THE MARYLAND NEWS SHEET.

VOL. I---NO. 142. BALTIMORE, THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 1862. PRICE TWO CENTS.

SEE FOURTH PAGE.

LATEST NEWS.

TELEGRAMS.

LATER FROM EUROPE.

ARRIVAL OF THE STEAMER CANADA

HALIFAX, March 5.—The steamer Canada has arrived from Liverpool, with advices, via Queenstown, to the 23d ult.

Lord Palmerston had stated in Parliament that the negotiations with the United States, relative to the San Juan affair, had been suspended in consequence of the civil war, but a joint provisional occupation of the Island has been arranged.

The British Government has refused to produce any information relative to British vessels running the American blockade.

The anniversary of Washington's birthday was duly and patriotically celebrated at the Free-Mason's Tavern, London. Bishop McIlvaine, of Ohio, presided, and Minister Adams responded to the toast, "the memory of Washington."

It was reported that Mr. Slidell had several interviews with all the French Ministers, but of course of an unofficial nature.

The Grecian insurrection continues, but is confined to Nauplia.

MADRID, Feb. 23.—The Spanish squadron for the Pacific leaves in April, to consist of three 42-gun frigates. Other ships will go to Montevideo first.

TURIN, Feb. 23.—Anti-Papal manifestations continue in the provincial towns.

BERLIN, Feb. 23.—It is asserted that the recognition of Italy by Prussia is an accomplished fact.

VIENNA, Feb. 23.—The Austrian negotiations at Pesth, to bring about a reconciliation with Hungary, have failed.

The *Journal de Iberia* gives the following:—"We are informed that the Sumter has run down a ship, which, although bearing American colors, contained a cargo of coal for Spain. The commander of the Squadron of Instruction at Algeria has consequently sent an agent to require explanations of the commander of the Sumter.

It is stated that the Government of Spain has opened negotiations with the great Powers for the purpose of having Spain acknowledged as a Power of the first class.

Interesting from Nashville--Proclamation of the Mayor--The City Quiet and Perfect Order Restored.

CINCINNATI, March 5.—The *Gazette's* Nashville despatch gives the proclamation of the Mayor of Nashville. The Mayor says:

"A committee, representing the city authorities and the people, have had a perfectly satisfactory interview with General Buell at his headquarters, and there is every assurance given of safety and protection to the people, both in their persons and property.

"I therefore respectfully request that business be resumed, and that all our citizens, of every trade and profession, pursue their regular vocations.—The county elections will take place on the regular day, and all civil business be conducted as heretofore.

"The Commanding General assures me that I can rely upon his aid in enforcing our police regulations. One branch of business is entirely prohibited, viz: The sale or giving away of intoxicating liquors.

"I most earnestly call upon the people of the surrounding country, inside of the Federal lines, to resume their commerce with the city and to bring in their market supplies. They will be fully protected and amply remunerated.

[Signed] "R. R. CHEATHAM, Mayor."

The city is entirely quiet, and even the bitterest secessionists acknowledge that our military authorities are treating them cruelly kind; they admit the vast superiority in arms, equipments and general appearance of our troops and their most admirable discipline. They admit also that the "Hessians" have not committed a single outrage, while the conduct of their own troops is admitted to have been outrageous.

Union men here say that the majority will yet be found on our side, but it will take some little time to develop the true feeling of the people, so thoroughly have they been crushed.

The Postal Agent from Washington was to open the post office on the following day. He has already had forty citizens of Nashville applying for clerkships.

FROM HAVANA.

Yancey on his Way Home in Disguise---Later from Mexico.

NEW YORK, March 5.—The steamer Columbia, from Havana 1st inst., has arrived. Gen. Almonte passed through Havana for Vera Cruz.

Yancey, the Rebel commissioner, disguised, sailed in the Rebel schooner Wide Awake for the South.

The captain of the captured English steamer Labuan had arrived at Havana in a Rebel schooner, and made a protest before the English Consul, and left in the Columbia.

The Harriet Lane had arrived at Havana. She took as a prize, off Matanzas, the schooner Virginia Adams.

It is stated that if the sloop-of-war Portsmouth had waited another day before capturing the Labuan, she would have got $200,000 in specie

The dates from Vera Cruz are to the 21st of February. Gen. Prim had a conference with Gen. Doblado, at Soledad, twelve leagues from Vera Cruz, and the preliminaries were arranged for opening negotiations at Orizaba. The French troops will be allowed to advance to Tehuacan, the Spanish to Orizaba, and the English to Cordova. Sickness and desertions continue, principally among the Spaniards.

FROM PORT ROYAL AND SAVANNAH.

NEW YORK, March 5.—The steamer Ericsson has arrived from Port Royal with advices to the 1st instant. She brings 320 bales of cotton.

A passenger from Savannah reports that there were 20,000 rebel troops there.

There is very little news, except relating to army movements, which, for prudential motives, is not published.

SECOND DISPATCH.

NEW YORK, March 5.—Port Royal advices state that Commodore Dupont's fleet had sailed from thence—destination unknown. [This much is permitted to be made public by the Military Supervisor.

THE WAR IN MISSOURI.

ST. LOUIS, March 4.—General Halleck, in an army order, says:

"On the recommendation of the Governor and several Judges of the State, it is directed that all licensed attorneys, counsellors and proctors be required to take the oath of allegiance prescribed by the sixth section of the ordinance of the State Convention passed October 16, 1861. Judges of the State Courts will refuse to present any one to practice within Court who refuses or neglects to take such oath. The Board of Assessment in the city of St. Louis, for the benefit of the suffering families driven by the enemy from Southwest Missouri, having completed its labors, and rendered its final report, is hereby dissolved."

Despatch from General Halleck to General McClellan.

ST. LOUIS, March 4.—The following is a copy of a despatch from General Halleck to General McClellan.

To Major General McClellan:

Sir—The cavalry from Paducah marched into Columbus yesterday, at 6 o'clock P.M., driving before them the enemy's rear guard.

The flag of the Union is flying over the boasted "Gibraltar of the West."

Finding himself completely turned on both sides of the Mississippi, the enemy was obliged to evacuate or surrender.

Large quantities of artillery and stores were captured. [Signed] H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General Commanding.

Marine Disasters.

BOSTON, March 4.—The brig Lincoln, from Elizabethport for Boston, struck on Minot's Ledge this morning, and sunk. The crew were saved.

The brig Marcia, from Elizabethport for Boston, went ashore this morning near Glade's House.—She will prove a total loss. The crew were saved.

The schooner Fred. Warren, from Elizabethport for Boston, is ashore at Scituate Light.

Funeral of the late Professor Felton.

BOSTON, March 4.—The funeral of President Felton, of Harvard College, took place to-day, at Appleton Chapel, in Old Cambridge. In accordance with the wishes of the deceased, the ceremonies were simple, without display. The attendance was very large, including the Faculty, students, and many persons eminent in literature and public estimation. The body was deposited in Mount Auburn.

Nominations Confirmed.

WASHINGTON, March 5.—The Senate to-day confirmed the nominations of James G. Spears, of Tennessee, and Major Samuel D. Sturgis, to be Brigadier-Generals of volunteers.

Cultivation of Cotton.

WASHINGTON, March 5.—Official information has been received here that the Portuguese Government is devoting its attention to the cultivation of cotton in its African possessions.

Burning of the Residence of the French Minister.

WASHINGTON, March 5.—The residence of the French Minister, in Georgetown, was this morning accidentally destroyed by fire, together with most of the elegant furniture.

Rebel Prisoners Sent to Fort Warren

CINCINNATI, March 5.—Forty-nine rebel officers were sent to Fort Warren from Columbus, Ohio, yesterday.

Steamer Ashore.

NEW BEDFORD, March 5.—Key West dates to the 22d ultimo state that the steamer Richmond was ashore on the Florida Reefs, but would probably get off next day.

THE FIRM OF J. G. FITZPATRICK & CO., composed of the undersigned and JAMES HACKETT, having been dissolved by a decree of the Superior Court of Baltimore city, the subscriber will hereafter conduct the DRY GOODS COMMISSION BUSINESS at Warehouse No. 12, HANOVER STREET, in his own name and on his own account.

ROBT. C. BARRY and WM. B. PERINE have been appointed by the court to settle the business of the late firm.
mh5-tu,w&s4w* J. G. FITZPATRICK.

[Reported for the Maryland News Sheet.]

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BALTIMORE CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

FIRST DAY.

This body assembled in the Light Street Church in annual session yesterday morning, at nine o'clock, Bishop Janes presiding.

The Conference was opened by singing the 707th hymn, commencing:

"And are we yet alive?"

Bishop Janes then offered up prayer, during which he invoked the blessings of Heaven upon "the President of the United States, and all others in authority in the National and State Governments."

He read for the first Scripture Lesson the 132d, 133d and 134th Psalms, commencing, "The Lord remembered David in all his afflictions."

The 237th hymn was then sung, commencing, "I love thy kingdom, Lord;" after which prayer was offered by Rev. Thomas Carlton, of New York.

The Bishop then made a few remarks, in the course of which he called the attention of the ministers to that portion of the Discipline which indicates the manner of spending their time during Conference, and concluded by congratulating them that they were again allowed to convene in annual session.

The Presiding officer stated that as the Secretary of the last Conference, Rev. J. S. Martin, was not present, and as it was customary upon the opening of Conference for the Secretary of the previous Conference to call the roll, he requested one of the Assistant Secretaries of the last Conference, Rev. W. F. Ward, to come forward and call the roll of members.

Of the one hundred and sixty-four members that compose this Conference, only fifty eight answered to their names, leaving one hundred and six absentees. One member died during the year.

The Conference then proceeded to the election of a Secretary.

Rev. B. N. Brown nominated Rev. W. B. Edwards.

Rev. Isaac Collins nominated Rev. W. H. Chapman, who, however, declined.

Mr. Edwards was then chosen Secretary.

Rev. W. F. Ward was nominated and chosen Assistant Secretary.

It was decided that the morning session of the Conference should begin at 9 o'clock and close at 1 P. M.

Upon motion of Rev. E. P. Phelps, the rules of the last Conference were adopted.

Rev. Dr. Carlton, agent of the New York Book Concern, Rev. Wm. Murphy, and Rev. Mr. Patterson, of Philadelphia, were introduced to the Conference.

A circular from the Sunday School Union was read, and, upon motion of Rev. Thomas Sewall, referred to the Committee on the Sunday School Cause.

A circular from the Tract Society was read and referred to the Committee on the Tract Cause.

Mr. Sewall moved the appointment of a standing committee of three, to restore to Conference the volumes of its journals and its papers.

Rev. S. V. Blake presented a paper, signed by seven members of the Conference, who acted with the majority last year upon the "new chapter" question. He hoped there would be no opposition to the reading of it, and would say, by way of explanation, that these members wished to relieve themselves of an embarrassment which they felt in acting with this Conference, in view of the position which they occupied at the last session. The following is a copy of the paper presented:

We, the undersigned, members of the Baltimore Annual Conference, who approved in whole, or in part, of the action of the majority at the session in March last, in deference alike to our brethren who are absent and to those who are present, and to avoid any seeming inconsistency in ourselves, and in order to stand fairly and honorably before our brethren of the whole Conference and the entire laity within our bounds, beg leave, respectfully, to present *this declaration*, explanatory of our position, and desire that it be read and entered upon the journal of the Conference without debate.

A condition of affairs in our country has arisen since the last session of the Conference, and continues to exist, which was not anticipated, and could not be provided for, and by which a large portion of our brethren, the preachers, are necessarily and unavoidably prevented from being present with us; and as we do not know, and have no means of ascertaining, whether, or not, the views and purposes of our absent brethren remain the same, or have been modified by circumstances that have transpired since; and wishing to avoid everything that might produce increased excitement in the country, or in any degree jeopard the interests of Methodism; and especially as we are assured by the minority of the last Conference, in their protest, that they differed from the majority, *only* in the *mode of* obtaining relief from our troubles, and not in the relief itself, *we therefore deem it expedient to waive* the questions involved in the action of the majority at the last session until our national difficulties are adjusted, or at least until such time as the whole Conference can come together and determine its own course.

Though we frankly affirm that our sentiments in regard to the merits of the question at issue at our last session *are the same, and unchanged*; yet, in view of the prudential considerations above stated, we agree to meet in Conference as now assembled, and receive our appointments as we did last March.

WM. KREBS,
A. S. HANK,
F. S. CASSADY,
S. V. BLAKE,
J. W. WOLFF,
W. F. WARD,
J. L. GILBERT.

Mr. Collins wanted to know what the paper meant, before it was read. He did not like secession in Church and State. He thought the paper had better be put in the hands of some loyal persons before it was read.

Mr. Sewall said that Samuel V. Blake had presented that paper, and that was enough. It was due to him that it should be read and respectfully considered.

Mr. Chapman said it was not sufficient for him that Samuel V. Blake had presented this paper, Rev. Norval Wilson laid a paper on the table twelve months ago, and all now know the result. He would ask Mr. Blake one question, the answer to which would determine whether he (Mr. Chapman) would vote for it to be read. He wanted to know if the paper was a "protest" in any shape or form?

Mr. Blake replied that he would inform Mr. Chapman that the terrible word "protest" did not occur in the entire paper.

Mr. Chapman retorted that there was nothing terrible in a "protest."

Mr. Collins said from the proceedings of the last Conference to show that Mr. Blake was not to be considered a "loyal" man in church and State; and said, in reply to Mr. Sewall, that although he had always entertained the highest regard for his judgment in all matters, yet he must differ from him upon this point. Those persons had declared by their votes, at the last Conference, that they would "secede" from the General Conference unless certain reparation was made. There had been no step taken by other Conferences in view of this threat of these "seceders;" but as circumstances had transpired which rendered it impossible for them to accomplish anything at present, they come here and try to get appointments from this body. There were on that paper the names of men who had refused to participate in Quarterly Conferences held under the Discipline as amended at the last session of the General Conference. He could not in his heart find any regard for such persons. The action of these men was barefaced and preposterous, and he hated it.

Mr. Clemm asked if the signers of this paper were members of this Conference?—as Mr. Collins had spoken of them as if they were not.

The Bishop declined to give a decision—conceiving it an irrelevant point.

Mr. Gilbert, one of the signers, asked Mr. Collins to indicate the person whose name was signed to that paper, who had refused to attend Quarterly Conferences, under the circumstances which he had related.

Mr. Collins replied that some person had refused; but he didn't recollect whether it was one of the signers or not.

The paper was then read.

Mr. Sewall moved that it be referred to a committee of seven, to be appointed by the Chair.

Mr. Blake asked if this committee was to report as to whether the paper should be placed on the journal as the signers desired, or whether a general report upon the question agitated last year would be made. He desired to present no "apple of discord;" the object of the signers was simply what he had before stated it to be.

Mr. Gilbert was sorry that his name was on that paper, if it was to be the origin of a discussion upon the "new chapter." A year ago, in order to secure peace within the bounds of the Conference, he had felt called upon to pursue a course differing from that of the majority of members now present.

Mr. Sewall interrupted him to say that there was a good deal to be said on both sides of this question if it was brought up. So he thought the committee should report before any discussion took place. Members would then be better prepared.

Mr. Gilbert resumed, saying that he would be the last man to agitate this question; but he was one who could not submit to such attempts as had been made to expose every man's character who had seen fit to pursue a certain course as consistent with the interests of the Church and conducive to peace.

Mr. Myers would simply remark that if the action of these men one year ago had cut them off from the Conference, there was no necessity for the paper. If not, refer the matter to the Committee, and await their report.

Mr. Phelps said that the question which some feared would arise, would have to come up. It could not be kept out.

Mr. Chapman said the paper was different in its character from what he had anticipated, but still he was opposed to the entrance of that paper on the journal. He thought the admission of it would recognize the validity of the action of the majority last year.

The vote upon the appointment of the Committee was thirty-four—a majority. The paper was then referred by a similar vote.

Mr. Morgan was sorry that either side had been brought out; but as it was to be done he would offer the following paper, and request its reference to the same committee, which was agreed to.

WHEREAS, Attempts have been made to sever the bonds of union between this Conference and the Methodist Episcopal Church, by declaring it positively, unconditionally, entirely separate and independent of the General Conference, and no longer under its jurisdiction; and by declaring, furthermore, that it will not submit to the oversight of the Bishops unless they disavow their allegiance to the General Conference, which declarations, if true, would destroy the integrity of this Conference, and deprive its members and the people committed to their pastoral oversight, of all rights and privileges in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

And Whereas, It is eminently proper that we should firmly and in the spirit of Christian kindness and Methodistic loyalty, correct the impressions that have thus been made upon the public mind; therefore,

RESOLVED, By the Baltimore Annual Conference, in convention assembled, that we do hereby unequivocally assert our loyalty to the Government and institutions of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and solemnly protest against all unauthorized or revolutionary proceedings that tend directly or indirectly to cut us off from its communion and membership.

Resolved, That we hail with peculiar and undisguised satisfaction at this time, the presence of our much esteemed Bishop Janes as the presiding officer of our Conference; and we as obedient sons in the Gospel we will cheerfully unite with him in maintaining a strict administration of the discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church during the session of the Conference; and in the respective fields of labor to which he may assign us, we will use our influence, personal and ministerial, to promote union and harmony in the membership of the Church.

N. J. B. MORGAN.

As some of the Quarterly Conferences have failed to make estimates for superannuated preachers and families, Mr. Morgan moved the appointment of a committee of three to make estimates, which should be presented to the Board of Stewards. Messrs. Morgan, Prettyman and Hirst were appointed.

H. W. Drakeley was appointed to fill a vacancy on the part of the laity in the Board of Stewards for Baltimore District, and Rev. T. H. W. Monroe on the part of the clergy.

Rev. Mr. Lemmon was appointed to fill a similar vacancy on the part of the clergy in the Potomac District; and Mr. Dixon on the part of the laity.

In consequence of the absence of all the committee on the first year's study of candidates for the ministry, Rev. Messrs. I. Lanahan, J. Thrush and H. C. Westwood were appointed in their stead.

For the same reasons, Rev. Messrs. M. Gehsen, W. H. Chapman and W. H. Loney were appointed a committee to examine candidates in their their year's studies.

The Committees on the second and fourth year's studies were not ready to report.

The Bishop then asked "who are the superannuated or worn out preachers." Upon the announcement of the name of Rev. Joshua Wells; recently deceased, Rev. W. Hamilton, at the suggestion of Mr. Sewall, made a few remarks in relation to the deceased. He was 98 years of age, had been 73 years in the ministry.

Revs. J. Myers, D. Barry, and Jas. Sewell, were continued at their request.

Rev. Mr. Green was changed to an effective relation. Also Rev. Isaac Collins.

A letter was received from Rev. Alfred Griffith, and he was continued.

A letter in relation to the case of Rev. Thomas J. Harding was also received, and his case referred to the Steward.

The Bishop announced that he had just received a telegraphic despatch from New York announcing the safe arrival in India of three Missionaries of the Church, Revs. Brown, Thomas and Hicks.

The following Committees were appointed:

On Conference Journals—W. B. Edwards, Thos. Sewall and J. Lanahan.

On Nominations—N. J. B. Morgan, William Hamilton and J. A. McCauley.

The Conference then adjourned with the singing of the Doxology, and prayer by Rev. T. H. W. Monroe.

[Reported for the Maryland News Sheet.]

MEETING OF THE EAST BALTIMORE ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

FIRST DAY.

The annual session of the East Baltimore Conference commenced yesterday morning in the Monument Street Methodist Episcopal Church, Bishop Edward R. Ames, presiding. The Conference was opened with the usual religious services, in which the Rev. John Miller assisted.

Rev. J. H. C. Bush, who was Secretary of the last Conference, was called to act in the same capacity temporarily. The roll was called, and the members, with a few exceptions, answered to their names.

Rev. H. Slicer moved that Mr. Dosh be declared the permanent Secretary of the Conference. Carried.

Rev. James H. Brown offered a resolution fixing the hour for the convening of the Conference at nine o'clock, A. M., and the hour of adjournment at half-past twelve P. M. Carried.

The rules of order of the last Conference were then adopted.

Rev. J. H. Dashiell attempted to amend the by-laws, and the introduction of this resolution was the occasion of a manifestation of feeling which evinced a predetermination to hurry some matter through the body. The effort to amend failed, when Dr. A. A. Reese stepped forward in front of the altar and offered the following preamble and resolutions:

WHEREAS, since the last annual meeting of this body, a fearful rebellion has broken out in several of the Southern States, threatening to overthrow the most benign government the world ever saw; and whereas, the Federal authority has been compelled to use force of arms to suppress said rebellion, and to maintain its own supremacy, and whereas, patriotism

taught in the Word of God, and enjoined upon us by the 23d article of the Discipline, therefore,

RESOLVED, 1st, That, as a body of Christian ministers, in Conference assembled, we hereby express our abhorrence of the rebellion now existing within our borders as being treasonable in its origin, sanguinary in its progress, and as tending to retard the advancement of civil liberty throughout the world.

Resolved, 2d, That we hereby approve and endorse the present wise and patriotic Administration of the Federal Government in its efforts to defeat the plans and to overcome the armed resistance of the so-called Confederate States, with a view to maintaining and perpetuating the unity of this Government.

Resolved, 3d, That in our patriotic efforts in the past or present to sustain the Government of our country in this, her hour of trial, we are not justly liable to the charge of political teaching; and in the inculcation of loyal principles and patriotic deeds, we recognize the pulpit and the press as legitimate instrumentalities.

Resolved, 4th, That a copy of the foregoing preambles and resolutions be transmitted to the President of the United States, signed by the President, countersigned by the Secretary of the Conference.

As soon as the Secretary had finished reading the document, Mr. Reese said that he thought it was the duty of the Conference to adopt the resolutions. It was mooted abroad that there were traitors in the body—men who sympathized with the Southern rebellion; and every member of the Conference should now show his hand. He reverted to the scenes of April, 1861, and said that the action of the 19th of that month was not a true exhibition of the sentiment of the people of this city. Bad men were controlling spirits and swayed the mob. There was at that time in this community a nest of men with treason in their hearts and blood upon their arms, and the deeds of violence committed on that day had engendered abroad the bitterest feelings of hatred and revenge against the city, and if the fury of the nation had been allowed to expend itself, there would have been no city here in which the Conference could assemble. There were men in the Conference who were in sympathy with treason, and who carry evidence of treason with them.

Was he to be told by a minister of the Gospel that it made his Maryland blood boil to see Northern soldiers marching through the city? He did not intend to mince matters. If there were traitors in the body, he wanted them pointed out. Plenty of excuses would be advanced to prevent the passage of the resolutions. It would be urged that it would prejudice the religious cause and interfere with the advancement of the Church. This he did not believe. He loved the Conference, but was determined that this issue of loyalty should be met. The passage of the resolutions would be opposed on the ground that it would prejudice the action of the Baltimore Conference. He loved the Baltimore Conference, but the condition of that body was a sufficient commentary on this question; and it was by her trimming that she brought herself to her present condition. For the sake of saving her territory in Virginia, she now lies prostrate and bleeding. He would send the resolutions through the land as an evidence that the Conference was loyal. If he had the power, he would mark them on the stars—print them on every leaf and blade of grass—press them indelibly on every rock and stone.

Here a number of persons endeavored to get the floor, when the Bishop recognized Mr. Geyer. He said that he was opposed to the passage of the resolutions on the moment. They were crude, and the phraseology could be changed to advantage. He moved their reference to a committee of five, to be appointed by the Bishop.

Mr. Torrents moved to lay the motion of reference on the table.

Here a number of the members endeavored to gain the attention of the Bishop, but he decided the motion not debatable, and the question was put and the motion carried.

J. H. Dashiells then offered the following as a substitute:

WHEREAS, Amidst the excitement of the present times, a body of Christians so sensitive to popular influences as the Methodist Episcopal Church is liable to merge the special work of Christians, in the less though included one of citizens;

And whereas, The particular work of a body of Christian ministers is to preach Christ, and maintain discipline, as well over the fold of the one shepherd, as over its own number;

And whereas, The good repute of Christian ministers, both for obedience to constituted civil authorities and blameless purity of moral character, is essential to the order and decency of the Church of God;

And whereas, The Methodist Episcopal Church has, in its Doctrine and Discipline, drawn, as we believe, from the Word of God, "the only and the sufficient rule both of our faith and practice;" set up a pure and lofty standard of Christianity, morality—included in which is the admitted precept of the Apostle Paul, that the "powers that be are ordained of God," by submission and obedience to the established Government under which we live, which is particularly set force and explained in Article XXII of Religion of our Book of Discipline and the notes appended thereto;

And whereas, The framers of our admirable constitutional Government did wisely keep apart Church and State, and establish the principle that ecclesiastical legislation is not needed for the State, nor civil enactment—except for the security of person and property, which is a political right—for the Church; therefore,

RESOLVED, That we do not deem it necessary to take any Conference action at this time upon questions of citizenship beyond affirming that agreeably to the afore mentioned Article of Religion, we hold ourselves amenable to the civil authorities for our civil relations and conduct

Resolved, That if, however, there are rumors of unchristian principles or unchristian conduct against any member of this body in respect to the existing unhappy state of things in this country, we respectfully and firmly request that the same be reduced to form and proof, so that vague suspicions may not invest our body as a whole, nor injure by unfavorable charges the good fame of any member thereof.

Resolved, That we will not allow political questions to separate us as brethren, and we pledge ourselves as members of Christ to abstain from political controversy, to avoid partnership in Church and State, and to confine ourselves exclusively to the one work of spreading Scriptural holiness over these lands.

Resolved, That we most earnestly and affectionately advise the members of our respective charges in this Annual Conference to cultivate, in these times of excitement, conciliation and forbearance, and by all means to hold the introduction into our churches of controversy of political questions.

The Secretary had scarcely finished reading the paper when R. D. Chambers moved to lay it on the table.

There was another struggle for the floor, and earnest protestations against the application of the gag rule. Some minutes were spent in confusion, when the Bishop put the question on a show of hands, and the motion to lay on the table was carried by a large majority.

A call was here made for the previous question, but on the solicitation of several ministers, the mover withdrew it, and John Miller took the floor. He plead with the Conference to act cautiously in the matter. There was plenty of time, and no bad effects could result from a reference to a committee, who, in their judgment, could present a report drawn up with care. He, therefore, moved the reference.

The Bishop did not entertain the motion, as a similar one had been made and lost.

Rev. Henry Slicer said that the movement deserved to secure the disapprobation of the Conference. It was a movement, the success of which would engender strife and seriously militate against the interests of the Church. It was unwise and imprudent and could but result in mischief. This country has been rent asunder by the Abolitionists of the North and the Fire-eaters of the South, and he was sorry to acknowledge that Church had much to do in creating the schism. He had, from his first connection with the ministry, invariably opposed the introduction and consideration of matters extraneous in their character. The resolutions were such, and it was no part of the business of the Conference to consider the subject. It was not the habit of this Conference to deal with subjects other than purely ecclesiastical.

Mr. Gheir asked if other Conferences had not considered such subjects.

Mr. Slicer replied and requested the gentleman to look at the results which had flowed from the actions. The periodicals of the church had also entered largely into the same subjects, and the consequence was that to-day the *Northern Advocate* and the *Christian Advocate* were both opposing the Government in the policy which it has adopted in putting down the rebellion. There was a time when the gentleman who introduced the resolutions did not go so far as at present. On the day set apart by President Lincoln for fasting and prayer, the gentleman's colleague preached a sermon in defence of the Government, of which he (Mr. Reese) did not approve.

Dr. Reese—I approved of the matter of the sermon but thought it inopportune, under the circumstances, as I intended to invite mourners forward that night.

Mr. Slicer—Yes, and you dismissed the congregation without inviting the mourners forward?

Dr. Barnes (Dr. Reese's colleague) made an explanation stating that Dr. Reese approved the matter of the sermon, but considered it unfortunate that it was delivered on that night.

Mr. Slicer said that he was loyal to the Church and loyal to the Constitution and laws of the country. He wanted to see harmony prevail in the Church, and to such end his efforts had always been directed. There are some, however, who two year ago were busy in creating schism in the Baltimore Conference, who were now high in place, secured by riding this hobby of fealty, and there were some in the Conference who were on the same hobby to-day.

Rev. Messrs. Pattison, Murphy and Manship, of the Philadelphia Conference, were introduced and took seats within the bar.

Mr. Torrents made a speech in favor of the resolutions and was followed by Mr. J. H. Dashiells, who made a strong argument against them on the ground of inexpediency, in which he reverted the fact that some of the ministry had threatened that it would be worth any pastor's head to oppose them.

Speeches were made by several others, when the previous question was called and the resolutions accepted by the following vote:

YEAS—Messrs. Allen, Anderson, Akers, Amos, Brown, Brittain, Brashear, Berkstresser, Butler, Buckingham, Barnhart, Barnitz, House, Black, Barnes, Bowman, Bender, Buckley, Buhrman, Chenoweth, Comer, Chambers, Cooper, Castleman, Coleman, Carns, Cleaver, Crever, Coburn, Creighton, Calden, Craig, Case, Dill, Dosh, Demoyer, Downes, Dunlop, Drum, Dixon, Eyer, Furlong, Forrest, France, Foster, Gere, J. Guyer, Gamble, Graham, A. E. Gibson, A. W. Gibson, Gotwalt, A. W. Gayer, G. T. Gray, Guss, E. J. Gray, Greely, Howe, D Hartman, Haughawout, Hamlin, Harden, A. Hartman, Harrow, Hinkle, Hunter, Hicks, Hartsock, Boyd, Hagey, Houck, Hasluip, John Kalbfus, Kirby, Kelley, Keith, Kester, King, Lee, Lloyd, Miller, J. Munroe, W. R. Mills, Moorhead, Montgomery, McMurray, Meminger, McKee, D. S. Monroe, Mendenhall, Mann, McCord, J. A. Munroe, Ockerman, S. W. Price, Porter, J. A. Price, Polsgrove, A. A. Reese, Ross, T. M. Reese, J. Meik Reiley, Rothrock, A. R. Reiley, Riddle, Ruck, A. Smith, Sanks, Stine, Switzer, Shaffer, Sherlock, Snyder, Sears, Snively, B. F. Stevens, Stewalter, Shannon, W. H. Stevens, Sheffer, Savidge, J. C. Stevens, W. H. W. T. Wilson, R. E. Wilson and J. T. Wilson—132.

Nays—Messrs. Wesley Brown, Beale, Dashiell, Hodges, Hall, Keppler, Kinsey, McContney, Norris, Parrish, P. B. Reese, Sargent, Stevenson, Spangler and Wiley—15.

All those who voted in the negative did so on grounds other than that of disloyalty, and so every affirmative vote was cast by some of those voting in the protested against the forced manner in which they were rushed through, yet still sanctioned the spirit of the resolutions.

When the name of Mr. Slicer was called he declined to vote; when several of the members desired the Bishop to compel him to vote. An article in the by-laws was read requiring every minister within the bar to vote, unless specially excused by the Conference. Notwithstanding this, Mr. Slicer claimed his right to decline; and did not vote.

Without the transaction of any further business, the body adjourned until this morning at nine o'clock.

THIRTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS----FIRST SESSION.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, March 5.—Mr. SUMNER, of Massachusetts, presented a petition from merchants of Baltimore relative to mail facilities, via the Isthmus of Panama, to and from the coast of South America. This is similar to a memorial from another quarter presented yesterday.

A petition was presented from citizens of Wisconsin in favor of a general bankrupt law.

Mr. HALE, of New Hampshire, reported from the Committee on Naval Affairs adversely to the memorial of Lieutenant Woolsey, United States Navy, to be returned to the active list, and the matter was indefinitely postponed.

Mr. SHERMAN, from the same committee, reported a bill to regulate the pay of officers in the Navy.

Mr. DAVIS, of Kentucky, introduced a bill for the payment of volunteers in Kentucky from the time of their enlistment, and of Home Guards there during the time of actual service. Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. SUMNER introduced the bill of which he had given notice, for carrying the mails from the United States to foreign ports. [It is with the view of providing for the case presented by the Baltimore and other merchants, relative to the South American coast mails.]

Mr. LATHAM, of California, explained that the mails to California overland had been interrupted by the late unprecedented floods, and the steamship companies between New York and Aspinwall, and between Panama and San Francisco, had refused to carry letters, even under Government envelope. He denounced this as a great outrage, as the companies had received over $10,000,000 heretofore for mail transportation from this Government. But now, in this time of need, because there is no contract, they refuse service. He thought Congress ought to pass a law not to allow the vessels to clear from our ports. The bill was ordered to be printed, and referred to the Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads.

On motion of Mr. FOOTE, of Vermont, the joint resolution for the transfer of the superintendency of the work on the capitol extension from the War Department to the Department of the Interior was taken up.

Mr. F. explained that on the accession of Jefferson Davis to the War Department the work was taken from the Interior Department and transferred to the War, and subsequently under Davis, and John B. Floyd, his successor, some six or seven millions of dollars were expended. But the duties in this connection more properly belong to the Interior Department, and the change is especially desirable now, in time of war, when there is such a pressure of greater and higher objects upon the War Department. It was necessary something should be done to save the building, in its unfinished state, from material injury—the roofs and upper walls being injured by every storm. The unexpended appropriations were sufficient for the purpose, and if not applied, the damage that would result would be equal to the cost of completing the building.

Mr. FESSENDEN, of Maine, said there was a standing appropriation for the capitol extension, and which, as General Meigs, the late Superintendent, thought it best to leave unexpended while we needed so much for the war, he was indisposed to transfer it to be expended by another department.

Mr. HALE denounced the policy of military superintendence, which had produced a vast abortion in the capitol building, with neither the air or light of heaven. There was no ventilation. The air which they breathed was pumped up from the cellar by a steam engine. Results were decidedly in favor of civil superintendence.

The morning hour here expired.

The Confiscation bill, as the unfinished business came up, and Mr. MORRILL, of Maine, took the floor. He admitted the bill did not belong to the ordinary class of legislation. It were better that that man had not been born who would not meet this crisis; and he held that the Constitution must not be so construed as to hamper a great purpose. Clemency on the lips of a Senator in such a case was cruelty to the country. Whatever was necessary was expedient in this great crisis. This was the spirit, he said, in which he approached this subject. Mr. M. proceeded to argue that the property and slaves of the South formed the basis of the rebellion, and therefore it became the duty of the Government to possess that which belonged to those who had conspired and rebelled against it. In regard to the constitutional question, he referred to the action of President Buchanan, who held that the Government had power to resort to conciliatory measures, but no power to use force. He regarded this as a disgraceful subterfuge, an evasion of responsibility, of which Mr. B. had probably repented before this. The Government had the power to protect its own existence, and he cited the authority for raising armies, etc., for that purpose, and held that all laws, State and municipal, were subordinate to Congress as the war-making power, in time of internal as well as external struggles. The right was to destroy and confiscate, with the view of terminating a war; and on this point he cited the United States Supreme Court's decision in a case during the last war with Great Britain, relative to the property of a citizen. Condemnation of the estate of a domestic enemy is acknowledged by nations, and the protection of the loyal citizen demands it, as well as his indemnification against losses. He controverted the ground taken by Mr. Carlile, of Virginia, that slavery had higher protection under the Constitution than other property, as leading to the conclusion that slavery and the Constitution are one and the same thing; and if slavery falls, the Constitution falls.

This was but converting the noble declaration of "Liberty and Union" into "Slavery and Union," &c. He repudiated the claim of the South to be "let alone," with Jefferson Davis founding an Empire, Stephens laying deep the foundations of a Government based on slavery and secession, breaking up a Republican Government, and establishing a despotism in our midst. All these showed we had the old struggle of power and privilege, in attempted encroachments on the people. He would inflict upon the leaders the penalty of their crime; but to the people, deceived and misled, on their return to allegiance, give amnesty, equality, and all just rights—and thus give security to popular government, and establish commonality in the slave States.

The subject was then laid over.

On motion of Mr. GRIMES, the bill for the codification and revision of the laws of the District of Columbia was taken up and passed.

On motion of Mr. WILSON, of Massachusetts, the bill to define the pay and emoluments of certain officers of the army was taken up, and amendments discussed at length, principally in reference to the pay of post and army chaplains. The salary was finally made $100 per month, with an additional ration when serving in the field. This reduces the army chaplain pay, which was about $1,000. The bill was laid aside.

Mr. DIXON, of Connecticut, introduced a joint resolution authorizing the Secretary of the Navy to make equitable settlements with contractors who are under a penalty for failing to construct machinery by the day fixed in the several contracts. Referred to the Naval Committee.

Mr. SHERMAN, from the Committee of Conference on the joint resolution for the payment of the awards of the military commission in the Department of the West, (at St. Louis,) reported that the Senate recede from its limitation as to the character of the awards, which was concurred in.

The VICE PRESIDENT laid before the Senate a translation of the letter of instructions from the King of Italy to his Minister to this Government, relative to the Trent affair.

Also, a communication, sent in by the Secretary of State, in regard to the enlargement of the field for the cultivation of cotton. This is from our Minister at Lisbon, detailing steps taken by the King of Portugal in that regard.

The Senate went into Executive session, and subsequently adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The SPEAKER laid before the House a communication from the Secretary of War, in answer to a resolution, transmitting copies of correspondence with General Fremont, in relation to the purchase of arms in the Department of the West. Laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

Mr. DUELL, of New York, introduced a bill to increase the number of cadets at the Military Academy at West Point, and for other purposes. Referred.

Mr. OLIN, of New York, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported back the joint resolution for the relief of W. J. Nagle. Passed.

Mr. CRITTENDEN, of Kentucky, from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, reported back a bill making an appropriation to enable the President to fulfill the stipulation of the treaty with Hanover. Passed.

Mr. THAYNE, of Massachusetts, from the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, reported a joint resolution for the removal of the army bakery from the Capitol.

Mr. THAYER thought the Capitol of the Republic was not a fit place for an army bakery.

Mr. LOVEJOY, of Illinois, would inquire if some contractor wanted