

# The Anderson Intelligencer.

In Independent Journal--Devoted to Politics, Literature, News, Morals, Agriculture, Science and Art.

BY JAMES A. HOYT.

ANDERSON COURT HOUSE, S. C., THURSDAY MORNING, JANUARY 10, 1861.

VOLUME 1.--NUMBER 21.

THE ANDERSON INTELLIGENCER,  
IS ISSUED EVERY THURSDAY, AT  
ONE DOLLAR A YEAR, IN ADVANCE.  
If delayed six months, \$1.50; and \$2.00  
at the end of the year.

JAMES A. HOYT,  
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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## Convention Documents.

### The Report

OF THE COMMITTEE ON RELATIONS WITH  
SLAVEHOLDING STATES.

The following is the report of the Committee on Slaveholding States, as adopted by the Convention on Monday last:

The Committee on "Relations with the Slaveholding States of North America," beg leave to report that they have carefully considered the three several propositions contained in the resolution referred to them, which were submitted in Convention by three several members from St. Philip's and St. Michael's. All the resolutions referred to the Committee look to the purpose of confederate relations with our sister States of the South, having common interests with us, and every cause, as we trust, to indulge towards us common sympathies and to contract cordial relations. In such a purpose the Committee entirely and unanimously concur, and they recommend that every proper measure be adopted to accomplish such an end. Upon this subject so much unanimity prevails and has long prevailed in this State, that an argument thereupon would be wholly superfluous. All seem to agree that the first step proper to be taken for the purpose of promoting and securing the Confederation we seek, is the appointment of Commissioners by the authority of this Convention, to such States of the South as may call Conventions to consider and determine their future political relations.

The Committee advise that such steps be taken by this Convention, hoping and believing that our sister States of the South will correctly interpret our action in taking the initiative as arising, by no means, from any presumptuous arrogance, but from the advance position which circumstances have given to this State, in the line of procedure for the great design of maintaining the rights, the security and the very existence of the slaveholding South.

It has been a subject of anxious consideration with the Committee whether the Commissioners, whose appointment they recommend, should be instructed to tender any basis of a temporary or Provisional Government.

The instrument called the Constitution of the United States of America has been suggested as a suitable and proper basis to be offered for a Provisional Government.

This suggestion has been commended to the Committee by various considerations, which cannot now be set forth in full or at large. Among these are:

That the said instrument was the work of minds of the first order in strength and accomplishment.

That it was most carefully constructed by comprehensive views and careful examination of details.

That experience has proved it to be a good form of government for those sufficiently virtuous, intelligent and patriotic to cause it to be fairly and honestly construed and impartially administered.

That the settled opinion of this State has never been adverse to that plan of government of Confederate States on account of anything in its structure; but the dissatisfaction is attributable to the false glosses, and dangerous misinterpretation and perversion of sundry of its provisions, even to the extent, in one particular, of so covering up the real purposes of certain legislation (meant to protect domestic manufactures in one section,) as to estop the Supreme Court in its opinion, from judicially perceiving the real design.

That it presents a complete scheme of confederation, capable of being speedily put into operation, familiar, by long acquaintance with its provisions and their true import to the people of the South, many of whom are believed to cherish a degree of veneration for it, and would feel safe under it, when in their own hands for interpretation and administration, especially as the portions that have been, by permission, made potent for mischief and oppression in the hands of adverse and inimical interests have received a settled construction by the South. That a speedy Confederation by the South is desirable in the highest degree, which it is supposed must be temporary at first (if accomplished as soon as it should be,) no better basis than the Constitution of the United

States is likely to be suggested or adopted for temporary purposes.

That the opinions of those to whom it is designed to offer it would be conciliated by the testimony the very act itself would carry, that South Carolina meant to seek no selfish advantage, nor to indulge the least spirit of dictation.

That such form of government is more or less known in Europe, and, if adopted, would indicate abroad that the seceding Southern States had the foresight and energy to put into operation forthwith a scheme of government and administration competent to produce a prompt organization for internal necessities, and a sufficient protection of foreign commerce directed hither, as well as to guarantee foreign powers in the confidence that a new Confederacy had immediately arisen, quite adequate to supersede all the evils, internal and external, of a partial or total interregnum.

That its speedy adoption would work happily as a revivifying agency in matters financial and commercial between the States adopting it and between them as a united power and foreign commercial nations, and at the same time would combine without delay a power-touching purse and sword that might bring to a prudent issue the reflections of those who may perchance be contemplating an invasion or to an issue disastrous to them—the attempted execution of such unholy design.

Such are some of the considerations very rapidly stated, which address themselves to this subject. It is contended that some limitation of the power to levy duties, and that to regulate commerce (and perhaps other provisions of the said Constitution,) may be desirable and are in fact so, to some of the Committee; yet these modifications may be safely left to a period when the articles of a permanent Government may be settled, and that meantime the Constitution referred to will serve the purpose of a temporary Confederation, which the Committee unite in believing ought to be sought, through all proper measures, most earnestly.

It is also submitted, that if the tender of the said Constitution, even as a Provisional Government, should, in the opinion of the Convention, be accompanied by a condition that it be subject to specific limitations, expositions of ambiguities, or modifications, the Committee would respectfully refer to the Convention itself such matters; and this is done not because the Committee would not willingly consider and report upon such subject, but because they deem it due to the Convention and the public interest that they should now lay before the Convention the substantial propositions contained in the following resolutions, which the majority of the Committee recommend to the Convention as fit to be adopted, viz:

Resolved, 1st. That this Convention do appoint a Commissioner to proceed to each of the slaveholding States that may assemble in Convention, for the purpose of laying our Ordinance of Secession before the same, and respectfully inviting their co-operation in the formation with us of a Southern Confederacy.

2d. That our Commissioners aforesaid be further authorized to submit, on our part, the Federal Constitution as the basis of a Provisional Government for such States as shall have withdrawn their connection with the Government of the United States of America; *Provided*, That the said Provisional Government, and the tenures of all officers and appointments arising under it, shall cease and determine in two years from the first day of July next, or when a Permanent Government shall have been organized.

3d. That the said Commissioners be authorized, to invite the seceding States to meet in Convention, at such time and place as may be agreed upon, for the purpose of forming and putting in motion such Provisional Government, and so that the said Provisional Government shall be organized and go into effect at the earliest period previous to the 4th day of March, 1861, and that the same Convention of seceding States shall provide forthwith to consider and propose a constitution and plan for a permanent Government for such States, which proposed plan shall be referred back to the several State Conventions for their adoption or rejection.

4th. That eight Deputies shall be elected by ballot by this Convention, who shall be authorized to meet in Convention such Deputies as may be appointed by the other slaveholding States who may secede from the Federal Union, for the purpose of carrying into effect the forgoing resolutions; and that it be recommended to the said States that each State be entitled to one vote in the said Convention upon therein; and that each State send as many Deputies as are equal in number to the number of Senators and Representatives

to which it was entitled in the Congress of the United States.

## ORDINANCES.

At a Convention of the people of South Carolina, begun and holden at Columbia, on the seventeenth day of December, in the year of our Lord 1860, and thence continued by adjournment to Charleston, and there by divers adjournments to the 26th day of December, in the same year.

An Ordinance to make Provisional Arrangements for the continuance of Commercial Facilities in South Carolina.

Whereas, it is due to our late confederates in the political Union known as the United States of America, as also to the citizens of South Carolina, engaged in commerce, that no abrupt or sudden change be made in the rate of duties upon imports into this State; and whereas it is not desired by this State to secure any advantage in trade to her own ports, above those of any of the slaveholding States, her late confederates in the said Union; and, whereas, this Ordinance, for the considerations indicated, is designed to be provisional merely. Therefore, we, the people of South Carolina, in Convention assembled, do declare and ordain, and it is hereby declared and ordained:

1st. That all citizens of this State, who, at the date of the Ordinance of Secession, were holding office connected with the Customs under the General Government of the United States within the limits of South Carolina, be, and they are hereby, appointed to hold, under the Government of this State—exclusive of any further connection whatever with the Federal Government of the United States—the same offices they now fill, until otherwise directed, and to receive the same pay and emoluments for their services. That until this Convention, or the General Assembly, shall otherwise provide, the Governor shall appoint to all vacancies which may occur in such offices.

2d. That until otherwise provided by this Convention, or the General Assembly, the revenue, collection and navigation laws of the United States, so far as they may be applicable, be, and they are hereby, adopted and made the laws of this State, saving that no duties shall be collected upon imports from the States forming the late Federal Union, known as the United States of America, nor upon the tonnage of vessels owned in whole or in part by the citizens of the said States; and saving and excepting the Act of Congress, adopted the third day of March, 1857, entitled "An Act authorizing the deposit of papers of foreign vessels with the Consuls of their respective nations," which said Act is hereby declared to be of no force with the limits of this State.

3d. That all vessels built in South Carolina, or elsewhere, and owned to the amount of one-third by a citizen or citizens of South Carolina, or of any of the Slaveholding Commonwealths of North America, and commanded by a citizen thereof, and no other shall be registered as vessels of South Carolina, under the authority of the Collector and naval officer.

4th. That all the official acts of the officers aforesaid, in which it is usual and proper to set forth the authority under which they act, or the style of documents issued by them, or any of them, shall be in the name of the State of South Carolina.

5th. That all the moneys hereafter collected by any of the officers aforesaid shall, after deducting the sums necessary for the compensation of officers and other expenses, be paid into the Treasury of the State of South Carolina, for the use of the said State, subject to the order of this Convention, or the General Assembly.

6th. That the officers aforesaid shall retain in their hands all the property of the United States in their possession, custody or control, subject to the disposal of this State, who will account for the same upon a final settlement with the Government of the United States.

Done at Charleston, the 20th day of December, in the year of our Lord, 1860.

D. F. JAMISON, President.  
Attest—B. F. ARTHUR, Clerk.

An Ordinance Concerning Powers lately vested in the Congress of the United States.

We, the people of the State of South Carolina, in Convention assembled, do declare and ordain, and it is hereby declared and ordained, that all powers which by this State were heretofore delegated to the Congress of the United States, shall be vested in the General Assembly, except that during the existence of this Convention, the powers of the General Assembly shall not extend, without the direction of this Convention, to any one of these subjects, to wit: Duties and imposts, the post office, the declaration of war, treaties, confederacy, with other States, citizenship and treason.

AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING CITIZENSHIP.  
We the people of the State of South Carolina, in Convention assembled, do declare and ordain, and it is hereby declared and ordained, as follows:

1. Every person, who, at the date of the Ordinance of Secession, was residing in this State, and was then, by birth, residence or naturalization, a citizen of this State, shall continue a citizen of this State, unless a foreign residence shall be established by such persons with the intention of expiration.

2. So, also, shall continue every free white person, who, after the date aforesaid, may be born within the territory of this State, or may be born outside of that territory, of a father who was then a citizen of this State.

3. So, also, every person, a citizen of any one of the States now confederated under the name of the United States of America, who, within twelve months after the Ordinance of Secession, shall come to reside in this State, with the intention of remaining, upon such person's taking the oath of allegiance to this State, below provided.

4. So, also, every free white person who shall be engaged in the actual service, military or naval, of the State, and shall take an oath of his intention to continue in such service for at least three months, unless sooner discharged honorably, and also the oath of allegiance below prescribed. In this case the oaths shall be administered by some commissioned officer of the service, in which the applicant for citizenship may be engaged, superior in rank to the applicant, and thereupon a certificate of citizenship of the applicant shall be signed by the officer and delivered to the applicant.

5. So, also, every free white person, not a citizen of any of the States above mentioned, who at the date of the Ordinance of Secession was residing in this State, or who, within one year from that date, shall come to reside in this State, with the intention of remaining, upon such person's appearing before the Court of Common Pleas for any of the Districts of this State, establishing by his or her own oath the residence and intention here required, and taking the oath of allegiance and abjuration below prescribed.

6. So, also, every person, not a citizen of any of the States above mentioned, at the date aforesaid, who may come to reside in this State, with the intention of remaining, and be naturalized according to the naturalization laws of this State. Until they may be altered or repealed, the naturalization laws of the United States, accommodated to the special condition of the State, are hereby made the laws of this State, except that instead of the oaths required by those laws in the final Act, the oath of allegiance to this State, and of abjuration below provided, shall be taken.

7. In all cases, the citizenship of a man shall extend to his wife, present or future, whenever she shall have a residence in the State, and shall extend also to each of his children, that under the age of eighteen years, may have a residence in the State. In like manner, the citizenship of a woman shall extend to each of her children, that under the age of eighteen years, may have a residence in the State. *Provided*, That in no case shall citizenship extend to any person who is not a free white person.

8. The oath of allegiance to this State shall be in the following form, to wit: "I do swear (or affirm) that I will be faithful and true allegiance bear to the State of South Carolina, as long as I may continue a citizen thereof."

9. The oath of abjuration shall be in the following form, to wit: "I do swear (or affirm) that I do renounce, and forever abjure, all allegiance and fidelity to ever Prince, Potentate, State of Sovereignty whatsoever, except the State of South Carolina."

Done at Charleston the first day of January, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-one.

(Attest) D. F. JAMISON, Pres't.  
B. F. ARTHUR, Clerk.

An Ordinance to Define and Punish Treason.

We, the people of the State of South Carolina, in Convention assembled, do declare and ordain, and it is hereby declared and ordained, that in addition to what has been already declared to be treason by the General Assembly—*treason against this State shall consist only in levying war against the State, or adhering to its enemies, giving them aid and comfort—and that treason shall be punished by death without the benefit of clergy.*

An Ordinance Concerning Judicial Powers.

We, the people of the State of South Carolina, in Convention assembled, do declare and ordain, and it is hereby declared

and ordained, That the Judicial powers heretofore delegated to this State, so as to form a part of the Judicial power of the United States, having reverted to this State, shall be exercised by such Courts as the General Assembly shall direct.

AN ORDINANCE to amend the Constitution of the State of South Carolina in Respect to the Executive Department.

We, the People of the State of South Carolina, in Convention assembled, do declare and ordain, and it is hereby declared and ordained, That the Governor shall have power to receive ambassadors, ministers, consuls, and agents from foreign powers, to appoint such agents, to be paid out of the contingent fund, as in his discretion he may choose to employ; to conduct negotiations with foreign powers; to make treaties by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, provided two-thirds of the Senators present agree; to nominate, and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to appoint such ambassadors, other public ministers and consuls, as the General Assembly shall have previously directed to be appointed, and also all other officers, whose appointment otherwise shall not have been provided for by law; to fill all vacancies that may happen, during the recess of the Senate, in the offices to which he had the power to nominate as above mentioned, by granting commissions which shall expire at the end of the next session of the Senate, and to convene the Senate whenever in his opinion it may be necessary; *Provided* nevertheless, That, during the existence of a Convention, all treaties and directions for appointment of ambassadors, ministers, or consuls shall be subject to the advice and consent of the Convention or to its separate action.

And it is further ordained, That the Governor shall immediately appoint four persons, with the advice and consent of this Convention, who, together with the Lieutenant Governor, shall form a Council to be called the Executive Council, whose duty it shall be, when required by the Governor, to advise with him upon all matters which may be submitted to their consideration; and that a record of such consultations shall be kept; *Provided*, nevertheless, That the Governor shall, in all cases, decide upon his own action. Done at Charleston, the 27th day December, in the year of our Lord 1860.

AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE PROVISIONAL ARRANGEMENTS IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, the State of South Carolina owes it to her own citizens, and those of other States, that, as one of the contracting parties, she should not prevent or interrupt the performance of the pending contracts for carrying and delivering of the mails, made by the United States while South Carolina was one of said States:

We, the State of South Carolina, in Convention assembled, do declare and ordain, and it is hereby declared and ordained, that the existing postal contracts and arrangements shall be continued, and the persons charged with the duties thereof, shall continue to discharge said duties until a postal treaty or treaties shall be concluded, or until otherwise ordered by this Convention.

AID FOR SOUTH CAROLINA.—The news from South Carolina received during the last three or four days, has produced universal excitement among our citizens, and we have yet to hear of but few persons who do not fully sympathize with the gallant Palmetto State in their determination to throw off the Black Republican rule. On the receipt of the first news concerning the evacuation of Fort Moultrie by the U. S. troops and a probable collision with the South Carolinians, about fifty of our young men, determined and true, promptly enrolled themselves, under a pledge to leave at a moment's warning for Charleston, prepared to render whatever aid and service they might be called upon to perform in defence of South Carolina. The number has since been largely increased, and were it deemed imperatively necessary, the number could be easily raised to hundreds. We trust there may be no occasion for their services; but should such be the case, from our knowledge of the material, we feel assured that their pledge will be impiously fulfilled, and that South Carolina will not secure the support of a braver and more chivalrous band.—*Lynchburg (Va.) Rep.*

COMMISSIONERS TO THE SOUTHERN STATES.—The Convention, several days since, elected the following Commissioners to the Southern States: Georgia—Hon. JAMES L. ORR. Florida—Hon. L. W. SPRATT. Alabama—Hon. A. P. CALHOUN. Mississippi—Hon. M. L. BONHAM. Louisiana—Hon. J. L. MANNING. Arkansas—Hon. A. C. SPAIN. Texas—Hon. JOHN McQUEEN.

WASHINGTON, January 2.—McKibben is the father of Hon. James McKibben, late member of Congress from California. He will not go to Charleston, but will remove the Custom House to the deck of a man-of-war, under the provisions of the Force Bill of 1832.

It is stated in well informed political circles that there may be no Message at all on the subject of South Carolina, but simply a proclamation. This, however, I learn, depends on developments yet to be made. The Cabinet remained in session until a late hour, discussing the proposition of the South Carolina Commissioners, who are now satisfied that no satisfactory arrangements will be made. Treseott has already gone, and the Commissioners say that they will follow him in a day or two. They replied to the President's communication, to-day, charging him with special pleading, and with having endeavored to avoid the plain issue fairly presented. Great doubts are expressed whether the nomination of McKibben will even be confirmed by the Senate. The Post Office Department has cancelled the contract with the Isabel Steamship Company from Charleston to Key West and Havana. No cause is assigned for the act. Members from the slaveholding States, just returned from their homes, say that the secession movement is rapidly on the increase therein; while those who have been in the non-slaveholding States report that the people are as earnestly rallying in other directions: Seward, to-day, said to his political friends, that they ought to call on the President to give him their sympathy in consideration of the position he has assumed relative to retaining Anderson at Fort Sumter, and his disposition to maintain the Federal authority. The Abolitionists, generally, are beginning to grow, saying that they can and will crush distunion in the bud. Serious apprehensions are entertained here for the safety of the city. A motion will be made in the City Council, next Monday, to appoint a Committee to wait on the President and see if he intends to afford ample protection to the Federal City; if not, a public meeting will be called, and the citizens will take the matter into their own hands. Suspicions are entertained that Northern rowdies will swarm here on the fourth of March, with a view to the plunder and rapine of the Capital. Business of every kind is utterly stagnant, and universal gloom hangs over the city.—*Special Despatch to Charleston Mercury.*

CHARLESTON, January 3.—Despatches received in this city say that General Scott has been ordered to protect Washington City. The President has returned the South Carolina Commissioners' letter without reply. The Commissioners are certainly on their way home. Democratic Senators say that the appointment of the Collector for the port of Charleston cannot be confirmed. The revenue cutter Harriet Lane is under sealed orders, but will not sail unless McKibben's appointment is confirmed. The President says he will collect the revenue and protect the property of the Government.

CHARLESTON, January 3.—It is reported that the Georgians have garrisoned Fort Pulaski. Everything here is quiet. Baker, in a speech at Washington, is reported to have said that the Republicans will not yield an inch, even to save the Union or prevent civil war.

CHARLESTON, January 3.—The Georgia delegation telegraphed to Savannah to take the forts, and it has been done. Georgia has gone by a large vote for secession.

TALLAHASSEE, January 3.—A large number of the delegates to the Convention arrived to-day. It is probable that Judge McGehee, of Madison, will be elected President. A resolution will then be adopted declaring the right of secession. They will deliberately determine the terms of the ordinance of secession. Judge McIntyre has resigned from the Federal Courts.

CHARLESTON, January 4.—The following gentlemen have been appointed Commissioners to the Southern Congress: C. G. Memminger, W. P. Miles, James Chestnut, R. W. Barnwell, R. B. Rhett, L. M. Keitt, W. W. Boyce and T. J. Withers.

CHARLESTON, January 4.—Despatches received in this city from reliable sources state that the fort at Mobile was taken last night. A large quantity of arms, ammunition and other stores were taken. Fort Morgan will be taken to-night.