

KEOWEE COURIER.

"TO THINE OWN SELF BE TRUE, AND IT MUST FOLLOW, AS THE NIGHT THE DAY, THOU CANST NOT THEN BE FALSE TO ANY MAN."

VOL. 1.

PICKENS COURT HOUSE, S. C., SATURDAY, AUGUST 4, 1849.

NO. 12

THE
KEOWEE COURIER,
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY
W. H. TRIMMER.

J. W. NORRIS, Jr., }
E. M. KEITH, } Editors.

TERMS.

One Dollar and Fifty Cents for one year's subscription when paid within three months. Two dollars if payment is delayed to the close of the subscription year.

All subscriptions not clearly limited, will be considered as made for an indefinite time, and continued till a discontinuance is ordered and all arrears paid.

Advertisements inserted at 75 cents per square for the first insertion, and 37 1/2 cts. for each continued insertion. Liberal deductions made to those advertising by the year.

All Communications should be addressed to the Publisher post paid.

GEN. CASS ON THE WILMOT PROVISIO

The following extracts from the recent letter of Gen. Cass, will give a clear idea of its pith and substance. We quote only from the part relating to the Wilmot Proviso:

"It will not surprise you, but it will many, who have viewed my course only in a party aspect, to be told that in that very letter to Mr. Nicholson I expressly stated my opinion to be, that slavery would never extend to California or New Mexico; and that the 'inhabitants of those regions, whether they depend on their plows or their herds, cannot be slaveholders.' I quoted with full approbation the opinions of Mr. Buchanan and of Mr. Walker, the former of whom says: 'It is morally impossible, therefore, that a majority of the emigrants to that portion of the territory South of 36° 30' will ever re-establish slavery within its limits.' Mr. Walker maintains that, 'beyond the Rio del Norte slavery will not pass, not only because it is forbidden by law, but because the colored race there preponderates in the ratio of ten to one over the whites; and holding, as they do, the government and most of the offices in their possession, they will not permit the enslavement of any portion of the colored race, which makes and executes the laws of the country.' And to these remarks I add: 'The question, it will therefore be seen on examination, does not regard the exclusion of slavery from a region where it now exists, but a prohibition against its introduction where it does not exist, and where, from the feelings of the inhabitants, and the laws of nature, it is morally impossible,' as Mr. Buchanan says, 'that it can ever re-establish itself.'"

"I have never uttered to a human being a sentiment in opposition to these views. And subsequent events, the events indeed of every day, confirm their justice, and render it more impossible that slavery should be re-established in the region ceded to us by Mexico. Such is the general opinion in the non-slaveholding States, among those who are most attached to the compromises of the Constitution, and most determined to maintain them. And I do not doubt but there are many persons in the Southern States who resist the Wilmot Proviso with all their power, as offensive to the feelings and injurious to the rights of the South, but who still believe it is a question rather of principle than of action, and that circumstances are preparing an exclusion which Congress has no right to pronounce."

In the view here taken, the effect to engraft the Wilmot Proviso upon an act of Congress, even if Congress had the requisite power, is a useless attempt to direct the legislation of the country to an object which would be just as certainly attained without it. If Congress, have not the power, 'as I believe they have not,' in common with a larger portion of the people, it becomes worse than useless by becoming unconstitutional. And in addition to this, it is peculiarly offensive to one-half of the States of the Union, who see in it an attempt to circumscribe their rights, and to mortify their pride of character. No man can look at the signs of the times without being satisfied that the prosecution of this question is producing the worst state of feeling; and though I trust that happen what may, our Southern brethren will still cling to the Union, equally their ark of safety and ours, still there are evils short of a separation which every good citizen should seek to avoid. He should seek to avoid all occasions of unfriendly feelings: to avoid so far as may be the agitation of questions hostile to the sentiments or interests of different sections of the country, and thus tending to array one of them against another. There is enough passing in the Old World—and if there were not, there is enough passing around us—to teach us the inestimable value of our institutions, and that these ought not to be hazarded by internal dis-

sensions, as unnecessary in their origin as they are portentous in their consequences.

So much for the expediency of urging a measure thus advocated and opposed. But beyond this question is a still more important one in a constitutional government, and that is the power of Congress to legislate over the subject; and this must be settled affirmatively before the propriety of legislative action can be considered. I am not going over this ground at present. I have already touched it in my letter to Mr. Nicholson, and I shall probably have an opportunity of expressing my sentiments more fully at the next session of Congress.

General Cass goes on then to discuss the constitutional right of Congress to legislate over the territories. He denies that such power exists. He says that Mr. Madison and Judge Story placed the action of the old confederation, in passing the ordinance of 1787, entirely upon the ground of necessity. For exercising such a power of legislation over the territories, he says there is no authority except that of precedent, and he adds:

We turn then instinctively from what has been done to what ought to be done—from the authority of precedent to the authority of the constitution. These are times which try such questions. Who can wonder, that with the views entertained of this subject by the South, an appeal should be made to the common charter of the country, or that a large portion of our citizens should be satisfied with no answer not derived from it? That what has been must continue to be, is a principle which has done more to perpetuate abuses than all the other causes which have operated upon political institutions.

The letter concludes as follows:

Those who oppose the Wilmot Proviso on the ground of its unconstitutionality, can never surrender their opinions and vote for it. Those who have heretofore advocated its adoption may well abandon it, convinced, as they must be, that their object will be as well attained without it as with it. It appears to me one of the most barren questions that ever divided a country; barren in useful results, but fertile in difficulties and dangers. I freely confess that I look with amazement upon the zeal and pertinacity displayed in urging this measure under these circumstances, and augur from them the worst consequences.

These are my sentiments. They will give offence to many, and will expose me to much obloquy. But I do not hesitate thus openly to avow them; for every public man who is not prepared to take a decided part agreeably to his convictions, in times like these, is not prepared to discharge one of the first duties which belong to his position. "To insure domestic tranquillity," in the words of the constitution, was one of the great motives of the people of the United States in the organization of their present government. Measures which may endanger that tranquillity should be scrutinized with great caution, and never adopted but in the last necessity, and then with great reluctance.

LETTERS OF HENRY CLAY AND MARTIN VAN BUREN.

The following letters were read at the free soil convention held at Cleveland, Ohio, on the 13th inst.:

ASHLAND, June 16, 1849.

Gentlemen:—I received your official letter, in behalf of the freemen of the Reserve, inviting me to unite with them, at Cleveland, in celebrating the anniversary of the passage of the ordinance of 1787, on the 13th of July next. I concur entirely in opinions as to the wisdom of that great measure, and I am glad that it has secured to the States on which it operates an exemption from the evils of slavery. But the event of the passage of the ordinance has never, within my knowledge, been celebrated in any one of the sixty-one years which have since intervened. It is proposed for the first time to commemorate it. It is impossible to disguise the conviction that this purpose originates out of the question, now unfortunately agitating the whole Union, of the introduction of slavery into New Mexico and California.

While no one can be more opposed than I am to the extension of slavery into those new territories, either by the authority of Congress or by individual enterprise, I should be unwilling to do anything to increase the prevailing excitement. I hope that the question will be met in a spirit of calmness and candor, and finally settled in a manner to add strength and stability, instead of bringing any danger to the existence of our Union. In all our differences of opinion we should never cease to remember that we are fellow-citizens of one common and glorious coun-

try, nor to exercise mutual and friendly forbearance.

But, gentlemen, waiving all other considerations, indispensable engagements will prevent my attendance on the occasion to which you have done me the honor to invite me.

With great respect, I am,
Your friend and ob't. servant,
H. CLAY.

Messrs. J. C. Vaughan, T. Brown, Com.

LINDENWALD, July 7, 1849.

Gentlemen:—I have received the invitation with which you have honored me, to unite with the freemen of the Reserve in celebrating on the 13th inst. the anniversary of the passage of the ordinance of 1787, and return you my best thanks for this proof of your respect and confidence.

It will not be in my power to comply with your request, as it can scarcely be necessary to say to you how cordially and earnestly I concur in the policy of the great measure you desire to sustain.

That "the ordinance of 1787" lies at the foundation of the growth and prosperity of the people and States of the Northwest—that the vigor and vitality they possess is justly attributable to its action—that the exclusion of slavery by that act, from this territory—all then held by the nation—declared the original, and affirmed the future policy of the American people—and that the influence of Government should be kept actively and perpetually on the side of freedom—are opinions which deserve, and will, I doubt not, at no distant day, meet with the heartfelt concurrence of the masses of the people of every section of our extended confederacy.

Sincerely wishing you success in your patriotic efforts, I am gentlemen,
Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,
MARTIN VAN BUREN

Messrs. J. C. Vaughan, T. Brown, Com.

[From the N. Y. Tribune.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,

Washington 20th June, 1849.

L. R. Breisch, Esq., New York.
Sir—I am requested by the President to acknowledge the receipt of your letter to him on the 7th inst. and the printed account of the proceeding of the meeting of Hungarians and others in New York. These proceedings had not escape attention.

The Government and the people of this country are profoundly interested in the events which are now passing in Hungary, and all information calculated to throw light on the present struggle between that country and Austria and Russia cannot fail to be welcome.

It is the policy and practice of the United States to recognize all Governments which exhibit to the world convincing proof of their power so maintained themselves.

If Hungary sustains herself in this unequal contest, there is no reason why we should not recognize her independence. Congress, it is believed, would sanction such a measure, and this Government would be most happy in that event to enter into commercial as well as diplomatic relations with independent Hungary.

I am, sir, respectfully
your obedient servant,
JOHN M. CLAYTON.

Mrs. Louisiana Thower died on the 20th March, at her residence, in the State of Georgia, aged at least one hundred and thirty-nine years. She had seven children before the Revolution; her youngest living child is between seventy and eighty; she has great grandchildren thirty years of age, and a number of great-great-grandchildren living in Florida.

CALIFORNIA GOLD.—We have been furnished, from the Mint, with the following statement:

The deposits of California Gold during the six months ending 30th of June, were—at the Philadelphia Mint, - - - \$1,000,818
At the New-Orleans Mint, - - - 174,185

81,175,003
Add the amount deposited at the Philadelphia Mint, to the 15th inst., - - - 87,392
Deposits of 1848, - - - 44,177

Total deposits as ascertained, - - - - - \$1,306,572
[Phila. North American, July 20.]

HORN'S VERY LATEST.—Horn inquired of a Hardware merchant if he kept all kinds of nails. "Yes," replied he, expecting to catch a customer. "Well, then," said the incorrigible, "give me a pound and a half of toe-nails." For fear of getting a pound-in he was obliged to mizzle.

From the Charleston Courier

RAIL-ROAD ACCIDENT.—The cars from Philadelphia, were detained beyond the regular hour last night, on account of their having run over and killed three cows near Wilmington, causing the upsetting of the engine and tender and badly scalding the engineer.

BALTIMORE, July 24.

Advices from San Francisco to the 19th May, say that the market is overstocked with goods, and the town crowded with emigrants. Seventy vessels had arrived there. The rivers were much swollen by recent rains. All was quiet at the mines. Some persons are stated to have dug 60,000 dollars worth of gold in a few days.

Dates from Buenos Ayres of the 6th June advise that all was tranquil there. A civil war had broke out in Caledonia.

The French blockade in the Oriental ports had been raised and the fleet were returning home.

The cholera is stated to be rapidly decreasing in the West.

[Telegraphed for Charleston Courier.]

Our Baltimore correspondent, under date of 23d inst., gives us the following.

ITEMS BY THE CALEDONIA.

An official bulletin has been issued by the Austrians, announcing that the Hungarians have been compelled to retire from Raab. They were said to have taken a route towards Aes, prior to the capture of Raab. Georgy, by declining to risk a battle at Raab, and retreating towards Gran, deceived the Austrians.

The Russians were under the necessity of leaving some 20,000 men before Comorn. Georgy, however, would never have abandoned Raab, except with the view of detaching a portion of his force against Paskewitch.

A rumor prevailed in the French Assembly, that the Hungarians had obtained an important advantage over the Russians, in the vicinity of Raab. The Russians are reported to have lost ten thousand men at Waumo.

A conspiracy against the Prussian Government was discovered, and a desperate battle took place between the troops and insurgents on the 29th ult., in the vicinity of Carlsruhe and Magderstello, in which the insurgents were defeated. Gen. Pannecker had taken possession of Barden.

THE CHOLERA.

This horrible epidemic, which has prevailed with such fatal effect in most portions of our country, for some time past, is, we are happy to learn, decreasing.

VESSEL DESTROYED.—On the 7th inst. the American brig *Othello*, while anchored in the river at Tabasco, was struck by lightning, took fire, and was destroyed.

MORE GOLD.—The Br. steam ship *Great Western*, from Vera Cruz, arrived at Mobile on the 20th inst. with one million two hundred thousand dollars worth of California Gold, consigned to New-Orleans merchants.

The following decision affecting the rights of belligerents was made in New-York, on the 13th inst., under the following circumstances:

A requisition was made by the consul of Bremen, under the Hanseatic treaty, to Judge Betts, for aid of United States process, to arrest and detain H. Bartolo, S. Borg, F. Peterson, and four others, as deserters from the Bremen ship *Dorothea*, in this port. The men were brought into court by the marshal, and the U. S. district attorney moved they be committed. Counsel for the prisoners proposed to prove that two of the men were Danes, and that one other was discharged by the master; and contended that the Danes were not bound to serve on board the vessel—Denmark and the German confederation being at war.

Judge Betts decided that, under the treaty stipulation, no question was open to consideration before him, other than whether these men are the individuals named in the ships roll, and whether they are citizens of the United States. The tribunals of this country have no cognizance of the contract, to determine whether it be valued by the local law where the ship belongs, or by the law of nations. The object of the convention is to have matters affecting the liabilities or rights of the seamen, in respect to the shipping contract, adjusted and determined by the courts of the country where the ship belongs. No proof being given that the captain had discharged any one of the crew in this port, it is ordered that the men be committed, pursuant to the provisions of the treaty and acts of Congress in that behalf. —*Washington Republic*.

Mrs. MADISON'S ANNUITY.—The New-York Journal of Commerce, speaking of Mrs. Madison's death, says:

"Congress, two years ago, purchased the remaining Madison papers, and gave Mrs. Madison the interest of a fund of twenty thousand dollars, which was put in the hands of trustees.

"Mr. Madison retired from the Presidency with a handsome competency, but it was impaired before his death. Through the indiscretion of Mrs. Madison's son by her first husband, she had become impoverished, notwithstanding the receipt of forty thousand dollars after Mr. Madison's death, from Congress, for the first series of Madison papers. Congress was willing to give her twenty thousand dollars more, but it was known that the sum would not enure to her benefit. With her death the annuity ceases, and the fund goes back into the treasury. She was, however enabled to make some provision for a devoted niece, who has been the prop of her old age."

[From the Savannah Georgian, July 21.]
ANOTHER FLORIDA WAR—OUTBREAK OF THE INDIANS.

Information has been received in this city from Florida, stating that the remaining Seminoles have become hostile, and have committed depredations on Indian River, in South Florida. From the best information we can obtain, some time in the early part of last week, the Indians made an attack on the settlements on Indian River, in St. Lucie county, and commenced plundering the houses and firing on the settlers. The Indians, it is stated, were in considerable numbers, so much so that defence by the whites was entirely impossible. One person, a Mr. Baker, was killed and horribly mutilated. Maj. W. F. Russell, Deputy Collector, at Indian River, was shot in the arm. His family, it is feared, have fallen into the hands of the Indians, as they have since been missing. A number of other persons, mostly females, are also missing.

The settlers were obliged to leave their places and take to the river, and come up the coast outside. Some twenty men, women and children have arrived at St. Augustine, and report others on their way.

There are yet a considerable number of Indians remaining in Florida. We have it on the authority of one who is intimately acquainted with them, a resident of Tampa and Charlott's Harbor, that the number of warriors cannot be less than two hundred and fifty. He has had opportunities from his dealings with them, to know something of their number. They are well supplied with arms and ammunition, and scattered in small parties throughout the country, as they will be, will give serious trouble.

WEAR OF THE NIAGARA FALLS.—The 710,000 tons of water which each minute pour over the precipice of the Niagara, are estimated to carry away a foot of the cliff every year. Taking this average, and adopting the clear geological proof that the fall once existed at Queenstown, four miles below, we must suppose a period of twenty thousand years occupied in this recession of the cataract to its actual site—while in the Delta of the Mississippi, nearly 14,000 square miles in extent, an estimate founded on its present rate of increase, and on a calculation of the amount of earth matter brought down the stream, has justified Mr. Lyell in alleging that sixty-seven thousand years must have elapsed since the formation of this great deposit began. —*Quarterly Review*.

Census of Greenville District.—We are indebted to the politeness of Col. R. P. Goodlett, who has just completed the census of the white inhabitants of Greenville District, for a statement of the result:

Whole number of white inhabitants, 13,552
Increase since the Census of 1839, 966
[Mountaineer.]

The State Capitol of Tennessee, at Nashville, is said to be one of the grandest edifices of the kind in the Union. It is 240 feet deep by 235 feet front; and will be supported by 28 columns, each 40 feet in height. The height of the building will be 80 feet. The Banner says that whole building is to be constructed of stone and iron, inside as well as outside.

"Is Mr. M. abstemious in his living?" asked a physician of a rather obtuse attendant upon a patient laboring under an inflammatory complaint.

"Waal, he's abstemious enough in the eatin' part, but I tell you he's steamious when you come to the drinkin'."