

NEWS AND OBSERVER.

VOL. XXVI.

RALEIGH, N. C., THURSDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 18, 1886.

NO. 83

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CONGRESSIONAL

THE SENATE REPUBLICAN CAUCUS PREPARE RESOLUTIONS

Expressing Their Views on the Refusal to Give Information Regarding the Removals.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17.—SENATE.—Mr. Hoar introduced a bill providing for the erection of a suitable monument at Washington, D. C., to Gen. Ulysses S. Grant. The bill appropriates \$150,000, for the purpose indicated, and provides for a commission of three Senators and three members of the House to contract for the monument.

Mr. Logan suggested to Mr. Hoar that the amount be increased to \$250,000. By unanimous consent Mr. Hoar increased the amount accordingly and the bill was referred to the committee on library. The Senate then proceeded to the consideration of bills on the calendar.

The consideration of the education bill was resumed. Without further debate the Senate agreed to an amendment proposed by the education committee, striking out the special appropriation for school buildings. An amendment proposed by Mr. Teller was also agreed to without debate, providing that none of the money appropriated by the bill should be paid to a State until its legislature should accept the provisions of the bill.

Mr. Plumb moved to amend so as to make the legislature of a State the determining authority as to the application of that portion of each State's quota which the bill requires to be applied to the education of teachers. After slight modifications this was agreed to.

Mr. Butler enquired of Mr. Blair as to a certain clause of the bill, whether it meant that the States were commanded by its provisions to keep their common schools up to the mark at which they shall have arrived on the expiration of the eight years contemplated by the bill. Mr. Blair did not so understand. Mr. Butler moved to strike out the phrase, which he maintained admitted of the construction indicated, and it was struck out. Mr. Mahone expressed himself as in favor of the bill, but thought the secretary of the interior would not be able to decide whether any discrimination had been shown in the application of the money unless he had definite information. He therefore moved an amendment requiring the Governor of the State to furnish the secretary of the interior each year particulars as to the population, white and colored, of each school district, the number of white and colored children of school age in each district, the number attending school, &c. Pending action on this amendment, Mr. Edmunds moved that the bill be ordered reprinted as thus far amended and the Senate at 4:30 p. m. went into executive session. At 5 o'clock the doors were reopened and the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.—After remarks by Messrs. Oates and Weber on the Fitz-John Porter bill, the House went into committee of the whole. At 5:10 p. m., the committee rose and the House adjourned.

It Really Cannot be Shelved.

DURHAM, Feb. 17.—The Freeman's Journal declares that the letters between Gladstone and Lord De Vescie on the Irish question must be regarded with suspicion. While the correspondence was ostensibly inaugurated by the premier for the purpose of obtaining further light on the needs of Ireland, the answers of De Vescie look as if justification was being sought for an evasion of the home rule issue. The Journal warns the government to refrain from attempting to shelve the home rule question.

The Private Schools and Colleges in the State.

Cor. of the NEWS AND OBSERVER.

RALEIGH, Feb. 18, 1886.

The 19th of September last I sent a blank to all the county superintendents, with the request that they fill it, giving statistics relative to all the colleges and private schools in their respective counties that were in session last year for as long a term as eight months. I thought that this information would be of interest to the people of the State and that it was necessary to give me a full understanding of the school interests of the State. After waiting so long I have reports from only sixty-two of the ninety-three counties and some of these I have received are not full.

I take the liberty of handing you a list of these schools. You will notice that it gives the location and name of the schools as well as the name of president or principal, and other information. While as to some of the schools the number of pupils is not given, the footings of those that are given amount to 18,203 nineteen thousand two hundred and three. I regret exceedingly that all the superintendents did not report, but the information elicited goes to show that last year there were in attendance upon the private schools and colleges not far from thirty thousand pupils, in what we may term permanent schools, in session eight months or more. Of course some of these pupils are also enrolled in the graded and other public schools, but not a very large proportion of them.

It is my purpose to make an effort to have a full report next year of all private as well as public schools, to be embodied in my biennial report, believing that such report will be not only interesting but profitable.

Respectfully,
S. M. FINNEY,
Supt. Public Instruction.

The Silver Question up Again.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17.—At the meeting of the House coinage committee today all the members were present. Mr. Felton, of California, moved that the committee report adversely Representative Wait's bill to suspend the coinage of silver dollars until further legislative action by Congress. A similar motion by Mr. Bynum had been lost at the last meeting by a vote of 6 to 6. Mr. Felton said he was necessarily absent from that meeting, and as his vote would have changed the result, he desired a vote on it now that every member was present. After some discussion Mr. Hemphill moved to lay the motion on Mr. Felton on the table. This motion was carried by a vote of 7 to 6. Mr. Felton voted with the silver men, but Mr. Norwood, of Georgia, who at the previous meeting had voted in favor of the motion to report the bill adversely, now voted to lay Mr. Felton's motion on the table. Mr. Norwood said emphatically that his views on the silver question had not changed. He voted on the opposite side today so as to retain the question in the committee for further effort to see if some compromise measure cannot be agreed upon.

Republican Caucus.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 17, 1886.—About twenty Republican Senators met in caucus this morning. Senator Edmunds submitted a resolution from the judiciary committee embodying the views of the Republican members respecting the rights of the Senate to information from heads of executive departments. The resolution was approved and it was decided that it shall be offered in open session of the Senate.

The resolutions are three in number. The first declares that the action of the attorney general in refusing to furnish information when called for by the Senate, no matter what his motive may have been, was reprehensible. The second declares that where the Senate has called or may call upon the heads of departments for information regarding removals from office and information is not furnished as requested, the Senate will not confirm the appointee. The third condemns the disregard of the law which requires that in selections for office preference be given to honorably discharged Union soldiers and sailors. It is understood that the resolutions will be formally laid before the judiciary committee at its next meeting, with a view to having them reported to the Senate immediately thereafter.

To Settle Virginia's Debt.

RICHMOND, Va., Feb. 17.—In the senate today a bill, prepared by Lieut. Gov. Massey, was introduced by Senator Wingfield, to facilitate the settlement of the public debts of the State. A lengthy preamble gives the history of the debt, the apportionment of one-third to West Virginia, the reasons that impelled the general assembly to pass the Riddleberger bill and the equities of the whole case. The bill authorizes the Governor to appoint three citizens of Virginia as a board of commissioners to confer with the bondholders and to ascertain their with the material and financial condition of Virginia, and explain the facts which make a settlement under the Riddleberger act just and equitable, and its acceptance by them necessary for the protection of their interests. The commissioners are empowered to take steps to adjust with West Virginia a just proportion of the State debt as it existed prior to the first of January, 1861, to be borne by West Virginia and not by Virginia. The bill further provides that the amount secured to be paid by West Virginia shall be divided pro rata among the holders of the West Virginia certificates, which have been issued under different acts of the general assembly of Virginia or which may be issued before the first of January, 1867.

Boston's Welcome by Charleston.

CHARLESTON, Feb. 17.—The National Lancers, of Boston, arrived here at 2 o'clock today. The train was boarded at a station fifteen miles outside of the city by a delegation from Charleston, who extended them a warm welcome. The visitors were received by an immense crowd of spectators, who thronged the sidewalks along the route of the march. After parading through the city, escorted by the Washington Light Infantry and the German Artillery, they were received at their quarters by the mayor of the city and the field and staff of the Fourth brigade. Tonight they were entertained at a banquet at the armory of the Washington Light Infantry, when speeches were made by the Governor of the State, the mayor of the city and a number of visitors. Tomorrow they will visit Fort Sumter and tomorrow night attend a grand military ball tendered them by the German Artillery.

New York Cotton Futures.

New York, Feb. 17.—The Post says: Futures gained a few points over last evening, finding some assistance in the advancing tendency of cable quotations on silver. The latter was about the only stimulating feature, the trade at home and abroad remaining slow and the movement of supplies pretty full. The close was apparently steady, but slow.

The Differences Almost Adjusted.

ROME, Italy, Feb. 17.—Cardinal Jacobini, Papal secretary of State, has sent a note to Baron Van Schoerer, the Prussian minister to the Vatican, accepting the principle of the new Prussian religious bill, but demanding that the rules respecting seminaries be modified.

Another Lucky Man.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 17.—The President today nominated Pendleton King, of S. C., to be secretary of the legation of the United States at Constantinople.

LEWISAN.

A Fortingenuous Feast of Facts From the Federal Front.

Special Cor. of the NEWS AND OBSERVER.

WASHINGTON, February 16.

Congressional proceedings for the balance of this week will prove more interesting than usual to your readers; for, I believe the NEWS AND OBSERVER is the only paper in central North Carolina, and one of the only three in the State, that publishes telegraphic accounts of the legislation accomplished by Congress.

CONGRESSIONAL CONJECTURES.

The Fight Over Fitz.—A vote on the Fitz-John Porter bill will be had Thursday, its passage being assured. Its discussion will have then consumed a week—after the morning hour—of the time of the House. It will soon be taken up in the Senate, where it will probably again pass that body, and then be signed by President Cleveland, thus becoming a law. Fitz will then reject, and immediately thereafter I hope the roof will fall in; for the very name of the man, of whom we have heard so much of late, really makes me tired.

Encouraging Education.—In the Senate the educational bill is the unfinished business and its consideration will probably consume nearly the whole of the week. Both Senators Vance and Ransom favor the present bill, which is virtually the same as that which passed the Senate in the last Congress. After this bill is disposed of (it will pass in the Senate) the bankruptcy bill, or the one for the admission of Washington Territory as a State, will probably be taken up.

For the Farmers.—In the morning hours during this week Col. Green will endeavor to call up the bill providing for the creation of the department of agriculture and labor. The prospects of the passage of this measure grow daily. Gen. Cox's bill limiting the exaction of consular fees may also be reached this week.

CURIOS COINCIDENCES.

It is a fact too remarkable to fail to attract attention that two Democratic candidates for the presidency have met death within a week, and that three of them have died during the present winter. Hancock, the superb soldier—the finest anatomical character ever constructed on this continent—has joined the innumerable caravan on his last march; and that grand statesman, Horatio Seymour, verily approached his grave "like one that draws the drapery of his couch about him, and lies down to pleasant dreams."

Together with McClellan, they have joined in the Great Beyond the men who defeated them in this life, and the calm voice of unbiased generations to come will, in at least two cases, crown their memorial brows with laurels such as can never be entwined around the memory of those who beat them. In this reflection we are reminded that history continues to repeat itself, for we know that the "best men" have but seldom been elected to the Presidency of this Republic. Clay, Webster, and Calhoun—the first names on the roll of American statesmen—never reached the goal of their ambition and their proper office, and only to think of Governor Tilden being defeated by such a nonentity as the living, breathing Hayes!

THE SUPERB SOLDIER.

You have doubtless heard a great deal about Hancock's magnificent form and faultless bearing, but if you never actually saw the man in uniform you can form no adequate conception of the magnificence of his presence. I never saw anything to approach it, fish, flesh or fowl, and it appears that the old Italian phrase *natura lo fece, e poi ruppe la stampa* [which, being freely translated, means: nature made him and then broke the mould.] had really found a fit application in this person's physique.

PENCIL PARINGS.

Maj. W. H. Gregory, of North Carolina was in this city last week and called on the President, chaperoned by Hon. J. W. Reid.

Hon. Allen G. Thurman, one of the government counsel in the telephone suit, is in Washington, the recipient of more attention than any other man here.

The Hancock fund tonight (Tuesday) has reached \$200,000. It is supposed that the amount to be raised will be considerably over \$100,000.

Solicitor General Goode today said that no decision had yet been arrived at as to where the telephone suit would be brought.

Inventor Edison will one week hence, marry the daughter of an Ohio millionaire, named Lewis, and will go direct to his Florida home.

What will you people! Just as the garden seed excitement subsided in Raleigh, the whole State press raises another casus belli and whoops up another controversy. Well, ah!—"Hooray for North Carolina!"—and God bless her!" says

RECENTLY there have been published

at the North certain letters written by the members of the Confederate cabinet to President Davis in accordance with his request for their opinions in regard to the terms of the military convention agreed upon by Gen. Sherman and Gen. Johnston, on the 18th of April, 1865, and they have attracted considerable attention at the North, with much comment of one kind and another. They are pronounced of "supreme authenticity and value" by the New York Sun, and are certainly interesting. Elsewhere we present them to our readers.

END OF THE WAR.

IMPORTANT CONFEDERATE PAPERS CAPTURED AT THE COLLAPSE

President Davis and His Cabinet—The Confederate President and His Advisors on the Sherman-Johnston Convention.

Some interesting documents have recently come to light concerning the famous convention between Tecumseh Sherman and Joe Johnston in the early part of 1865.

President Davis on the 5th of April was in Danville, to which place he had retired on the receipt of information from Gen. Lee warning him to leave Richmond, as that place was no longer tenable. The following extract from a letter which he wrote hurriedly to his wife about that time will give the impression which the condition of the prospects of the Confederacy had made on the mind of the President:

Mr. Dear Wife:—I have in vain sought to get into communication with Gen. Lee, and have postponed writing in the hope that I would soon be able to speak to you with some confidence of the future.

On last Sunday I was called out of church to receive a telegram, announcing that Gen. Lee could not hold his position longer than till night and warning me that we must leave Richmond, as the army would commence retreating that evening.

I had short notice, was interrupted so often, and so little aided that the results are very unsatisfactory.

The people here (Danville) have been very kind, and the mayor and council have offered assistance in the matter of quarters, and have very handsomely declared their unabated confidence—I do not wish to leave Virginia, but cannot decide on my movements until those of the army are better developed—I hope you are comfortable and trust soon to hear from you—

Kiss my dear children—I weary of this sad recital, and have nothing pleasant to tell.

May God have in His holy keeping is the fervent prayer of your ever affectionate

HUSBAND,
J. D. Howell

J. D. Howell is here, though I have not seen him; he & Joe Nick came together as a guard to Treas' specie—

On April the 23d, and about five days after the conference of Sherman and Johnston, President Davis was at Charlotte, N. C. From this place he wrote a long letter to his wife, in which he speaks specifically of the terms of the compact of peace. In this letter he says:

The dispersion of Lee's army and the surrender of the remnant which remained with him destroyed the hopes I entertained when we departed. Had that army held together, I am now confident we could have successfully executed the plan which I sketched to you, and would have been today on the high road to independence. Even after that disaster, if the men who "straggled," say thirty or forty thousand in number, had come back with their arms and with a disposition to fight, we might have repaired the damage; but all was sadly the reverse of that. They threw away their arms and were uncontrollably resolved to go home.

J. E. Johnston and Beauregard were hopeless as to recruiting their forces from the dispersed men of Lee's army, and equally so as to their ability to check Sherman with the forces they had. Their only idea was to retreat. Of the power to do this they were doubtful, and subsequent desertions from their troops have materially diminished their strength, and, I learn, still more weakened their confidence.

Gen. Johnston had several interviews with Sherman, and agreed on a suspension of hostilities and the reference of terms of pacification. They are secret, and may be rejected by the Yankee government.

So as they are hard enough, though freed from wanton humiliation and expressly recognizing the State governments and the rights of person and property as secured by the constitution of the United States and the several States.

Gen. Breckinridge was a party to the last consultation and to the agreement. Judge Reagan went with him and approved the agreement, though not present at the conference.

Each member of the cabinet is to give his opinion in writing today; first, upon the acceptance of the terms; second, upon the mode of proceeding if accepted. The issue is one which it is very painful for me to meet. On one hand is the long night of oppression which will follow the return of our people to the "Union"; on the other the sufferings of the women and children and carnage among the few brave patriots who would still oppose the invader, and who, unless the people would rise en masse to sustain them, would struggle but to die in vain.

In relation to his own hopes and those of his wife and children he says:

How they are to be saved from degradation or want is now my care. During the suspension of hostilities you may have the best opportunity to go to Mississippi, and thence either to sail from Mobile for a foreign port, or to cross the river and proceed to Texas, as the one or the other may be more practicable. The little sterling you have will be a very scanty store, and under other circumstances would not be counted, but if our land can be sold that will secure you from absolute want. For myself it may be that our enemy will prefer to banish me; it may be that a devoted band of cavalry will cling to me, and that I can force my way across the Mississippi, and, if nothing can be done there which it will be proper to do, then I can go to Mexico and have the world from which to choose a location.

Dear wife, this is not the fate to which I invited you when the future was rose-colored to us both, but I know you will

bear it even better than myself, and that of us two I alone will ever look back reproachfully upon my past career.

Farewell, my dear; there may be better things in store for us than are now in view, but my love is all I have to offer, and that has the value of a thing long possessed, and sure not to be lost. Once more, and with God's favor, for a short time only, farewell.

YOUR HUSBAND.

As intimated in his letter to his wife, the various members of the Confederate cabinet submitted opinions on the advisability of continuing or concluding the civil war. Each of these officers investigated the matter thoroughly and stated their conclusions. From the opinion of Judah P. Benjamin, secretary of state, the following extracts will give what, in his opinion, was the proper course under the circumstances:

The Confederacy is, in a word, unable to continue the war by armies in the field, and the struggle can no longer be maintained in any other manner than by a guerrilla or partisan warfare.

Such a warfare is not, in my opinion, desirable, nor does it promise any useful result. It would entail far more suffering on our own people than it would cause damage to the enemy, and the people have been such heavy sufferers by the calamities of the war for the last four years that it is at least questionable whether they would be willing to engage in such a contest, unless forced to endure its horrors in preference to dishonor and degradation.

The terms of the convention imply no dishonor, impose no degradation, exact only what the victor always requires, the relinquishment by his foe of the object for which the struggle was commenced.

Seeing no reasonable hope of our ability to conquer our independence, admitting the undeniable fact that we have been vanquished in the war, it is my opinion that these terms should be accepted, being as favorable as any that we, as the defeated belligerent, have reason to expect or can hope to secure.

John B. Breckinridge, secretary of war, says:

I respectfully advise; First. That you execute, so far as you can, the second article in the agreement of the 18th instant.

Second. That you recommend to the several States the acceptance of those parts of the agreement upon which they alone can act.

Third. Having maintained with faithful and intrepid purpose the cause of the Confederate States while the means of organized resistance remained, that you return to the States and the people the trust which you are no longer able to defend.

S. R. Mallory, secretary of the navy, gives among his opinions the following:

The arms of the United States have rendered the great object of our struggle hopeless; we have conquered a reconstruction of the Union and it becomes your duty to secure to the people, as far as practicable, life, liberty and property.

I advise the acceptance of the terms, and that, having notified Gen. Johnston of your having done so, you promptly issue, so soon as you shall learn the acceptance thereof by the authorities of the United States, a proclamation to the people of the Confederate States, setting forth clearly the condition of the country, your inability to resist the enemy's overwhelming numbers or to protect the country from his devastating and desolating march, the propositions submitted to you, and the reasons which, in your judgment, render their acceptance by the States and the people wise and expedient.

You cannot under the constitution dissolve the Confederacy and remit the States composing it to the government of the United States. But the Confederacy is conquered. Its days are numbered. Virginia is lost to it, and North Carolina must soon follow, and State after State, under the hostile tread of the enemy, must re-enter the old Union.

George Davis, the attorney general, writes:

Observation has satisfied me that the States of Virginia and North Carolina are finally lost to our cause. The people of the latter are utterly weary of the war, broken and despairing in spirit, and eager to accept terms far less liberal than the convention proposes.

In the absence of a general arrangement they will certainly make terms for themselves.

Abandoned by our armies, the people of Virginia will follow their example, and it will be impossible to arrest the process of disintegration thus begun.

This melancholy array of facts leaves open but one conclusion. I am unhesitatingly of the opinion that the convention ought to be ratified.

As to the proper mode of ratification greater doubt may be reasonably entertained.

The Confederate government is but the agent of the States, and, as its chief executive, you cannot, according to our governmental theory, bind the States to a government which they have not adopted for themselves. Nor can you rightfully, without their consent, dissolve the government which they have established.

But there are circumstances so desperate as to override all constitutional theories, and such are these which are pressing upon us now. The government of the Confederate States is no longer potent for good. Exhausted by war in all its resources, to such a degree that it can no longer offer a respectable show of resistance to its enemies, it is already virtually destroyed, and the chief duty left you is to provide, as far as possible, for the speedy delivery of the people from the horrors of war and anarchy.

I therefore respectfully advise that upon the ratification of the convention

by the executive of the United States, you issue your proclamation, plainly setting forth the circumstances which have induced you to assent to the terms proposed, disbanding the armies of the Confederacy, resigning your office as chief magistrate, and recommending to the people of the States that they assemble in convention and carry into effect the terms agreed on.

John H. Reagan, postmaster general, after admitting the hopelessness of the cause, says:

As you have no power to change the government of the country or to transfer the allegiance of the people I would advise that you submit to the several States, through their Governors, the question as to whether they will, in the exercise of their own sovereignty, accept, each for itself, the terms proposed.

This plan would at least conform to the theory of the constitution of the United States, and would, in future, be an additional precedent to which the friends of State rights could point in opposing the doctrine of the consolidation of powers in the central government; and if the future shall disclose a disposition (of which, I fear, the chance is remote) on the part of the people of the United States to return to the spirit and meaning of the constitution, then this action on the part of the States might prove to be of great value to the friends of constitutional liberty and good government.

In addition to the terms of agreement an additional provision should be asked for, which will probably be allowed without objection, stipulating for the withdrawal of the Federal forces from the several States of the Confederacy, except a sufficient number to garrison the permanent fortifications and take care of the public property until the States can call their conventions and take action on the proposed terms. In addition to the necessity for this course, in order to make their action as free and voluntary as other circumstances will allow, it would aid in softening the bitter memories which must necessarily follow such a contest as that in which we are engaged.

Nothing is said in the agreement about the public debt and the disposition of our public property, beyond the turning over of the arms to the State arsenals. In the final adjustments we should endeavor to secure provisions for the auditing of the debt of the Confederacy and for its payment in common with the war debt of the United States. We may ask this on the ground that we did not seek this war, but only sought peaceful separations to secure our people and States from the effects of unconstitutional encroachments by the other States, and because on the principles of equity, allowing that both parties had acted in good faith, and gone to war on a misunderstanding which admitted of no other solution, and now agree to a reconciliation and to a burial of the past, it would be unjust to compel our people to assist in the payment of the war debt of the United States, and for them to refuse to allow such of the revenues as we might contribute to be applied to the payment of our creditors.

Mr. Reagan, postmaster general, also submitted to the President the following as the basis of pacification:

First. The disbanding of the military forces of the Confederacy, and

Second. The recognition of the constitution and authority of the government of the United States on the following conditions:

Third. The preservation and continuance of the existing State governments.

Fourth. The preservation to the people of all the political rights and rights of person and property secured to them by the constitution of the United States and of their several States.

Fifth. Freedom from future prosecution or penalties for their participation in the present war.

Sixth. Agreement to a general suspension of hostilities pending these negotiations.

How often is the light of the household clouded by signs of melancholy or irritability on the part of the ladies. Yet they are not to be blamed, for they are the result of ailments peculiar to that sex, which men know not of. But the cause may be removed and joy restored by the use of Dr. Pierce's "Favorite Prescription," which, as a tonic and nerve for debilitated women, is certain, safe and pleasant. It is beyond all compare the greatest healer of women.

r. Watsons' Improving.

LITTLEVILLE, Ky. Feb. 17, 1876.—Mr. Watson's condition is much improved. He rested well during last night and talked cheerfully with his family this morning.

SALVATION OIL.

"The Greatest Cure on Earth for Pain."
Will relieve more quickly than any other known remedy. Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Swellings, Bruises, Burns, Scalds, Cuts, Lumbago, Sores, Frost-bites, Backache, Wounds, Headache, Toothache, Sprains, &c. Sold by all Druggists. Price 25 Cents a Bottle.