

LATEST NEWS BY EXPRESS.

MEETING OF CONGRESS.

By the Pony, which arrived on Monday at 1:30 p.m., a communication was received by President Young, from Hon. W. H. Hooper, accompanied by the President's Message, and a few newspaper items relative to the proceedings of Congress during the first two days of the Session, from which, (having been courteously favored with the perusal) it appears that on the calling of the roll, on the meeting of the House, Monday, December 3d, one hundred and ninety-six members answered to their names, and that most of the Senators were also in their seats at roll call in the Senate.

The message was sent to both Houses on Tuesday the 4th, at about 12 o'clock, and was received and read with the utmost attention. In the Senate, immediately on its reading, Mr. Clingman of North Carolina rose and said, that though the message, was in general, highly patriotic, he felt constrained to say that it fell short of what he deemed the occasion demanded. In his speech, which was somewhat lengthy, he referred to the election of a sectional President; to aggressions upon his section of the Union, and to the nullification of the fugitive slave law by several northern States. He was quite severe on the President for some of his allusions, and said that in his opinion, several of the States would secede, and that within sixty days. He thought the best way was to divide the public property and share the public debt in a peaceable way, which he had no doubt could be done; though he deprecated secession if it could be avoided.

Mr. Crittenden of Kentucky said, he had hoped that the members of the House would come together fully impressed with the great dangers overhanging the country, and the perils to which the Union was exposed, and expressed a hope that the Union would still be preserved.

Mr. Clingman replied and said: "North Carolina was the last State but one to come into the Union, and had always been devoted in her attachment to it; but when the Union fails of the purposes for which it was established, she is willing to bid it good bye."

It was resolved by unanimous consent that the usual number of Messages be published and the Senate adjourned.

After the reading of the message in the House, Mr. Sherman of Ohio, moved that it be referred to the Committee of the whole on the State of the Union, and that it be printed, and moved the previous question. He subsequently withdrew his demand for the previous question, and Mr. Boteler, of Virginia, offered an amendment, referring the message, or so much of it as related to the present perilous condition of the country, to a special committee of one from each State which finally prevailed by a vote of 145 to 33.

Before the result was announced, Mr. Singleton, of Mississippi, said he declined to vote on the question, because the legislature of his State had called a convention to consider this matter; and he believed that the people should determine it for themselves.

Mr. Jones, of Georgia, said his reason for not voting was his State had called a convention to decide on the subject of Federal relations, and did not wish Congress to decide for them.

Mr. Hawkins, of Florida, remarked that his State, too, had called a convention to take into consideration this very question. The people of Florida have decided to settle in convention the time, manner, and mode of redress. It was for them to settle it, and they will settle it in their sovereign capacity. It was not for him, therefore, to take any action upon the subject. He might as well say just here he was opposed to all and every compromise—now and in time past. Mr. Clopton gave as a reason why he did not vote that his State (Alabama) had also called a convention.

Mr. Gartrell, of Georgia, did not rise to debate, but merely to state that, as that State had called a convention, he declined to vote on the pending proposition.

Mr. Miles, of South Carolina, said the delegation from that State took no interest in this question. She was out of the Confederacy, saving the mere form.

Mr. Pugh, of Alabama, said, as his State would go out of the Union, together with South Carolina, on the tenth of January, he would follow the example of the gentleman

from South Carolina, [Mr. Miles.] and not vote.

After the result was announced, Mr. Boteler said he knew it was the universal custom of the House for the Speaker to appoint the mover of a resolution for a special committee chairman. He wished it to be understood that he could not serve on the committee. He had no idea of it.

At about three o'clock the House adjourned.

Legislative Proceedings.

The Legislative Assembly since getting fully organized and ready for business has been progressing briskly, though the wheels of legislation cannot be said to be fairly in motion yet; but there seems to be an ardent desire on the part of most, if not all, of the members to do something during the session that may be of special benefit to their constituents severally, and that will at the same time be promotive of the general interests of the Territory; and unquestionably, as we predicted, the session will be one of business, and many important matters will be brought forward for consideration and action.

In the Council the Standing Committees appointed on Dec. 11, were,

On Judiciary—A. Carrington, Geo. A. Smith, James Ferguson and L. E. Harrington.

On Claims and Appropriations—Lorin Farr, John A. Ray and John T. Hardy.

On Petitions and Memorials—George A. Smith, F. D. Richards, Lorenzo Snow and John A. Ray.

On Revenue—Wilford Woodruff, L. E. Harrington, Wm. R. Smith and Edwin Whiting.

On Elections—L. E. Harrington, Edwin Whiting and F. D. Richards.

On Counties—F. D. Richards, John T. Hardy and Wm. R. Smith.

On Roads, Bridges, Ferries and Kanyons—L. Snow, Edwin Whiting, L. E. Harrington and George A. Smith.

On Education—James Ferguson, John A. Ray, Edwin Whiting and A. Carrington.

On Engrossing—John A. Ray, James Ferguson and Lorenzo Snow.

On Printing—Lorin Farr and Lorenzo Snow.

On Agriculture, Trade and Manufactures—W. Woodruff, L. E. Harrington, Wm. R. Smith and George A. Smith.

On Militia—James Ferguson and F. D. Richards.

On Incorporations—Lorin Farr, John T. Hardy and John A. Ray.

On Library—Wilford Woodruff and John T. Hardy.

On Public Domain and School Lands—Lorenzo Snow, Wm. R. Smith, John A. Ray and A. Carrington.

On Penitentiary—Lorin Farr, W. Woodruff and John A. Ray.

In the House the Standing Committees announced, on the same day, were,

On Judiciary—Hosea Stout, Isaac Bullock, Chauncey W. West.

On Claims and Appropriations—Hiram B. Clawson, Edwin D. Woolley, Albert P. Rockwood.

On Petitions and Memorials—Charles W. Wandell, John V. Long, Albert K. Thurber.

On Revenue—Chauncey W. West, Hosea Stout, John M. Moody, Evan M. Greene.

On Elections—Ezra T. Benson, Silas S. Smith, W. F. Anderson.

On Counties—Silas S. Smith, John C. James, Horton D. Haight.

On Roads, Bridges, Ferries and Kanyons—James McGaw, Horton D. Haight, William P. Nebeker.

On Education—Charles W. Wandell, Evan M. Greene, Rosel Hyde, Isaac Bullock.

On Engrossing—John V. Long, John C. James, Charles W. Wandell, Rosel Hyde.

On Printing—Albert K. Thurber, John M. Moody, James McGaw.

On Agriculture, Trade and Manufactures—Edwin D. Woolley, Ezra T. Benson, William Crosby, George Peacock.

On Militia—Albert P. Rockwood, George Peacock, Hiram B. Clawson, Jacob G. Bigler.

On Incorporations—John C. James, Jacob G. Bigler, Lorenzo H. Hatch.

On Library—George Peacock, Daniel Thompson, Lorenzo H. Hatch, William P. Nebeker.

On Public Domain and School Lands—Chauncey W. West, Albert K. Thurber, William Crosby.

On Penitentiary—Albert P. Rockwood, Edwin D. Woolley, Washington F. Anderson.

Memorials to Congress have passed both Houses for a weekly mail from Provo to Og-

den, via Timpanogas and Weber river settlements; for a mail service in Tooele and Shamp counties; for the establishment of daily mail service from Omaha, Nebraska Territory, via Great Salt Lake City, to Sacramento, California; for a semi-weekly mail from Fillmore to Los Angeles, California; and for a railroad from the Missouri river to California by the central route.

A special committee has been appointed to revise and compile the laws and memorials enacted and adopted by previous Legislative Assemblies, with instructions to report at as early a day as practicable.

A bill for the assignment of the federal judges has passed the Council and is pending in the House. Several other bills have been presented and referred or laid on the table to come in their order. A bill entitled "An act concerning Justices of the Peace" was presented yesterday, in the House, and ordered to be printed. It is a lengthy document, and will call forth much discussion when it comes up for consideration. We confidently believe that more work has been done than before for years during the first eight days of any session.

PROGRESS OF SECESSION.

The secession cauldron was, up to November 24th, boiling away remittently, at times foamingly, but there were no indications that the spirit of dissolution had reached the culminating point, though there was evidently a strong conservative feeling existing in many of the Southern States even in some places where hot-headed secession declaimers were apparently carrying all before them at the public assemblages that were being held to fan the flame and keep the ball in motion, lest a re-action in sentiment should take place. In South Carolina, no symptom of backing down was manifested; secession there was paramount to every other consideration, and it was very generally believed that the people would carry out their intentions of going out of the Union and setting up for themselves, despite of every obstacle that might be interposed. They opposed a Southern convention, as fears were entertained that a majority of the Slaveholding States would be opposed to immediate action, and they were determined, according to reports, to complete their secession before the inauguration of Mr. Lincoln; and the people had taken the matter almost entirely out of the hands of the politicians.

It was asserted, in Charleston, at a demonstration held on the 17th of November, that within thirty days the State could place two hundred thousand armed men in the field, a number nearly equal to the entire white population of the State in 1850, including women and children; but assurances were given that thousands would flock to her standard from Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Texas, Florida and other States, which might make up the number.

The first liberty pole, said to have been raised in Charleston, was inaugurated at the demonstration on the 17th. The Palmetto flag was hoisted with much ceremony. The motto of the flag is "Animis opibusque Parati." Fifteen guns—one for each Slave State—were fired and many speeches were made.

The law requiring people from the North, arriving at Charleston, to go before a magistrate and state their business, was soon to be put in force. The nullification flag of 1832 was floating over the citadel.

A subscription was on foot for a service of plate for Hon. A. G. Magrath, who resigned his office of Judge of the United States District Court of South Carolina, on hearing of the election of Lincoln. Senators Hammond and Chestnut were mentioned in connection with the head of the government after secession.

It was reported that Charleston, immediately after secession shall be proclaimed, will be declared a free port for European goods. Secret agents are said to be now in Europe, making arrangements to that effect.

The Florida Legislature, at its last session, passed a resolution promising decided action in case of the election of a republican President, requiring the governor to convene the Legislature. The Jacksonville Standard and other papers urge compliance on the part of the governor.

On the 19th, Hon. John Forsyth issued an order at Mobile, for the enrollment of 8,000 men, to be placed under his command for the defense of Alabama, which created serious thoughts at Washington, owing to the fact of Forsyth's known conservatism heretofore.

At several large meetings held in different counties of Georgia, resolutions of a conservative order were passed, and the action of politicians and demagogues in that State, in stirring up sectional strife, and creating distrust to promote dissolution for the purpose of obtaining power and office, was strongly condemned.

A majority of the committee in that State had held meetings in favor of secession; many however were strongly conservative, while some were in favor of retaliatory legislation, but all favored a State convention and all opposed coercion of the seceding States.

A meeting in Bryan county declared that no Northern fisherman or hunter should thereafter operate in their section, and that those at present hunting and fishing in that vicinity be notified to leave.

The conservative sentiment of the South appeared to be disgusted at the unceasing sectional wrangles, and considered that the Northern States should promptly convene their legislatures and repeal their unfriendly laws, and urged a convention of all the States to make a prompt and united effort to preserve the Union and country from bankruptcy, anarchy and ruin.

At Wilmington, N. C., there was a large meeting held on the evening of Nov. 19th, at which strong secession resolutions were unanimously adopted. Other meetings of a similar character were reported in other parts of that State, and it was said that there was but one party existing in the old North State.

It was asserted that the Governor of Louisiana would pursue a course tending to unite the people, in his message to the Legislature. Some of the journals in New Orleans announced that Louisiana and Texas were ripe for secession.

One hundred and eighty steerage passengers from the North were sent back from Charleston on the 21st, and more would follow, as reported. The South Carolinians seemed determined to carry out the ancient law, and it was not to be doubted that any but cabin passengers to Charleston might as well stay at home.

The Richmond Enquirer of Nov. 21st, publishes an important letter from Governor Letcher in reply to that of John S. Busbin, of Pennsylvania, who ridiculed secession and stated two hundred Virginians had tendered him their command in the event of disunion. The governor in his reply administered a severe rebuke to the Northern nullification States and showed that dereliction on the part of the North is the prime cause of the present dangerous trouble. He advises the people of the North to correct public sentiment at home, and discharge their constitutional obligations with strict fidelity.

He then indicates his determination to defend the State of Virginia, and stand as mediator—an armed mediator, if necessary—between the Southern States and their assailants, come from what quarter they may.

At latest dates, the reverend divines in Charleston had commenced preaching secession sermons; politics heretofore have been discarded by the clergy in that State.

The convention of South Carolina, unless something transpired to prevent, met on Monday last; and unquestionably, if it has not already declared that State out of the Confederacy, it will do so before it adjourns. What may follow will be made manifest as time transpires and circumstances will permit.

Latest from Mexico.

Advices from Vera Cruz to the 26th of October had been received, which stated that Guadalajara was taken on the 15th. The assault was made at six different points, in columns of 1,500 men each, and the works were taken at the point of the bayonet. Official accounts received by Miramon state that General Castillo and 72 officers who were captured by Ortega, were shot in cold blood. A mine had been sprung upon the liberals in their assault on the city, and 500 of them killed, which so enraged Ortega that he commanded this butchery. General Marquez, at the head of some 4,000 to 5,000 reactionary troops had occupied Queretaro.

Four hundred thousand dollars of the seized Mexican conducta, arrived at Tampico, on the 1st of Nov., in charge of the British consul. The American consul claimed that the money saved belonged to American citizens, while the other consignees claimed a pro rata portion.