The were events of much interest in the old Senate Chamber on the 4 of January 1859 the galleries were filled and the floor much crowded – Senator Critlenden ask to be indulged in a few words –

Vice President Breckenridge delivered a long address reviewing the formation and history of the Government, after this address the Senate preceded by the President and with the Officers, formed a procession and march to the new Chamber the Vice President took his Chair and Called the Senate to order on the removal to the new Chamber the Galleries were Crowded –

2242

The Old Senate Chamber
and Relics

I went but a few days ago
and stood in the Places
where the desk and Chairs of Webster
Clay Calhoun. Benton Cass. Hayne
were. Where in the Old Chamber
Clay and Webster sat on the left
of the Presidency Officer. Benton
Calhoun Cass and Hayne were on
the right. The only alteration
is in the removal of the Strangers
Gallery, that has been taking
away and a large Glass
Chandelier which hung in the
Center

234

2B 274

Many a day and night have I
Spent in it Sacerate Walls -
When a Messenger I had Charge
of the Center door of the Senate
have seen the Seem Rise and
Set, and rises, - While at Rest during
My Post, While the ~~Pendency~~
Compermise measures Was under discussion
the Same desk and Chairs that
War yoces then are now yoces
in the new Senate Chamber
When ever there is a new State
admitted in the ~~States~~ Union
ther is two new desk and Chairs
Made of the Same Material

2B 275

The New Senate Chamber and Senators

We came over in 1859. March 4th (January) in a body, Mr Breckenridge was Vice President. When the Senate had taken their Seats he ~~arose~~ could then proceed to order and proceed with the business of the Senate ~~and read and address, and then proceeded to the Journal of the Senate~~

it is much larger than the old one, pleasanter to speak in and accomodates about twice hundred persons, I have seen said Seenes within it walles Seen after the Senate came over. The (Rebellion) Secession broke out

Senator after Senator arose & left
from their Seats, and left
never again to return, Mason
Slidell, Toombes, and a Host
of other Southern Senators, I shall never for
get the Appeal, that Senator Johnston
of Georgia Made to them to remain
it was one of his great efforts
of his life, but it had no
effect, for they Would, in a few
day after the Seats on the Democratic
Side, of the Senate looked deserted,
every Heart about the Senate
was gloomy, Like the business of
the Senate Went down, and Stopped
throughout all, Now every State
in this glorious Union has
two Senator, and the Country
is saved, part of what has transpired

14 A 7

as the Senator from
Alabama, Mississippi and
Florida were about to
retire from the Senate
all the democratic Senators
crowded around them and
shook hands with them
Messrs Hale and Cameron,
were the only Republican
Senator that did so. ——