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Correspondence of the Evening News.

WASHINGTON, May 9, 1850.

In the Senate, after the disposal of some unimportant business, Mr. Clay made the long expected report from the Committee of Thirteen, on the slavery and other questions connected therewith, which follows:

COMMITTEE OF THIRTEEN. REPORT.

Mr. Clay, from the Select Committee of Thirteen, to whom were referred various resolutions relating to California, to other portions of the territory recently acquired by the United States from the Republic of Mexico, and to other subjects connected with the institution of slavery, submitted the following report:—

The committee entered on the discharge of their duties with a deep sense of their great importance, and with earnest and anxious solicitude to arrive at such conclusions as might be satisfactory to the Senate and the country.—Most of the matters referred have been not only subjected to extensive and serious public discussion throughout the country, but to a debate in the Senate itself, singular for its elaborateness and its duration; so that a full exposition of all those motives and views which, on the several subjects confided to the committee, have determined the conclusions at which they have arrived, seems quite unnecessary. They will, therefore, restrict themselves to a few general observations, and to some reflections which grew out of those subjects.

Out of our recent territorial acquisitions, and in connexion with the institution of slavery, questions most grave have sprung, which, greatly dividing and agitating the people of the United States, have threatened to disturb the harmony, if not to endanger the safety of the Union. The committee believe it to be highly desirable and necessary speedily to adjust all those questions, in a spirit of concord, and in a manner to produce, if practicable, general satisfaction. They think it would be unwise to leave any of them open and unsettled, to fester in the public mind, and to prolong, if not aggravate the existing agitation. It has been their object therefore; in this report, to make such proposals and recommendations as would accomplish a general adjustment of all those questions.

Among the subjects referred to the committee, which command their first attention, are the resolutions offered to the Senate by the Senator from Tennessee, Mr. Bell by a provision in the resolution of Congress annexing Texas, to the United States, it is declared that new States of convenient size, not exceeding four in number, in addition to said State of Texas, and having sufficient population, may hereafter, by the consent of said State, be formed out of the said territory thereof, which shall be entitled to admission under the provisions of the Federal Constitution; and such States as may be formed out of that portion of said territory lying south of 36 degrees, 30 minutes north latitude, commonly known as the Missouri compromise line, shall be admitted into the Union with or without slavery as the people of each State asking admission may desire.

The committee are unanimously of opinion, that whenever one or more States, formed out of the territory of Texas, not exceeding four, having sufficient population, with the consent of Texas, may apply to be admitted into the Union, they are entitled to such admission, beyond all doubt, upon the clear, unambiguous, and absolute terms of the solemn compact contained in the resolution of annexation adopted by Congress and assented to by Texas. But whilst the committee conceive that the right of admission into the Union of any new States carved out of the territory of Texas, not exceeding the number specified, and under the conditions stated, cannot be justly controverted, the committee do not think that the formation of any such new States should now originate with Congress. The initiative, in conformity with the usage which has heretofore prevailed, should be taken by a portion of the people of Texas themselves, desirous of constituting a new State, with the consent of Texas. And in the formation of such new State, it will be for the people composing it to decide for themselves whether they will admit or exclude slavery. And however they may decide that purely municipal question, Congress is bound to acquiesce, and to fulfil in good faith the stipulations of the compact with Texas. The committee are aware that it has been contended that the resolution of Congress annexing Texas, was unconstitutional. At a former epoch of our country's history, there were those (and Mr. Jefferson, under whose auspices the treaty of Louisiana was concluded, was among them) who believed that the States formed out of Louisiana could not be received into the Union without an amendment of the Constitution. But the States of Louisiana, Missouri, Arkansas and Iowa have been all, nevertheless, admitted.—And who would now think of opposing the admission of Minnesota, Oregon, or other new States formed out of the ancient province of Louisiana, upon the ground of an alleged original defect of constitutional power? In grave, national transactions, while yet in their earlier or incipient stages, differences may well exist; but when they once have been decided by a constitutional majority, and are consummated, or are in a process of consummation, there can be no other safe and prudent alternative than to respect the decision already rendered, and to acquiesce in it. Entertaining these views, a majority of the committee do not think it necessary or proper to recommend, at this time, or prospectively, any new State or States to be formed out of the Territory of Texas.—Should any such State be hereafter formed, and present itself for admission into the Union, whether with or without the establishment of slavery, it cannot be doubted that Congress

will, under a full sense of honor, of good faith, and of all the high obligations arising out of the compact with Texas, decide, just as it will decide under the influence of similar considerations in regard to new States formed of or out of New Mexico and Utah, with or without the institution of slavery, according to the constitution and judgment of the people who compose them, as to what may be best to promote their happiness.

In considering the question of the admission of California as a State into the Union, a majority of the committee conceive that any irregularity by which the State was organized without the previous authority of an act of Congress, ought to be overlooked, in consideration of the omission by Congress to establish any territorial government for the people of California, and the consequent necessity which they were under to create a government for themselves best adapted to their own wants. There are various instances, prior to the case of California, of the admission of new States into the Union without any previous authorization by Congress. The sole condition required by the Constitution of the United States in respect to the admission of a new State is, that its constitution shall be republican in form. California presents such a constitution; and there is no doubt of her having a greater population than that which, according to the practice of the government, has been, heretofore, deemed sufficient to receive a new State into the Union.

In regard to the proposed boundaries of California, the committee would have been glad if there existed more full and accurate geographical knowledge of the territory which those boundaries include. There is reason to believe that, large as they are, they embrace no very disproportionate quantity of land adapted to cultivation. And it is known that they contain extensive ranges of mountains, deserts of sand, and much unproductive soil. It might have been, perhaps, better to have assigned to California a more limited front on the Pacific; but even if there had been reserved on the shore of that ocean a portion of the boundary which it presents for any other State or States, it is not very certain that an accessible interior of sufficient extent could have been given to them to render an approach to the ocean through their own limits of any very great importance.

A majority of the committee think that there are many and urgent concurring considerations in favor of admitting California with the proposed boundaries, and of securing to her at this time the benefits of a State government.—If hereafter, upon an increase of her population, a more thorough exploration of her territory, and an ascertainment of the relations which may arise between the people occupying its various parts, it should be found conducive to their convenience and happiness to form a new State out of California, we have every reason to believe, from past experience, that the question of its admission will be fairly considered and justly decided.

A majority of the committee, therefore, recommended to the Senate, the passage of the bill reported by the Committee on Territories for the admission of California as a State into the Union. To prevent misconception, the committee also recommend that the amendment reported by the same committee to the bill be adopted, so as to leave incontestable the right of the United States to the public domain and other public property in California.

Whilst a majority of the committee believe it to be necessary and proper, under actual circumstances, to admit California, they think it quite as necessary and proper to establish governments for the residue of the territory derived from Mexico, and to bring it within the pale of the Federal authority. The remoteness of that territory from the seat of the General Government; the dispersed state of its population; the variety of races—pure and mixed—of which it consists; the ignorance of some of the races of our laws, language, and habits; their exposure to incursions and wars of savage tribes; and the solemn stipulations of the treaty by which we acquired dominion over them, impose upon the United States the imperative obligation of extending to them protection, and of providing for them government and laws suited their condition. Congress will fail in the performance of a high duty if it does not give, or attempt to give, to them the benefit of such protection, and government, and laws. They are not now and for a long time to come may not be, prepared for State government. The territorial form for the present, is best suited to their condition. A bill has been reported by the Committee on Territories, dividing all the territory acquired from Mexico not comprehended within the limits of California into two Territories, under the names of New Mexico and Utah, and proposing for each a territorial government.

The committee recommended to the Senate the establishment of those territorial governments; and in order more certainly to secure that desirable object, they also recommend that the bill for their establishment be incorporated in the bill for the admission of California and that united together they both be passed.

The combination of the two measures in the same bill is objected to on various grounds. It is said that they are incongruous, and have no necessary connexion with each other. A majority of the committee think otherwise. The object of both measures is the establishment of government suited to the conditions, respectively, of the proposed new State and of the new Territories. Prior to their transfer to the United States, they both formed a part of Mexico, where they stood in equal relations to the government of that republic. They were both ceded to the United States by the same treaty. And in the same article of that treaty, the United States solemnly engaged to protect and govern both. Common in their origin, common in their alienation from one foreign government to another, common in their wants of good government, and continuous in some of their boundaries, and alike in many particulars of physical condition, they have nearly everything in common in the relations in which they stand to the rest of this Union. There is then, a general fitness and propriety in extending the parental care of government to both in common. If California, by a sudden and extraordinary augmentation of population, has advanced so rapidly as to mature her for State government, that furnishes no reason why the

less fortunate Territories of New Mexico and Utah should be abandoned and left ungoverned by the United States, or should be disconnected with California, which, although she has organized for herself a State government, must be legally and constitutionally regarded as a Territory until she is actually admitted as a State into the Union.

It is further objected, that by combining the two measures in the same bill, members who may be willing to vote for one and unwilling to vote for the other, would be placed in an embarrassing condition. They would be constrained it is urged, to take or reject both. On the other hand, there are other members who would be willing to vote for both united, but would feel themselves constrained to vote against the California bill if it stood alone. Each party finds in the bill which it favors something which commends it to acceptance, and in the other something which it disapproves. The true ground, therefore, of the objection to the union of the measure is not any want of affinity between them, but because of the favor or disfavor with which they are respectively regarded.—In this conflict of opinion, it seems to a majority of the committee that a spirit of mutual concession enjoins that the two measures should be connected together, the effect of which will be, that neither opinion will exclusively triumph and that both may find in such an amicable arrangement enough of good to reconcile them to the acceptance of the combined measure. And such a course of legislation is not at all unusual. Few laws have ever passed in which there were not parts to which exception was taken. It is inexpedient, if not impracticable to separate these parts, and embody them in distinct bills, so as to accommodate the diversity of opinion which may exist.

The Constitution of the United States contained in it a great variety of provisions, to some of which serious objection was made in the convention which formed it by different members of that body; and when it was submitted to the ratification of the States, some of them objected to some parts, and others to other parts of the same instrument. Had these various parts and provisions been separately acted on in the convention, or separately submitted to the people of the United States, it is by no means certain that the Constitution itself would ever have been adopted or ratified. Those who did not like particular provisions, found compensation in other parts of it. And in all cases of constitutions and laws, when either is presented as a whole, the question to be decided is, whether the good it contains is not of greater amount, and does not neutralize anything exceptionable in it. And as nothing human is perfect, for the sake of that harmony so desirable in such a confederacy as this, we must be reconciled to secure as much as we can of what we wish, and be consoled by the reflection, that what we do not exactly like is a friendly concession, and agreeable to those who, being united with us in a common destiny, it is desirable should always live with us in peace and concord.

A majority of the committee have, therefore, been led to the recommendation to the Senate that the two measures be united. The bill for establishing the two Territories, it will be observed, omits the Wilnot proviso, on the one hand, and, on the other, makes no provision for the introduction of slavery into the Territories. That proviso has been the fruitful source of distraction and agitation. If it were adopted and applied to any Territory, it would cease to have any obligatory force as soon as such Territory were admitted as a State into the Union. There was never any occasion for it, to accomplish the professed object with which it was originally offered. This has been clearly demonstrated by the current of events. California, of all the recent territorial acquisitions from Mexico, was that in which, if any where within them, the introduction of slavery was most likely to take place; and the constitution of California by the unanimous vote of her convention, has expressly interdicted it. There is the highest probability that Utah and New Mexico will, when they come to be admitted as States, follow the example. The proviso is, as to all these regions in common, a mere abstraction. Why should it be longer insisted on? Totally destitute, at it is, of any practical import, it has, nevertheless, had the pernicious effect to excite serious, if not alarming, consequences. It is high time that the wounds which it has inflicted should be healed up and closed; and that to avoid, in all future time, the agitations which must be produced by the conflict of opinion on the slavery question, existing as this institution does in some of the States and prohibited as it is in others, the true principle which ought to regulate the action of Congress in forming territorial governments for each newly acquired domain is to refrain from all legislation on the subject in the territory acquired, so long as it retains the territorial form of government—leaving it to the people of such Territory, when they have attained to a condition which entitles them to admission as a State to decide for themselves the question of the allowance or prohibition of slavery. The committee believe that they express the anxious desire of an immense majority of the people of the U. States when they declare that it is high time that good feelings, harmony, and fraternal sentiments should be again revived, and the Government should be able once more to proceed in its great operations to promote the happiness and prosperity of the country undisturbed by this distracting cause.

As for California, far from feeling her sensibility affected by her being associated with other kindred measures—she ought to rejoice and be highly gratified that, in entering into the Union, she may have contributed to the tranquility and happiness of the great family of States, of which, it is to be hoped, she may one day be a distinguished member.

The committee beg leave next to report on the subject of the northern and western boundary of Texas. On that question a great diversity of opinion has prevailed. According to one view of it, the western limit of Texas was the river Nueces; according to another, it extended as far as the Rio Grande, and stretched from its mouth to its source. A majority of the committee, having come to the conclusion of recommending an amicable adjustment of the boundary with Texas, abstain

from expressing any opinion as to the true and legitimate western and northern boundary of that State. The terms proposed for such an adjustment are contained in the bill herewith reported, and they are, with inconsiderable variation, the same as that reported by the Committee on Territories.

According to these terms, it is proposed to Texas that her boundary be recognized to the Rio Grande and up that river to the point commonly called El Paso, and running thence up that river twenty miles, measured thereon by a straight line, and thence eastwardly to a point where the hundredth degree of west longitude crosses Red River; being the south west angle in the line designated between the U. States and Mexico, and the same angle in the line of the territory set apart for the Indians by the United States.

If this boundary be assented to by Texas, she will be quieted to that extent in her title.—And some may suppose that, in consideration of this concession by the United States, she might without any other equivalent, relinquish any other claim she has beyond the proposed boundary; that is, any claim to any part of New Mexico. But, under the influence of a sentiment of justice and great liberality, the bill proposes to Texas, for her relinquishment of any such claim, a large pecuniary equivalent. As a consideration for it, and considering that a portion of the debt of Texas was created on a pledge to her creditors of the duties on foreign imports, transferred by the resolution of annexation to the United States, and now received and receivable in their treasury, a majority of the committee recommend the payment of the sum of _____ millions of dollars to Texas, to be applied in the first instance, to the extinction of that portion of her debt for the reimbursement of which the duties on foreign imports were pledged as aforesaid; and the residue in such manner as she may direct. The said sum is to be paid by the United States in a stock, to be created, bearing five per cent. interest annually, payable half yearly at the Treasury of the United States, and the principal reimbursable at the end of fourteen years.

According to an estimate which has been made, there are included in the territory to which it is proposed that Texas shall relinquish her claim, embracing that part of New Mexico lying east of the Rio Grande, a little less than 124,933 square miles, and about 79,957,120 acres of land. From the proceeds of the sales of this land, the United States may ultimately be reimbursed a portion, if not the whole of the amount of what is thus proposed to be advanced to Texas.

It cannot be supposed that Texas will decline to accede to these liberal propositions; but if she should, it is to be distinctly understood that the title of the United States to any territory acquired from Mexico east of the Rio Grande will remain unimpaired and in the same condition as if the proposals of adjustment now offered had not been made.

To be concluded on Friday.

THE JOURNAL.

CAMDEN, S. C.

TUESDAY EVENING, MAY 14, 1850.

TELEGRAPHIC INTELLIGENCE.

Reported for the Journal.

CHARLESTON, May 13, 8 1/2 p. m.

The demand for cotton is good, prices having made a farther advance of an eighth. There have been sales of 1300 bales, at prices varying from 10 1/4 to 13.

Agents for the Camden Journal.

Col. T. W. HUEY, Jacksonham, Lancaster Dist.
S. H. ROSSER, Esq., Lancasterville, S. C.
C. C. McCORMEN, Esq., Carthage, N. C.
W. C. MOORE, Esq., Camden, S. C.
And Postmasters are requested to act as our agents.

President Preston.

The Telegraph informs us that President Preston tendered his resignation to the Trustees of the South Carolina College, on Saturday evening last, to take effect in December—in consequence of the feebleness of his health. It was accepted, and a very complimentary resolution adopted in acknowledgment of his past labors and services.

Report of the Compromise Committee.

We present our readers to-day with a part of the long-expected Report of the compromise committee, submitted by Mr. Clay on the 9th instant. We regret that the length of the report prevents an entire insertion of it this week; for though the several positions taken by the committee are stated in terms sufficiently brief and concise, such was the number of questions that came under its supervision, that the report occupies five closely printed columns of the Evening News, from which we copy. The committee (as will be seen) first notice the compact by which Texas entered the Union, and recommends that in pursuance thereof Congress do admit, without restriction as to slavery, such new State or States as the people of Texas may hereafter form out of her territory, not exceeding four. The committee further recommends that in view of the failure of Congress to provide a suitable government for California, the irregularity connected with the formation of her State Government be overlooked, and she be admitted into the Union as a State; also that territorial bills be passed for the government of New Mexico and Utah, to comprise all the remaining territory, without any reference to slavery. The Report concludes by recommending the abolition of the slave trade in the District of Columbia, and the enactment of effectual provisions by the Federal Government for the arrest and delivery of fugitive slaves, asserting that if these means shall fail to secure that object, that the owners of such slaves will then have a right to demand indemnity for their lost property from the Treasury of the United States. In short, the plan is substantially the same as it was previously reported it would be. Mr. Phelps, of Vermont, gave notice that he would introduce a minority report. We give the recapitulation contained in the report of the measures proposed by the majority of the committee:

1. The admission of any new State or States formed out of Texas, to be postponed until they shall hereafter present themselves. We received into the Union, when it will be the duty of Congress fairly and faithfully to execute the compact with Texas by admitting such new State or States.
2. The admission forthwith of California into the Union, with the boundaries she has proposed.
3. The establishment of territorial governments, without the Wilnot Proviso, for New Mexico and Utah, embracing all the territory recently acquired by the United States from Mexico not contained in the boundaries of California.
4. The combination of these two last-mentioned measures in the same bill.
5. The establishment of the western and northern boundary of Texas, and the exclusion from her jurisdiction of all New Mexico, with the grant to Texas of a pecuniary equivalent. And the section for that purpose to be incorporated in the bill admitting California and establishing territorial governments for Utah and New Mexico.
6. More effectual enactments of law to secure the prompt delivery of persons bound to service or labor in one State, under the laws thereof, who escape into another State.
7. Abstaining from abolishing slavery; but under a heavy penalty, prohibiting the slave trade in the District of Columbia.

California and the Committee of Thirteen.

As will be seen by our synopsis of the report, as well as a part of that document itself (all that we can find room for) which appears in to-day's paper, the majority of this committee have reported, as a part of their plan of compromise, in favor of admitting California as a State, with her proposed constitution, to which we have so strenuously and justly objected. This is the test question: the matter has now assumed "a more tangible form," as some of our contemporaries would say; and we have either to admit California as she is proposed, and then admit every thing else, or resist this aggressive measure upon our constitutional rights. Say, anti-slavery conventionists, is there no necessity for holding a Southern Convention? If you still persist in your notions in regard to the impracticability of this measure, we have no hope for you, but must take care of ourselves, and leave you to your fate. It is very evident to every mind the tendency affairs are taking at Washington. Those great Nationalists who would preserve this mighty Republic by making no concession themselves, and depriving the South of her rights, attempting to blarney us up with compromises, &c., are quite willing to remain in the Union, if they are allowed to have every thing their own way; i. e. to prohibit the extension of slavery, admit States with this prohibition, and eventually pass a law making total emancipation the final result. Is there a Southern man who is willing to submit to such injustice, and still cry out *nationality*?

Southern Convention.

The following list of delegates elected to represent South Carolina in this Convention, is taken from the Columbia Telegraph.

From the State at large—L. Cheves, Beaufort; R. W. Barnwell, do.; F. H. Elmore, Charleston; J. H. Hammond, Barnwell.

First Congressional District (Spartanburg, Union, York, and Chester)—Ex-Governor David Johnson, Union; W. C. Beatty, York. Alternates, Dr. Samuel Otterson, Spartanburg; John A. Bradley, Chester.

Second District (Anderson, Pickens, Greenville, and Laurens)—J. N. Whitney, Anderson; H. C. Young, Laurens.

Third District (Fairfield, Kershaw, Lancaster, Richland and Sumter)—James Chesnut, Jr., Kershaw; Maxcy Gregg, Richland. Alternates, F. Sumter, Sumter; T. W. Huey, Lancaster.

Fourth District (Chesterfield, Marlborough, Horry, Darlington, Georgetown, Marion, and Williamsburg)—R. F. W. Allston, Georgetown; W. J. Hama, Chesterfield.

Fifth District (Edgefield, Abbeville, Newberry, and Lexington)—Drayton Nance, Newberry; F. W. Pickens, Edgefield. Alternates, John A. Calhoun, Abbeville; James Jones, Edgefield.

Sixth District (Charleston District, excluding Parish of St. John's Colleton)—George A. Truholm, Charleston; W. DuBose, Pinckney.

Seventh District (Orangeburg, Barnwell, Beaufort, Colleton, and Parish of St. John's Colleton)—R. Barnwell Rhett, Beaufort; D. F. Jamison, Orangeburg.

Hon. F. H. Elmore.

Our Senator in place of Mr. Calhoun, has taken his seat in the Senate of the United States.

Steam Mill Burned.

We regret to learn by the Carolinian of the 11th instant, that the Steam Saw Mill and Turpentine Distillery of Capt. V. D. V. Jamison, Orangeburg District, were consumed by fire on Friday morning. "We understand" (says the Carolinian) "that no fire had been in the furnace for two days previous. This is the second time within a few months that Mr. Jamison has suffered in the same way."

West Point Cadets.

We learn by the papers that the following young gentlemen of this State have been announced to Cadet appointments at West Point: Stephen D. Lee, of the second District, John B. Villipigue, of this (the third) District, and Wm. M. Durant, seventh District.

Virginia—Southern Convention.

The opposition of a few in this State to the Nashville Convention will no doubt prove quite a feather in the cap of the anti-conventionists; but it is said the vote taken at Richmond is not a fair expression of public sentiment. A majority at first were in favor of the measure. The change is said probably to have occurred by the more favorable turn affairs were supposed to be taking at Washington. It is strange, passing strange, that Southern men, in the Old Dominion, and even further South, suffer themselves to be cajoled into such a belief. Let no man lay the flattering unction to his soul, that Northern fanatics, "practical atheists," will yield us one inch of Southern ground and that they see that we are determined to have our rights, cost what they may. What have we to expect, Southerners, of justice or generosity from "puling one-eyed philanthropists, stocked up under cover of great Nationality, friends of the Union." We have less to fear from such men as Wm. Lloyd Garrison, the very essence and embodiment of "Whining Philanthropy," than from those great "Nationalists," whose influence is more