OFFICIAL.

LOUISIANA LEGISLATURE.

Journal of the House.

First Session—Fourth Legislature.

TUESDAY, January 20, 1852.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

The roll being called 88 members answered to their names.

Messrs. Robertson, of Iberville, Decoux, of Point Coupee; Nungs, of Vermilion; Mace of Iberville; Barthelemy of Assumption appeared and took the oath.

By a message from the Governor through his Private Secretary, J. N. Carriger, the following communication and accompanying documents were received:

Gentlemen of the Senate and House of Representatives:

Assembled for the second time under the provisions of the present Constitution, to perform the responsible duty of legislating for the public weal, I must congratulate you upon the happy lot to which you have convened—a country of the most powerful attractions to whatever the steadily increasing advance of the State in population and wealth, and the high character of our citizens, foretel the prosperity of the Superior Ruler of all human events. The crisis herein left when your predecessors adjourned this public building, to which place, which it was constructed, no more exist the gloomy traces of the fearful pestilence have been interrupted the harvest bounteous and the husbandmen who suffered so severely by speculation from the preceding and its infatuated, have gathered in the fruits of their industry without fear from this cause. Let us then, who in holding on be more desirous of the welfare of the agricultural interests of the State.

Fellow-citizens, I am about to address you as the patriot. At peace with foreign powers, the country enjoys a degree of prosperity which, at once perplexes the politician and the statesman. Of the immense wealth acquired by the industry of the people, with perhaps a single exception, no one can now look forward with reasonable apprehension to a diminution of their power or the consistency of the republic productive of good.

I have given a long hope what I conceived to be the duty of the Southern States, before the adoption of these measures of adjustment were generally announced to your predecessors in this honourable Hall. The brilliant session of the subject would seem at this time, perhaps, and I will dismiss it with the remark that, while the South might have gained more advantageous terms in the compromise measures we are bound by every consideration that should have weight with us, to regard with, to the letter, the federal compact which has now the solemn form of law. The success of which necessarily compelled the South to acquiesce in the unfortunate concession made by the North when Missouri came into the Union, and the fatal precedent at that time given, that slavery should have been held more sacred the way for the unmeaning sentiment of jealousy and criminal interference with our rights which impeded the passage of the adjustment measures and the sterling worker was approved, or permitted, I cannot see in these bills any recreation of the original compact upon which we stand, or any violation of the parties who yielded unfavorable points to dissolve at the present time the union so happily brought as such disaster. I would inevitably be with, and consequences the most momentous, if not wholly disastrous, the probable operation upon the Southern Confederacy of the Republic.

These measures with perhaps the exception of the Fugitive Slave Bill, are believed to be in accordance with the letter of the rights, they are self operative, and cannot be so, if without a distinct infraction of State sovereignty, which I cannot directly connected with Southern interests and rather the prompt and faithful execution of which, we must feel the deepest solicitude. Should it not be so, I feel assured that the South will be disappointed. Should an effort be made to repeal or modify it, I was not that it communicate to the Southern States that such an act would be a direct violation of the compact between the States, and that the South would be compelled to resist it.

While I freely admit that in this case I would the most acceptable, is quite the most, I would not be satisfied to compel, with the request of the memorialists who have written upon this subject, and thus to the extent of the memorialists who have written upon this subject, and thus to the extent of the republic productive of good.

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