REMARKS OF MR. WARREN,

OF BEAUFORT,

Upon the Resolutions of the Majority of the Joint Select Committee in relation to the suspension of the writ of Habeas Corpus, in the Senate of North Carolina, Wednesday, May 25, 1864.

MR. SPEAKER: I feel great embarrassment in undertaking to discuss the subject of these resolutions before this body. It has been fully discussed by some of the ablest statesmen and lawyers of the country, and their arguments are before you. I can scarcely hope to present the question in any new light, yet, as the organ of the committee, I feel called upon, as far as I may be able, to vindicate and sustain the resolutions.

I feel embarrassed also because of the great latitude of debate in which the Senator from New Hanover (Mr. Hall) has thought proper to indulge. He has circumnavigated the globe in search of topics which he chooses to say are germain to the subject. He has regretted the introduction of the resolutions because, in his opinion, they have a tendency to revive party feeling and distract and divide us, and has referred to the condition of parties in this State at the beginning of this revolution. He has also discussed the subject of slavery, the Wilmot Proviso and the manifold encroachments of the North upon the South, and has not omitted the question of the genealogy of different portions of the American people, and the comparative purity of Northern and Southern blood. I should be glad to know what any or all of these things have to do with the subject before us? They belong in no way to this occasion, and I will only say in general terms, that if any party feeling shall be aroused here, the Senator is responsible for it. He has, in the very beginning of the debate, uttered the rallying cry of party, and in the course of a long speech has only briefly touched the propositions we are considering. But I shall not follow him in his rambles. The resolutions involve nothing but dry questions of constitutional law and the question of the necessity for the suspension of the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus, and to these I shall confine myself.

Upon the question of the necessity for the act of Congress I shall say but little. The reasons which induced Congress to pass the act were communicated to that body in secret session. We do not yet know what they were. The Vice President (Mr. Stephens) intimates that the law was intended mainly to operate upon North Carolina, and we have much reason to believe this to be true, from what we have learned of an interview between the President and the North Carolina delegation in Congress, near the close of the last session. There is reason to believe it also from the avowal of the Senator from New Hanover, who uses the Governor as authority, that there is wide spread disaffection in this State; although the Governor simply says that there is some disaffection here, but only to Mr. Davis' administration. And it is stated by a member of Congress, that Mr. Baldwin, of Virginia, recently declared that four reasons were assigned at the time, for passing the act. First because (as the law stood) negro testimony could not be used against treasonable persons; second, that it was to prevent the assembling of a Convention in North Carolina; third, that when a man was conscripted there might be no chance for him to get out of the army; fourth, to prevent the discharge of persons arrested as spies. The first is too abominable for comment; but it will be observed that only one of these reasons applies particularly to North Carolina, and if the blow was aimed especially at her, it struck also Mississippi and Georgia, both of which States have passed resolutions condemning the legislation of Congress. They felt, as I trust we feel, that it strikes at the civil liberties of all the people of the Confederacy. But whatever may have been the reasons given by the President for the suspension, it is fair to presume that they were general, in favor of some act, not particular, in favor of the present act—that they went to show the necessity for suspending the writ according to the constitution, not the necessity for an unconstitutional enactment. And at all events they failed to satisfy any of our present representatives in Congress, except Mr. Gaither.

The act is a most extraordinary one. It would seem from the preamble that we are to be treated to a little constitutional legislation. Congress has power to suspend the privilege of the writ "when in cases of rebellion or invasion the public safety may require it;" and Congress is the sole judge of the occasion for exercising the power. There is an invasion; Congress has decided that the suspension is necessary for the public safety; and Congress has itself suspended the writ without undertaking to delegate authority to do so. All this the preamble very carefully recites together with the fact that the President requested the passage of the act. Now, sir, the Senator from New Hanover says in his minority report: "Nor does he accept as true, facts stated in the resolutions. He denies the repeated and manifest infractions of the constitution by the Congress of the Confederate States, and has yet to be pointed to a single instance." Yet it so happens that Congress, on two occasions, passed acts by which they expressly delegated to the President the authority to suspend the writ whenever in his judgment the same might be necessary. There have been, then, "repeated and manifest infractions," and it is significant that the preamble of this act contains a clear declaration that the two previous acts of the same Congress on the same subject were unconstitutional. A death-bed repentance is better than none; and it is a peculiar consolation to know that in one of the latest acts of its existence, Congress seemed to have had "compunctious visitings," and to be inclined for a moment to regard the obligations of the constitution.

The preamble is carefully drawn, and so far as it asserts a correct constitutional principle, is to be admired. It is shrewdly drawn also, and was probably intended to convey to the people the idea that the entire government, so far as it has yet been organized, concurred in the necessity for the act. It is plainly to be inferred, however, that Congress saw the exigency with the President's eyes.

Now, sir, with respect to the act, it is, in its general import, an alarming declaration that here are, among the citizens of the Confederate States, traitors, conspirators, plotting to overthrow the government, to defeat its military operations, to assist the enemy, and even to excite servile insurrections, spies, emissaries of the enemy and others, and that these criminals are too numerous or too formidable to be dealt with in the ordinary way by the civil tribunals. I will not dwell on this intense flattery of the patriotism and unanimity of the people. The compliment is aggravated, if that be possible, by the fact that everybody is now entitled to consider himself "suspected of being suspicious," since Congress has locked up in its own breast those "conditions of public danger" which were made known to it by the President—not foreseen by itself and which make the act "a measure proper for the public defence."

But the fruit of constitutional legislation, promised in the preamble, turns to bitter ashes in the act. The constitution declares: "The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated; and no warrants shall issue but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the places to be searched, or the persons or things to be seized." Again: "No person shall be held to answer for a capital or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a grand jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the militia, when in actual service, in time of war or public danger; nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law." Now the act only requires an "order" of the President, or of the Secretary of War or General commanding the Trans Mississippi Department, acting under his authority, for the arrest of any citizen of the country. There is no responsible accuser, no oath, no warrant. Upon the bare suggestion of any of the enumerated offences, the person arrested is imprisoned for an indefinite period; and although by the well settled law of the land, the State courts have concurrent jurisdiction with the Confederate courts in cases of unlawful imprisonment by Confederate authority, no State can protect its own citizen by its own writ. It is superfluous to say that the "orders" or *lettres de cachet* of the President are not "due process of law" under an American constitution.

"To make imprisonment lawful it must either be by process from the courts of judicature, or by warrant from some legal officer having authority to commit to prison; which warrant must be in writing, under the hand and seal of the magistrate, and express the causes of the commitment, in order to be examined into, if necessary, upon a habeas corpus. If there be no cause expressed, the goaler is not bound to detain the prisoner; for the law judges in this respect, saith Sir Edward Coke, like Festus the Roman Governor, "that it is unreasonable to send a prisoner, and not to signify withal the crimes alleged." (Bl. Com., Vol. I, p 137.)

This is what was understood to be "due process of law" in England and in America at the time of the adoption of the federal constitution, and the phrase is used with this meaning in that instrument. So the act does not stop at a suspension of the writ, the object of which is to keep a party in custody, but it also dispenses the preliminary proceedings without which no arrest can be legally made. It dispenses with the "due process of law" required by the constitution, overrides that instrument, and delegates irresponsible, unlimited, arbitrary power. What a field to spies, informers and parasites for the indulgence of private malice and political animosity! What an encouragement to the higher order of villainies, as well as to the contemptible vices which spring from the habit of attending to other people's business! It would be puerile to suggest that the power will not probably be abused. Any exercise of the power to arrest by "order" is an abuse of itself. And in revolutionary times the abuse is not that all the power conferred on the Executive head is not used, but that more is used than is conferred. Are the Confederate States the happy exception.

But sir the Senator from New Hanover anticipating the argument contends that the power to suspend the writ carries with it *ex necessitate* the power to suspend the personal rights guaranteed in other parts of the constitution. I have known the Senator for a long time and have great respect for him, and I greatly admire his frankness and candor, while I confess to but little admiration for his logic or his sentiments. Pray, sir, in what school of political philosophy was the Senator taught? Surely not in the States' rights school; and it is certain that no old federalist or consolidationist ever held so outrageous a doctrine. What lawyer has ever before declared that the power to suspend the writ of habeas corpus, impliedly given and surrounded with restrictions, carries with it the power to annul or suspend express prohibitions contained in other parts of the instrument? Sir, it is far more odious than the doctrine, abhorrent to every one, that Congress can do everything not prohibited to it by the constitution, for it declares that Congress can do that which it is expressly forbidden to do. Besides, the Senator is aware that these guarantees which the country would [illegible] were incorporated into the constitution, by amendment, after the adoption of the original instrument, and he knows, as a lawyer, that by a well known rule of construction, if there be any conflict between the amendments and a provision of the original charter, the latter must give way. But there is no conflict or inconsistency, and they all stand harmoniously together in the Confederate constitution. The truth is the Senator has candidly put the question upon the only ground which he can put it, and has been compelled to appeal throughout his argument, to a higher law than the constitution. He boldly declares that in time of great public peril, when the existence of the nation is endangered, Congress can disregard any and all of the provisions of the organic law of the land, which it has sworn to support and maintain both in sunshine and in storm. He also declares that the safeguards of personal liberty, which we have copied from *Magna Charta* and the Bill of Rights, were only meant to apply to a nation at peace with foreign powers, and in the enjoyment of domestic tranquility, and the argument is, therefore, Congress can dispense with them all. Can there be a more astounding assertion, sir, than that this constitution, adopted in the opening morn of the most gigantic struggle the world has ever witnessed, was not intended for war as well as for peace? The very extravagance of these propositions makes them unanswerable.

Again, sir, in his extremity, the Senator seeks authority for this suspension in the action of the colonial Congress during the revolution, and in the fact that the British Parliament has several times suspended the writ, and sometimes without a sufficient regard for the provisions of *Magna Charta*. But the Senator seems not to have adverted to the fact that it was many years before the adoption of the federal constitution, and some years prior to the adoption of the articles of confederation, that Congress conferred upon General Washington extraordinary powers.—He has failed also to remember that it is the theory of the English constitution and of the common law, that Parliament is omnipotent, and has the power to dispense with or repeal the many guarantees with which the wisdom of Englishmen has protected the liberties of the people against the usurpations of the crown. Yet the Senator's argument is, that because the Parliament has this power, the Congress of the Confederate States, owing its existence to a written constitution, and capable of exercising only the power expressly delegated to it, and those resulting by necessary implications from the delegated power, possesses the same unlimited authority, and can in fact repeal the irrepealable law of the land. This, sir, is his logic, and I do not admire it.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I think this a sound proposition. The only constitutional purpose for which Congress can pass an act suspending the writ of habeas corpus, is to continue in custody persons charged with offences against the criminal laws of the Confederate government. That is, duly charged with offences known to the laws. And these offences must be such as endanger the public safety. This must be so from general reasoning, or the restriction is to cases of rebellion or invasion *when the public safety may require it* and the public safety can not require it unless it is imperilled. This view is sustained, *in totidem verbis*, by authority: "The power of suspension is, by fair construction, limited *also* to offences endangering the public safety." (Ibid, 32.) Some of the offences enumerated in the act are known to the criminal code of the government, some to the military law and some to no law at all. Of the first class are treason and conspiracy. Treason, however, is not a bailable offence and there is no necessity for the suspension of the writ to keep traitors in custody. But what of a spy? If he be a [illegible] he is amenable only to the military law. If he be a citizen of the Confederate States unconnected with the army and in the service of the enemy as a spy, he is simply a traitor. So of the [illegible]: it is purely a military offence and no writ of habeas corpus can take a deserter out of the hands of the military. Why then [illegible] these cases? Are these military offences, while the existence of the privilege of the writ in no way affects [illegible] by contributing to those mysterious "conditions of public danger," without some intimation of which it was thought the law would not be very acceptable to the people? Trading with the enemy is prohibited by a statute; but if it endanger the public safety at all it has done so from the beginning of the war; and if the act has been enforced, it has only been against petty offenders. It is the common experience.—The thief who steals a million escapes, while the insignificant rogue who purloins a plug of tobacco is sure of an acquaintance with the whipping post. Was it necessary to suspend the writ to enforce the law? But what statute has created the offence of attempting to avoid military service and defined it to be an attempt on the part of persons, who have never been in the service to keep out of the service by applying to the courts? And here let me say, sir, that the act we are considering creates no offence. Its language is, that when persons shall be arrested by order of the President, &c., "the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall be suspended in the following cases, &c." The word offences is not used, and it is clear that no offence under the act which was not made an offence by other and independent statutes. Is it not singular then, there being no other act upon the subject, that it should be regarded as criminal to apply to a judicial tribunal for a remedy? And is the public safety involved in the answer to this question? Again, what statute has created and defined the offence of "holding intercourse with the enemy without the permission of the Confederate States?" or that of "advising or inciting others to abandon the Confederate cause?" And if these offences were newly created, by this act, can any man say what does or does not constitute them? The Mayor of Richmond not long ago advised a party, brought before him upon some vague charge of conspiracy, never to say "yes" again as long as he lived. What part of speech may not be guilty under this act? I affirm, sir, that no greater latitude of discretion was ever given to a dictator or exercised by imperial power than is here given to the Chief Magistrate of what it was fashionable a short time ago to call a league of republican States.

I said awhile ago, Mr. Speaker, that no State can protect its own citizens by its own writ. If the writ is issued, the officer making the arrest and having custody of the party, returns under oath that he holds him by "order" for some one of the causes mentioned in the act, the only oath that is made, and not at all a difficult one; and this is declared to be a sufficient return. Thus, the party is held by him, perhaps out of the State (beyond seas) and out of the reach of the process of our courts, until he is turned over, not to a judicial tribunal for examination or trial, but to a commissioner, a military satrap or a parasite in civil life, without judicial authority, appointed by the President alone and dependent on his will, and it is thus that the departments of power are confounded, and that another provision of the Constitution is suspended, which guarantees to the accused a speedy and impartial trial by jury in the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed.

But perhaps, sir, the character of this act may be best illustrated by comparison and contrast. The Senate of the United States in 1807, when some of the ablest statesmen and lawyers of the time belonged to that body, passed the bill which I am about to cite, and which was almost unanimously rejected by the House of Representatives:

"That in all cases where any person or persons charged on oath with treason, or other high crime or misdemeanor, endangering the peace, safety or neutrality of the United States, have been or shall be arrested or imprisoned by virtue of any warrant or authority of the President of the United States, or from the Chief Executive Magistrate of any State or territorial government, or from any person acting under the direction or authority of the President of the United States, the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus* shall be suspended," &c.

Mr. Brown, of Caswell, with leave, stated that it was *then* declared that the act of 1807 proposed to substitute the will of President Jefferson for the law of the land, and as the Senator said the House of Representatives did almost unanimously reject it.

Mr. Warren, resuming: I am obliged to the Senator. I was not aware of that historical fact, but I recollect that Mr. Jefferson is stated to have said about that time that he was in favor of the eternal, unremitting force of the *habeas corpus* laws.

But I desire to call attention to some of the features of this bill which show an almost cotemporaneous construction of this provision of the constitution in relation to the suspension of the writ, and which sustains me in my view of the present act. "Charged on oath." The bill was evidently framed in view of that provision of the Constitution which declares that "no person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law." "With treason, or other high crime or misdemeanor." These are terms designating offences which, by reference to the laws, are made certain. Thus no man could be arrested unless duly charged with a specific offence against the government, previously declared and defined by law and understood by the people. "Endangering the peace, safety and neutrality of the United States." To sum it up, the writ was to be suspended only as to persons lawfully charged with crimes affecting the public safety.

Sir, I do not refer to this bill to recommend it as a model for imitation, but for the purpose of showing how little there is in the present law which can be commended or sustained; how grossly it violates all principle; how far it places the servant of the people under the constitution above the constitution, and above the once proud sovereignty of the States; and how completely it makes that servant the arbiter of the liberties, if not the lives, of his countrymen.

The people deserve great credit for demeaning themselves, and it is to be expected and desired that they will still continue to demean themselves, so as not to become obnoxious to this most obnoxious law. The "ills we have" are sufficient, and perhaps (though I do not believe it) the ultimate liberties of this country may not suffer by being held for a time in abeyance. But the history of this revolution will some day be honestly written, and as the Senator from New Hanover has predicted its verdict, I will venture the assertion that, unless there be reason to repent of two centuries of Anglo American freedom, its inexorable judgment will consign all such acts and their authors. (I will not say advocates,) to an unenviable renown.

To the third resolution I do not think there can be any valid objection. What we mean by liberty in this country is, not license, not freedom from legal restraints, but freedom regulated by law, and defined, protected and restricted by written constitutions. This is American liberty.

If I felt disposed to discuss the fourth resolution, I have detained the Senate too long to do so. But I am not disposed, and while it is properly embraced in the report of the committee, having been discussed in the same connection by the Governor, I shall neither enter into the details of what is called the military bill, nor into the question of its constitutionality. The resolution is simply intended to declare the effect of, and protest against the general, unlimited claim of power on the part of Congress which is contained in the first section of the act.

I am not permitted, Mr Speaker, to entertain the hope that these resolutions will have any effect upon Congress. From what I see to-day in the public prints I believe that that body is prepared to disregard the solemn protests of sovereign States in matters vital to their interests, their liberties and their repose. Yet it is not the less but still the more our duty to add our solemn remonstrance. If it accomplishes nothing more, it will at least show to the people of North Carolina, and to the world, and to those who shall come after us, that we still have some regard for the constitution under which we live; that we yet have some recollection and love of our former freedom; and that we have the spirit and the manliness to condemn, if we do not resist, the encroachments of despotism.

*I omitted to refer, as I intended to do in this connection, to the language of the habeas corpus act of Charles II, or to the opinion of the twelve judges in England, who, in answer to a question propounded by the House of Lords, held that the writ of habeas corpus extended only to cases of imprisonment or restraint for criminal or supposed criminal matters. (Kent. vol. 2, p 31, note.)

VALUABLE TABLE.

Table Showing the Value of the Old Issue of Confederate Money when Discounted for the New Issue of Confederate Money, at the rate of Three Dollars in Old Issue for Two Dollars in New Issue from $5 to $750:

Old Issue.	New Issue	Old Issue.	New Issue.
$ 5	$ 3 33⅓	$155	$103 33⅓
10	6 66⅔	160	106 66⅔
15	10 00	165	110 00
20	13 33⅓	170	113 33⅓
25	16 66⅔	175	116 66⅔
30	20 00	180	120 00
35	23 33⅓	185	123 33⅓
40	26 66⅔	190	126 66⅔
45	30 00	195	130 00
50	33 33⅓	200	133 33⅓
55	36 66⅔	205	136 66⅔
60	40 00	210	140 00
65	43 33⅓	215	143 33⅓
70	46 66⅔	220	146 66⅔
75	50 00	225	150 00
80	53 33⅓	230	153 33⅓
85	56 66⅔	235	156 66⅔
90	60 00	240	160 00
95	63 33⅓	245	163 33⅓
100	66 66⅔	250	166 66⅔
105	70 00	300	200 00
110	73 33⅓	350	233 33⅓
115	76 66⅔	400	266 66⅔
120	80 00	450	300 00
125	83 33⅓	500	333 33⅓
130	86 66⅔	550	366 66⅔
135	90 90	600	400 00
140	93 33⅓	650	433 33⅓
145	96 66⅔	700	466 66⅔
150	100 00	750	500 00

The Columbia *Carolinian* says that Flour has fallen in that market nearly one half from former prices, and that other kinds of produce have declined. The fact is money is getting very scarce and prices generally must recede, especially for articles produced here at home. $5 notes are only passable at a discount of one third, therefore those who hold 5's must either fund them in 4 per cent bonds or exchange them for new currency.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Richmond *Dispatch* writing from Gaines' Mill, says:

"It was stated by Yankee officers in conversation, which was overheard by citizens, that Grant's losses in Spotsylvania, since the opening of the campaign, would probably reach 75 or 80,000."

CROPS AND POLITICS.—A letter from Stanley county says:

"The wheat crop looks well; oats fine; corn doing well, for the sun shines warm. Vance's gaining ground—Holden losing fast."—*Southerner.*

Telegraphic News.

REPORTS OF THE PRESS ASSOCIATION

Particulars of the Assault on Petersburg.

RICHMOND, JUNE 10.—The enemy five thousand strong under Kautz made a desperate attempt to capture Petersburg yesterday.

They advanced in two columns and after several assaults upon the works southeast of the city which were repulsed, succeeded in flanking about two hundred militia causing them to retreat with a loss of six killed and thirty wounded, including some of the best citizens.

The militia fought like veterans. The Yankees then advanced to the suburbs but at an opportune moment Graham's battery opened from Reservoir hill, simultaneously Dearing's cavalry charged them.

The enemy wheeled and fled in great confusion. Column advancing on Blandford's road was repulsed by Sturdivant's battery which arrived in time.

Our reinforcements pursued the Yankees for several miles.

The residence of Timothy Rives was sacked and burned. Mr. Rives was carried off. Rev. Wm. Hill, Chaplain of the Washington artillery was also captured.

From Georgia.

ATLANTA, JUNE 10.—The enemy developed in force yesterday in our front at Ackworth and on our extreme right East of the Railroad towards Roswell.

Partial skirmishing occurred this afternoon in front of Hood's Corps.

Prisoners report that the bridge at Etowah has been rebuilt by the Yankees, and that the trains are running to Ackworth Station.

Sherman avoids every effort to bring him to an engagement outside of his breastworks.

Prisoners say he has orders not to risk a general engagement.

Gov. Brown returned from the front yesterday where he has been with Gen. Johnston.

Northern News—Grant Still Reports Victories. Lincoln and Hamlin Probably Renominated.

RICHMOND, JUNE 10.—Northern dates of the 7th have been received. Grant's dispatches says, the enemy attacked the federal lines on Saturday night, and were everywhere repulsed.

Everything going on well.

The correspondent of the "Inquirer" admits a loss of five thousand at Cold Harbor, on the 3rd. Gen. Tyler lost a foot, and seven Colonels were wounded.

The caucusing at Baltimore indicated the renomination of Lincoln and Hamlin.

Gold 94½.

Sherman says at 12 o'clock, noon, Ackworth, Georgia, that he has full possesion of the Railroad within one mile of Marietta.

Sale of the Laird Rams.

RICHMOND, JUNE 10.—The Steam Rams, built by Laird have been purchased by the English government. The crew of the schooner J. L. Gerity were discharged.

Liverpool cotton market steady.

Congressional.

RICHMOND, JUNE 10.—The Senate concurred in the House amendments to the bill to establish a bureau of foreign supplies and again rejected the bill to authorize the army reporters of the Press Association to purchase rations and forage.

Most of the day was spent in secret session.

The House passed the Senate bill for the relief of States holding old currency, and disagreed to Senate amendments to the bill amending the tax laws. A Committee of Conference will be the result.

Congress will probably adjourn to-morrow.

From Gen. Lee's Army—All Quiet.

RICHMOND, JUNE 10.—There is no change in the position of the two armies. All quiet to day.

From the Valley of Virginia—Enemy Repulsed.

MOUNTAIN TOP, JUNE 9th.—The enemy advanced again to-day with cavalry, and were driven back by Imboden's infantry. A column on each side of the railroad advanced to Fishersville, burning the railroad track. All quiet.

From Mobile—Items from the West.

MOBILE, JUNE 10.—A special dispatch to the *Register* from Senatobia of the 9th says that Canby is appointed a division commander, Banks, Steele, and Rosecrans retain their respective commands. Mower is reported defeated on the 18th ult at Polignac on Yellow Bayou Confederate loss 800, Federal 150. Shelby is moving on south western Missouri with twenty-five hundred men, and six thousand infantry are ordered south from Missouri to reinforce Canby. A raid is said to have left Memphis for Cornith.

Gold in Memphis is 25.

Fremont and Cochran were nominated by the Cleveland radical convention.

A Washington dispatch of the 2nd says that thirty thousand wounded have been sent to the hospitals there.

Grant Ditching.

RICHMOND, JUNE 11.—Accounts from the front represent Grant busy digging parallels. Some skirmishing yesterday and to-day, but it has amounted to nothing. The lines in some places are not over two hundred yards apart.

[SECOND DISPATCH.]

STARR'S FARM, JUNE 11.—No change in the relative position of the two armies, save an occasional discharge of artillery and active sharpshooting on the part of the enemy.

Scouts report Grant to be tearing up the York river railroad.

Grant is very heavily fortified in our front, and his lines in some places are in fifty yards of ours.

Sheridan's Raider—Gilmore preparing to attack Petersburg.

RICHMOND, JUNE 11.—No definite information of Sheridan's whereabouts has been received. He is reported moving in the direction of Columbina, Fluvannia county. The enemy in the valley are said to be moving towards Lexington. It is reported that Gilmore is sending troops to the southside of the Appomattox preparatory to another attack on Petersburg.

Lincoln and Hamlin reported Nominated

RICHMOND, JUNE 11.—It is currently reported here that Lincoln and Hamlin were nominated in Baltimore on the 8th. Gold 197

Northern News—Morgan at His Old Work—Lincoln and Andy Johnson the Nominees

PETERSBURG, JUNE 11.—The *Herald* of the 9th has been received. Lincoln and Andy Johnson were nominated by the Baltimore Convention on the 8th inst. The *Herald* thinks the ticket will have a hard road to travel. The eleventh resolution of the Platform declares for the maintenance of the Monroe doctrine. A victory is claimed for Hunter in the Valley but the information is gathered exclusively from Southern sources. Morgan captured Mt. Sterling, Kentucky, on the 8th, and destroyed the bridges and tore up the track of the Kentucky Central railroad between Cynthiana and Paris, captured the passenger train and occupied Paris and destroyed important trestle work at that place. His forces are estimated at 2500. The *Herald* pitches into the *Times* of Tuesday for publishing an account of the battle of the 3rd between Lee and Grant. The *Times* claimed that it was the most important battle of the war, and confess that Grant was badly beaten and that the rebels were undoubtedly successful. The *Herald* says it was published solely to defeat Grant for the Presidency and that it succeeded. Gold closed on the 6th at 194 1 4

A telegram from Sherman from Acworth Pass, 7th 6 p. m., says, he has been to Altoona Pass and finds it admirable for his purposes; it is the gate through the last or most Eastern part of the Alleghanies. He says the enemy is not in his immediate front, but his signals are seen at Lost Mountain and Kenesaw. A dispatch from Grant of June 7th 5 p. m., says, all has been quiet to day.

Congressional.

RICHMOND, JUNE 11.—Both Houses have passed a joint resolution extending the session until Thursday noon, by which time all the important business now pending will have been disposed of. The tax bill was referred to a committee of conference today. No final action taken.

Movements of Sheridan's Raiders.

RICHMOND, JUNE 12.—The report that Sheridan was moving toward the Canal is not confirmed; on the contrary, it is asserted that Hampton's cavalry attacked the raiders last evening near Louisa Court House, and captured a battery and a large number of prisoners.

No official information of the engagement has been received, but the report is credited.

Another party of raiders from the Valley struck the Orange and Alexandria Railroad yesterday near Arrington, Nelson county.

The enemy have doubtless occupied Lexington and are apparently aiming for Lynchburg.

From Johnston's Army.

BATTLE FIELD NEAR MARIETTA, 7, a. m., JUNE 11.—John Morral Mortons, a Yankee spy, was captured in a Confederate uniform yesterday, in the vicinity of Rome from Kenesaw Mountain.

Several hundred of the enemy's wagons can be seen parked near Big Shanty.

Prisoners report that Blair's 17th corps joined Sherman on the 9th inst.

All quiet during the night, up to time of writing.

Lee and Forrest after the Yankees in Mississippi.

MERIDIAN, JUNE 11.—Lee and Forrest have routed the Yankee column near Baldwin, in North Mississippi, capturing 200 wagons, heavily loaded with stores of all descriptions. Forrest made a forced march to meet the enemy.

The Yankees are more destructive than ever before in this State.

Marmaduke has erected another battery on the Mississippi at Sunnyside, below Greenville, and has a number of boats hemmed up. He had destroyed three steamers up to the 7th inst.

More from Forrest.

MOBILE, JUNE 11.—A special dispatch to the Mobile *Tribune*, dated Baldwin, 11th ult., says, that Forrest made a forced march and threw a part of his command between the yankee advance and Baldwin. He held them at bay for five hours, when Buford struck them in the flank, driving them four miles.—An official dispatch says the enemy were routed and over two hundred wagons captured loaded with stores, also many prisoners. The destruction of property on the yankee line of advance is unparalleled. The negroes are vindictive.

Grant Changing his Base.

ARMY NORTHERN VIRGINIA, June 13th.—He begun moving to our right last night at about dusk, and begun crossing at Long bridge about twenty miles below Richmond on the Chickahominy this morning. Our cavalry fought the enemy's advance near Riddle's shop, about fifteen miles below here. Our men, owing to superior numbers, were compelled to give back. The enemy were landing supplies and reinforcements just below Malvern Hill last night. No general engagement to-day. About one hundred and fifty prisoners were captured to day in the enemy's abandoned breastworks and brought in.

From the Valley.

RICHMOND, June 13.—Telegraphic communication with Lynchburg is unbroken.

Nothing additional from Sheridan.

Heavy firing was heard in the direction of Bottom's bridge this morning.

Manifesto of Congress on the Peace Question.

RICHMOND, JUNE 13.—In secret session on Friday night Congress adopted a manifesto declaring that nothing is more ardently desired than peace.

The series of successes with which it has pleased the Almighty to bless our arms since the opening of the present campaign, enables us to profess this desire in the interest of civilization and humanity without danger of having our motives misinterpreted.

The world must now see that we can never be conquered, and will not our adversaries begin to feel that humanity has bled long enough, and desist from longer perseverance in this wanton and hopeless contest.

The war on our side has been strictly defensive. We do not wish to interfere with the peace and prosperity of the States arrayed against us. All we ask is the undisturbed enjoyment of rights which our common ancestors declared the equal heritage of all parties. If our adversaries are deaf to the voice of reason and justice and shall determine upon an indefinite prolongation of the contest, upon them will be the responsibility of a decision so injurious to the interests of mankind. We have no fear as to the result.

Congressional—Synopsis of the Tax Law.

RICHMOND, June 13.—The most important action in either House to-day, was the passage of the bill amending the tax laws, reported from the committee of conference. Among the provisions of the bill, as passed, are the following: Land purchased and occupied by refugees to be assessed at the market value of 1863. The property and assets of corporations and associations to be taxed the same as the property and assets of individuals, the tax to be paid by the company. Provided, that no bank shall pay tax on deposits. The stock or corporations and associations, and all property within the enemy's lines, are exempted from taxation. A tax of five per cent on specie or its equivalent in treasury notes. An additional tax of thirty per cent. is levied upon the profits and sales of articles mentioned in the first two paragraphs of the tax act. From February 17th to July 1st old five dollar notes are to be taxed one hundred per cent. until the first of January.

Signal Defeat of the Enemy in Mississippi.

RICHMOND, June 13th.—Official dispatches from Gen. S. D. Lee, say that the battle of Tishomingo creek was one of the most signal victories of the war. Besides the wagons, twelve pieces of artillery were captured, and the route of the enemy were complete. Forest was in close, vigorous pursuit.

From Atlanta—All Quiet.

ATLANTA, June 13th.—Position of affairs in front are unchanged, and have been for two days, with the exception of occasional slight skirmishing and firing on working parties. Rumors of a projected raid on Atlanta via Roswell reached here Saturday, and ample preparations were made to receive it. No signs of their appearance at present. The weather is very cool, and has been very wet for the past two days.

More from Atlanta.

ATLANTA, JUNE 13.—Advices from the front are that recent rains have made the roads almost impassable, suspending all movements of both armies. Neither has fired a gun for two days.

Yankee trains are moving to Acworth to-day.

Indications of a new flank movement on the part of the Yankees have transpired to-day.

Our lines are strong and the troops entirely recovered from recent fatigues.