REV. B. M. PALMER, D. D.

PSALM, xciv. 20. - Shall the throne of iniquity have fellowship with thee, which frameth mischief by a law OBADIAH 5 .- Ali the men of thy confederacy have brought thee even to the border; the men that were at peace with that ate thy bread have said a wound under thee; there is none understanding in him.

The voice of the Chief Magistrate has summoned us to-day to the house of prayer. This call, in its annual repetition, may be too often only a solemn State form; nevertheless, it covers a mighty and a double truth.

It recognises the existence of a personal God, whose will shapes the destiny of nations, and that sentiment of religion in man which points to Him as the needle to the pole. Even with those who grope in the twilight of natural religion, natural conscience gives a voice to the dispensations of Providence. If, in autumn, "extensive harvests hang their heavy head," the joyous reaper, "crowned with the sickle and the wheaten sheaf," lifts his heart to the "Father of Lights, from whom cometh down every good and perfect gift. Or, if pestilence and famine waste the earth, even Pagan altars smoke with bleeding victims, and costly hecatombs appease the divine anger which flames out in such dire misfortunes. It is the instinct of man's rereligious nature which, among Christians and heathens alike, seeks after God: the natural homage which reason, blinded as it may be, pays to a universal and ruling Providence. All classes bow beneath its spell, especially in seasons of gloom, when a nation bends beneath the weight of a general calamity, and a common sorrow falls upon every heart. The hesitating skeptic forgets to weigh his scruples, as the dark shadow passes over him and fills his soul with awe .-The dainty philosopher, coolly discoursing of the forces of nature and her uniform laws, abandons for a time his atheistical speculations, abashed by the proofs of a supreme and personal will.

Thus the devout followers of Jesus Christ, and those who do not rise above the level of mere theism, are drawn into momentory fellowship, as under the pressure of these inextinguishable convictions they pay a public and united homage to the God of nature and of grace.

In obedience to this great law of religious feeling, not less than in obedience to the civil ruler who represents this Commonwealth in its unity, we are now assembled. Hitherto, on similar occasions, our language has been the language of gratitude and song. The voice of rejoicing and salvation was in the tabernacles of the righteous." Together we praised the Lord " that our garners were full, affording all manner of store; that our sheep brought forth thousands and ten thousands in our streets; that our oxen were strong to labor, and there was no breaking in nor going out, and no tremble." We have fallen upon times when there are "signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars: upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; men's hearts failing them convened, that which all men dreaded, but against trium oh of a sectional majority we are compelled to read the probable doom of our once happy and united in our history as a nation. The cords which, during four-fifths of a century, have bound together this growing Republic are now strained to their utmost tension; Like a ship laboring in the storm, and suddenly grounded upon some treacherous sheal, every, timber of this vast Confederacy strains and groans under the pressure. Sectional divisions, the jealousy of rival interests, the lust of political power, a Lastard ambition which looks to personal aggrandizement rather than to the public weal, a reckless radicalism which seeks for the subversion of all that is ancient and stable, and a ders; all these combine to create a portentous crisis, which puts to a crucifying test the virtue, the patriot-

ism, and the piety of the country. privately, my opinions upon any of you; nor can a single man arise and say that, by word or sign, have I ever sought to warp his sentiments or control The party questions which have hitherto divided the sue sufficiently momentous to warrant my turning aside, even for a moment, from my chosen calling.

longing to a kingdom not of this world. brought to so disastrous a close, the seal of a rigid and religious silence has not been broken. I deplored the divisions amongst us as being, to a large extent, impertinent in the solemn crisis which was upon me as a Chris ian and a divine to speak in language admitting no misconstruction. Until then, aside from the din and strife of parties, I could only mature, with solitary and rayerful thought, the destined utterance. That hour has come. At a juncture so solemn as the present, with the destiny of a great people waiting upon the decision of an hour. it is not lawful to be still. Whoever may have in-

to be accounted for at the bar of God.

tion, too, which now places us upon the blink of revolution was, in its origin, a question of morals may save him from a doom worse than death, and religion. It was debated in ecclesiastical couneils before it entered legislative halls. It has riven asunder the two largest religious communions in the land; and the right determination of this primary question will go far toward fixing the attitude we must assume in the coming struggle. I sincerely pray God that I may be forgiven if I have misanpresended the duty incumbent upon me ro-day; for I have ascended this pulpit under the agitation of feeling natural to one who is about to deviate from. not as your organ, compromitting you, whose op,nions are for the most part unknown to me, but on my sole responsibility-to speak upon the one question of the day; and to state the duty which, as I believe, patriotism and religion alike require of us all. I shall aim to speak with a moderation of tone and feeling almost judicial, well befitting the sanctities of the place and the solemnities of the judgment

In determining our duty in this emergency, it is necessary that we should first ascertain the nature of the trust providentially committed to us. A nation often has a character as well defined and intense as that of the individual. This depends, of course, upon a variety of causes operating through a long period of time. It is due largely-to the original traits which distinguish the stock from which it springs, and to the providenmakes any people truly historic, competent to work out its specific mission, and to become a factor in the world's progress. The particular trust assigned to such and their fidelity to it determines the fate by which it

and the conflicts through which they preserve their identity and independence. If, then, the South is such a people, what, at this juncture, is their providential trust? I answer, that it is to conserve and to perpetnate the institution of domestic slavery as now exist-

ing. It is not necessary here to inquire whether this is precisely the best relation in which the hewer of wood and drawer of water can stand to his employer; although this proposition may perhaps be successfully sustained by those who choose to defend it. Still less thee have deceived thee, and prevailed against thee; they are we required, dogmatically, to affirm that it will subsist through all time. Baffled as our wisdom may now be, in finding a solution of this intricate social problem, it would nevertheless be the height of arrogance to pronounce what changes may or may not occur in the distant future. In the grand march of events, Providence may work out a solution undiscoverable by us. What modifications of soil and climate may hereafter be produced, what consequent changes in the products on which we depend, what political revolutions may occur among the races which are now enacting the great drama of history: all such inquiries are totally irrevelant, because no prophetic vision can pierce the darkness of that future. If this question should ever arise, the generation to whom it is remitted will doubtless have the wisdom to meet it, and Providence will furnish the lights in which it is to be resolved. All that we claim for them and for ourselves is liberty to work out this problem, guided by nature and God, without obtrusive interference from abroad. These great questions of providence and history must have free scope for their solution; and the race whose fortunes are distinctly implicated in the same is alone authorized, as it is alone competent, to determine them. It is just this impertinence of human legislation, setting bounds to what God only can regulate, that the South is called this day to resent and resist. The country is convulsed simply because "the throne of iniquity frameth mischief by a law." Without, therefore, letermining the question of duty for future generations, I simply say, that for us, as now situated, the duty is plain of conserving and transmitting the system of slavery, with the freest scope for natural development and extension. Let us, my brethren, look our duty in the face. With this institution assigned to our keeping, what reply shall we make to those who say that its days are numbered? My own conviction is, that we should at once lift ourselves, intelligently. to the highest moral ground, and proclaim to all the world that we hold this trust from God, and in its occupancy we are prepared to stand or fall as God may appoint. If the critical moment has arrived at which the great issue is joined, let us say that, in the sight of all perils, we will stand by our trust; and God be with

The argument which enforces the solemnity of this providential trust is simple and condensed. It is bound upon us, then, by the principle of self-preservation, that "first law" which is continually asserting its supremacy over others. Need I pause to show how this system of servitude underlies and supports our matecomplaining was in our streets." As together sur- rial interests? That our wealth consists in our lands veyed the blessings of Providence. he joyful chorus and in the serfs who till them? That from the nature swelled from millions of people, "L'eare be within thy of our products they can only be cultivated by labor walls, and prosperity within thy palaces." But, to- which must be controlled in order to be certain? That day, burdened hearts all over this land are brought to any other than a tropical race must faint and wither the sanctuary of God. We "see the tents of Cushan | beneath a tropical sun? Need I pause to show how in affliction, and the curtains of the land of Midian do | this system is interwoven with our entire social fabric; that these slaves form parts of our households, even as our children; and that, too, through a relationship recognised and sanctioned in the Scriptures of God. even as the other? . Must I pause to show how it has for fear, and for looking after those things which are | fashioned our modes of life, and determined all our coming' in the near 'vet gloomy future.' Since the habits of thought and feeling, and moulded the very words o this proclamation were penned by which we are | type of our civilization? How, then, can the hand of violence be laid upon it without involving our existwhich all men hoped, has been realized; and in the ence? The so-called free States of this country are working out the social problem under conditions pecuhar to themselves. These conditions are sufficiently Confederacy. It is not to be concealed that we are in | hard, and their success is too uncertain to excite in us the most fearful and perilous crisis which has occurred the least jealousy of their lot. With a teeming population, which the soil cannot support, with their wealth depending upon arts created by artificial wants, with an eternal friction between the grades of their society, they just need the touch of fire to part asunder forever. | with their labor and their capital grinding against each other like the upper and nether mill-stones, with labor cheapened and displaced by new mechanical inventions, bursting more asunder the bonds of brotherhood; amid these intricate perils we have ever given them our sympathy and our prayers, and have never sought to weaken the foundations of their social order. God grant them complete success in the solution of all their perplexities! We, too, have our responsibilities furious fanaticism which drives on its ill-considered and trials; but they are all bound up in this one inconclusions with utter disregard of the evil it engen- | sitution, which has been the object of such unrighteous assault through five and twenty years. If we the like of which we have never known before, and | are true to ourselves, we shall, at this critical juncture, stand by it and work out our destiny.

This duty is bound upon us again as the con-You, my hearers, who have waited upon my pub- stituted quardians of the slaves themselves. Our lot lic ministry, and have known me in the intimadies of | is not more implicated in theirs than is their lot in pastoral intercourse, will do me the justice to testify ours; in our mutual relations we survive or perish that I have never intermeddled with political ques- together. The worst foes of the black race are those tions. Interested as I might be in the progress of | who have intermeddled on their behalf. We know events. I have never obtruded, either publicly or better than others that every attribute of their character fits them for dependence and servitude. By nature the most affectionate and loval of all races beneath the sun, they are also the most helpless; and his judgement upon any political subject whatsbever. I no calamity can befall them greater than the loss of that protection they enjoy under this patriarchal political world, have seemed to me to involve no is- system. Indeed, the experiment has been grandly tried of precipitating them upon freedom which they know not how to enjoy; and the dismal results are In this day of intelligence, I have felt there were | before us in statistics that astonish the world. With thousands around me more competent to instruct in the fairest portions of the earth in their possession. statesmanship; and thus, from considerations of and with the advantage of a long discipline as culmodesty no less than prudence, I have preferred to | tivators of the soil, their constitutional indolence has move among you as a preacher of righteonsness be- converted the most beautiful islands of the sea into a howling waste. It is not too much to say that if During the heated canvass which has just been the South should, at this moment, surrender every slave, the wisdom of the entire world, united in solemn council, could not solve the question of their disposal. Their transportation to Africa, even if it were feasible would be but the most refined cruelty; they must too evidently impending. Most clearly did it appear | perish with starvation before they could have time to to me that but one issue was before us-an issue | relapse into their primitive barbarism. Their resisoon to be presented in a form which would compel | dence here, in the presence of the vigorous Saxon the attention. That crisis might make it imperative | race, would be but the singual for their rapid extermination before they had time to waste away through listlessness, filth, and vice. Freedom would be their doom: and equally from both they call upon us, their argument will be scoffed abroad as the hypocritical ern people to take their rights and their honor in their cover thrown over our own cupidity and selfishness; but every Southern master knows its truth and feels its power of My servant, whether born in my house or fluence to shape public opinion at such a time must | bought with my money, stands to me in the relation of lend it, or prove faithless to a trust as solemn as any a child. Though, providentially, owing me service, which, providentially, I am bound to exact, he is, Is it immodest in me to assume that I may repre- nevertheless, my brother and my friend; and I am to sent a class whose opinions in such a controversy | him a guardian and a father. He leans upon me for are of cardinal importance ?- the class which seeks | protection, for counsel, and for blessing; and so long. to ascertain its duty in the light simply of conscience | as the relation continues no power but the power of and religi n, and which turns to the moralist and Almighty God shall come between him and me .-the Christian for support and guidance. The ques- Were there no argument but this, it binds upon us the providential duty of preserving the relation, that we

It is a duty which we owe, further, to the civilized world. It is a remarkable fact that, during these thirty years of unceasing warfare against slavery, and while a lying spirit has inflamed the world against us, that world has grown more and more dependent upon it for sustenance and wealth. Every tyro knows that all branches for industry fall back upon the soil. We must come, every one of us, to the bosom of this great mother for nourishment. In the happy partnership which has grown the settled policy of his public life. It is my purpose, inp in providence between the tribes of this confederacv. our industry has been concentrated upon agriculture. To the North we have cheerfully resigned all the profits arising from manufactures and commerce. Those profits they have, for the most part, fairly earned, and we have never begrudged them. We have sent them our sugar, and bought it back when refined; we have sent them on cotton, and bought it back when spun into thread or woven into cloth. Almost every article we use from the shoe-latchet to the most elaborate and costly article of luxury, they have made and we have bought; and both sections have thriven by the partnership, as no people ever thrived before since the first shining of the sun. So literally true are the words of the text addressed by Obadiah to Edom. " All the men of our confederacy, the men that were at peace with us, have eaten our bread at the very tial training which has formed its education. But, time they have deceived and laid a wound under however derived, this individuality of character alone us." Even beyond this, the enriching commerce which has built the splendid cities an I marble palaaces of England as well as of America has been largely established upon the products of our soil; a people becomes the pledge of the divine protection; and the blooms upon Southern fields, gathered by black hands, have fed the spindles and looms of is finally overtaken. What that trust is, must be as- Manchester and Birmingham not less than of Lawcertained from the necessities of their position, the in- rence and Lowell. Strike now a blow at this system stitutions which are the outgrowth of their principles, of labor, and the world itself totters at the strok

Shall we permit that blow to fall? Do we not owe ! it to civilized man to stand in the breach and stay the uplifted arm? If the blind Sampson lays hold of the pillars which support the arch of the world's the waters of Henry's and Jacob Fork, in Catawba industry, how many more will be buried beneath its | county. ruins than the lords of the Philistines? "Who knoweth whether we are not come to the kingdom, the Tallyho Academy, Granville County. for such a time as this?" Concluded in our next.

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS.

SENATE. Tuesday, Jan. 8.

The Senate met at 11 o'clock. The bill to refund moneys to certain banks was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

propriately referred. &c: By Mr. Simpson, to consider the expediency of

reducing the tax on merchants. By Mr. Ramsay, to have the national flag hoisted on the capitol. Laid on the table-there being no

national flag to hoist. By Mr. Dickson, doubting the expediency of taxing arms of any kind during the present crisis. Br Mr. Street, to inquire into the expediency of

taxing negro hire. Common School teachers.

own of Lincolnton. in the motion to print the Report from the Public ayes 42, noes 56.

Also, a message enclosing a resolution to pay amendment right, but it did not go far enough, there-Edward Yarborough for the entertainment of the fore he voted against it. Ala ama Commissioners. After a frivolous discussi m-Messrs. Sharp and Dockery objecting, because the items were not set forth, and Messrs. Hall, Eure. Thomas of Davidson and Lane, in support of itthe resolution passed its several readings under a

suspens on of the rules. Mr. Whedbee introduced a bill to incorporate Eu- ments. gene Fire Company No. 3, Elizabeth city. Referred.

On motion of Mr. Simpson, the hour of meeting

BILLS, &C., ON 3RD READING. To authorize J. H. Allen, late Sheriff of Brunswick, to ollect arrearages of taxes. Passed. To authorize the sureties of Wm. Pollock, late. Sheriff of Jones, to collect arrearages of taxes.

was changed from 11 to 10 o'clock.

To amend the Revised Code, relative to pilots. A resolution in favor of John Pate. Received a message from the House, transmit-

ting Report of the Western North-Carolina Railroad Company, with a proposition to print. BILLS, &C., 2D READING.

To repeal an act of 1858-'9, in relation to Cherokee and . obeson counties, To amend the Revised Code, entitled, Roads, Banks, or the laying of a direct tax. Bridges and Ferries. Rejected-22 to 18. Message from the House, transmitting an engross- ler. ed bill, providing for the punishment of rape committed by negroes in the county of Caswell. Passed

its several readings under a suspension of the rules. On motion of Mr. Avery, the proposition to print the Reports of the Western North-Carolina Railroad Company, was concurred in. The bill to prevent the falling of timber in certain streams in Hertford county passed its third

Also, the bill to prohibit the emancipation of slaves by will. The bill to amend the charter of the Western North Carolina Railroad Company was passed over

the adjustment of our national difficulties. Ordered

On motion of Mr. Barringer, adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, Tuesday, Jan. 8, 1861

The Journal of yesterday was read. A message from the Senate was received, concurring n the proposition to appoint a joint select committee

on slaves and free negroes, and anuouncing the names of the committee on the part of the Senate. The speaker appointed Messrs. Marsh, Woodard. Davis of Mecklenburg, Davis of Rutherford, and Pope, on the part of the House.

The proceedings and resolutions of public meetings on Federal Affairs were introduced and read, as fol-Mr. Fleming, the proceedings of a public meeting

n Rowan-County.

Mr. Cannady, the proceedings of a public meeting held at Kittrell's Depot, Granville County. Mr. Carson, the proceedings of a public meeting in Alexander County.

Mr. Williams of Nash, presented strong Southern Rights resolutions from his county. On introducing them, Mr. Williams said that the resolutions which he introduced, had been adopted by a meeting called without distinction of party, and after

due notice had been given. He said those resolutions had not been manufactured in the City of Raleigh, as others of a different character had been, which were introduced and read before this Legislature. Those who composed the meeting in Nash, he said, were as ardently attached to a constitutional Union, as were the people of any county in North Carolina. They see, though, no hopes of preserving such a Union. They see in the conduct of the northern people—in the higher-law fanaticism of that section, nothing to justify the remotest hope that their interest or their honor will be respected, if they tamely submit to Black Republican rule. They think the time has come for North Carolina to act, that the South has borne aggressions until forbearance has ceased to be a virtue—that the "watch and wait" policy, recommended by some, will but invite further aggressions, and seeing no hope of preserving a Constitutional Union, they believe the time has come for the South-

Mr. Wilkerson, the proceedings of a public meeting held in Person County.

Mr. Harrington, the proceedings of a public meeting in Cumberland County. Mr. Merrimon, the proceedings of a public meeting held in the county of Buncomber

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS. Mr. Merimon, a memorial from the citizens of Buncombe county, praying the suspension of the execution law for a time.

Mr. Clarke, of Craven, a petition from citizens of Pilots and Pilotage. Mr. Love, of Jackson, presented a petition from

citizens of Jackson county, praying an act abolishing Jury trials in the county courts of Jackson Mr. Williams, of Nash, a memorial from Wright Locust, a free man of color, praying to be allowed to sell himself into slavery, and become the slave of James

Henry Beal, of Nash county. loway, and others, praying an act to change the line party. Lay on the table. between the counties of Henderson and Jackson. Mr. Ransom introduced a resolution authorising the

Treasurer to pay to Col. Ed. Yarbrough, \$109, the amount due him from the Committee appointed to wait on the Commissioners from Alabama and Mississippi, under the resolution passed by the Legislature, making them the guests of the State during their stay arming the State?

On motion of Mr. Ransom, the resolution was read the second and third time, passed, and sent to the

A message was received from his Excellency, the Governor, transmitting the report of the President of of session, opposing coercion, and declaring their dethe Western N. C. Railroad, which, on motion was termination to stand by seceding States. sent to the Senate with a proposition to print. Mr. Batchelor, from the Judiciary Committee, reported back bill concerning Idiots and Lunaties with

an amendment, and recommended its passage. Mr. Love, of Haywood, introduced a resolution in favor of Jesse McGee. Mr. Mendenhall, a resolution authorizing the appointment of a Commissioner by the Governor, to

settle with the Agent on Cherokee Bonds.

Sheriffs, to four years.

BILLS Mr. Winslow, a bill to increase the revenue of the Mr. Peebles, a bill to extend the term of office

Mr. Ward, a bill to incorpoate the Trenton and Dover Turnpike Company. Mr. Cline, a bill to prevent the felling of timber in

Mr. Cannady, a bill to incorporate the Trustees of Mr. Batchelor, a bill to amend chap. 93, sec. 9, of

the Revised Code. Mr. Jordan, a bill to prevent the falling of timber n the French Broad River. Mr. Mendenball, a bill to incorporate the Concord

Copper Mining Company. Mr. Davis of Mecklenburg, a bill to incorporate the Hornet Nest Riflemen, in Charlotte.

Mr. Green of Franklin, stated that he had given notice on yesterday, that he would to-day at 11 o'clock, move to suspend the rules so as to put the Senate bill The following resolutions were introduced and ap- to arm the State, on its last reading, and he therefore moved a suspension of the rules that the bill might be

Mr. Martin called for the ayes and noes. The vote was taken and resulted in ayes 79, noes 14. Two-thirds having voted to suspend, the bill was read the third time. Mr. Farrow said he should vote against the passage of the bill, and spoke at length, setting forth his rea-

sons for so doing. Mr. Henry introduced an amendment, providing for The following bills were introduced and referred: the distribution of the arms among the counties, and By Mr. Walker, to provide for the education of | spoke at length in support of the amendment. He said with the amendment he would vote for it, but that he By Mr. Stowe, to amend the act incorporating the would not support the bill as it then stood.

The amendment was put, and the ayes and noes be-Receiving a message from the House, concurring | ing demanded by Mr. Henry, the amendment was lost; Mr. Waters thought the principle of Mr. Hepry's

> Mr. Shober introduced an amendment nearly similar to the one introduced by Mr. Henry, and made some remarks in support of the same.

Mr. Faison thought that the law already in existence would answer the purpose of the amendments offered to the bill, and should therefore oppose all amend-

Mr. Person said in reply to the gentleman from Guilford (Mr. Shober) that "he was unwilling to entrust the distribution of the arms to any man or set or men," that there was a law at this time providing for the distribution of arms, and that if the gentleman from Guilford, or those who thought as he did, were not satisfied with the existing law, he would gladly aid in the passage of any bill at any future day, making an equal and just distribution of the arms of the State. The bill he said had passed the Senate, and passed its second reading in the House, and he hoped gentlemen on the

other side would let it pass its last reading. Mr. Crumpler spoke in support of Mr. Shober's amendment, and offered an addition to his amend-

Mr. Merrimon spoke at length on the amendment. and was willing to vote for the bill, but urged objections to the mode provided for the raising of the amount appropriated. He advocated a loan from the Mr. Shober accepted the amendment of Mr. Crump-

Mr. Davis of Rutherford, spoke in favor of the Mr. Rogers gave at length, his reason for supporting

The amendment was put, Mr. Latham demanded the ayes and noes, and it was lost: ayes 41 noes 57. Mr. Ferebee introduced an amendment, that the

he amendment

arms shall not be carried out of the State, Mr. F. urged the passage of the amendment in a speech of Mr. Meares spoke with great spirit and eloquence in opposition to the amendment. He said that he was unwilling that the Legislature should pass an act, to be recorded here on the Journal of this State, pro-

Mr. Turner introduced a series of resolutions, ap- hibiting the people of North-Carolina in a case of neproving the proposition offered by Mr. Crittenden for | cessity from marching to the aid of a sister Southern State, with our arms, to help them defend their rights and their honor. Such was not the feeling that animated the people of the other Southern States, and such was not the spirit that animated our forefathers of the revolution. He believed that our sister Southern States would rush to our assistance if our Atlantic coast should be invaded or any other emergency should arise and he was opposed to any such amend-

The speech of Mr. Meares elicited long and loud ap-

The amendment was lost, by ages 23, noes 71. Mr. Guthrie introduced an amendment to levy a lirect tax for the purchase of the arms. The vote was taken and the amendment lcst.

The vote was then taken on the passage of the original Senate bill, appropriating \$300,000 to arm and equip the State, and the vote stood as follows: Affirmative—Messrs. Albritton, Autry, Barringer, Barrow, Batchelor, Blue, Booth, Bowman, Branch, Bridgers, Bullock, Burgin, Bynum, Cannady, Cheek, Clarke of C, Cline, Crawford, Davis of B, Davis of H, Davis of M. Ewell, Faison, Fleming, Folk, Foy, Galloway, Green of F, Hall, Harrington, Harris, Hill, Hoke, Jenkins, Jordan, Kallan, Lemmonds, Logan, Love of H, Love of J, McMillan, Marsh, Mearos, Merrimon, Mitchener, Mordecai, Newby, Padgett, Pearson, Peebles, Person, Pope, Potts, Ransom, Rogers, Russ, Shaw, Simonton, Slade, Stanford, Tapscott, Ward, Waters, Watson, Waugh, White, Wilkerson, Williams of Nash, Williamson, Withers, Woodard, Wooten and Wright.—71.

Negative-Messrs. Carson, Clarke of D. Cowles, Crumpler, Davis of R. Dickson, Farrow, Ferebee, Gaither, Gorrell, Green of C, Green of S, Guthrie, Hanes, Henry, Howard, Horton, Kelly, Latham. Martin, Mendenhall, Patterson, Poindexter, Shober. Whitehurst and Winslow.—26. Mr. Hill moved that the use of the Hall be allowed

Mr. Lilly to-morrow morning, to exhibit an improved instrument for engineering and surveying. Concurred

On motion of Mr. Williams of Nash, the House ad-

SENATE.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 9. The Senate was called to order at 10 o'clock.

Mr. Street a memorial and resolutions from the itizens of Craven county, on Federal affairs, favoring a Convention of the people and a re-organization of the Militia; also approving the Governor's Message,

and denying the right of the Federal Government to coerce a seceding State. Mr. Street said these resolutions were from a large and most influential meeting composed of all political

parties. Read and laid on the table. Mr. Waugh a series of resolutions passed at a mass-Craven county, praying an amendment to the law on meeting of the citizens of Forsyth, upon Federal

Mr. Waugh said he did not approve in whole of the resolutions, but agreed with sentiment they expressed in the main. Read and laid on the table. Mr. Winstead a series of resolutions passed by a meeting of the citizens of Person county, declaring the

election of a Black Republican not a sufficient cause

for disrupting the Government, but taking decided Mr. Love, of Jackson, a memorial from J. H. Gal- grounds in favor of resisting the aggressions of that Mr. Worth a series of resolutions from the citizens of Randolph opposing the call of a Convention. Mr. Erwin enquired if those resolutions were the same that he had seen published, as coming from that

county, speaking in denunciatory terms of the proceedings of this body, upon the appropriation bill for Mr. Worth thought not. The resolutions were read a second time and orderd to lay on the table.

Mr. Avery presented a series of resolutions from the Union men of Caldwell county, recognizing the right Mr. Avery said these resolutions came from men who called themselves Union men, and he asked the

Senate to give serious attention to their spir : Ordered to lay on the table. Mr. Taylor of Nash, a series of resolutions passed by the citizens of Nash, declaring that sufficient cause

for secession does exist at this time. Read and ordered to lay on the table. Mr. Taylor said two meetings had been held in

Nash, and he did not know from which meeting these resolutions came. The one which sent these resolutions was held at least a month ago, and he had just received them, though he understood that some resolutions from Nash had been published in the State Journal. He understood that his colleague, in the other

end of the Capitol said yesterday, in presenting some and, if we delay taking action, every Southern State The Speaker said he could allow no allusion to re-

marks made in the House of Commons. Mr. Taylor said that one Mr. Williams who figured in that Nash meeting was a stranger to him, and as for J. I. Harris, the Secretary of the meeting, he was named after Mr. Iverson of Georgia.

Mr. Turner presented a series of resolutions from Mr. Turner proceeded to make some remarks upon the resolutions, referring to the history of the Revolution and the action of the Regulators of Orange, in which he took occasion to remark that forces from the Cape Fear country went up to Orange to whip the Regulators into submission to the British Government,

times as the Regulators were said to have been in their Mr. Hall in reply, said that, in times like these, when revolution was staring us in the face, he thought it was the duty of Senators to counsel unity of action among Southern men, and that the desire of all should be, that brotherly love prevail. He had heard with astonishment, the allusion made by the Senator from Orange to the brave sires of that county, especially as that allusion had beed made an argument against the right of secession. He was no less astonished at another remark which fell from the Senators lips, that troops from the Cape Fear country were sent to Hillsboro' to whip the Regulators into submission to the British Government. If the Senator meant to say that the people of the Cape Fear country were untrue to the spirit of the Revolution, he slandered the memory of the noble patriots who gave their lives and their fortunes to the cause of freedom—and he had no doubt,

cessity required, just as their ancestors rallied to the cause of freedom in Revolutionary days. Mr. Hall read from the Wilmington Herald an article taking strong grounds in tavor of the use of the sword if coercion should be attempted against any Southern State. He also said in reply to a sneering remark of Mr. Turner, that a secession flag had been raised in Goldsboro' upon a Breckinridge pole, that in his town, the town of Wilmington, a secession flag floated from a Bell and Everett pole, raised by too Bell and Everett men, in common with men of

notwithstanding the Senator's speech, the people of

Orange would rally to the standard of the South if ne-

other political parties. Mr. Burton called for the reading of the Orange can see as clearly as the Senator from Caswell, the end resolutions. He wished to know whether or not they contained the amendment offered by Mr. Norwood,

calling a Convention Mr. Turner said Mr. Norwood's amendment was voted down in the meeting. Mr. Burton asked if it were not decided at the meet-

ing that the amendment Had passed? Mr. Turner said it was so decided at first, but upon a division of the vote a majority was against it.

RESOLUTIONS ORDERED TO LAY ON THE TABLE. Mr. Ramsay presented a series of resolutions passed by a meeting of the citizens of Rowan, deprecating the ourse of the Legislature in refusing to pass a bill to arm the State; approving of the conduct of Messrs. Flemming and Hall and the Hon. Mr. Craige, their presentative in Congres

Read and laid on the table. Mr. Brown said the hour for considering the special order had arrived, and he moved that the Senate proceed to consider the C nvention bill.

On motion of Mr. Ramsay the special order was uspended for a few moments to give him time to introduce other resolutions from the county of Rowan. The Senate then went into a Committee of the whole n Federal affairs, Mr. Speight in the chair.

Mr Avery offered a substitute to the bill reported by the Committee on Federal affairs, explaining the bject of so doing. It was for the purpose of bringing about harmony any unity of action, and securing the passage of the bill. The bill now before the Senate proposes to call a

restricted Convention, and Mr. Clarke called for the reading of the bill reported by the Committee. Mr. Avery said some difficulties had presented themselves to him since the report of the Committee

on Federal relations which induced him to offer the amendment to the bill reported by them. He was also under the impression at the time of the report of said committee that a majority of the members of both Houses could call a convention on Federal Affairs; so, also, was the late Chief Justice, Mr. Roffin, but, upon an examination of the matter, he was of a different opinion, and he took this occasion to say that the opinion of Mr. Ruffin had like-

wise undergone a change. Mr. Avery was clearly

of the opinion that two thirds were required to call a convention of any kind. The substitute which he proposed simply struck out the 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th sections of the original bill. The 5th prescribed an oath for the members to take; the 6th restricts the duties of the convention; the 7th requires that the action of the convention shall be submitted to the people for their ratification; and the 8th requiring that the ordinances of the convention shall be advertised for at least thirty days in the newspapers, before the people of the State shall be called upon to vote.

The substitute was then read. Mr, Turner said that he was glad the substitute had been offered, and he gave notice that he should offer an amendment to the preamble, requiring that the convention should so alter the State Constitution as to tax negro property upon an ad valorem system.

Mr. Brown said that he was one of the Committee on Federal Relations, who reported the bill, and he thought at that time a majority of the members of the Assembly could call a convention. He was of a different opinion now. He thought two thirds were required, but he could not assent to the proposition of the Senator from Burke, which omitted the oath to be prescribed, nor could be assent to the omission of the clauses, which proposed terms and limits to the convention. Although on the Committee on Federal Relations, and having voted for the bill before the Senate, he did so with all his feelings and sentiments against separate State action. He was opposed to that. He thought the Southern States should act in concert, and hold a convention of the fifteen States. He thought there was still hope of the South's getting her guarantees, if the people would take the question in hand. Congress could do nothing. The nation had already begun to turn with loathing and disgust from that body, whose members were constantly sending out dispatches " no hope for the Union." Mr. Brown said the effect of Mr. Avery's substitute would be to deprive the people of the right of ratifying the action of the conven-

Mr. Avery said the Senator from Caswell seemed to forget that the members of this Legislature were but the servants of the people, and he asked that Senator if he thought it right that the proceedings of this body should be submitted to the people for their ratification. The Senator talks lustily about taking away the rights f the people, and, yet, he is in favor of so restricting the Convention that the people in the various election precincts cannot instruct their delegates.

Mr. Avery read from the debates of the Convention of 1835, the opinion of Judge Gaston in the case of Mr. Wilson, of Edgecombe, showing that the Legislature had no power to restrict the action of a Convention.— The people may do it; but the Legislature may not. The Legislature may call a Convention—the questions to be considered by that Convention may be discussed before the people, and they will decide upon the merits of the delegates to that Convention, and afterwards, the Convention may decide that their own acts shall be submitted to the people. But the Legislature has no right to say so; it has no power to prescribe what the Convention shall do in regard to its acts. He was not afraid to trust the people in electing their delegates to a Convention, nor was he afraid to trust that Convention after the delegates had been elected. The people will require the delegates to pledge themselves to a certain line by policy, and the people at last will decide this matter.

The Senator from Caswell can give no precedent for the position he advocates. The Constitution under which we live, save and except the amendments adopted in 1835, was never submitted to the ratifiacation of the people.

He regretted to lose the vote of the Senator upon the Convention bill, and especially did he regret to see him exhibiting such a want of confidence in the masses of the people, as to doubt their judgment in the selection of such delegates as would reflect their wishes in the proposed Convention. For his part, he was willing to trust the people, and leave it to them to instruct their delegates when casting their

Mr. Avery said, in his opinion, there was no hope for the Union. The only hope was in a reconstruction, after the fifteen Southern States had withdrawn.

will ere long, have gone out, and North Carolina will be obliged to submit to such terms as a new Con federacy may see fit to dictate to her. He had fered this substitute, because he thought it would

meet the views of the whole people. He was anxious for the people of the State to have a Convention They demanded it and they should have it, and for one, he was willing to trust them without restrictions Mr. Brown replied, saying the Senator had not me the arguments he advanced in favor of submitting the

action of the Convention to the people. He proceeded to speak at length on "inalianable rights," making as he had done before a "wait and watch" speech. Mr. Sharpe thought the matter of sufficient impo tance to have the substitute printed. He would move therefore, that the Committee rise, report progress and and arguing that seceders were as far ahead of the

ask to sit again. Mr. Avery asked to say a few words in replacement the Senator from Caswell, and proceeded to say ; the Senator could show no precinct where the Legislature calling a Convention had enacted that the acts of said Convention should be submitted to the people It is without precedent and shows a want of confiden of the Senator from Caswell in the people.

The only precedent is to be found in the Convent act of 1835, and then the people restricted themselve Mr. Avery thought the question might be met non as then by voting directly for "secession," or " secession.

Mr. Brown thought not. There were other matter

involved. Mr. Barringer arose merely for the purposeof saying that he saw no necessity for printing the substitute ferred by Mr. Avery. It was the same bill reported by the committee on federal relations striking out ber-

Mr. Erwin said the Senator from Caswell seemed to be afflicted with a chronic distrust of the motives of everybody who happened to differ with him upon any question. He did not know why it was, but an olser. vation of the dealings of mankind had demonstrated this axiom, that they who are always suspicious of others, will bear watching themselves.

Mr. Brown said he did not distrust the motives the Senator. Mr. Erwin. The Senator from Caswell is constantly talking about the consequences of the course of certain Senators. Those of us who entertain and pursue a certain line of policy, claim to have some sense, and of the road we are traveling. He had no doub but that the Senator was sincere, and for his part he was glad to hear the able and eloquent speech of the Senator to-day in favor of "inalies. able rights," but he was surprised to hear him say that he would vote for no convention bill that did not prescribe the duties of said convention Suppose two-thirds of this Legislature lacking the water of the Senator should vote for a convention, and the Senator should vote against it, would he not be destroy ing the very right of the people about which he talks with such eloquent zeal? Will not the Senator then be acting in the face of the expressed will of the people He thought so. He did not believe every man a bigot who thought his own opinions right, but he feared that the Senator's over zeal for the Union had led astray. The Senator says the people of the nation as beginning to turn with loathing and disgust from Con.

Mr. Erwin said there were good and honorale me n Congress. Good men from the North, good men from the South, and yet the Senator tells us that the ' nation turns with loathing and disgust" from these men, because they tell us that, after having exhausted all honorable means for adjusting the difficulties of the country, they have no hope of the Union. What hope is there of the Union? Had not the propostion of the noble and patriotic Crittenden been rejected in the Senate Committee, and had not every proposition so far failed? Shall we continue to lick the feet of our oppressors, and hope by the grace of Gal and the goodness of the Black Republican party, that : fter a while we may, perhaps, have justice done? He was was opposed to humbling ourselves any longer, for there was no evidence that the Republican party were at all disposed to relent their warf re upon us. It is true, that, now and then a Lynn shoemaker, or a Lowell manufacturer, or a New York merchant, who lived, moved and had their being upon the South, will get up a Union States Rights meeting, to blind the South, but he same men, in their schools and churches, and by their for sides were none the less Black Republican. From

Mr. Brown endeavored to explain what he said

these members of Congress who had been battling for our rights. Mr. Erwin said he would say no more, but his friend from Orange (Mr. Turner) who had the reputation of being an exceedingly modest man, and not at all fond of talking, wished him to say something about the Convention bill. In regard to this he thought these were the questions which should be considered; Our federal affairs; ad valorem, and the future Status of free negroes. As to our Federal Affairs he presumed his views were known He thought the question of ad valorem should

such men as these he could turn with loathing and

disgust, but not, as the Senator from Caswell, from

forever settled, and the future basis of the free next determined. As to the White Basis he did not believe it would be mentioned. The people of the West had once claimed it, but they had given it up in consideration of a compromise with the East, and they had to disposition to fly from their bargain. They would

not ask for it. (Applause.) Mr. Brown replied to Mr. Erwin, saying that there were signs of a settlement of existing difficulties, and alluded to he fact that the Governor of New York had recommended a repeal of the personal liberty bill, so that a Southern man might pass through that State with his slave without moestation.

Mr. Barringer said that was no more than was granted by the comity of foreign nations. Any foreign nation would give us that right; not only that, but allow us to sojourn in their dominions with our slaves. He cited a case in Prussia, and read the desion of an eminent British jurist upon the comity of nations. He thought it no signs of returning jus tice, that a State of this Union should acknowledge the right of a citizen to carry his property through her domain. Prussia or Great Britain, said he, wil return your slave, but New York, Massachusetts, Vermont, Connecticut, New Hampshire and lihode

Island will not.

But we are told that we ought to forget these old laws passed many years ago, forbidding us to carry our slaves through Northern States, because these laws are of long standing. Such argument as this has a monstrous smell of toryism. Just so the to ries talked in 1775 about the Stamp Act. He thought as the people of the Revolution did, that, if a wrong exists, time will not heal it. We have submitted to. wrong already until our foes begin to talk of ust force to keep us in the Union, just as the British did in the Revolution. He asked his political friends to remember what John Bell, their late candidate for the Presidency, had said against the use of first to keep this Union together. Let coercion be at tempted and the people of the South will marshall into on solid phalanx to meet it. The Senator from Orange has said to-day that the Regulators of hs county had no sympathy from the people of this State, in their early struggles for liberty. Senator is mistaken. They had it from the peop of my county. There the royal forces were met and their ammunitions and store were turnt, and burn so deep the hand of resurrection has never vet been able to find them. And so they would do again

coercion were attempted. Mr. Turner arose to thank the Senator from Burcombe for the speech he had made for him. Mr. Avery moved that the Committee rise, seport progress and ask leave to sit again at 12 to-mortow. On motion of Mr. Burton the hour of 11 o'clock

was substituted. The Speaker resumed the chair. Mr. Bledsoe introduced a bill providing for placing at the disposal of the Governor and Counsel \$700,000 to be applied in furnishing arms for the State, in dition to the \$300,000 already appropriated. Be

On motion of Mr. Sharpe the substitute offered Mr. Avery was ordered to be printed. On motion of Mr. Walker the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS. WEDNESDAY, Jan. 9, 1861. Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Skinner. The Journal of Tuesday was read.

A message was received from the Senate, trans mitting a proposition to appoint a joint select com mittee of three from each House, to take into cor