that the great prosperity of our country, its present unexampled growth, the spread of intellectual and moral as well as physical wealth, are in a great measure, owing to the constitution and Union, which, by their effects, have cemented the liberties of the whole country, and made us respected among the nations of the world, and happy, peaceful and free at home. We look with distrust upon any effort in any section of our country to stir up "the bitter waters of sectional strife," and that the principles of our Order, as well as patriotism and our duty as American citizens, require us to sustain, by voice and vote, the Union, and the Constitution, and the laws of the United States, and to endeavor to sustain and support the constitution and Union, founded in so much peril and by so great sacrifices, and productive of so much good to our country and to the world.

That we therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolutions.

Be it Resolved, by the K. W. Grand Lodge of the I. O. O. F. of the State of Michigan, That, as members of this G. Lodge, we pledge ourselves to exert our influence to renew those fraternal feelings heretofore prevailing in our country, and, as always has been the boast of our Order to be able to say, that brethren from every section of the Union, meeting for a common purpose under a common organization, can carry out plans for the common good without sectional strife, as brethren and as American citizens.

Resolved, That this Grand Body, now, as ever, stand upon the platform of "Liberty and Union," "the constitution and the laws." That we appeal to the people of the State of Michigan to stand to, abide by, and support the constitution and the laws of the Union, ready at all times to defend and protect the rights of every State as carefully as we would our own, and as prompt to strike down any violation of the supreme laws by Michigan as by South Carolina.

Resolved, That we appeal to our sister Grand Bodies all over the Union, by the common ties of fraternal harmony and fraternal intercourse, by the common blood and common ancestry, by the glorious recollection of our Revolutionary struggles; by the holy remembrance of common dangers in defense of the interests and the honor of our country; by the glories of that noble flag which we have all stood ready to sustain and cherish; by the memory of the great and good men by whose toils and sacrifice and blood we acquired this glorious heritage; to aid us in restoring that harmony and fraternal feeling so necessary to our existence as a nation, and to pledge Odd Fellows everywhere that by our Order no sectional aggression shall ever be sustained, no unbecoming ambition ever encouraged.

Resolved, That the principles of our Order forbid fraternal strife, and inculcate, in the spirit of conciliation and concession, that charity which "suffereth long, and is kind, that beareth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things, and that never faileth."

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge are due to those noble men everywhere who, at the risk of personal popularity and local aggrandizement, have thrown themselves into the breach to sustain the constitution and the laws, and to restore those fraternal relations which seem now so demanded.

Resolved, That copies of these resolutions, under the seal of the Grand Lodge, be forthwith sent to each Grand Lodge and Grand Encampment in affiliation with us, and to the Grand Lodge of the United States.

C. A. STACY, J. P. SHOEMAKER, JOHN HOSMER, HENRY FRALICK, Committee.

Letter from Ex-President Tyler.

Ex-President John Tyler has written a letter on the crisis to the Richmond (Va.) Whig, in which he says:

"If I may be permitted to make a suggestion, it would be that the Legislature, without delay and without interference with the call of a convention, might inaugurate a meeting of the border States of Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Missouri, Arkansas, and New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Iowa, free States, through two Commissioners to be appointed by each, to arrange, if possible, a programme of adjustment to be submitted to the other States, as conclusive of the whole matter."

"Should they agree, I think their recommendations would be followed by the other States, and incorporated into the constitution, and placed on the footing of an unalterable compact. Surely no States can be more deeply interested in the work of restoring the country to quiet and harmony. If they cannot agree, then it may safely be concluded that the restoration of peace and concord has become impossible. I would have an early day appointed for the meeting of the Commissioners, to be appointed by the Governors or Legislatures, if in session, so that Virginia, when she holds her convention, may be in full possession of the result."

All other methods having failed, then I would advise, as a *derivative* measure, a convention of all the southern States, and after incorporating upon the present constitution guarantees going not one iota beyond what strict justice and the security of the South require, adopt the constitution of the United States as it now is, and give a broad invitation to the other States to enter our Union with the old flag flying over them all. When this is done, I would say, in conclusion, to my countrymen, rally back in all speed to the constitution thus invigorated and strengthened, and let this, for all time to come be written on every heart as a motto to that, under all circumstances, and in every condition of things, there is but one post of safety, and that is to stand by the constitution." "JOHN TYLER."

Michigan Argus.

ANN ARBOR.

FRIDAY MORNING, JAN. 25, 1861.

Tinkering the Constitution.

Several proposed amendments to the Constitution of the State are pending in one or the other branch of the Legislature; and among them the following has been introduced into both the Senate and House:

"The Governor shall have power, and it shall be his duty, except at such times as the Legislature may be in session, to exercise into the condition and administration of any public office and the acts of any public officer, elective or appointed; to remove from office for gross neglect of duty, or for corrupt conduct in office, or for any other misfeasance or malfeasance therein, either of the following State officers, to wit: The Attorney General, State Treasurer, Commissioner of the Land Office, Secretary of the State, Auditor General, Superintendent of Public Instruction, or member of the State Board of Education, or any other officer of the State, elective or appointed, and to appoint a successor for the remainder of their respective non-expired term of office."

Now, we are not prepared to say that the Constitution may not need changing upon this point; but we think we are quite prepared to say that to make the change proposed above, would be to make it eminently worse than it is at present. It might be well to authorize the Governor to remove, or what is better to suspend until the next meeting of the Legislature any State officer charged with gross violation of duty, or neglect of duty, and to fill vacancies temporarily; it is most certainly conferring a dangerous power to authorize him to remove any officer of the State, elective or appointed, and to appoint a successor for the remainder of his non-expired term of office." To do this is to make an autocrat of the Governor, and to cease and terminate every official term of office at his pleasure.

The Governor is made the judge of the "misfeasance or malfeasance," and he can appoint to the most important office for a full term, without even the formality of a confirmation by the Senate, now required for all minor appointments.

We submit that it is not safe to confer upon the Governor the unlimited power provided for by the above contemplated amendment. It is hardly safe to give him the absolute power to remove a Judge of the Supreme Court—who is certainly "an officer of the State"—and appoint his successor for a term of six or seven years. As we have already said, he—the Governor—is made the judge of the "misfeasance or malfeasance," and an unscrupulous Executive might entirely reorganize the Supreme Court; he might reorganize the Board of Education and the Board of Regents of the University, and change the character and policy of those institutions at pleasure; and who should check his machination or stay his hand. Never should an Executive have the power to remove an elective officer, and appoint his successor without the consent of the Legislature for at least of the Senate; and then he should not be authorized to appoint an incumbent to hold beyond a general election. We have an instance of the use of such power, unconstitutionally conferred upon the Governor by the Legislature, to wit: in the death of the Judge of Probate elect—who was also Judge for the last term—of Oakland County, before the commencement of his new term. Gov. WISNER appointed an incumbent for the balance of the old term, and Gov. BLAIR has appointed a different one for the full term of four years, who may or who may not be the man the people of the county would have elected had it been referred to them.

If any change is desirable or necessary, it is not the change above proposed. Better as it is, with the power of removal invested in the Legislature, which can be called together in case of an emergency, and an officer removed by impeachment or resolution. The proposed amendment is only going from one extreme to the other, while the middle course is the true one.

Tempest in a Tea-pot.

A tremendous excitement was kicked up in the rural cities of New York and Brooklyn, on Monday afternoon, from a report gaining currency that a mob in sympathy with the Charleston secessionists had arranged to seize upon the Brooklyn Navy Yard, for the purpose, we presume, of taking it bodily out of the Union. The guards at the yard were double, one hundred marines placed on duty, the receiving ship North Carolina reinforced, the entire police force of Brooklyn stationed at a hall near the navy yard gate, the 5th brigade called out, put under arms and marching orders, the 12th, 14th and 8th regiments rendezvoused at the City Arsenal, and the famous 7th regiment at the State Arsenal. The harbor police boats were manned and ordered to the vicinity, and ferry boats chartered for the occasion. But night came on, the hour of suspected danger passed by, no mob gathered, the concentrated police found themselves somewhat in the predicament of the noted king, who,

"With two ten thousand men Moved up the hill and then marched down again!"

On Friday the House passed a bill extending the time for the collection of taxes throughout the State until the first of March. A bad move we think.

The House has passed a bill to transfer the charge of the Agricultural College from the Board of Education to a State Board of Agriculture.

An Official Confession.

We have ever claimed that the law of 1855, commonly known as the "personal liberty law," was unconstitutional, and that it was designed solely to prevent the execution of the fugitive slave law, and thus aimed at the nullification of an act of Congress. The constitutionality of the law has sometimes been claimed; but its abrogating and nullifying object has never until recently been denied. The Legislature that passed it did not hesitate to avow that its object was to obstruct the execution of the fugitive slave law, and prevent the rendition of fugitive slaves; and a committee of a subsequent Legislature has declared in express terms, that its action on the part of the Legislature to prevent the delivering up of fugitive slaves—not the kidnapping of freemen—in not necessary, as the act of February 13th, 1855, was designed to, and it faithfully executed, WILL ACCOMPLISH THE OBJECT.

The Legislature of 1855, and the Legislature of 1859 were more honest than those Republicans who today claim that the "personal liberty law" was only designed to prevent kidnapping and protect freemen, and that it was never intended to prevent the execution of the fugitive slave law. To sustain us in our assertion as to its aim, we will quote from the record.

On the 4th day of February 1859,—see House Journal, page 527 or House document, No. 17—the majority of the Committee on Federal Relations submitted a report of which we quote the first paragraph:

"The Committee on Federal Relations, to whom was referred sundry petitions relative to the delivering up of fugitive slaves, AND PRAYING FOR A LAW TO PREVENT THE SAME; also, the petition of Lewis North and 103 others, praying that it may be made a State prison offence to claim the right of property in, or exercise the right of property over, another in this State, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report, that in regard to the petition praying for the passage of a law TO PREVENT THE DELIVERING UP OF FUGITIVE SLAVES, THAT FURTHER ACTION ON THE PART OF THE LEGISLATURE IS NOT NECESSARY, AS THE ACT OF FEBRUARY 13, 1855, WAS DESIGNED TO, AND, IF FAITHFULLY EXECUTED, WILL ACCOMPLISH THE OBJECT FOR WHICH THE PETITIONERS PRAY."

Not a word is said here about kidnapping, the petitioners were not solicitous about the right of the free colored persons, and asked nothing in their behalf; they petitioned "relative to the delivering up of fugitive slaves, and prayed for a law to prevent the same."

Did the committee say in answer to the petitioners that fugitive slaves must be given up, and that the laws protecting freemen were sufficient? No, they say no further legislation to prevent delivering up fugitive slaves is necessary, that "the act of February 13th, 1855 was designed to, and, if faithfully executed, will accomplish the object for which the petitioners pray." This is plain English, and Messrs. LANE, GULLEY, LANE, MILLS and PERKINS, doubtless understood its mean.

Without further comment we submit these simple facts to those Republicans who now claim that the act of 1855 was never designed to prevent the enforcing of the fugitive slave law, and did not aim to nullify its provisions. The records are against them.

POLITICAL LEGISLATION.—C. V. DELAND is Senator from Jackson County, in the Legislature of Michigan. C. V. DELAND is also proprietor and chief editor of the Jackson Citizen. Senator DELAND has introduced into the Legislature a bill dividing this State into six Congressional districts—the features of which bill we gave in our last issue; hinting at the same time that it made a desperate effort to secure the dominance of the Republicans, in every district, in any and all possible contingencies. Editor DELAND copies the bill in detail, speaks of it in highly complimentary terms, gives rival bills a "patronizing pat," and says, "We shall be satisfied with whatever action the Legislature may take; if a fair division of population is made; a reasonable community of principal interests preserved, and a fair and substantial Republican majority is guaranteed to each."

Of this gracious permission the Legislature will doubtless avail itself, at least, so far as to guaranty the "substantial Republican majority" in each district, whether the "community of principal interests" is "preserved" or sacrificed. But we warn the Legislature that it had better district the State fairly, without regard to guaranteeing Republican majorities. These are trying times to people and parties, and no Legislature can guaranty the future, and it will, therefore, be better to act honestly and justly, than with a sole view to partisan success in the future. In the breaking up and reconstruction of parties now imminent and sure to take place, there is no such thing as guarantying "a substantial Republican majority" in a single Congressional district, and the districts should be constructed with no other aim than compactness and a community of business interests.

We remember that in May last the prominent Republicans of our City were very indignant at the slaughter of Senator SEWARD by the Chicago Convention. The same Republicans are now remonstrating against the repeal of the unconstitutional personal liberty-law of our State, and Senator SEWARD is advising the repeal of all such laws. We suppose our Republican friends have, therefore, become reconciled to the defeat of SEWARD. It is certain that in a most important GREEK—not SEWARD—is his guide.

On Tuesday, the Senate of Rhode Island, by a vote of 21 to 9, passed a bill repealing the personal liberty law. It was warmly discussed in the House, and postponed until yesterday. It will probably pass that branch and become a law.

Conventions.

It will be seen by reference to the appropriate column, that the Democratic State Committee has issued a call for a State Convention to be held at Detroit on the 7th day of February, for the purpose of nominating a candidate for Judge of the Supreme Court. The call provides for a much larger representation than in former conventions; and it is desirable, in view of the present crisis in national affairs, that the Convention should be full; and that every County should send up its best men, not those who are the most ultra and noisy, but the substantial, conservative men of the party; Union loving men, who if called upon to speak by resolutions or otherwise will let patriotism rise above partisanship, plant themselves upon principle, and speak for the preservation of the Union.

The County Committee has called a Convention for the 22d of February to send delegates to the State Convention, and we hope to see every Town ship fully represented.

The New York Leader says that the GIBSON WELLES who is announced as the prospective Postmaster General of LINCOLN'S Cabinet has been dead a dozen years, and that parties, for sinister purposes, have been playing a grave joke upon the President.

The Leader makes a pretty good story out of it whether true or not.

Since our last issue, the Legislature has been occupied, for the most of the time, in considering our Federal Relations. The Senate and House have each passed a series of resolutions, but have not come to an agreement. We give on our first page one day's debate in the Senate as indicating the tone of that branch. Messrs. JOY and LOCKWOOD, Republicans, voted for the House resolutions, saying that they did so because they considered they contained a pledge to repeal the personal liberty law. This should certainly be done before Michigan professes her military aid to compel other States to obey the constitution. Let us go into the fray with clean hands.

There is nothing materially new in affairs at Washington and the South. Georgia, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida have passed secession ordinances, and several other States are moving. The action of Congress affords no real hope of compromising, and we cannot predict any other end than dissolution and civil war. This is certainly to be the end, unless the people take the matter out of the hands of the politicians.

Mr. TAYLOR, for forty one years a clerk in the New York Postoffice, has been appointed the successor of Gen. DIX, the present Secretary of the Treasury.

The notorious Lola Montez, Countess of Lansfeld, et al, died in New York on the 17th inst.

The citizens of Hudson, Ls. n. w. county, have almost unanimously resolved not to ask for a city charter. Sensible at the last, and we should trust that their example would be imitated by sundry other small villages in the State.

Thurlow Weed on Concession.

To those of our Republican friends who express an anxiety to help which the South, who protest against the exhibition of a conciliatory spirit, who de-claim against doing right by repealing the unconstitutional personal liberty laws, and who, confessing that they do not like negroes and do not want any more of them to come among us, yet refuse to disavowance stealing them from their masters, we commend the following paragraphs from the pen of that veteran of the Press, THURLOW WEED, of the Albany Evening Journal. In a recent issue of his paper he says:

"To sustain such men as Senator Johnson and Mr. Ehrig, of Tennessee, Messrs. Stephens and Johnson and Hill, of Georgia, Mr. Gilmer, of North Carolina, Gov. Rice, of Maryland, Maryland, we would go just as far as conciliation and concession as the constitution permits. To save this Union, and to avert the horrors of a civil war, we implore members of Congress to meet the reasonable propositions of the Union men of the South. We know how little of consideration our previous gestures have attracted. We know, too, with how much more favor our friends in Congress listen to journals whose columns abound in appeals to 'backbone,' 'pluck,' &c., &c., &c. These things are very well in their place; but very mischievous out of place. In discussing a question on which the Union hangs, and upon which the welfare of thirty millions of people depends, we will not dismiss the hope that there are Union men in Congress, from the North who can use the Union men from the South with fraternal feelings, and in discharge of a common duty, agree upon terms of adjustment which will hold border States from disunion."

The cheapest and the thinnest kind of patriotism is that which costs nothing. So too, with that species of courage which, out of danger, vapors and swaggers. Of the army of abolitionists who have for so many years been teaching war and rapine, on paper, not one of them ever faced their enemy. When heroic John Brown, acting upon the principles so many professed, lay in prison awaiting execution, what abolitionist went to his rescue? While, in our way, we have upheld freedom, and resisted the extension and aggression of slavery; while, in this line of duty we can ever be faithful; and while, too, we will go to the death, if needs be, for the Union, we cannot but look with abhorrence upon journalists who labor so recklessly to prevent the adoption of some plan of adjustment upon which the Union men of southern States can sustain themselves."

Toronto, Jan. 22.

Mr. Bowes, the newly elected Mayor, in his speech last night to the Council stated that large accessions to our population might soon be expected on account of the troubles in the States, and recommended such a policy in regard to taxation, &c., as will especially favor such emigration.

From Washington.

WASHINGTON, JAN. 20.

Washington is now more free from excitement than it has been at any time since the session of Congress commenced. Approaches of difficulties attending the inauguration of President Lincoln exist, but to a limited extent. However, to guard against possible disturbance, ample means have been taken to preserve the public peace. With the probable action this week, secession movements will be retarded as to Southern States.

A company of sappers and miners from West Point, acting as infantry, arrived here to-day, and are quartered at the Columbian armory.

Last week a large number of Republican members of Congress from New England, the Middle States, and the West, united in a strong recommendation to Mr. Lincoln to appoint Mr. Colfax, of Indiana, as Postmaster-General.

Mr. Bailey, connected with the abstraction of the Indian trust funds, has been released from prison on bail, to the amount of \$5,000. He will appear before the special committee.

Senator Hunter has determined to retire from the chairmanship of the Committee on Finance. He will announce his withdrawal in a few days.

There is no doubt that instructions have been sent to the commander of the Gulf or Home squadron, for a speedy return of some of the vessels on that station, their presence not being required there since the success of the Liberal party in Mexico.

The minority report from the committee of thirty-three, signed by Messrs. Taylor, of La., Phillips, of Mo., Kuak, of Ark., Whitely, of Del., and Winslow, of N. O., embraces in substance the following:

The report says the present difficulties can only be remedied by amendments to the Constitution, and suggests that the amendments proposed in the Crittenden resolutions, if adopted, would restore tranquility to the country, and place the Union on such a foundation that it could never be shaken. These amendments, the report asserts, would not in reality change the Constitution. They would only leave the effect of our existing laws, by the addition of provisions, to what it was in point of fact, on the day of its adoption, thro' the operation of the circumstances which then surrounded it, and which erected the barriers against the present sectional contest, as constitutional provisions would now. If a constitutional majority cannot be united in support of the Crittenden resolutions, or the substance of them, then a dissolution of the Union is inevitable.

The report also recommends that steps be taken for calling a convention of the States with a view for peaceable separation, by providing for a partition of the property of the United States,

On reading and filing the petition, duly verified, of George Johnson, praying that the petitioners be appointed administrators of the estate of John Johnson, late of said county of Washington, deceased, said court granted the petition, and appointed said petitioners, named executor in and will.

It is further ordered, that Monday, the eleventh day of February, 1881, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, at the court house in said county of Washington, the petitioners at law of said deceased, and all other persons interested in said estate are required to appear at a session of said court, to be held at that time and place, in the City of Ann Arbor, in said county, and show cause, if any they have, why the prayer of the petitioner should not be granted.

And it is further ordered, that said Petitioner give notice of the time and place of the session of said court for the hearing of said petition, and the hearing thereof, by publishing a copy of this order to be published in the Washington County Record, a newspaper published in said county of Washington, three successive weeks before the day of the session of said court.

[illegible]

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BEST MEDICAL SALERATUS.
 Is manufactured from common salt, and is
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 All the deleterious and noxious ingredients, such as
 soda, lime, &c., which are used in the ordinary
 manner as to produce Bread, Biscuit, and all kinds
 of Cakes, without containing a particle of
 Saleratus when the Bread or Cake is baked,
 thereby producing a very healthy and pure
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 consequently, nothing remains but common Salt
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 taste of this Saleratus, it is entirely
 different from other Saleratus.

It is packed in one pound papers, each wrapped in a glass of effervescent soda water, and labeled "Saleratus," also, picture, twisted leaf of bread, and a glass of effervescent soda water. When you purchase one paper you should preserve exactly like the first brand as above.

Full directions for making Bread with this Saleratus are printed on each paper. The company each package; also, directions for making Soda Water, Soda Water, Soda Water, Soda Water and Soda Water.

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R. T. BABBITT'S PURE CONCENTRATED
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Warranted double the strength of ordinary Potash; used in case of Soda Water, Soda Water, and 12 lbs. with full directions for making Hard and Soft Soap. Consumers will find this the cheapest and best soap made.

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
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AND LOTS OF NEW GOODS!
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
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
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Corner of Main and Liberty Streets.
That we are now prepared to sell you better Goods at
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LADIES' & CHILDREN'S SHOES
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
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 Bear in mind that *our Goods are*
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
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 all their varieties, and in a WORKMANLIKE manner.
 Having had considerable experience in the business
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