

The Sun



BALTIMORE, WEDNESDAY MORNING, MARCH 24.

TELEGRAPH NEWS.

FROM WASHINGTON.

[Special Dispatch to the Baltimore Sun]
Adoption of the Louisiana Resolution by the Senate—How the Independents Voted—The North Carolina Convention—Misrepresentations Corrected, &c.

THE PRESIDENT APPROVED.
WASHINGTON, March 23.—The Senate this afternoon passed the caucus resolution approving the action of the President in regard to Louisiana. Mr. Wallace, of Pennsylvania, made his debut, and proved himself a fluent and able speaker. The new Senator from Florida, Mr. Jones, who is accounted among the ablest men at the bar in that State, also made his maiden speech. Both of these Senators, as was to be expected, were not remiss in disapproval of the unwarranted interference in the affairs of Louisiana by the federal power. When the time for voting came Governor Whyte modified the amendment presented by him yesterday so as to avoid all personal reference to the President, and merely to express disapproval of the use of the military in enforcing the decrees of Judge Durell in 1872, and in interfering in the organization of the Legislature in January last. His proposition, however, failed to receive the vote of a single independent republican. Ex-President Johnson voted for it, but Messrs. Christianity, Booth, and Hamilton of Texas voted against it. Mr. Thurman then offered three separate provisos acquitting the resolution of any meaning which could be construed to infer the recognition de jure of any department of the Kellogg government.

These were all voted down by the solid republican vote, although Mr. Hamilton voted with the democrats. Mr. Ferry, of Connecticut, who would undoubtedly have voted with the democrats, was not present. On the caucus resolution Mr. Booth voted with the democrats in the negative, and Mr. Hamilton, although in his seat, declined to vote. Mr. Christianity took the occasion in voting for the caucus resolution to give his construction of it, which makes it rather a harmless proposition. That his republican colleagues do not look upon it as he does is evident from their refusal to accept the limitations to its meaning proposed by Mr. Thurman. As the President has now received the subservient indorsement of both houses of Congress for the course which he has seen proper to take in Louisiana, the people of the country can no longer doubt that the republican party through its accredited organs has now shouldered the whole responsibility and is willing to go before them on the issues involved.

THE NORTH CAROLINA CONVENTION.
Partisan statements have been and are now circulating freely throughout the country in reference to the call for a constitutional convention in North Carolina. The President even thought it incumbent to call the attention of Congress to the movements in North Carolina, Georgia and other States to frame new constitutions, and saw, or thought he saw in them designs to nullify the constitutional amendments and the reconstruction acts. Senator Ransom, who is fully advised of what is going on in North Carolina, stated in conversation to-day that there is no foundation for any of the charges which have been made in this respect. He says that the constitutional convention will be what is called a restricted convention. Every delegate to it before taking his seat will be required to

SUBSCRIBE TO AN OATH
not to incorporate in the new constitution any clause in violation of the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth amendments or of any of the reconstruction acts, or to insert any provision in any way recognizing the "rebel" debt or looking for payment for the emancipated slaves, or to insert any provision abridging in any way the tenure of any officeholder in the State. General Ransom says that the present reconstruction constitution of his State is a hotch-potch, made up from the constitutions of half a dozen Northern States, thrown in pell-mell; that many of its provisions are hard to construe, and are totally unfit to the habits of his people. It is in many respects expensive and cumbersome, as, for instance, the township system, which is not in any way suited to the wants or desires of the people. The carpet-baggers in making a new constitution for North Carolina, with an eye to the main chance,

CREATED MANY MORE OFFICES
than were necessary. The people wish to return to the simple forms of government under which they lived for so many years. General Ransom says there is no wish or purpose to attempt to evade or impair in any way the constitutional amendments or the laws of Congress. The Supreme Court of the State is composed entirely of republican judges, a large majority of the circuit judges are republicans, and all of

Lynch Law in Maryland.

OUTRAGE ON A LADY BY A COLORED MAN—PERPETRATION OF A SHOCKING CRIME ON A DEFENSELESS WOMAN—SWIFT RETRIBUTION AND HANGING ON A WALNUT TREE.
[Reported for the Baltimore Sun.]

Monday night a shocking outrage was perpetrated in Prince George's county, Md., on the wife of Mr. Edgar A. Nelson by a negro named John Scott, who afterwards shot himself out of remorse; was arrested, and subsequently, while on his way to jail at Upper Marlboro was taken by a crowd of citizens, whites and blacks, from the hands of his legal custodian and hanged on a tree. The negro was employed on the farm of Mr. Nelson, known as the Nottley Hall estate, which Mr. Nelson, who came from the North, purchased a few years ago in Prince George's county, nearly opposite Alexandria, Va., and seven miles below Washington city. A similar case of this kind occurred in the same community some two years ago for the same offense.

A San correspondent visited the residence of Mr. Edgar A. Nelson, at Nottley Hall, yesterday evening, and ascertained the facts in relation to the lynching to be as follows: Mr. Nelson left his home Monday evening for Washington, intending to return next morning. He left his wife at home, as also the colored man, named John Henry Scott. The room occupied by Scott was in the lower part of the house. About twelve o'clock Monday night, while Mrs. Nelson was sleeping, he entered her room with a lamp in his hand. She was awakened by the noise, and rising up in bed asked him what he wanted. At this he pointed a revolver at her head and informed her of his purpose, saying that if she refused he would kill her and her baby, which lay by her side, which is eighteen months of age. She tried by every possible effort to make him desist, but was unsuccessful. By main force, holding the revolver in his hand, he accomplished his purpose and left the room, leaving Mrs. Nelson in an unconscious state. He returned to her room about an hour after and said he intended to kill her child and herself, and then himself, as he was tired of living, as his sister had become the mother of an illegitimate child, and that he was disgraced thereby. He then told her he intended to outrage her again, and by the same threats succeeded. Then leaving the bed he said he knew he would be killed for his acts, and that he would save her husband that trouble by shooting himself, which he did, shooting himself in the left breast. Mrs. Nelson, taking advantage of this, ran out of the house in her night clothes with her infant in her arms, and informed a neighbor, a colored man, residing near by. This man, named Morris, immediately ran to the house, where he found Scott suffering from his wound. Mrs. Nelson was unable to say anything, except that "John shot himself." Morris then ran after Dr. Bayne, who lives near by, and a Justice R. Walter Brooke, who with Dr. Bayne soon arrived at the house. Towards daylight Mrs. Nelson regained her senses and told what occurred, when Mr. Brooks took her affidavit. He then ordered the commitment of Scott to Marlboro' jail, and deputized Curtis Smith to take him there. Mr. Smith started with the prisoner shortly after eight o'clock, when he was met at the door by a crowd of at least one hundred persons, colored and white, all of whom were masked. They told Mr. Smith of their purpose, and took Scott away from him. Placing him on a horse they rode him into a hollow, when, placing a new manila rope about his neck, one end of which was tied to a black walnut tree, they drove the horse away, leaving his body swinging in the March wind. The crowd then dispersed quietly, the colored people in the crowd making arrangements to roast his body, having gone so far as to collect a quantity of wood and brush for that purpose. This, however, was not allowed, and the body was left hanging to the tree. It was cut down about three o'clock, and a coroner's jury summoned, who, after hearing all the evidence, returned a verdict "that the deceased was hung by persons unknown to the jury." The body was then placed in a coffin, ordered from Alexandria, and will be buried to-morrow.

Mr. Nelson has resided at Nottley Hall for five years, and is greatly respected by all persons, white and colored, in the neighborhood. Scott was twenty-three years of age, and had resided with Mr. Nelson for one year. He had often been left in the house with Mrs. Nelson, having some months since stayed there three weeks while Mr. Nelson went to his home in Madison county, New York, to attend the funeral of his father. Mrs. Nelson last evening, was in a very nervous condition, but out of danger. The affair has created the greatest excitement in the neighborhood. Mr. Nelson was one of the judges of election of Spalding district, and a republican in politics, and had treated the negro with familiarity.

SCRAM OF HIS CIVIL WAR HISTORY.—The Atlantic Monthly for April contains an interesting detail by Mr. Allan B. Magruder, of Baltimore, of a bit of secret history of the incompetency in the late civil war. Its main interest consists in the elucidation of the fact that President Lincoln's personal desire was to prevent hostility between the sections, and that he might, possibly, have done so but for the overwhelming pressure upon him by political warriors spurring to a fight. That he failed to resist this pressure scarcely to be wondered at under the extraordinary circumstances surrounding him, but Magruder's evidence of Lincoln's peace policy is corroborative and cumulative of what has long been believed of the patriotic wishes that singular occupant of the Presidential chair. Mr. Magruder says that in the spring of 1861, a native of Virginia but practicing law in Washington, he was commissioned by the President to go to Richmond and request Judge George W. Summers, a member of the Virginia convention then in session, to visit Washington and confer with him on matters of the highest importance; that he had the greatest confidence in him and "in all those Virginians; that though they might differ from him about secession, he loved they were men who could be depended on in any matter in which they pledged their word, and that they always kept their word when they gave it." Judge Summers could not go to Richmond at the time, but sent in his stead Colonel John B. Baldwin, a leading member of the convention. On his introduction to the President the latter said, "I am afraid you have come too late; why do you not adjourn the Virginia convention? It is a standing menace to me which embarrasses me very much." Colonel Baldwin told him that the convention was in the hands of Union men, with a clear and controlling majority, and that if it should adjourn, leaving pending questions unsettled, it would leave the Union men of Virginia in the attitude of being unable to meet the exigencies of the occasion, in which event another convention would be called under exclusive control of secessionists, who would pass an ordinance of secession in less than six weeks. Unfortunately at the hour of Colonel Baldwin's visit the President in consultation with the Governors of several Northern States, whose voice was all for peace and whose intensified influence proved too strong to be resisted by him. The fateful Star in the West had been already sent on her dire mission, and the war was really begun before Baldwin reached Washington and heard the President's regretful words, "You came too late, now too late." This valuable contribution by Mr. Magruder to the history of the civil war's incompetency will no doubt be read with great interest, inasmuch as subsequent events have given incidents detailed a rare value.

WHAT IS SAID OF SENATOR JOHNSON'S SPEECH.
New York papers treat the speech of ex-President Johnson in the Senate Monday as follows: The Tribune says: "Johnson's first speech hardly meet the rather inordinate expectations created in the public mind by his reappearance in the Senate again, argument on the Louisiana case. It will not bear comparison with any of the several speeches made during the present session of the Senate from Senators of any class was expected. Mr. Johnson's views on the third term question and reflections on the President and General Sheridan will attract attention, but they lay the ex-President open to a charge of forgetting his promise to ignore personal questions in his new senatorial career." The Times says: "The speech was nominally the subject of the President's course in Louisiana, but in reality on the views and movements of Andrew Johnson. There is some unending stream of disjointed boasts, there are occasional shrewd and blunt remarks made against his enemies and his rivals; there are the gleams of common sense and of a rude sincerity; but, on the whole, Mr. Johnson's words are without weight." The Herald thinks the speech will make a "poor impression on the country, by reason of its meagerness, earnestness and courage. Virtually, it is an impeachment of God, Grant, and the speech will probably be condemned for its policy, but policy is not to be expected from a man whose nature is so blunt and courageous, with too much passion for the time and perhaps too much