AMERICAN VOLUNTEER.

JOHN B. BRATTON, Editor & Proprietor.

CARLISLE, PA., FEB. 28, 1861.

COMMITTED SUICIDE.—Early on Tuesday morning a soldier at the Carlisle Garrison, whose name we did not learn, committed suicide, by cutting his throat with a razor, from ear to ear. No one can learn the cause of the rash act.

PRAYER FOR COLLEGES.—The last Thursday in Feb'y. is, by the custom of most of the Evangelical church, observed as a day of prayer for Colleges. The occasion will be improved in this borough to-day by the union of the several congregations. The exercises will be as follows: At half past ten in the morning, a public meeting in the College Chapel, with brief addresses from Dr. WING, Rev. Mr. CLERE, and Rev. Mr. GIBSON. Other clergymen will participate in the services.

In the evening, a union prayer meeting at Dr. WING's church.

YOUNG BURGLARS.—For several weeks, if not months, our citizens have been annoyed by the depredations of burglars. Some six weeks since the watch-maker shop of Mr. J. U. STEEL, on Hanover street, was broken open, at night, and robbed of several articles in his line of business. About the same time, the book and stationery room of Prof. MARSHALL, of Dickinson College, was forced, and robbed of books, paper, postage stamps, &c., to the value of about $100. WM. WETZEL's carpenter shop was subsequently robbed of numerous tools, and several students lost articles from their rooms. No one could conjecture who the robber was, as no trace of the stolen goods could be discovered. At last, however, the mystery was explained, and the burglars discovered. A student of the College was suspected, and, during his absence on Saturday last, (he was on a visit home,) his room was searched by an officer. The carpet being removed, a loose board or trap-door in the floor was discovered. This was raised, and the stolen booty found—watches, jewelry, segars, books, stationery, carpenter's tools, pistols, knives, &c. The articles were all identified by those who had lost them. In addition to the stolen articles, a complete set of burglar's tools was found secreted in the same place—night-keys, skeleton keys, nippers, chisels, &c. This student had accomplices. One of these (a son of one of our most respectable citizens,) has confessed that he assisted in the robberies. Others will be implicated, we presume. We suppress the names of these guilty young men for the present.

THE 22D IN CARLISLE.—The birth-day of GEORGE WASHINGTON, the venerated Father of his Country, was more generally observed in Carlisle on Friday last, than is had been for many years. Numerous flags and streamers were displayed through the town, and everywhere a spirit of patriotism prevailed. In the morning, the "Sumner Rifles," Capt. C. KUHN, the "Junior Cadets," Capt. WM. M. PARKER, and a large number of citizens, started for Harrisburg, to join in and witness the celebration there. About noon, the "Carlisle Light Infantry" company, Capt. ROBERT MCCARTNEY, paraded through the streets of the borough, and made a splendid and imposing appearance. About 35 muskets were in the ranks, and the men looked and marched exceedingly well. A splendid flag was presented to this company by some of the ladies of Carlisle, and its presentation was made on that day at the Court House, in the presence of a numerous assemblage of citizens. On the part of the ladies, ROBERT M. HENDERSON, Esq., presented the flag, prefaced by some very appropriate remarks, and WM. M. PENROSE, on the part of the Company, received it. The speech of Mr. P. was an eloquent and beautiful effort, in which he paid many deserved compliments to the patriotism and public spirit of "fair woman." The "Old Infantry," we are glad to learn, is rapidly filling up its ranks from among the "bone and sinew" of the borough, and the young men composing it are as gallant and patriotic soldiers as can be found anywhere. Capt. MCCARTNEY deserves great praise for his unceasing efforts to build up and keep alive the oldest volunteer company in the State. "Long may it wave."

In the evening, after the visitors had returned from Harrisburg, we were treated to a *Firemen's Parade*. The "Cumberland," the "Good Will," and the "Empire Hook and Ladder" companies, under their respective officers, formed in procession, and marched through the various streets, to the music of the Barracks Band. Their engines, hose carriages, &c., were beautifully decorated and splendidly illuminated, and each member carried a lighted torch. The whole thing had a brilliant effect, such as firemen only know how accomplish.

FRESHET IN THE SUSQUEHANNA.—The recent freshet in the Susquehanna has caused much damage. In the North Branch the water was higher than it has been known for fifty years. Many bridges were carried away, and much property destroyed. The Wyoming canal is much injured. A large portion of the borough of West Pittson was inundated. Many coal mines are filled with water. Above Pittston the destruction of property was very great. One of the Delaware and Hudson canal company's reservoirs in Wayne county was carried away, sweeping off buildings and other property in its course.

NOT MENDING THE MATTER.—One John Vandeveer, traveling from Philadelphia to Parkersburg, on the Pennsylvania Railroad, got intoxicated and lost his ticket. Not being able to produce it, and not willing to pay for another, he was put out of the car. In doing so he fell down a bank, and subsequently, in going after his hat, fell among some stones and injured himself so that he died. The wife brought suit against the Railroad Company, and got $1734 damages. The Company appealed to the Supreme Court where the judgment was reversed, on the ground of a want of a distinct direction to the jury as to the measure of damages, and a new trial awarded. Upon this trial, the jury gave a verdict of $2500 damages.

$30,000.—A proposition was brought before the House of Representatives at Harrisburg, a few days ago, to appropriate thirty thousand dollars to the Kansas Relief fund!!

THE DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION.

The Democratic State Convention, which assembled in Harrisburg on the 21st and 22d insts., was not like the remnant of a conquered and subdued party. Never in the history of the Democratic party of Pennsylvania, not even in the days of its power, says the *Patriot and Union*, did a convention contain more able men inspired with a more earnest, devoted and unselfish patriotism. The leading minds of the State came from their retirement in this the hour of their country's greatest peril, to consult together, and take the position best calculated to restore the Union, as it was formed by the fathers, in a spirit of amity and mutual concession. The differences so lately dividing the Democratic party into hostile camps disappeared in the presence of the great danger to the Union, and the conclusions unanimously arrived at by the Convention demonstrated what it so happily expressed in the resolutions—"that the "Democratic party possess the recuperative "power which nothing but integrity can "give."

Nothing could afford a stronger illustration of this conscious integrity possessed by the Democratic party, in common with all conservative citizens who opposed the destructive spirit of sectionalism, which culminated in the election of Lincoln, than the simple fact that less than four months after a defeat apparently annihilating, the largest and ablest convention of the Democratic party, containing many of the best and most patriotic citizens of the State, assembled at the capital to re-affirm their devotion to those National principles which, while triumphant, preserved us as one people—when defeated, have brought us to the verge of National dissolution and devastating civil strife. The Democratic party was defeated, but its principles remain triumphant. The success of the Republicans has only served to illustrate the necessity for the maintenance of National ideas, and the odious and perilous character of sectionalism. The victorious party has destroyed itself by its apparent triumph. The vanquished party emerges from the contest with its principles unimpaired, and its banner untarnished. The people now see and deeply regret the mistake they made in yielding to the blandishments of the sectionalists, who assured them that there was no danger to be apprehended from the election of Lincoln—and because they were deceived and betrayed into promoting the designs of leaders who intended to exclude the Southern States, and to form a Union composed entirely of Northern States, is their wrath aroused against the authors of the disasters that have followed so closely in the footsteps of Republican success to demonstrate the spurious nationality of Republican principles. At a time when the justice of their principles and the truth of their solemn warnings are to clear to be misunderstood, the Democratic party assembled in the strength of conscious rectitude, and placed itself boldly before the country as the champion of the Union, and the resolute enemy of fratricidal war.

The resolutions, adopted without a single dissenting voice, express the pervading sentiment, not only of the Democratic organization, but of the great mass of Union-loving citizens of Pennsylvania. They declare in favor of the Crittenden resolutions or something similar as a satisfactory basis of adjustment. They announce the determination of the Democratic party to oppose, discountenance and prevent, by all proper and legitimate means, any attempt on the part of the Republicans in power to make armed aggressions upon the Southern States—thus giving the dominant party to understand that they can receive no assistance from the Democracy in the diabolical work of plunging the country into the horrors of civil war—especially, so long as unconstitutional enactments remain unrepealed upon the statute books of Northern States. The dignified and prudent reserve of the border States and their conciliatory overtures are very properly commended, and the Democratic party of Pennsylvania placed in position side by side with those loyal and devoted, although much injured States.

Lovejoy on the Tariff.

The Morril Tariff Bill having passed the Senate, with amendments, is now before the House for concurrence. On the 25th, Mr. LOVEJOY, of *Illinois*—old ABE's State—broke ground against the bill. From the House proceedings of that day we take the following:

The House met 10 o'clock and considered the Senate's amendment to the Tariff bill. During an incidental debate Mr. Lovejoy (Ill.) opposed the increased tax on iron, either for a horseshoe or a ring for a swine's snout, and proposed to reduce the duty on skates, which were used by ladies as well as gentlemen for healthful exercise. He was tired of the insatiable cry of Pennsylvania for protection to iron.

Mr. Campbell (Pa.) earnestly denied that the bill was for the interest of Pennsylvania any more than for the producers of all parts of the country.

Mr. Lovejoy joined issue with him, denying that any producer was protected by the bill.

LOVEJOY is considered the mouth-piece of Mr. LINCOLN, and, coming, as he does, from the same State, is well posted in regard to the new Presidents views. What will the Republicans of this State now say when they see the tariff bill attacked by the Republican members from *Illinois?*

☞ Mr. Holt has notified Mr. Drinkard, Chief Clerk of the War Department under Mr. Floyd, that his services would be dispensed with. The manner in which his name figured in connection with Messrs. Russell and Bailey, made this inevitable whenever the Committee reported. Mr. Potts, formerly Chief Clerk under Mr. Conrad, has been appointed to the vacancy temporarily.

THE WEST CHESTER (PA.,) MURDER CASE.—Elizabeth Allison was convicted on Tuesday evening, the 12th inst., at Westchester, Pa., of poisoning her step-daughter, and sentenced to ten years and six months' imprisonment in the Eastern Penitentiary. She seemed unaffected at the sentence, but exhibited the most terrible anguish a few minutes afterwards, on hearing of the death of one of her children.

☞ The expenses of the city of New York for the ensuing year, are set down at $11,500,000, and this amount of tax has been levied. Gotham is the most extravagantly govered city in the world.

THE 22d AT HARRISBURG.

WASHINGTON'S BIRTH DAY was celebrated with great *eclat* at Harrisburg. Some three thousand volunteer troops were present, presenting a most magnificent military display. The National Guards and the Zouaves of Philadelphia, were present, and attracted much attention. Some five hundred firemen were also in procession, as well as the Masons, Odd-Fellows, soldiers of 1812, &c. Gen. KEIM had command, and marched the immense procession through the principal streets, and finally to the Capitol grounds. During the progress of the procession, a grand national salute of thirty-four guns was fired. Upon reaching the Capitol, the military were formed in line, while the Governor, heads of Departments, members of the Legislature, &c., proceeded to the Hall of the House, where Washington's Farewell Address was read, after which the National Standard was run up to the dome of the Capitol by the Soldiers of the War of 1812, having it in charge, and was saluted with 13 guns.

About 2 o'clock President LINCOLN arrived in the Philadelphia cars, the arrival being announced by the firing of cannon. The President was immediately conducted to the barouche in waiting, to which were attached six white horses. A procession was then formed, headed by a troop of horse, the rear being brought up by an extensive military escort.

On arriving at the Jones House, Mr. Lincoln appeared on the balcony, and was introduced to the people, in the presence of 5,000 of them, who completely blocked the space in front of the hotel, by Governor Curtin.

The Governor welcomed the honored guest to the capitol of the State of Pennsylvania, with the assurance of the cordial sympathy of the people, who looked to him to restore peace, amity and good feeling throughout the country, and if reconciliation should fail, notwithstanding all patriotic efforts, they would be ready and willing to aid by men and money to maintain the glorious Constitution. In conclusion, he hoped that God would aid his efforts in sustaining the glory of the Government and the prosperity of the people.

REPLY OF MR. LINCOLN TO GOV. CURTIN.

Mr. Lincoln responded, returning thanks for this cordial expression of good will. Referring to the distracted condition of the country, he trusted that a resort to arms would never become necessary. In his efforts to avert that calamity, he must be sustained by the people. He certainly brought an earnest heart to the work, and it should be no fault of his if he failed.

On the conclusion of his remarks the procession again formed in line and proceeded to the capitol, Mr. Lincoln occupying a seat beside Gov. Curtin.

THE RECEPTION BY THE LEGISLATURE.

The hall of the House of Representatives was densely crowded, and there was some delay before the arrangements could be perfected for the conduction of the ceremonies.

SPEECH OF SPEAKER PALMER.

Speaker Palmer, of the Senate, was introduced to the President elect by Gov. Curtin, and proceeded to address him as follows:

Honored Sir—In behalf of the Senate of Pennsylvania, I welcome you to the capitol of the State. We deem it a peculiar privilege and a happy omen, that while on your way to assume the duties of the high office to which you have been called at this momentous period in our national history, we are favored by your presence at our seat of Government on the anniversary of the birth day of the Father of his Country.

The people of Pennsylvania, upon whom rests so large a share of the responsibility of your nomination and election to the Presidency, appreciate the magnitude of the task before you, and are fully prepared to sustain your Administration according to the Constitution and the laws. Whatever differences of opinion existed prior to the election, as to the political questions involved in the canvass, they, as law abiding, Constitution, Union-loving people, have no difference among them as to your right to claim their duty to render such support. Accordingly, there are now assembled here to-day, men of all parties and shades of opinion, to welcome and honor the constitutionally chosen President of the Union.—Nor have we viewed with indifference the public expression of your views on a subject closely affecting the material interests of Pennsylvania, that it is not only the right but the duty of the Government, while providing for a revenue by a tariff, to so regulate the duties as to afford protection to the industrial interests of the country. It was, therefore, with profound satisfaction that we heard your recent expression of the true policy of the Government. We are deeply impressed with the honor of your visit at this interesting time, and pledge ourselves to preserve the integrity of him whom the people have elevated to the chair of Washington, and to whom they have confided their highest interests, hopeful of the beneficent results of the wise and just measures which we trust and believe will signalize his administration.

Speaker Davis then welcomed Mr. Lincoln on behalf of the House of Representatives, pledging the devotion of the people to the Union. Pennsylvania, though always for peace, stands ready to pledge, with men and money, to sustain the Government, if necessary, by enforcing the laws. The one wish, the one prayer of all, is for the success of the new Administration in the maintenance of the Union.

REPLY OF MR. LINCOLN.

Mr. Lincoln replied.—Gentlemen:—I appear before you, only intending to make a few remarks in response to what has been said to me. I thank you most sincerely for this reception and the generous words in which your support has been promised me. On this occasion I will take the opportunity of thanking your great Commonwealth for the overwhelming support it gave, not to me personally, but the cause which I represent, and which I think is a just one, in the late election—[Loud applause.]

Allusion has been made to the fact, the interesting fact, perhaps, we should say, that I, for the first time, appear at the capitol of the great Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, upon the birthday of the Father of his Country. In connection with that beloved anniversary, so intimately connected with the history of the country, I have already gone through an exceedingly interesting scene this morning, in the ceremonies at Philadelphia. Under the kind conduct of the gentlemen there, I was the first time allowed the privilege of standing in old Independence Hall, [enthusiastic cheering,] and to have a few words addressed to me there, affording me an opportunity of expressing myself. I regret that I had not more time to express something of my own feelings, excited by the occasion—something to harmonize and give shape to the sentiments that had really been the sentiments of my whole life. Besides this, our friends there had provided a magnificent flag of our country, and they had arranged it so that I was given the honor of raising it to the head of its staff.—[Applause.] And when it went up, I was pleased that it went to its place by the strength of my own feeble arm; when, according to the arrangement, the cord was pulled, and it flaunted gloriously to the wind without an accident, in the light glowing sunshine of the morning. I could not help hoping that there was in the entire success of that beautiful ceremony, at least something of an omen of what is to come. [Loud applause.] Nor could I help feeling then, as I often have felt, that in the whole of that proceeding I was a very humble instrument. I had not provided the flag; I had not made the arrangement for elevating it to its place; I had applied but a very small portion even of my feeble strength in raising it. In the whole transaction I was in the hands of the people who had arranged it, and if I can have the same generous co-operation of the people of this nation, I think the flag of our country may yet be kept flaunting gloriously. [Enthusiastic and long-continued cheering.]

I recur for a moment, but to repeat some words I uttered at the hotel, in regard to what has been said about the military support which the general Government may expect from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in an emergency. To guard against any possible mistake of my meaning, do I recur to this. It is not with any pleasure that I contemplate the possibility that a necessity may arise in this country for the use of the military arm. [Applause.] While I am exceedingly gratified to see the manifestation upon your streets, of your military force here, and at your promise to use that force, in case of an emergency—while I make this acknowledgment, I desire to repeat, in order to preclude any possible misconstruction, that I do most sincerely hope that we shall have no use for them—[loud applause] that it will never become their duty to shed blood, and most especially fraternal blood; I promise that, in so far as I may have the wisdom to direct, if so painful a result shall in any wise be brought about, it shall be through no fault of mine. [Cheers.]

Allusion has also been made by one of your honored speakers to some remarks recently made by myself at Pittsburg, in regard to what is supposed to be the especial interest of the great Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. I now wish only to say that the few remarks which I uttered on that occasion were rather carefully worded. I took pains that they should be so. I have seen no occasion since to add to them or subtract from them. I leave them precisely as they stand, [applause,] adding only now that I am pleased to have an expression from you gentlemen of Pennsylvania significant that they are satisfactory to you.

And now, gentlemen of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, allow me again to return to you my most sincere thanks.

On the conclusion of these remarks, Speaker Palmer delivered the oration of the day, the delivery of which was enthusiastically received.

Mr. Lincoln then retired to his hotel, and the assemblage dispersed

Very Much Like Jackson!

The President-elect left Harrisburg, clandestinely between two days. With the exception of the landlord of the Jones' House, no one know that the President had left their town, and were only informed of the fact, when a despatch was received from him early the next morning from Washington. It appears that the rail-splitter was afraid to pass through Baltimore, and afraid to enter Washington. Sure enough he *is a Jackson*! Oh, dear!—how soon will he bring the South to terms! Who is "weak in the knees" now? The Harrisburg *Union* thus refers to the flight of "old ABE" from that city:

MR. LINCOLN'S DEPARTURE FROM HARRISBURG.—Mr. Lincoln left Harrisburg on Friday evening at six o'clock in a special train for Philadelphia, were he took the cars for Washington, and arrived in the Federal Capital before it denizens were out of bed. The programme previously arranged was, for him to leave this place on Saturday morning for Baltimore, and to proceed to Washington in daylight. We understand that arrangements had been made at Baltimore for his reception, and that a committee were here to assure him that there was not the least danger to be apprehended in passing through that city. But for some mysterious reason he departed from Harrisburg so secretly as to elude observation, and all went the way round by Philadelphia so as to avoid a change of cars at Baltimore. Even the person who drove him to the cars was not aware that the gentleman who stepped into the vehicle at Coverley's Hotel, disguised in a slouch hat, was the President elect of the United States on his way to the Capitol to be inaugurated—never supposing it for a moment possible the President would depart in that secret and undignified manner.

Various reasons are assigned for this hasty exit. One story has it, that Mr. Lincoln feared he would be assassinated at Baltimore. If this was the case, we don't believe the slightest grounds existed for his apprehension. It would only show the power of an accusing conscience. The wicked flee when no man pursueth. Another story is, that he fled for the purpose of avoiding the horde of ravenous office hunters assembled to lay seige to him; and that he feared he should be compelled to undergo the excessive fatigue of listening to another oration. And still another account says that he was summoned to Washington by Mr. Seward for high reasons of State.

Which of these stories are correct we will not undertake to say. But there was certainly something ridiculous in a President elect of the United States making a triumphal zigzag progress to Washington, and courting observation and applause until he arrived at Harrisburg, and then leaving this place at night to finish his journey like a fugitive hotly pursued by the ministers of justice.

COERCION IN A NEW PHASE.—The New York Journal of Commerce says: "There has been considerable said about 'Coercion' as a method of settling our political difficulties, but a new application of this system was talked of to-day in Wall street. It is said that certain capitalists have addressed leading Republicans at Washington in terms more forcible than elegant, intimating that all the Loan bills that can be passed will not extract from this city another million of dollars, until some compromise is effected, or at least proffered to the seceding States. It is said that this kind of coercion is not acceptable to the dominant party. Some of the Republican papers continue to make faces at the sugar duty, and to urge its repeal, but they know very well that no such measure will be attempted, for the reason that the money cannot be spared, nor can the amount be raised on anything else. By the way, when the protectionist papers say that "if the duty upon sugar is removed, the Northern States will be relieved of seven millions taxes", do they not concede all that the advocates of free trade have ever claimed as to who bears the burden of a protective tariff?"

☞ At a meeting of the "Sumner Rifles" held at their armory on the 22nd inst., the following preamble and resolution were adopted—WHEREAS we have this day participated in the elevation of our National Flag to the dome of the State Capital—and whereas by the courtesy of the President of the Cumberland Valley Rail-Road we were passed over said road free of charge. Therefore,

Resolved, That the thanks of said Company are hereby gratefully tendered to the Hon. Frederick Watts for his liberality and the kind provision made to ensure our comfort; and also to the conductor of the train for his gentlemanly conduct towards us

A. ZUG,
J. B. ALEXANDER,
T. H. RAMSEY, } Committee.

☞ Miss Harriet Lane, has, it is said, invited Mrs. Lincoln to accept the hospitalities of the executive mansion, immediately upon her arrival in Washington, on Saturday.

DEMOCRATIC STATE CONVENTION.

The State Convention of the Democracy of Pennsylvania, met on Thursday, the 21st inst., in Brandt's Hall, at Harrisburg, and was called to order at 3 o'clock, P. M., by the Hon. Wm. H. Welsh, Chairman of the State Executive Committee. The Rev. John W. Nevin, of Lancaster, one of the delegates from that county, was invited to open the proceedings with prayer.

There was a full attendance of delegates from all the counties of the State.

On motion of Judge Shannon, of Allegheny, the Hon. HENRY D. FOSTER, of Westmoreland, was chosen permanent President of the Convention by acclamation.

Messrs. W. W. H. Davis, of Bucks; J. R. Hunter, of Allegheny; and C. W. Carrigan, of Philadelphia, were chosen temporary Secretaries.

On motion, a Committee of one from each Senatorial district was appointed to report the names of Vice Presidents and Secretaries for the permanent organization of the Convention; and a similar Committee was appointed on Resolutions. Adjourned till 7½ o'clock, P. M.

EVENING SESSION.

The Convention re-assembled at the appointed time, when the Committee on Permanent Organization reported the names of 33 Vice Presidents and 33 Secretaries—one from each Senatorial district.

The Committee on Resolutions obtained leave to retire for consultation.

The Convention was then eloquently addressed by the Hon. P. C. Shannon, of Allegheny; Wm. A. Stokes, Esq., of Westmoreland; Hon. Wm. H. Witte, of Philadelphia, and the President, Henry D. Foster. Adjourned till Friday morning at 9 o'clock.

SECOND DAY.

The Convention re-assembled at the appointed hour, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Nevin.

On motion, the Farewell Address of Washington was then read by Col. Jacob Zeigler, one of the Secretaries.

The Committee on Resolutions, through their Chairman, the Hon. Ellis Lewis, presented the following, with some eloquent prefatory remarks, as the unanimous report of the Committee:

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, That the States of this Union are sovereign and independent over every subject not surrendered to the control of the Federal Government; and they have no right to interfere with each other's domestic institutions, but are bound by the Constitution of the United States to protect and defend them against domestic insurrection as well as foreign invasion.

Resolved, That the Government of the United States, although limited in its authority to the subjects enumerated in the Federal Constitution, possesses within those limits supreme authority, and has the usual and necessary powers for preserving itself and enforcing its laws.

Resolved, That the Union of the States was founded by the wisdom of our patriotic ancestors, is sanctioned by the experience of our whole political existence, and has secured to us unexampled prosperity at home, and respect abroad. The Democratic party will cling to it as the last hope of freedom, and as the great experiment in self-government, which is to light the nations of the earth to liberty and independence.

Resolved, That the Democratic party possesses the recuperative power which nothing but integrity can give, and is determined to sacrifice on the altar of patriotism all individual interests and past dissentions, and unite as a band of brothers to rescue the country from the control of those who are seeking its destruction. That this country with the best form of government that ever was devised, is surrounded with dangers and difficulties which threaten its very existence, and yet the Republican party refuse all reasonable terms of compromise, and their leader, on his way to take possession of the government, seemingly satisfied with the disastrous culmination of his "irrepressible conflict," declares "there is nothing going wrong."

Resolved, That the people of the Southern States contributed their exertions and treasure in the acquisition of the Territories, equally with those of the other States, and that the principle which recognizes the equal rights of all the States to the same is founded on the clearest equity and supported by the decision of the highest court of the country. It ought, therefore, to be sustained by every law-abiding citizen until a satisfactory dividing line can be settled by an amendment of the Constitution.

Resolved, That every State is bound by the Constitution of the United States to aid in delivering up fugitive slaves to their owners, and all legislation which withholds such aid or throws obstacles in the way, is unconstitutional, and should be repealed, and suitable enactments substituted, in accordance with the Federal duties of the respective States.

Resolved, That the resolutions offered in the United States Senate by the patriotic Senator from Kentucky, and known as the "Crittenden plan of compromise," present a satisfactory basis for the adjustment of our difficulties. The measures therein specified are wise, just and honorable—calculated to end the present deplorable agitation and prevent forever its recurrence. We commend this plan or something similar, to patriots—men of business—working men—political parties—to the people everywhere; and we call upon all who love their whole country and desire to preserve it, to rally to such plan of compromise and carry it through.

Resolved, That we will, by all proper and legitimate means, oppose, discountenance and prevent any attempt on part of the Republicans in power to make any armed aggression upon the Southern States; especially so long as laws contravening their rights shall remain unrepealed on the statute books of Northern States, and so long as the just demands of the South shall continue to be unrecognized by the Republican majorities in those States, and unsecured by proper amendatory explanations of the Constitution.

Resolved, That in the dignified and prudent reserve of the southern border States, and in their conciliating overtures, we recognize the same patriotic purposes which animated the Fathers of the Republic; and that an appeal to the people of Pennsylvania will manifest their hearty concurrence in all reasonable and constitutional measures for the preservation of the Union, consistently with the rights of all the States.

Resolved, That the conduct of the present Governor of Pennsylvania, in confining exclusively his selection of Commissioners to the Peace Conference to the Republican party, and excluding 230,000 freemen of Pennsylvania from any representation in that body, was the act of a partizan, and not of a patriot.

Resolved, That we are in favor of the immediate repeal of the 95th and 96th sections of the Penal code of Pennsylvania—except so far as relates to the crime of kidnapping—because said sections stand in the way of a strict enforcement of the fugitive slave law.

The resolutions were adopted by acclamation, and with the most enthusiastic demonstrations of approval.

On motion, a Committee of thirty-four members of the Convention, with the President, Gen. Foster, as Chairman, was appointed to convey the resolutions to Washington, and lay copies before the President of the United States, the Peace Conference, and both branches of Congress.

GEORGE H. BUCHER, of Cumberland, is the Committee-man from this District.

Eloquent and patriotic addresses were then made by the venerable Josiah Randall, Hon. Richard Vaux, Hon. Wm. H. Welsh, and others; after which the Convention adjourned *sine die*.

INAUGURAL ADDRESS OF PRESIDENT DAVIS.

JEFFERSON DAVIS, previous to assuming the duties of the Presidency of the "Confederated States of America," took the oath of office, and then delivered his Inaugural Address, as follows:

GENTLEMEN OF THE CONGRESS OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA—FRIENDS AND FELLOW-CITIZENS: Called to the difficult and responsible station of chief executive of the provisional government which you have instituted, I approach the discharge of the duties assigned me with an humble distrust of my abilities, but with a sustaining confidence in the wisdom of those who are to guide and aid me in the administration of public affairs, and an abiding faith in the virtue and patriotism of the people. Looking forward to the speedy establishment of a permanent government, to take the place of this, and which, by its greater moral and physical power, will be better able to combat with the many difficulties which arise from the conflicting interests of separate nations, I enter upon the duties of the office to which I have been chosen with the hope that the beginning of our career as a confederacy may not be obstructed by any hostile opposition to our enjoyment of the separate existence and independence which we have asserted, and, with the blessing of Providence, intend to maintain.

Our present condition, achieved in a manner unprecedented in the history of nations, illustrates the American idea that governments rest upon the consent of the governed, and that it is the right of the people to alter and abolish governments whenever they become destructive of the ends for which they were established. The declared purpose of the compact of Union from which we have withdrawn was to establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general welfare, secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, and when, in the judgement of the sovereign States now composing the confederacy, it has been perverted from the purposes for which it was ordained, and ceased to answer the ends for which it was established, a peaceful appeal to the ballot box declared that, so far as they were concerned, the government created by that compact should cease to exist. In this they merely asserted the right which the Declaration of Independence of 1776 defined to be inalienable.

Of the time and occasion for its exercise, they, as sovereigns, were the final judges, each for itself. The impartial and enlightened verdict of mankind will vindicate the rectitude of our conduct, and He who knows the hearts of men will judge of the sincerity with which we labored to preserve the government of our fathers in its spirit. The right solemnly proclaimed at the birth of the States, and which has been affirmed and reaffirmed in the bills of rights of the States subsequently admitted into the Union of 1789, undeniably recognize in the people the power to resume the authority delegated for the purpose of government. Thus the sovereign States here represented proceeded to form this confederacy; and it is by the abuse of language that their act has been denominated revolution. They formed a new alliance, but within each State its government has remained—the rights of person and property have not been disturbed. The agent through whom they communicated with foreign nations is charged, but this does not necessarily interrupt their international relations.

Sustained by a consciousness that our transition from the former Union to the present confederacy has not proceeded from any disregard on our part of our just obligations, or any failure to perform every constitutional duty; moved by no interest or passion to invade the rights of others; anxious to cultivate peace and commerce with the nations; if we may not hope to avoid war, we may at least except that posterity will acquit us of having needlessly engaged in it. Doubly justified by the absence of wrong on our part, and by wanton aggression on the part of others, there be can no cause to doubt that the courage and patriotism of the people of the confederated States will be found equal to any measures of defence which soon our security may require.

An agricultural people—whose interest is the export of a commodity required in every manufacturing country, our true policy is peace, and the freest trade which our necessities will permit. It is alike our interest as the interest of those to whom we would sell, and from whom we would buy, that there should be the fewest practicable restrictions upon the interchange of commodities. There can be but little rivalry between ours and any manufacturing or navigating community such as the northeastern States of the Union. It must follow, therefore, that mutual interest would invite good will and kind offices. If however, passion or lust of dominion should cloud the judgement or inflame the ambition of those States, we must prepare to meet the emergency, and maintain, by the final arbitrament of the sword, that position which we have assumed among the nations of the earth.

We have entered upon a career of independence which must be inflexibly pursued. Through the many years of controversy we have had with our late associates, the northern States, we have vainly endeavored to secure tranquility and obtain respect for the rights to which we were entitled. As a necessity, and not from choice, we have resorted to the remedy of separation, and henceforth our energies must be directed to the conduction of our own affairs and the perpetuity of the confederacy which we have formed. If a just perception of mutual interest shall permit us peaceably to pursue our separate political career my most earnest desire will be fulfilled; but if this be denied us, and the integrity of our territorial jurisdiction be assailed, it will but remain for us, with a firm resolve, to appeal to our arms, and invoke the blessing of Providence in a just cause.

As a consequence of our new condition, and with a view of anticipated wants, it will be necessary to provide a speedy and efficient organization of the branches of the Executive department, having special charge of foreign intercourse, finance, military affairs, and the postal service. For the purposes of defence, the confederated States may, under ordinary circumstances, rely mainly upon their militia; but it is deemed advisable, in the present condition of affairs, that there should be a well instructed and disciplined army, more numerous than would be usually required in a peace establishment. I also suggest that for the protection of our habors and our commerce on the high seas, a navy adapted to these objects is required. These necessities have doubtless engaged the attention of Congress.

With a constitution differing only from that of our fathers in so far as it is explanatory of their well-known intent, freed from the sectional conflicts which have interfered with our general welfare, it is not unusual to expect that the States from which we have recently parted may seek to unite their fortunes with ours, under the government we have instituted. For this your constitution makes adequate provision. But beyond this, if I mistake not, the judgement and will of the people are that a union with the States from which we have separated is neither practicable nor desirable. To increase the power, develope the resources, and promote the happiness of a confederacy, it is requisite that there should be so much of homogenity that the welfare of every portion should be the aim of the whole. Where this does not exist, antagonisms are engendered which must and should result in separation. Actuated solely by the desire to preserve our own rights and promote our own welfare, the separation of the confederated States has been marked by no aggression upon others, and followed by no domestic convulsion. Our industrial pursuits have received no check. The cultivation of our fields has progressed as heretofore. And, even should we be involved in war, there would be no considerable diminution in the production of the staples which have constituted our exports, and in which the commercial world has an interest scarcely less than our own. This common interest of produce and the consumer can only be intercepted by by an exterior force which should obstruct its transmission to foreign markets, a course of conduct which would be detrimental to the manufacturing and commercial interests abroad. Should reason guide the action of the government from which we have separated, a policy so detrimental to the civilized world, the northern States included, could not be dictated by even a stronger desire to inflict injury upon us. But, if otherwise, a terrible responsibility will rest upon it, and the suffering of millions will bear testimony to the folly and wickedness of our aggressors.

In the meantime there will remain to us, besides the ordinary remedies before suggested, the well known resources for retaliation upon the commerce of an enemy.

An experience obtained in public stations of a subordinate grade to this, which your kindness has conferred upon me, has taught me that care and toil and disappointments are the price of official elevation. You will see many errors to forgive, man deficiencies to tolerate; but you shall not find in me either want of zeal or fidelity to the cause that is to me the highest in hope and of most enduring affection. Your generosity has bestowed upon me an undeserved distinction, one which I neither sought nor desired. Upon the continuance of that sentiment, and upon your wisdom and patriotism I rely to direct and support me in the performance of the duty required at my hands. We have changed the constituent parts but not the system of our government. The Constitution formed by our fathers is that of these confederated States. In their exposition of it, and in the judicial construction it has received, we have a light which reveals its true meaning.

Thus instructed as to the just interpretation of that instrument; and ever remembering that all offices are but trusts held for the people, and that these delegated powers are to be strictly construed, I will hope, by due diligence in the performance of my duties—though I may disappoint your expectations—yet to retain, when retiring, something of the good will and confidence which welcomes my entrance into office. It is joyous, in the midst of perilous times, to look around upon a people united in heart—where one purpose of high resolve actuates the whole—where the sacrifices to be made are not weighed in the balance against honor and right, liberty and equality. Obstacles may retard, but they cannot long prevent the progress of the movement.

Sanctified by its justice and sustained by a virtuous people, reverently let it invoke the God of our fathers to guide and protect us in our efforts to perpetuate the principles which by His blessing they were able to vindicate, establish and transmit to their posterity, and with the continuance of His favor, ever gratefully acknowledged, we may hopefully look forward to success, to peace and prosperity.

Mr. Lincoln at Washington.

VISIT TO THE WHITE HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—Not a little sensation prevailed throughout the city this morning as soon as it became known that Mr. Lincoln had arrived in the early train.

It was unsuccessfully sought to conceal the fact, especially from the newspaper press, his presence here being at first communicated to a few political friends in confidence.

He was met at the station by several gentlemen of distinction, without formality, and immediately drove to Willard's Hotel.

He was yesterday advised to come hither without delay.

Preparations had been made to receive *him* at the station this afternoon, and the Mayor of Washington was to make a welcome address. But Mr. Lincoln has thus spoiled the programme.

At about ten o'clock, Mr. Lincoln, accompanied by Mr. Seward, paid his respects to the President, spending a few minutes in general conversation.

Senator Bigler and Representative John Cochrane happened to be at the White House when he entered, and were accordingly introduced to the President elect. Mr. Lincoln afterwards returned to his hotel.

After the interview between the President and Mr. Lincoln, the former introduced the latter to his Cabinet, who were at that time in session.

Mr. Lincoln, in company with Mr. Seward, subsequently paid his respects to Lieutenant General Scott.

Mrs. Lincoln, family and suite, arrived here in this afternoon's train.

A SIGNIFICANT FACT.—In New Orleans, there are about seventeen thousand voters. At the recent election, when the question of secession was submitted to the people, only 8000 votes were polled, and the majority for for secession was only 800. It is reasonable to suppose that the Union men declined to vote and permitted the secessionists to carry the city. In view of this point it appears obvious that there is a strong Union party in the South, who would call into life and action a great and triumphant Union party in the South, if the insensibility and stubbornness of the Northern Republicans did not render them indifferent and paralyze their efforts. Let the North do right, repeal its nulification statutes and declare its purpose to obey the Constitution, and the true men of the South would rally for the Union.

LINCOLN'S SISTER IN LAW.—Mrs. Abraham Lincoln, wife of the President of the old Union, has two married sisters now on a visit to Montgomery, Alabama, says the *Col. Times*. One is from Kentucky, and on a visit to her sister, who resides in Selma, Alabama. They are both Secessionists and opposed to the Government of their brother-in-law, Abraham Lincoln. Of course, they attract considerable attention, and are the test of Southerners—The husband of one has offered his services to Gov. Moore, of Alabama, to further the cause of Secession and State Rights and Republican Liberty.

CHARITABLE OFFER.—The Kentucky Colonization Society, in order to relieve the free people of color in that State from the embarrassing position in which they have been placed by its free negro law, which went into operation on January 1st, 1861, offer to such of them as are willing to emigrate to Liberia a free passage thither, and support for six months after their arrival. Those having families are offered, in addition, ten acres of land, as a free gift, upon condition that they will settle on it. Five acres are offered upon the same terms to every unmarried adult, male and female.

LIBERIA.—The little black Republic of Liberia is in a highly flourishing condition. Receipts last year, $67,334; payments, $67,650. The former shows an increase of $20,722; the latter includes the payment of nearly $12,000 of indebtedness. Pe