

The Inauguration.

The proceedings of yesterday will form an ever memorable epoch in the history of the Confederate States of America. On that day, Gen. Jefferson Davis, the first Chief Magistrate of these States, was invested with the robes of office, and in ascending to the highest position in the gift of his countrymen, indicated in his inaugural address, which we publish elsewhere, the line of policy which he will pursue in the administration of the Government. Of the positions taken by the President in his address it is not our purpose now to speak, further than to remark that they are such as to command the universal endorsement of our people, and must go far to command the respect all right thinking men everywhere. If, after this, our enemies at the North shall persist in representing that the seceded States are not in earnest, they will fully entitle themselves to be recorded among those who having ears hear not and having eyes see not. Our present object is merely to furnish the reader with a hasty sketch of the ceremonies of the Inauguration—the crowd being so large and impressive on the great occasion, that our reporters were left too far in the back-ground to present us a description of the scene.

Never did Montgomery present such an appearance as on yesterday. Although notice that the Inauguration would certainly take place on Monday, had gone forth through the press only the Saturday before, the streets, dwellings and Capitol hill were literally thronged with visitors who had come far and near from this and neighboring States to witness the imposing ceremony of the natal era of the Confederacy. All ages, sizes, sexes and conditions were out to give variety and spice to the occasion. The ladies seemed to be present in larger numbers than the men in honor of their gallant President. The assemblage could not have numbered less than ten thousand persons, all animated by a common desire to maintain the dignity, honor and independence of the Confederate States. If the people of the North could only have witnessed the high resolve which animated every heart in Montgomery on yesterday, we would fain believe they would be struck with amazement and indignation at the monstrous delusion which has been practiced upon their credulity by Northern presses and politicians, who have told them that this flood-tide of secession is the movement of sectional aspirants, and not of the people. Great God, what man or set of men however powerful could stem the popular current in the great States of the Cotton Belt? For years the dead bodies of time-serving politicians had dammed up the mighty depths of Southern patriotism, until at last the voice of the people has swollen to an irresistible volume, and borne men and parties before it as drift-wood upon the bosom of the majestic ocean. How long will it take the North to believe that our people are in advance of the politicians, and that if the latter appear to lead it is in obedience to the demands of the former? If they shall persist in their coercive measures, the argument of cold steel will soon satisfy them. We sometimes fear that nothing else will. But to the pageant of yesterday.

The procession formed on Montgomery street, where Gen. Davis took his seat in a magnificent carriage of Col. Tennant Lomax, drawn by six beautiful greys. On the same seat in the carriage sat Vice-President Stephens, and opposite them were Capt. George Jones, of Ala., and Rev. Basil Manly, of this city. Then followed successively in carriages, the Congressional, State, and City Committees. The citizens on foot and the military escort formed no inconsiderable portion of the procession. The military escort consisted, of the "Columbus Guards," Lieut. Ellis, the "Independent Rifles," Capt. Farris, the "Eufaula Rifles," Capt. Baker, and the "German Fusiliers," Capt. Scheussler, all under Capt. Semmes, of the "Columbus Guards," commanding the Battalion.

As the procession moved up Market street, amid the roar of cannon, the inspiring strains of martial music, and the cheers of the multitude, the scene was grand beyond description. We must not neglect to mention that Col. H. P. Watson, of Montgomery, acted as Chief Marshal, by Congressional appointment. He was assisted by Wm. Knox, jr., of Ala.; Hamilton Wright, of Florida; Daniel S. Printup, of Georgia; Robert C. Wood, Jr., of Louisiana; Joseph P. Billips, of Mississippi; H. D. Capers, of South Carolina; Phelix H. Roberts, of Texas. The Marshal and assistants performed their duty well.

The vast crowd had soon filled the doors, windows and portico of the Capitol, and spread over the ground in front, when the inauguration ceremony began as arranged on the front steps. The President occupied a seat on the portico, with the Vice President seated at his right, and Hon. Howell Cobb on his left, Gov. Moore occupied a seat on the platform immediately below; where were also seated the members of Congress, facing the Presidents stand. The ceremony was opened with an impressive prayer from the venerable Rev. Dr. Manly. The Hon. Howell Cobb, President of the Congress, administered the oath of office, and the President delivered his Inaugural Address, in a calm and forcible manner—the immense concourse now and then manifesting their approbation by vociferous applause, as he would strike the key-notes of Southern independence.

The ladies wreathed him with flowers, and ten thousand hearts beat high with joy, admiration and hope for the administration of the new President.—No man, not even Gen. Washington, was ever called to preside over a people with more general acclamation and confidence than Gen. Davis. His past services and spotless private and public character, are the surest guarantees that he will not disappoint the just expectations of the country.