The Lancaster Ledger.

$2 PER ANNUM

Turn to the Press—its teeming Sheets survey,
Big with the wonders of each passing day.

IN ADVANCE

A Family and Political Newspaper—Devoted to the Arts, Sciences, Literature, Education, Agriculture, Internal Improvements, Foreign and Domestic News, and the Markets.

VOLUME VIII. LANCASTER C. H., SOUTH CAROLINA, WEDNESDAY MORNING, DEC., 7, 1859. NUMBER 43.

MESSAGE No 1.

OF

HIS EXCELLENCY WM. H. GIST,

GOVERNOR OF SOUTH CAROLINA,

TO THE

Senate and House of Representatives, AT THE SESSION OF 1859.

Gentlemen of the Senate and House of Representatives:

After a year of unprecedented health, and the enjoyment of many blessings from the hand of a beneficent Creator, you, the chosen Representatives of the people, have assembled to deliberate on the affairs of the Commonwealth, and to enact such laws as you may think conducive to her welfare. In discharging this important duty intrusted to you by your constituents, you should invoke the aid and counsel of One whose judgment is unerring, and who rules the destinies of States as well as individuals. No people who disregard the divine commands can be prosperous and happy. An implicit confidence in God alone can give you the wisdom to plan, and the ability to execute, and upon this must ever depend the successful administration of our public affairs.

There are certain cardinal principles which should, in my opinion, govern your legislative action, to wit: To collect no more taxes from the people than are absolutely necessary for an economical administration of the government; to avoid as much as possible creating a new, and to provide for the extinguishment of the present public debt, so that our people may not be forced to emigrate to avoid the burdens of taxation, and thus depopulate the State. A public debt in this country is not regarded as a public blessing, and to entail a heavy one upon posterity would be shrinking from the responsibility of taking ourselves, and doing the greatest injustice to them. The individual who would leave his estate to his children covered with bonds and mortgages, would not be regarded as a prudent and thrifty parent, and what would be unwise in an individual, applies equally to aggregation of individuals, called the State. Although our taxation is not as heavy as in many of the new States, it must be remembered that they have a virgin soil, and from the ability to make better crops, are better able to bear taxation. And many persons are kept in our State who would emigrate, if with less ability to pay, the burdens were as heavy as elsewhere. Although the crop of this State is not a large one, and particularly the provision crop, yet by prudent management and a wise economy, our people may be able to get along without the importation of much grain, until the harvesting of the next crop. The great scarcity of corn in some of the Upper Districts, was in part brought about by the numerous distilleries in operation, thus converting the staff of life into a slow but sure poison. And while our Legislature has been tenacious of the rights of the people in a pecuniary point of view, by refusing to repeal the usury laws for fear of leaving them a prey to speculators and usurers, their health and lives have been unattended to, by allowing their food to be converted into ardent spirits, to encourage a depraved and vitiated appetite.—The tax on stills should amount to a prohibition of their use, or at least high enough to raise an income sufficient to support the paupers they manufacture.

FINANCE.—The Report of the Comptroller will exhibit the financial condition of the State in all its details, and to it I refer you for information on that point.—The Banks, so far as I can learn, are in a sound and healthy condition, prepared to discharge all their obligations, and furnish a sound and stable currency for the State. Without being disposed to question the wisdom of the Act of the Legislature in relation to keeping a certain amount of specie in their vaults, I would respectfully suggest, that while it would fail to remedy the evil of a suspension, (the Banks frequently suspending with much less specie in their vaults than is now required,) it is an unnecessary tax upon them, without any great public good growing out of it. The Banks, however, should not be exempted from a strict accountability; but it seems to me the best plan would be to put them immediately in liquidation upon the suspension of specie payments, and compel them to close business until new charters are obtained, open to all who may choose to subscribe, as when the Banks were first chartered. If this is deemed too severe a penalty for suspending, something milder might be substituted that would tend to prevent a suspension, except under the most pressing necessity.

CENSUS OF THE FREE WHITE INHABITANTS.—The Act of the last session requiring a census of the free white inhabitants of the State to be taken, and returns made on oath at the Secretary of State's Office in Columbia, by the first of August last, has been carried out with the exception of the Parishes of St. Thomas and St. Dennis. Samuel F. Martin, the census taker for those Parishes, having failed to make a return, I appointed George P. Harmin, who has necessarily made a return after the time required by law, but in all other respects in conformity thereto. The Legislature having omitted to provide for printing the books necessary for the census takers, I authorized the State Printer to prepare them. The returns are filed in the office of the Secretary of State, subject to your inspection and disposition.

RESOLUTIONS.—The several Resolutions requiring the action of the Governor, has been attended to. A military commission, consisting of thirteen persons, has been appointed, and will report to you at the present session. A commission consisting of three persons has been appointed for the purpose of investigating the healthful condition of Bull's Island, with especial reference to its suitableness as a Quarrantine Station. The commission consists of Hon. Charles Macbeth, Hon. Wm. I. Bull and Dr. John L. Dawson, who will also report to you. Under the Resolution "authorizing and empowering" the Governor to have the laws relative to the powers and duties of the Commissioners of the Poor collected and printed, &c., I appointed Edmund Bellinger, Esq., who has discharged the duty in a satisfactory manner, and been paid out of the Contingent Fund. B. F. Arthur, Esq., was employed to record "The correspondence and documents of the officers of the Palmetto Regiment," and the papers were put in his possession for that purpose; but it seems that he entertained some doubts of his powers, and the construction to be given to the resolution. He says in a letter to me: "All the papers which I deemed of value have been recorded, but the volume will not be bound or indexed until instructions are received from the Legislature." The accompanying letter will more fully explain the difficulties, and I refer you to it for further information.

NEW STATE HOUSE.—By reference to the report of the Commissioner of the New State House, it will be seen that the whole disbursements for the last fiscal year, for the building, amounted to the sum of three hundred and forty eight thousand, forty four dollars and twenty seven cents, (348,044 27,) and that an appropriation of four hundred thousand dollars will be necessary for the present year. Whatever differences of opinion may have existed as to the propriety of commencing the work, no doubt can now be entertained of the necessity of its completion. The work is evidently progressing with as much rapidity as practicable, and the beauty, elegance and durability of the structure, will commend itself to every one, and I cannot hesitate to recommend the desired appropriation. By a resolution of the Legislature, the Commissioner was "authorized and directed" to have the records removed to the New State House as soon as the temporary shelves were completed; but in the exercise of a wise discretion, he declined removing them on account of the dampness of the vaults, which would have seriously injured them, and rendered them almost as useless as if destroyed by fire. In order to protect the State House from fire I have employed a guard, at a cost of thirty seven and a half dollars (37 50) per month, and shall continue to do so until the house is covered and the records removed, unless otherwise directed by the Legislature.

THE MILITIA SYSTEM.—In reviewing a portion of the Militia the last summer, I found a great disinclination to do Militia duty, and in some instances whole companies refused to muster. The Adjutant and Inspector General was instructed to use all the means in his power to punish, by fines, this disobedience of law, and neglect of duty, but the disaffection in some places was so general, that it will be difficult to get a court martial organized to try defaulters. Having appointed a Commission, according to a resolution of your body, to examine into and report to you on the Militia system, I do not deem it necessary to make any recommendation in relation thereto, but something must be done soon, or a general disorganization will take place.

THE LAWS.—In the discharge of the delicate and responsible duty imposed on the Executive by the Constitution, "to see that the laws are faithfully executed in mercy," I have had occasion, in some cases, to pardon or commute the punishment of criminals; but I have been careful not to grant pardons capriciously, or without the most satisfactory reasons. In applications for pardon, argument are frequently used to show that the punishment is disproportioned to the offence, and that the ends of justice would be accomplished by a milder punishment.—But I cannot consent, in this summary way, to repeal the laws of the land, and set up my judgment in their stead. It is the province of the Legislature to pass laws, and to amend them when they operate injuriously, or unjust, and in the discharge of my duty, the responsibility shall be left where it belongs. For my part, I have few alterations or amendments of the laws to recommend, believing that, as a whole, they are wise and salutary; and preferring to have an occasional case of hardship, rather than frequent changes, making it uncertain what the law is. A person guilty of a breach of trust should, in my opinion, be punished with as much or more severity than larceny; for the "*quo animo*" in both cases is the same, and the former, in addition to the wicked intention, violates the confidence reposed in him, and deserves no favor at the hands of the law. The Cashier or Teller who violates confidence by appropriating the funds of the Bank to his own use, is no better than the man that breaks in and supplies himself with money; in fact, he is not so good, being destitute at least of the quality of boldness and determination.

The substitution of a small tax in the place of days' work on the road, so frequently recommended by my predecessors, would be the means of keeping the roads in much better order, and is, in all respects, preferable to the present system. The planter is required to send his hands to work the roads, frequently under inefficient overseers, who keep them several days doing the work they ought to do in one, when, for half the amount of the worth of the work of the hands, judiciously expended, the roads could be kept in finer order all the year.

Some uniform rule for the treatment and management of prisoners should be adopted. I've been informed that the treatment of prisoners is regulated, in many instances, by the regard in which they are held by the sheriff or jailor, or by their position in society. Some incarcerated for safe keeping only, have been confined to a single room, while others, convicted of crime, and the imprisonment intended as a punishment, have been allowed the extraordinary privilege of going from room to room, enjoying the company and companionship of their friends and acquaintances. There should be some distinction made between imprisonment for crime, and imprisonment for safe-keeping; otherwise the punishment for high crimes and misdemeanors will be merely nominal, and the jailor may confine a witness (who, on account of his being a stranger, cannot give bail for his appearance to testify in the trial of a criminal case), in the most uncomfortable room in the prison. I am aware of the difficulty of properly regulating this matter, but some improvement certainly can be made, if the evil cannot be entirely remedied.

As the law now stands, the owner of a plantation with less than fifteen hands, is not compelled to reside on his place for more than six months in the year, and is not required even to keep an overseer, or other white man thereon. It seems to me that as much damage might be done by leaving fifteen hands without a proper supervision, as a large number, and in the present state of affairs, exposed as we are to secret emissaries inciting our slaves to insubordination and insurrection, the law should be altered so as to compel every one that owns a farm, with any quantity of negroes, to reside thereon all the year round, or keep a white man constantly on the place. The alteration of the law may produce some inconvenience to few individuals, but sacrifices must be made for the general welfare; and without desiring to dictate to others in the management of their property, I am perfectly satisfied that the presence of a white man will always amply compensate the owner for any outlay of money necessary to keep one.

A short experience has shown that some modification of the law in relation to the Normal School, for the instruction of female teachers, is desirable. The School is completely organized, with a good corpse of teachers, but there is a difficulty in inducing pupils from the country to avail themselves of its advantages. The School being at the public expense, and those who come from the country being required to become teachers, parents who have means sufficient to educate their children, seem unwilling to send them, from false pride or some other motive; and those whose necessities would induce them to put aside their pride, are unable to board their daughters while going to school. I would, therefore, suggest that provisions be made for paying the board of a small number of girls from each District, to be selected by the delegation, or in any other way that may be satisfactory; or if it is thought more advisable, or better calculated to make them feel that they are not depending entirely on the State for their education, a portion of their board might be provided for, and the balance paid by themselves. This arrangement would put the girls in the country more on an equal footing with those in the city, and after a few are educated and return home, others who are able and willing to pay their own board may be induced to avail themselves of the advantages of the School; and thus distribute through the country female teachers to supply all our wants, without being dependent upon the North.

THE CATAWBA INDIANS.—The remnant of this tribe of Indians, within the limits of this State, merits your care and guardianship. They were the friends of the colonists, and some of them took up arms and rendered good service during the Revolutionary war. Imitating our example at the close of the war, they would not be governed any longer by a King, but elected rulers with the titles of General, Colonel, &c; and they have always been docile and harmless, there being no instance of a criminal prosecution against one of them. It has been the policy of the State to remove them West to some new country where they could indulge their favorite sports and pastimes; but, on a recent visit to their neighborhood I found, from a conversation with one of their Chiefs, that they were divided in opinion—a part only being willing to emigrate. I recommend that a small appropriation be made to pay the traveling expenses of two or three of the head men, who desire to go on a visit to examine the country, and report to the tribe on their return. This report may induce them all to go, and I have no doubt, upon application to the General Government, an appropriation would readily be made for their removal. An appropriation of five thousand dollars was made by Congress in the year 1855, to remove the Catawba Indians, but lapsed into the general treasury in July, 1857, as it was not called for, and, therefore, cannot be used without a re appropriation by Congress. Information received from "The Superintendent of Indian affairs of the Southern Superintendency," satisfies me that the Choctaws have an abundance of territory both for themselves and the Catawbas; but they expect compensation for furnishing the Catawbas with land, and allow them to come among them—The money appropriated by Congress could only be used for their removal; but about five thousand dollars could be obtained for their lands in York district, and this, together with the balance due them by the State in extinguishing their title to what is called the Indian Land; would in all probability, be sufficient to effect the desired arrangement with the Choctaws. In the event of a failure to induce them to remove, it is evident we should not compel them to go, but endeavor to make them useful citizens, extending to them the benefits of education and religion. A plain building might be erected on their land, which would answer the double purpose of a school house and a house of worship; and a teacher employed to educate their children, allowing them, also, the privilege to invite a Minister, of whatever denomination they may choose, to preach to them on Sundays, or such other days as may suit his convenience. The Chief informed me that they would like to have preaching, and that there were about eighteen children, many of whom, if not all, would be sent to school if they had an opportunity. I am aware that many persons, who know the Indians well, think their habits cannot be changed by education, and one instance is given of an educated Indian lapsing into his former habits; but the cost will be small, and the experiment is well worth a fair trial.

THE LUNATIC ASYLUM.—It affords me great satisfaction to say that this Institution has exceeded in usefulness the most sanguine expectations of its founders.—Our own State was among the first in the Republic to set the example of providing for that class of unfortunate beings deprived of their reasoning faculties. And it has been followed all over the Continent, dispensing innumerable blessings broadcast over the land. From comparatively a small beginning, the number of patients has increased to two hundred and forty seven under treatment this year—one hundred and twenty-five males and one hundred and twenty two females.—The males occupy the new building containing fifty one available sleeping apartments, and in some instances five patients have been made to occupy the same room owing to the fact, that certain inmates, by the regulations of the House, are entitled to separate apartments. It will, therefore, be absolutely necessary to dismiss residents from other States, and all of them paying patients, or increase the accommodations by erecting another building. The former would be inhuman in the extreme, to say nothing of the decrease of revenue by substituting paupers for high paying patients. I, therefore, respectfully recommend an appropriation of fifty thousand dollars to complete the centre building represented in the general plan. The West Asylum, appropriated exclusively to females, is amply sufficient to meet every contingency which may reasonably be expected for some time to come. By an act of the last Legislature, the amount allowed for the support of paupers was increased from $100 to $135 a year; but from information received from the superintendant, obtained by actual experience, as well as the average cost for supporting an insane person in the other Asylum in the United States, not less than $165 will meet the necessary expenses; and unless such an increase is made, the profit derived from paying patients will have to be applied to meet the deficiency, instead of using it for necessary repairs, improvements, amusements, and other curative appliances.—When it is remembered that our Asylum has been a self sustaining Institution, not calling upon the State for a dollar to that end, it seems to me that the State cannot hesitate to pay the full amount necessary to support its paupers, as well as ample building accommodations for its inmates.

MILITARY ACADEMY.—The wisdom of converting the Magazine Guard into a Military Academy, is now beyond question, and the most sanguine expectations have been more than fulfilled, in turning out annually a class of useful, scientific and military men; and, at the same time furnishing a reliable guard for the public arms. Young men are sent out from these schools competent to train the citizen soldiery whenever their services may be required, and thus we have at command, at all times, the means of an efficient organization to meet any emergency that may arise. Much credit is due to the Board of Visitors, and particularly its head, for the success and usefulness of the Institution. I cheerfully recommend to the Legislature its continued support; and feel satisfied that the money expended could not be appropriated to a purpose better calculated to prepare the State for her defence, and promote the honor and welfare of her citizens. Since your adjournment the Board has been deprived of the valuable services of one of its members. Hon. Daniel Wallace, after filling for many years, with distinguished ability and devoted attachment to his State, various civil and military offices, departed this life at his residence in Union District, on the fifteenth day of May last; and I have filled the vacancy by the appointment of Col. Henry C. Young, of Laurens.

THE SOUTH CAROLINA COLLEGE.—This Institution, under the administration of its able head, assisted by a body of competent Professors, is deservedly popular throughout the State. There are occasional cases of dissatisfaction and complaint; but upon examination it will be found, that the fault lies with the pupil rather than the Faculty. Idle and dissipated young men cannot expect to be allowed to remain in the College, setting an example of insurbordination, and preventing others from a faithful discharge of their duties. The prompt and decided action of the Faculty in the Spring of 1858, in suspending a large number of students for disobedience, has had a very wholesome influence in preserving order and decorum, and there seems to be a tacit acknowledgement of the necessity of strict discipline, and an acquiescence therein. Every dollar expended for the College has been repaid with compound interest, and the alumni of the Institution will compare favorably with those of any other College. I recommend a continuance of your patronage, and a liberal appropriation for any purpose that may increase its prosperity and usefulness.

BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES.—By reference to the Report of the Registrar for the present year, you will see that the returns are still incomplete, but far more accurate and complete than heretofore, and we may reasonably expect each succeeding year a decided improvement. It is, therefore, an encouragement to go on until we acquire a mass of information in relation to three of the most interesting periods of man's existence. The trouble to individuals annually to give the desired information, is more than counterbalanced by the great good which will result from the acquisition of such valuable information, not only to the physician, but to the philanthropist.

GEOLOGICAL AND METALLURGICAL SURVEY.—The term of the appointment of Oscar M. Lieber, Esq., as State Geologist for four years, will expire on the 22d December next, having been ordered at the Session of 1855. Not one half of the State has been surveyed, although perhaps half of the labor have been performed. The work having been begun, it would be unwise not to go on to its completion; and although much time has been spent, the importance of a thoroughly accurate survey, rather than a hasty and imperfect one, will at once be apparent. I would therefore, respectfully recommend a continuance of the survey for another term, in which time it can be fully and accurately completed. I would also suggest that the field duties of the Geologist will not permit him to devote sufficient time and attention to analyzing ores, soils, manures, &c, and that if a small appropriation was made to employ some chemist who had a well-furnished laboratory to analyze the ores, &c, it would not only better enable the geologist to devote his whole attention to his particular branch, but save the expence of preparing a laboratory, and, in the end, cost the State less. For more detailed information, I refer you to the report of Mr. Oscar M. Leiber, which is herewith transmitted.

MARINE SCHOOL OF CHARLESTON.—It is with pleasure I refer to this Institution, which is now in its infancy. The want of such a one has been felt for a long time as an adjunct to the Common School system. The love of a seafaring life, with some boys, is innate; and when cultivated under proper instruction, is of great importance to even an agricultural people.

Commerce is the handmaid of agriculture, and the connection between them intimate. The one is always dependent on the other, and both should be fostered and encouraged by the State. This School was inaugurated on the 16th of May last, under the supervision of a Board of Trustees, appointed by the Charleston Port Society. Their vessel, called the Lodebar, was hauled into the stream, and sixteen pupils commenced their nautical life. Since that period the number has been increased to thirty boys, from the age of twelve to eighteen years. The vessel and all her equipments have paid for together with the victualling and clothing of her youthful crew, and the education of them has been provided for by liberal subscriptions from the merchants of Charleston, and other benevolent persons, and also a liberal subscription of twelve hundred dollars has been made by the City Council. The sum contributed by all amount to about nine thousand dollars. Under the present aspect of our public affairs, it becomes our duty to encourage every enterprize which will render us independent of our Northern neighbors.—While we are providing for our Colleges and Military Institutions, let us not be unmindful of our commerce and protection of our coasts. By providing for this nursery for the navy and mercantile marine, we may be furnishing a number of steady and capable captains for our coasting trade and vessels of war.

The course of instruction is a plain English education, and accompanied with nautical science. The School is now in successful operation, and in order to increase its numbers and usefulness, I respectfully recommend an appropriation of five thousand dollars towards its support.

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES.—I here with transmit a communication from Alexander Vattenmare, Esq, accompanying a list of works on useful knowledge, sciences, arts, agriculture, &c., from the governments of France, Holland and Belgium, for the use of the State, and in return for the books presented to them. Many of these works are from the private library of the Emperor of France, being both rare and valuable; and I cannot impress upon you, with too much earnestness, the importance of continuing these international exchanges. Among the valuable works received last year, was the Theatrum Anatomicum, obtained from the Government of Holland, at the suggestion of Professor Holbrook, who desired the use of it for the Medical College at Charleston, and Mr. Vattenmare desires that it should be so disposed of, to be preserved in their Library, which could be done, without losing its character as State property. Mr. Vattenmare also requested me to express his grateful feelings towards the people and the Legislature for the uninterrupted patronage with which they have supported the noble cause of the intellectual union of nations. For further information in relation to his views and wishes, I refer you to the communication alluded to.

FEDERAL RELATIONS.—Admonished by the action of the Legislature in relation to certain Resolutions which were returned without comment to the State from whence they came, by one of my predecessors, I herewith transmit certain Resolutions from the State of Vermont, affirming the right of Congress to exclude slavery from the Territories of the United States, and expressing the opinion that it is the duty of Congress to exercise this right; and that Vermont will continue to resist the admission of new slave States into this Union, and will seek the Abolition of slavery at the National Capital. Also asserting that the decision of the Supreme Court, in the Dred Scott case, has no warrant in the Constitution, and is not binding upon Vermont, or the people of the United States. These Resolutions not only embody the opinions of Vermont, but of all the non-slaveholding States; and the signs of the times clearly indicate an approaching crisis in the destinies of the South. [illegible] assume [illegible] and the people [illegible] signatic protection; and, with very few exceptions, the entire Northern people are arrayed against us, and pledged to our destruction. Not satisfied with the sore [illegible] by refusing [illegible] Union to the candidates of the underground railroads to assist our slaves to escape from our service—by publicating as from carrying our slaves into the common territories, and by every other conceivable means, they have actually crossed the Red sea, attempted to incite our slaves to insurrection, and furnished them with arms to murder us in Southern soil. Harper's Ferry is the truthful illustration of the first act in the drama to be performed on a Southern theatre, and if the South does not now unite for her defence, we will deserve the execration of posterity, and the blood that has been shed will bear a disgraceful and humiliating record against us.—The intention of the North is as clearly evinced by the action of the few, and more especially when that action is ratified and applauded by the press and people of the non-slaveholding States, as if they had sent forth their multitudes in the treasonable and incendiary attack upon the South. Can we, then, any longer talk about moderation and conservatism, and still hug the delusive phantom to our breasts that all is well, and that the Democratic party, upon whom we have too confidently relied, will work out our salvation by platforms and resolutions? As well might we rely upon a paste board barque to protect us from ocean storms. South Carolina should be careful not to commit herself, directly or indirectly, to any Presidential aspirant, and be forced by party trammels to support a party nominee. An open and undisguised enemy is infinitely preferable to a pretended friend, and we should scorn the alternative of a choice of evils, as being but the poor privilege of a slave to choose a master. We have sunk very low, indeed, if our liberties are to depend upon the fortunate selection of a candidate for the Presidency, who, on account of his popularity, or his mysterious manner of expressing his opinions, makes himself acceptable to both sections, or is what is generally termed available. It is unbecoming a free people to stake their liberties upon the successful jugglery of party politicians and interested office seekers, rather than a bold and determined resolution to maintain them at every hazard. In the eloquent language of our own McDuffie, to whom were universally accorded honesty, patriotism and disinterestedness: "Let us cherish and preserve the reputation we have nobly acquired, as the Romans did their vestal fire. Let no statesman of South Carolina tarnish her glorious escutcheon, by enlisting as a partizan under the banner of any of those political chiefs, who are grasping at the Presidential sceptre. The political principles and peculiar institutions of the State may be cool and sacrificed but most assuredly they can never be preserved by such degrading prostration [illegible] Carolina, and all the Southern States, [illegible] institutions, *must not put their trust in Presidents*; but look to their own power and principles for the security of their rights and institutions. They are a permanent minority on all questions affecting those rights and institutions, and whoever may exercise the powers of the Chief Magistracy, they will be exercised in obedience to the will of the adverse majority."

What, then, it may be asked, should South Carolina do in the view of the crisis now approaching, (and, in my opinion, fearfully near,) to save her institutions from destruction, and afford safety and security to her people? Would to God I were able to give a satisfactory answer to this momentous question, and thus be the humble instrument to avert the impending danger; but I must confess my utter inability to point out the path of honor and safety, in the midst of the difficulties that surround us. With a united South our course would be clear, and our future glories; we could enforce equality in the Union, or maintain our independence out of it. If, as I solemnly believe, we can no longer live in peace and harmony in the Union—notwithstanding the associations of the past, and the remembrance of our common triumphs, (being treated as enemies and aliens, rather than brethren of the same family, and heirs of the same inheritance by the North,) we can form a Confederacy with ability to protect itself against any enemy, and command the respect and admiration of the world. This proud position is only to be obtained by a strict adherence to law and duty; and while South Carolina insists on the other States carrying out their constitutional obligations, she should be careful to do her whole duty, and carry out in good faith all her obligations to her sister states and the Federal Government, by discouraging [illegible] to evade the laws, [illegible] ever. While [illegible] comply with [illegible] they are possessed [illegible] the Supreme Court, [illegible] release from the binding [illegible] the constituted authorities [illegible] and to [illegible] on the part [illegible] [illegible] may deem proper and [illegible] the completion of the Southern States in contested [illegible] our institutions, [illegible] put in play, by all the departments of the Government, and pressing [illegible] of our citizens.

The election of a black Republican President will settle the question of our safety in the Union; and although the forms of the Constitution may be complied with its vital principle will be entirely lost, and the South must consent to occupy an inferior and degrading position, or seek new safeguards for her future security. Let South Carolina exhaust every means to get the co-operation of the Southern States in this vital and important movement, yielding everything but *principle* for that purpose, prepared to follow any lead in *resistance*, but she should never forget that she is a sovereign and an equal—that by her sovereign act she created the relationship of the State that now exists in the Federal Union, and that she has a clear and unquestionable right to resume her position as a sovereign in the family of nations.

Relying confidently upon a just God, who has hitherto dealt so kindly with us as a State, to sustain us in the trying emergency we may be called to pass through, let us in all sincerity invoke a continuance of His favor and support.

WM. H. GIST.

Gov. Wise Captured.

The Petersburg *Express* furnishes the annexed account of the capture of His Excellency, Gov. WISE, of Virginia, by one of those wide awake fellows who had been placed as a Sentinel for the protection of Charlestown.

One of the soldiers who yesterday returned from Harper's Ferry, (says the *Express*,) tells us an amusing incident which occurred at Charlestown on Monday night, in which Governor WISE acted a conspicuous though quite an unexpected part. The Governor, with characteristic wide awakedness, desiring to discover if the gift of vigilance was as fully developed in the guardians of the place as he should like it, bethought himself to try the old strategic ides of sauntering by the sentinel, *incognito*.

Washington, it is true, and many Generals of a later day, had played the same old *ruse*, and the soundness of the guards they tested being endorsed by their promptitude, all that these [illegible] had to do was to [illegible] known, or give the [illegible] But the Governor [illegible] doubtless, for adequate [illegible] entire [illegible] go to the trouble of making [illegible] for an affair of the kind. He [illegible] picturesqueness about the [illegible] the camp, for a short time, and finally approached within a few [illegible] the sentinels. Stop! [illegible] his musket [illegible] and [illegible] officers, [illegible] the Governor [illegible] the sentinel.

It was a dilemma, and the Governor felt it, momentarily, like a small clap of thunder coming down on his house.—He at length replied—I am the Governor of the State of Virginia—Henry A. Wise!" "Perhaps you are," replied the sentinel, who was very confident that he had caught a lying Abolitionist, "but you are my prisoner, and so saying he ordered the Governor to march with him to the guard house, somewhat accelerating his compliance and damming up his objections by a significant movement of his bayonet.

The Governor went along, somewhat chagrined at first, but finally became good humored, and bore his imprisonment like a soldier. He immediately sent for one of the commanding officers, to whom he was known, had a hearty laugh with him over his adventure, and was discharged from custody.