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From the Washington Union, Jan. 25th.

Special Message from the President.

To the Senate and

House of Representatives:

Circumstances have occurred to disturb the course of governmental organization in the Territory of Kansas, and produce there a condition of things which renders it incumbent on me to call your attention to the subject, and urgently to recommend the adoption by you of such measures of legislation as the grave exigencies of the case appear to require.

A brief exposition of the circumstances referred to, and of their causes, will be necessary to the full understanding of the recommendations which it is proposed to submit.

The act to organize the Territories of Nebraska and Kansas was a manifestation of the legislative opinion of Congress on two great points of constitutional construction: one, that the designation of the boundaries of a new Territory, and provision for its political organization and administration as a Territory, are measures which of right fall within the powers of the General Government; and the other, that the inhabitants of any such Territory considered as an inchoate State are entitled in the exercise of self-government, to determine for themselves what shall be their own domestic institutions, subject only to the Constitution and the laws duly enacted by Congress under it, and to the power of the existing States to decide according to the provisions and principles of the Constitution at what time the Territory shall be received as a State into the Union. Such are the great political rights which are solemnly declared and affirmed by that act.

Based upon this theory, the act of Congress defined for each Territory the outlines of republican government, distributing public authority among lawfully created agents—executive, judicial, and legislative—to be appointed either by the General Government or by the Territory. The Legislative functions were intrusted to a council and a house of representatives duly elected and empowered to enact all the local laws which they might deem essential to their prosperity, happiness, and good government. Acting in the same spirit, Congress also defined the persons who were in the first instance to be considered as the people of each Territory; enacting that every free white male inhabitant of the same above the age of twenty-one years, being an actual resident thereof, and possessing the qualifications hereafter described, should be entitled to vote at the first election, and be eligible to any office within the Territory; but that the qualifications of voters and holding office at all subsequent elections should be such as might be prescribed by the legislative assembly: Provided, however, that the right of suffrage and of holding office should be exercised only by citizens of the United States, and those who should have declared an oath their intention to become such, and have taken an oath to support the Constitution of the United States and the provisions of the act.—And provided further, that no officer, soldier, seaman, or marine, or other person in the army or navy of the United States, or attached to troops in their service, should be allowed to vote or hold office in either Territory by reason of being on service therein.

Such of the public officers of the Territories as, by the provisions of the act, were to be appointed by the General Government, including the Governors, were appointed and commissioned in due season; the law having been enacted on the 30th of May, 1854, and the commission of the Governor of the Territory of Nebraska being dated on the 2d day of August, 1854, and of the Territory of Kansas on the 29th day of June, 1854.

Among the duties imposed by the act on the governors was that of directing and superintending the political organization of the respective Territories. The Governor of Kansas was required to cause a census or enumeration of the inhabitants and qualified voters of the several counties and districts of the Territory to be taken by such persons and in such mode as he might designate and appoint; to appoint and direct the time and places of holding the first elections, and the manner of conducting them, both as to the persons to superintend such election and the returns thereof; to declare the number of the members of the council and house of representatives for each county or district; to declare what persons might appear to be duly elected; and to appoint the time and place of the first meeting of the legislative assembly. In substance, the same duties were devolved on the Governor of Nebraska.

While, by this act, the principle of the constitution for each of the Territories was one and the same, and the details of the organic legislation regarding both were as nearly as could be identical, and while the territory of Nebraska was tranquilly and successfully organized in the due course of law, and its first legislative assembly met on the 16th of January, 1855, the organization of Kansas was long delayed, and has been attended with serious difficulties and embarrassments, partly the consequence of local maladministration, and partly of the unjustifiable interference of the inhabitants of some of the States foreign by residence, interests and rights to the Territory.

The Governor of the Territory of Kansas, commissioned, as before stated, on the 29th of June 1854, did not reach the designated seat of his government until 7th of the ensuing October; and even then failed to make the first step in its legal organization—that of ordering the census or enumeration of its inhabitants—until so late a day that the election of the members of the legislative assembly did not take place until the 30th of March, 1855, nor its meeting until the second of July, 1855. So that, for a year after the Territory was constituted by the act of Congress and the officers to be appointed by the Federal Executive had been commissioned, it was without a complete government, without any legislative authority, without local law, and of course without the ordinary guarantees of peace and public order.

In other respects, the governor, instead of exercising constant vigilance and putting forth all his energies to prevent or counteract the tendencies to illegality, which are prone to exist in all imperfectly organized and newly associated communities, allowed his attention to be diverted from official obligation by other objects, and himself set an example of the violation of law in the performance of acts which rendered it my duty, in the sequel, to remove him from the office of chief executive magistrate of the Territory.

Before the requisite preparation was accomplished for election of a territorial legislature, an election of delegate to Congress had been held in the Territory on the 29th day of Nov., 1854, and the delegate took his seat in the House of Representatives without challenge. If arrangements had been perfected by the Governor so that the election for members of the legislative assembly might be held in the several precincts at the same time as for a delegate to Congress, any question appertaining to the qualification of the persons voting as people of the Territory would have passed necessarily and at once under the supervision of Congress, as the judge of the validity of the return of the delegate, and would have been determined before conflicting passions had become inflamed by time, and before opportunity could have been afforded for systematic interference of the people of individual States.

This interference, in so far as concerns its primary causes and its immediate common, consent was one of the incidents of that pernicious agitation on the subject of the condition of the colored persons held to service in some of the States, which has so long disturbed the repose of our country, and excited individuals, otherwise patriotic and law[illegible] with misdirected [illegible] to propagate the [illegible] vision [illegible] of Congress [illegible] when [illegible] to organize the Territories of Nebraska and Kansas [illegible] to the endeavor to impose [illegible] the agency of Congress, their particular views of social organization [illegible] the people of the future new States, and [illegible] the policy of leaving the inhabitants of each State to judge for themselves in this respect was incontinently scouted in the convictions of the people of the Union when had recourse, in the pursuit of their general object, to the extraordinary measure of propagandist association in the Territory of Kansas, to prevent the free and natural action of its inhabitants in its internal organization, and thus to anticipate or to force the determination of that question in this inchoate State.

With such views, associations were organized in some of the States, and their purposes were proclaimed through the press in language extremely irritating and offensive to those of whom the colonists were to become the neighbors. These designs and acts had the necessary consequence to awaken emotions of intense indignation in States near to the Territory of Kansas, and especially in the adjoining State of Missouri whose domestic peace was that the most directly endangered; but they are far from justifying the illegal and reprehensible counter-movements which ensued.

Under these inauspicious circumstances the primary elections for members of the legislative assembly were held in most, if not all, of the precincts at the time and the places, and by the persons designated and appointed by the Governor according to law.

Angry accusations that illegal votes had been polled, abounded on all sides, and imputations were made both of fraud and violence. But the Governor in the exercise of the power, and the discharge of the duty conferred and imposed by law on him alone, officially received and considered the returns; declared a large majority of the members of the council and the house of representatives "duly elected;" withheld certificates from others because of alleged illegality of votes; appointed a new election to supply the place of the persons not certified; and thus at length, in all the forms of statute, and with his own official authentication complete legality was given to the first legislative assembly of the Territory.

Those decisions of the returning officers and of the governor are final, except that, by the parliamentary usage of the country applied to the organic law, it may be conceded that each house of the assembly must have been competent to determine, in the last resort, the qualifications and the election of its members. The subject was, by its nature, one appertaining exclusively to the jurisdiction of the local authorities of the Territory. Whatever irregularities may have occurred in the elections, it seems too late now to raise that question. At all events, it is a question as to which, neither now, nor at any previous time, has the least possible legal authority been possessed by the President of the United States.—For all present purposes the legislative body, thus constituted and elected, was the legitimate assembly of the Territory.

Accordingly, the governor, by proclamation, convened the assembly thus elected to meet at a place called Pawnee City; the two houses met and were duly organized in the ordinary parliamentary form; each sent to, and received from, the governor the official communications usual on such occasions; an elaborate message opening the session was communicated by the governor and the general business of legislation was entered upon by the legislative assembly.

But after a few days, the assembly resolved to adjourn to another place in the Territory. A law was accordingly passed, against the consent of the governor, but in due form otherwise, to remove the seat of government temporarily to the "Shawnee Manual-Labor School" (or Mission) and thither the assembly proceeded. After this, receiving a bill for the establishment of a ferry at the town of Kickapoo, the governor refused to sign it, and, by special message, assigned for reason of refusal not anything objectionable in the bill itself, nor any pretence of the illegality or incompetency of the assembly as such, but only the fact that the assembly had by its act transferred the seat of government temporarily from Pawnee City to Shawnee Mission. For the same reason he continued to refuse to sign other bills, until, in the course of a few days, he by official message, communicated to the assembly the fact that he had received notification of the termination of his functions as governor, and that the duties of the office were legally devolved on the Secretary of the Territory; thus to the last recognizing the body as a duly elected and constituted legislative assembly.

It will be perceived that, if any constitutional defect attached to the legislative acts of the assembly, it is not pretended to consist in irregularity of election, or want of qualification of the members, but only in the change of its place of session. However trivial this objection may seem to be, it requires to be considered, because upon it is founded all that superstructure of acts, plainly against law, which now threatens the peace not only of the Territory of Kansas, but of the Union.

Such objection to the proceedings of the legislative assembly was of exceptionable origin, for the reason that, by the express terms of the organic law, the seat of government of the Territory was "located temporarily at Fort Leavenworth," and yet the governor himself remained there less than two months, and of his own discretion transferred the seat of government to the Shawnee Mission, where it in fact was at the time the assembly were called to meet at Pawnee City. If the governor had any such right to change temporarily the seat of government, still more had the legislative assembly. The objection is of exceptionable origin for the further reason that the place indicated by the governor, without having any exclusive claim of preference in itself, was a proposed town site only, which he and others were attempting to locate unlawfully upon land within a military reservation, and for participation in which illegal act the commandant of the post—a superior officer of the army—has been dismissed by sentence of court-martial.

Nor is it easy to see why the legislative assembly might not with propriety pass the territorial act transferring its sittings to the Shawnee Mission. If it could not, that must be on account of some prohibitory or incompatible provision of act of Congress. But no such provision exists. The organic act, as already quoted, says "the seat of Government is hereby located temporarily at Fort Leavenworth," and then it provides that certain of the public buildings there "may be occupied and used under the direction of the Governor and legislative assembly." These expressions might possibly be construed to imply that when in a previous section of the act it was enacted that "the first legislative assembly shall meet at such a place and on such day as the Governor shall appoint," the word "place" means place at Fort Leavenworth, not place any where in the Territory. If so, the Governor would have been the first to err in this matter, not only in himself having removed the seat of Government to the Shawnee Mission, but in again removing it to Pawnee City. If there was any departure from the letter of the law, therefore, it was his in both instances.

But, however this may be, it is most unreasonable to suppose that by the terms of the organic act Congress intended to do impliedly what it has not done expressly—that is, to forbid to the legislative assembly the power to choose any place it might see fit as the temporary seat of its deliberations. That is proved by the significant language of one of the subsequent acts of Congress on the subject, that of March 3, 1855, which, in making appropriations for public buildings of the Territory, enacts that the same shall not be expended "until the legislature of said Territory shall have fixed by law the permanent seat of government." Congress, in these expressions, does not profess to be granting the power to fix the permanent seat of government, but recognises the power as one already granted. But how? Undoubtedly by the comprehensive provison of the organic act itself, which declares that "the legislative power of the Territory shall extend to all rightful subjects of legislation consistent with the Constitution of the United States and the provisions of this act." If, in view of this act, the legislative assembly had the large power to fix the permanent seat of government at any place in its discretion, of course by the same enactment it had the less and the included power to fix it temporarily.

Nevertheless, the allegation that the acts of the legislative assembly were illegal by reason of this removal of its place of session was brought forward to justify the first movement in disregard of law within the Territory. One of the acts of the legislative assembly provided for the election of a delegate to the present Congress and a delegate was elected under that law. Subsequently to this, a portion of the people of the Territory proceeded, without authority of law, to elect another delegate.

Following upon this movement was another and more important one of the same general character. Persons confessedly not constituting the body politic, or all the inhabitants, but merely a party of the inhabitants, and without law have undertaken to summon a convention for the purpose of transforming the Territory into a State, and have framed a Constitution, adopted it, and under it elected a governor and other officers, and a representative to Congress.

In extenuation of these illegal acts, it is alleged that the States of California, Michigan and others, were self-organized, and as such were admitted into the Union without a previous enabling act of Congress. It is true that, while, in a majority of cases, a previous act of Congress has been passed to authorize the Territory to present itself as a State, and that this is deemed the most regular course, yet such an act has not been held to be indispensable, and, in some cases, the Territory has proceeded without it, and has nevertheless been admitted into the Union as a State. It lies with Congress to authorize beforehand, or to confirm afterwards, in its discretion. But in no instance has a State been admitted upon the application of persons acting against authorities duly constituted by act of Congress. In every case it is the people of the Territory, not a party among them, who have the power to form a Constitution, and ask for admission as a State. No principle of public law, no practice or precedent under the Constitution of the United States, no rule of reason, right, or common sense, confers any such power as that now claimed by a mere party in the Territory.—In fact, what has been done is of revolutionary character. It is avowedly so in motive and in aim as respects the local law of the Territory. It will become treasonable insurrection if it reach the length of organized resistance by force to the fundamental or any other federal law, and to the authority of the General Government.

In such an event, the path of duty for the Executive is plain. The Constitution requiring him to take care that the laws of the United States be faithfully executed, if they be opposed in the territory of Kansas, he may and should place at the disposal of the Marshal any public force of the United States which happens to be within the jurisdiction, to be used as a portion of the *posse comitatus;* and, if that do not suffice to maintain order, then he may call forth the militia of one or more States for that object, or employ for the same object any part of the land or naval force of the United States. So also, if the obstruction be to the laws of the Territory, and if it be duly presented to him as a case of insurrection, he may employ for its suppression the militia of any State, or the land or naval force of the United States. And if the territory be invaded by the citizens of other States, either for the purpose of deciding elections or for any other, and the local authorities find themselves unable to repel or withstand it, they will be entitled to, and upon the fact being duly ascertained, they shall most certainly receive the aid of the General Government.

But it is not the duty of the President of the United States to [illegible] interposition by force to preserve the purity of elections either in a State or Territory. To do so would be subversive of public freedom. And whether a law be wise or unwise, just or unjust, is not a question for him to judge. It be constitutional—that is, if it be the law of the land—it is his duty to cause it to be executed, or to sustain the authorities of any State or Territory in executing it in opposition to all insurrectionary movements.

Our system affords no justification of revolutionary acts; for the constitutional means of relieving the people of unjust administration and laws, by a change of public agents and by repeal, are ample and more prompt and effective than illegal violence. These constitutional means must be scrupulously guarded—the egreat prerogative of popular sovereignty sacredly respected.

It is the undoubted right of the peaceable and orderly people of the Territory of Kansas to elect their own legislative body, make their own laws, and regulate their own social institutions, without foreign or domestic molestation. Interference, on the one hand, to procure the abolition or prohibition of slave labor in the Territory, has produced mischievous interference, on the other, for its maintenance or introduction. One wrong begets another. Statements entirely unfounded, or grossly exaggerated, concerning events within the Territory, are sedulously diffused through remote States to feed the flame of sectional animosity there; and the agitators there exert themselves indefatigably in return to encourage and stimulate strife within the Territory.

The inflammatory agitation, of which the present is but a part, has for twenty years produced nothing but unmitigated evil, North and South. But for it the character of the domestic institutions of the future new States would have been a matter of too little interest to the inhabitants of the contiguous States, personally or collectively, to produce among them any political commotion. Climate, soil, production, and rapid advancement and the pursuit of happiness on the part of the settlers themselves, with good wishes, and with no interference from without, would have quietly determined the question, which is at this time of such disturbing character.

But we are constrained to turn our attention to the circumstances of embarrassment as they now exist. It is the duty of the people of Kansas to discountenance every act or purpose of resistance to its laws. Above all, the emergency appeals to the citizens of the States, and especially of those contiguous to the Territory, neither by intervention of non-residents in elections, nor by unauthorized military force, to attempt to encroach upon or usurp the authority of the inhabitants of the Territory.

No citizen of our country should permit himself to forget that he is a part of its government, and entitled to be heard in the determination of its policy and its measures, and that, therefore, the highest considerations of personal honor and patriotism require him to [illegible] any whatever of power or influence they possess, the integrity of the [illegible] of the republic.

Entertaining these views, it will be my imperative duty to exert the whole power of the Federal Executive to support public order in the Territory, to vindicate its laws, whether Federal or local, against all attempts of organized resistance; and so to protect its people in the establishment of their own institutions, undisturbed by encroachment from without, and in the full enjoyment of the rights of self-government assured to them by the Constitution and the organic act of Congress.

Although serious and threatening disturbances in the Territory of Kansas, announced to me by the Governor in December last, were speedily quieted without the effusion of blood, and in a satisfactory manner, there is, I regret to say, reason to apprehend that disorders will continue to occur there, with increasing tendency to violence, until some decisive measure be taken to dispose of the question itself, which constitutes the inducement or occasion of internal agitation and of external interference.

This, it seems to me, can best be accomplished by providing that, when the inhabitants of Kansas may desire it, and shall be of sufficient numbers to constitute a State, a convention of delegates, duly elected by the qualified voters, shall assemble to frame a constitution, and thus to prepare regular and lawful means for its admission into the Union as a State.

I respectfully recommend the enactment of a law to that effect.

I recommend, also, that a special appropriation be made to defray any expense which may become requisite in the execution of the laws or the maintenance of public order in the Territory of Kansas. FRANKLIN PIERCE.

Washington, Jan. 24, 1856.

A SERIOUS LOSS.—Mr. Hunt, the editor of the Merchants' Magazine, has received a letter from Enoch Hale, the author of the series of historical sketches on the Commerce of the United States, which have appeared in twelve or fifteen successive numbers of Hunt. Mr. Hale writes:

"I have met with a misfortune which must bring to an immediate close the series on the commerce of the United States—a destructive fire in Rondout on the 8th inst. pulverized the Courier office, and with it about 2,000 pages of manuscript, in which were all my notes for the Commerce of the United States. I can never again go through the labors I endured in preparing notes, and without such labor the series could never be completed in any manner at all corresponding with the style in which they have thus far been carried."

MESSAGE OF THE GOVERNOR OF MINNESOTO TERRITORY.—Governor Gorman, in his message delivered on the 9th instant, avows himself a supporter of the Kansas-Nebraska bill. The prosperity of Minnesota is thus alluded to:

"It is a source of satisfaction to witness the steady progress of the elements necessary to develope the numerous resources of our Territory, and elevate our moral, social and political condition. While most of our neighboring Territories, are being convulsed with Indian wars and internal political strife, almost verging upon civil war, we are calmly moving forward to the accomplishment of a high destiny, by faithfully observing the laws of our country, and resting our hopes upon the virtue and moderation of the people, with a firm reliance upon their capacity for self-government."

The Washington Union refers to the rumor that the President was about to send into Congress a special message relating to our difficulties with England, and says:

"The effect, if not the design of all rumors of this kind, is to excite apprehensions as to a rupture between our government and that of Great Britain. To avoid any such consequences, it is only necessary for us to say that the whole batch of reports of the character alluded to are entirely without foundation, and deserve no sort of attention from the readers of the journals to which they are sent. They not only do great injustice to the President, but they are calculated to affect the interest of commercial men, who are kept in a state of suspense by the repetition of those mischevus inventions."

ACCIDENT AND WONDERFUL ENDURANCE.—The Grand Rapids Enquirer states that on Wednesday last a serious accident occurred in the town of Paris about six miles from that city. A young man, aged 18 years, son of Mr. Nicholas Carlton, was chopping down a tree, in company with another young man. As the tree was falling it struck another tree, and swerved from the position in which it was expected to fall, striking young Carlton, knocking him down, crushing his right arm to jelly, and the butt of the tree, a foot thick, resting on his head, forcing the latter into the ground. The skull was somewhat fractured, but strange to tell, the head was comparatively uninjured. The young man with him chopped off the log, and endeavored to roll it off Carlton's head, all the time supposing the latter to be dead, but he could not move the log, and was forced to go a mile and a half to obtain assistance. When the log was rolled away, it was ascertained that Carlton was alive. He was accordingly conveyed home. The following day his arm was amputated, and he is likely to recover.

A MONSTER CRIMINAL.—The English papers record the arrest of a man named Evans, on a charge of having poisoned his wife, his brother, his friend, and thirteen other persons. His wife, before marriage, was a ward in Chancery, and entitled to a large fortune. Her guardian resolutely opposed the match, and the Master in Chancery also withheld his consent for sometime. Both finally yielded to the entreaties of the young lady, and yet it is believed that she was subsequently murdered by her infamous husband. He was a finished gambler, and a master-spirit of the turf, and his friend, Mr. John P. Cook, gave him his fullest confidence, and yet suffered the same awful fate. In the case of his brother, Mr. Walter Palmer, insurances on his life were effected to the extent of $23,450, and then he also, as is believed, was poisoned. Nay, it is stated that the names of no fewer than sixteen persons are mentioned as having suffered death by poison through the agency of the prisoner.

A divorce was recently granted by one of the Courts of Indiana, where the only allegation against the defendant was that he had cold feet.

From the Charleston Mercury.

"What are we to do?"

No. 3.

Ancient mythology tells us that it was at a feast—the nuptials of Peleus and Thetis—where joy and congratulations reigned, that the apple of discord fell, causing strife in heaven, wars and bloodshed upon earth. And so, amid the triumphs and shouts of party, there ever steals in the spirit of selfish ambition, uprooting harmony, and sacrificing fresh pledges, in the hot pursuit of personal aims. No people have had the apple of discord so often cast, by some jealous, hostile, or treacherous hand, in the midst of their harmony, and at the most critical moments of their existence, as the people of the South. Her statesmen, her sturdy, unbought patriots, have witnessed, again and again, the gathering spirit of her people, weakened, wasted—until now, distrust in her ability to appreciate or fulfil the destiny which seems so clearly held out to her.

As stated in our first article, the Advertiser proposes the union of the State, and the union of the South, as the objects to be accomplished by our participating in the Cincinnati Convention—objects great and glorious indeed. But as to the first? we think we have already shown, that it has ever been preserved by the very policy now sought to be subverted; and that the surest way to divide the State, is to adopt the measure proposed by the Advertiser and others. And here it is due to the Advertiser to state, that between its proposition, and that of the avowed National Democrats, we can see no practical difference. Both subvert the established policy of the State; both conduct her into a caucus, whose unconstitutionality and corruption she has ever condemned; both strike at her complete independence of party ties, and betray her into fellowship with Abolitionists and Free-soilers. If there be any difference, it is in favor of the National Democrats, who, at least, make no concealment of their objects. They openly proclaim their determination to commit the fortunes of the State to the Democratic party; they avow their devotion to a National organization, and scarce blush to show the "itching palm." But the Advertiser, while swearing her at the same altar, whispers in her ear sweet words of honor and Southern Union.

The Advertiser quotes to us the saying Lord of Mansfield, "as circumstances alter, things themselves must change," as a reason why the State should yield to this clamor about the National Democracy. She may well reply, in the language of the same distinguished man: "I defy the noble Lord to point out a single action in my life, where the popularity of the times ever had the smallest influence on my determinations. I thank God, I have a more permanent and steady rule for my own conduct—the dictates of my own breast. Those that have forgone that pleasing adviser, and given up their mind to be the slave of every popular impulse, I sincerely pity; I pity them still more, if their vanity leads them to mistake the shouts of a mob, for the trumpet of fame."

So, too, when, in the same spirit, our cotemporary tells us that, "to bring forward" a time-honored custom, "is but a feeble argument after all," we would remind him of the saying of Lord Coke, who was both a statesman and a lawyer. "Custom is one of the main triangles of the law;" and of that other maxim, "a custom which exalts itself on King's prerogative is void;" and ask him what sort of respect to the prerogatives of a sovereign people, does the packed Caucus of irresponsible wire-pullers show, whereby the voice of the people is hushed, and they are compelled to accept the nominee of their self-appointed masters! A custom which presents against such usurpation, is indeed worthy of all praise and observance.

But, will South Carolina's participation in the Cincinnati Convention promote the union of the South, *in defence of her rights?* That it will promote union in achieving a party triumph, is likely enough. But if it fails, as fail it must, to accomplish that other and only union, in which the South has any real interest, empty indeed is the victory.—Surely the most casual glance into the history of this question should satisfy all, that all glance to national parties is fatal to Southern union and resistance. We need only recur to the memorable contest of 1850, when State after State planted itself in the attitude of resistance, and fell successively back in passive acquiescence, to find ample illustration. In Virginia, the Democratic party having the ascendency in the Legislature adopted those famous resolutions which rang like a clarion note throughout the land, pledging her to resist the California outrage at "every hazard, and to the last extremity." Divided between [illegible] Democracy, each struggling to the [illegible] of victory, the spirit of the Old [illegible]son, in one short year, [illegible] in [illegible] shame to the [illegible]a: when her [illegible] with the sense of wrong, [illegible] of wrong, took up [illegible] nice, who but National [illegible]crats stifled her voice.

In Alabama and Mississppi the same mortifying spectacle was presented, of a people wrangling over the idle issues of Whiggery and Democracy, while the rights of their States, their honor and their homes, were assailed by a common foe. In vain was the cause of the South proclaimed with words of thrilling eloquence; in vain were interest, and honor, and fear, appealed to, to unite them for the struggle. The deep divisions and bitterness of national party strife could not be healed. Democracy was the cry, and Whiggery was the cry, and the South—the South was drowned amid the jargon.

Let South Carolina, then, go into the Cincinnati Convention, and what can be accomplished at the most? Simply, a union of a party in the South, not of the whole South. Her act will not obliterate the national divisions which elsewhere exist throughout the South. It will rather intensify them. It will strike a pang to the hearts of true but scattered men, who have watched her course of independence with patriotic pride, as of a State devoted solely to the cause of the South. She will cease to be the pole-star of intense Southern feeling and principles.

Our cotemperary speaks as though the past course of South Carolina is just cause of offence to her sister Southern States. Where is the reason or justification for such an opinion? What more have they a right to ask or expect of her, than that she should sustain their measures, and, if proper, vote for their nominees? Georgia need not be assured, by our sending delegates to Cincinnati, of our readiness to stand with her upon the platform of her Convention. She and the whole South know, in advance, the sort of man that will receive our support. Her influence in making the nomination will be far stronger, when it is known that she will support none but a fit candidate, than if, by going into the Convention, she were bound, with the rest, to vote for the nominee, whoever he was—a condition exacted by the caucus system, whereby the minority are made to execute the will of the majority.

Where, then, we ask our cotemporary, are the grounds of his expectation that his scheme will accomplish the union of the South? If, as we have seen, it can at best effect only the union of *a party* in the South, and that not for Southern, but national objects; if it will distract South Carolina herself, what is there in it to commend it to our approbation?

CAPT. POSEY'S COMPANY FOR KANSAS.—The Abbeville Banner, we regret to say, has the following notice of our announcement, which was made on what we were assurred was reliable authority. We hope an effort will be made to make it true yet:

We have not heard the slightest intimation of such an expedition. We think it a grand hoax, and only regret that it is not true. We have tried to set on foot a Kansas stampede, under the direction of Warren P. Belcher, who is recruiting for Maj. Buford's Company, but regret to state that the project has not met with a success commensurate with its importance. The number who have registered their names on his list is about fifteen, all told. Mr. Belcher had appointed Wednesday, the 30th, as the time of starting, and his company met at this place on Tuesday evening, with the view of leaving next day; but on the day of rendezvous the intelligence was received by Maj. Buford's letter, published in the Carolinian, stating that in consequence of the Missouri and Kansas Rivers being blocked with ice, he had, for this and other reasons, postponed the time of starting until the 31st of March next.—*South Carolinian.*

FOR KANSAS.—Capain E. B. Bell, of Edgefield, announces that he is about organizing a company of one hundred men to proceed to Kansas, about the last of March, and appeals to his native State for aid, in the hope that his appeal will not be in vain. Col. P. S. Brooks has pledged the South Carolina Delegation for *two hundred and fifty dollars*, to be paid so soon as this Company is prepared to emigrate. He also offers one hundred dollars to each Company of 100 men that might go to Kansas, under pledge to remain two years.

All the Southern States are now alive to the importance of settling Kansas with men who will either work or fight for the rights and interests of this important section of our common country, and ere another year rolls round, we one may hear something of her prowess and valor.—*Carolina Times.*

MESSAGE OF THE GOVERNOR OF MISSISSIPPI.—Gov. McRae, of Miss., in his annual message, says there is a balance of $259,405 in the State treasury.—Upon the slavery question he takes a Southern position, and argues the matter firmly but calmly. He recommends the return of certain anti-slavery resolutions received from Maine, and a reaffirmation of the determination of Mississippi to maintain her rights all hazards; leaving the North, if it makes the issue with the South on the Constitution, to abide the consequences.

A PROFITABLE VOYAGE.—It is stated that some months since a ship sailed from New York for Australia, with a cargo mostly of flour. It costs in New York about $10 per bbl., and was sold immediately on arrival for $25. Deduct $5 per bbl., for all charges, and the clear profit on the shipment of 8,000 bbls. was $80,000. The same ship went from thence to Calcutta, took in a cargo of saltpetre, etc., for New York. The net profits of the voyage were about $110,000.

DISTRESSING AFFAIR.—The Southside Democrat states that a day or two since a gentleman named S. A. Rewson, of Wilmington, N. C., on a bridal tour to Petersburg, went down to the river to skate, his wife standing on the bank watching him. He broke through, but got out safely; but his wife was so overcome by the accident that she has become a maniac.

SAD TRAGEDY.—We understand that a murder was committed, in Clarendon District, on the morning of Thursday last, by Samuel S. Tindal, upon the person of his wife, by stabbing her through the breast. The perpetrator of this horrible deed has fled the country and has not yet been taken.—*Sumter Watchman.*