

Interesting Document—Proposed Union of South Carolina and Georgia.

The following letter from Wm. Henry Drayton, Esq., to Humphrey Wells, Esq., gives the history of the proposal of South Carolina to Georgia, which we have before alluded to. We have the originals of the communication from W. H. Drayton and John Smith, the South Carolina Commissioners, to the convention of the people of Georgia, and an invitation from N. W. Jones, speaker, to them to appear before that body; together with the address of W. H. Drayton, and his notes of the speech of B. Gwinnett, added to his letter, and the resolution rejecting the proffered union by South Carolina. The papers will probably be given in a volume of Documentary History which we propose to publish, when we get through our present series relating to a later period of the revolution.

SNOW HILL, S. C., June 8, 1777.

Sir:—In compliance with your request, I do myself the pleasure of committing to paper some of the principal circumstances and arguments relative to the late proposition of an union between South Carolina and Georgia.

By our General Assembly, which is a pretty numerous body, it was unanimously resolved, that a union between the two States would tend effectually to promote their strength, wealth and dignity, and to secure their liberty, independence and safety. Commissioners were sent to Savannah to treat of an union, and I was honored by being sent upon this business.

Immediately after I arrived in Savannah, I found that every gentleman in public office, with whom I conversed, was strongly against an union. However, I had the pleasure to find some gentlemen of fortune, though not in office or convention, who heartily approved the measure. The convention was adjourned when I arrived, the beginning of January last, and upon their meeting, I notified that I had important matters to lay before them as commissioner from South Carolina. I then was assured, and I gave full credit to it, that I should fail in my application, but I proceeded in the discharge of my duty.

Being admitted to an audience in convention, after a short introduction of what I had to say, I stated, that chance had originally placed the present districts of South Carolina and Georgia under one government at Charles Town; and although those districts, then forming but one, had been separated and placed under two governments, yet nature pointed out that the two should again form but one; for their climate, soil, productions and interests were the same. That if they continued two States, we had only to recollect the history of mankind, and the nature of things to foresee that from such causes their counsels and conduct would clash; and of course jealousies and rivalships would daily increase between them, to the natural prejudice of their internal improvement, common produce and foreign commerce.

That there might be dangerous disputes about boundaries and the property of Savannah river; since on these subjects many people in Carolina and Georgia thought very differently; a natural and great obstruction to the rise of the value of property.

But that on the other hand, by an union, all such jealousies, rivalships, prejudice, danger and obstruction would be removed. Improvements of every kind, especially in agriculture, inland navigation and foreign commerce would be studied and advanced with rapidity. The expenses of government would be lessened, to the great ease of the people, because only one establishment of civil officers would be paid in the room of two. The public defence would be more powerful and at a less expense under one government, than under two, which might be jealous of and therefore often desirous to thwart each other, and at any rate certainly liable undesignedly to defeat each others plans to the ruin of the people concerned. And thus, sir, you see many important advantages that would be common to the two States by an union. But there are others which would be peculiar to Georgia.

By an union, the land in Georgia would rise in value because the Carolina planters would be encouraged to extend their improvements into Georgia, and the merchants carry that trade immediately to Georgia, which otherwise must continue to be carried on as it always has been and especially of late, through Carolina. The Georgia currency always litters of inferior value to that of Carolina, (something more than 20 per cent) would be put upon an equal footing with that of South Carolina. The town of Savannah in particular, and the adjacent lands, would be of much more importance and value, because Savannah river would be immediately cleared, a measure that would encourage and occasion an immense increase of agriculture upon all the land within reach of its navigation, and hence an amazing increase of produce and river navigation, all of which would centre in Savannah. Thus in a state of separation from South Carolina, Savannah could reasonably expect, and that but by slow degrees and at a distant day, only the one half of the produce of a well improved cultivation of the lands on that river, but by an union, she would in a very short time receive the whole of that improved cultivation and trade; and her own commerce would be increased almost beyond imagination, although she would lose the seat of government. Finally, I may add, that in a state of separation in all probability Savannah will be ruined, because, it will be our interest to preserve our trade to our own people. A town will rise on the Carolina side of Savannah river, which will be sure to preserve our half the trade of that river, and by being wisely supported it may draw to it the other half also; and let it not be said, we cannot find a situation for a town, because it ought to be remembered, that history is full of instances of towns having been built and made to flourish in situations that had been deemed impracticable for such purposes. Rivers and lands make wealthy towns; for these are natural causes; the presence and expenses of a few officers of government are but as drops of water in the ocean; these go but a little way towards filling a government post with loaded ships. The principal material for the building of such towns are policy and opulence; I thank God, Carolina is known not to be in want of either.

In short, sir, it was in vain I declared that Georgia should not be liable to pay a shilling of the public debts of South Carolina, that we would not be unwilling even to aid Georgia in the discharge of her own; that we would condition against taking up of great tracts of land south of Savannah river, and that we were desirous of granting in the treaty of union, whatever they could reasonably ask for in case of an union. It would be the duty and interest of the inhabitants north of Savannah River, to promote the prosperity of those south of it

equally the same, as it was the duty and interest of the people in Georgia north of the Ogeechee, to aid those south of that River. Upon the whole, that we sought to promote the general welfare, and that we knew such an end would not be obtained, but by an union having justice and equity for its basis.

Having discoursed upon such topics about an hour, I delivered a written proposition as a ground work to proceed upon, and then departed. The Convention then determined (as it was said) to consider the subject the next day; in the mean time, in the evening, I repaired to Dr. Jones, their Speaker, and informed him, that as the Public Body of Georgia had heard at large the Carolina reasonings upon the expediency of the union, I thought it equitable, that the Representatives of Carolina should also hear at large the Georgia reasonings upon the same subject, in order that if objections were made, they might, by knowing, have an opportunity of endeavoring to obviate them—and I desired he would in the morning take the sense of the Convention on this subject; he did so, and informed me that I was not to be admitted as a public person to hear their reasonings. Thus while I found they had shut my mouth, I was made sensible that they thought their objections would appear to be more weighty by being secured against the possibility of a reply. And so Mr. Button Gwinnett appeared as the champion against me, when he had taken care to deprive me of an opportunity of exposing the fallacy of his arguments.

However, I took notes of his principal answers to what I had said; and in an hour after, in presence of an officer of high military rank, and of three or four members of the Convention, I produced those notes and asked if they were just; and they agreed with me that what he had said, was either gross misrepresentations of what I had advanced, or no answer to my arguments. In the afternoon, the Convention delivered to me a paper containing their rejection of the proffered union; founded, as I apprehend, upon a reason which does not exist in nature. For, they declared, they could not treat of an union, because of such a particular article (which they specified) in, as they said, the Confederation of the United States, to which they had acceded. A confederation, sir, which I do assure you never existed as a public Act of the general Congress binding upon the States; but which nevertheless, the Convention were taught to receive as a public Act of Congress, and to consider as such. The Convention were certainly innocent, but some individual is culpable. I received the paper, and in silence quitted the room.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,  
W. H. DRAYTON.

HUMPHREY WELLS, Esq., near Augusta, Ga.

Warlike News by the Arctic.

The intelligence from Europe, by the Arctic, is of an unusually interesting and warlike character, more especially that from the Bosphorus, a part of the world which has for some time past been, and indeed is now, the scene of a good deal of diplomatic intrigue on the part of England, France, and Russia. The Russian Ambassador, Prince Menschikov, having presented to the sublime Porte his ultimatum, and that ultimatum being of such a character as to leave Turkey no alternative but a declaration of war; and as a preliminary to that step, the rumor was that she had solicited the alliance of France and England. That solicitation, the further rumor was, had been met by the British and French embassies at Constantinople in so prompt and decided a manner, that it was at first reported a British fleet from Malta was actually on its way to the Bosphorus, and a French squadron had already taken its departure from Toulon for the same destination.—From the Times of the 22d, however, we learn that Admiral Dundas, in command of the fleet at Malta; found his instructions would not allow him to obey the request for his presence in the Dardanelles without special orders from England. The British fleet, therefore, remains at Malta, and the French squadron will probably rendezvous off the coast of Greece or Smyrna to watch the course of events. The French Funds had been seriously affected by the reports from Constantinople; and to show what impression the news had upon the British Ministry, we copy the following from the London Morning Advertiser of the 21st:—

ALARMING STATE OF AFFAIRS IN THE EAST.—The peace of Europe is in imminent peril, as will be inferred from what we are about to state. In consequence of despatches received by the Earl of Clarendon at the Foreign Office yesterday, his Lordship proceeded to Downing street, and immediately dispatched messengers to summon to the Admiralty, at the residence of the First Lord, Sir James Graham, the leading member of the Administration now in town. The conference of the Ministers was held at the Admiralty at four o'clock, and was attended by the Earl of Aberdeen, Lord John Russell, (who was summoned from Pembroke Lodge, Richmond, by a special messenger,) the Earl of Clarendon, Lord Palmerston, and Sir James Graham. All Downing street and Whitehall were in a bustle, and there can be no doubt that the despatches received from the East must have been of an unusually interesting and important character, to have required the attendance of the highest and most experienced members of the Cabinet. It is obvious that something is brewing of more than ordinary import, to bring together in the Easter recess the leading statesmen, who had intended to enjoy the vacation in the bosom of their family circles.

It is said that the Agamemnon, 110 guns, has been ordered to proceed at once from Portsmouth, to reinforce our squadron at Malta, whose services in the East are required; and that the Vengeance, 90 guns, Lord Edward Russell commander, which has been kept in readiness outside Plymouth harbor, has been ordered to the same destination.

Without entering further into the question, uppermost in everybody's mind, respecting the affairs in the East, it seems perfectly clear that the attention of the Ministry is actively directed to the present critical conjuncture of matters, and that a very alarming crisis is at hand, only to be avered by a thorough and cordial understanding between the governments of France and England.

The causes of quarrel between Turkey and her powerful neighbor of the north, have of late years been innumerable. In short, the world has imbibed a pretty substantial suspicion that a war with the Ottoman Porte has long been covered by the Russian Bear, as a means of partitioning its territory a la Poland, and helping himself to a much coveted support on the Mediterranean. In these schemes there is a good reason to believe that the Court of

St. Petersburg has the secret co-operation of Austria. The London Standard says:—

"At present they have seized upon two rather inconsistent pretences for insult. Austria threatens to draw the sword in support of the barbarians of Montenegro, whom by a foul libel upon Christianity she calls a Christian people; Russia, on the other side, menaces Constantinople with an attack in vindication of the claims of the Greek Church to certain sacred sites in Palestine, against the usurpation of that Roman Church to which Austria belongs, and of which she is, indeed, the most zealous champion. There is not much of the lamb like character in Turkey, but such inconsistent pretences for quarrel must remind every one of the fable of the wolf and lamb. Austria acts in support of the Greek Church in Europe, and all the influence of Austria, in common with the other Romish States, is employed against the Greek Church in Asia; but in both cases the unhappy Sultan is the object of menace. There can be no difficulty in drawing a just inference from such a complicated policy; that inference is, that the wolves are resolved upon devouring their prey, if permitted to do so."

The London Times is inclined to doubt the authenticity of that part of the news which announces the sailing of the fleets; at any rate, it is sure it is greatly exaggerated. The Times manifestly has no objections to protect Turkey; but it talks as if it did not like the prospect of having to act in conjunction with such a dubious character as Louis Napoleon.

Later from Europe—Arrival of the Alps.

BALTIMORE, April 14.

The British steamship Alps has arrived at Boston from Liverpool, which port she left on the 30th ult.

THE LIVERPOOL MARKET.—The Royal Mail steamship Cambria, which arrived at Liverpool on the 29th ult., having brought favorable advices from America, a more buoyant tone was imparted to the Cotton market, and sales were effected of middling and fine grades to an advance. The lower qualities, however, were unchanged. The sales on Monday, 28th, and on Tuesday, 29th ult., comprised together 19,000 bales, of which speculators and exporters took 10,000.

In Manchester business was limited. Advances from India state that the Burmese have abandoned Pegu.

The insurrection in China is progressing. The coronation of Louis Napoleon has been deferred until August, in consequence of the Pope being unable to leave Rome until that time.

The Turkish difficulty has been settled, but not in a manner satisfactory to Turkey. The English fleet was still at Malta.

Later Still.

BALTIMORE, April 14.

The Royal Mail steamship America, Capt. Shannon, has arrived at Halifax from Liverpool, which port she left on the 2d inst.

THE LIVERPOOL MARKET.—The Hamboldt's news had a favorable effect upon Cotton, and under the Pacific's advices Fair and Middling qualities advanced a farthing, and New Orleans and Upland Cotton, below Middling, from a sixteenth to an eighth of a penny.

The sales of the week comprise 62,000 bales, of which speculators have taken 38,500, and exporters 14,500 bales.

The sales on the 1st instant were 10,000 bales, of which speculators took 3000. Prices were a little unsteady. The sales of the two days preceeding the America's departure, comprised 32,000 bales.

The quotations are as follows: Fair Orleans 6 5-8d; Middling Orleans 5 7-8d; Fair Mobile 6 1-4d; Middling Mobile from 5 3-4d to 5 13-16d; Fair Upland 6 1-4d; and Middling Upland 5 3-4d.

The stock on hand, exclusive of shipment, amounts to 850,000 bales, of which 562,000 are American.

HAVRE MARKETS.—The sales of the week ending the 30th ult. comprised 9000 bales.—Middling was worth 85 a 86 frs. and Good Middling 90 francs. The Rice market was dull, and the quotations ranged from 31 a 33 francs.

FOREIGN ITEMS.—A despatch from Paris says that the American Government consents to indemnify the owners of the French vessels seized in California.

A conspiracy has been discovered at Berlin, and many arrests have been made. Arms and ammunition had been discovered.

The insurrection at Palermo had been suppressed. Southern Italy is represented to be in a more alarming state than it ever has been. Large numbers have been arrested at Naples.

A doubtful rumor was prevalent at Palermo to the effect that Persia had sought the protection of Russia against England.

The European Democrats have sent, it is said, an address to President Pierce by Pulsky, Kossuth's Secretary, which is supposed to contain a request for arms.

The outbreak in Switzerland among the peasantry has been quelled by the military.

The American lady who was arrested at Heidelberg, on suspicion of circulating revolutionary documents, has been sentenced to six weeks' imprisonment.

Advices from Bombay to the 1st of March state that Rangoon had been nearly destroyed by fire.

THE SUGAR CROP.—A Mr. Champonier, of Louisiana, has published a statement of the sugar crop of that State for 1852-53. With regard to the coming crop, he says:—

"As for the coming crop, its result is, of course, in the future; but we may remark that as far as the season has gone everything looks well for the planters. Each and every one of them has made a good planting, such as has never been made before in this State; and besides this, the ratoon crops must be good, for the winter and spring thus far have been of the most favorable character. Thus far, therefore, the prospects for a fine crop may be said to be good, and considering the extent of the planting and the ratoon crops of the first year being good (for there are hardly any other than first year) should the coming season be as favorable as the last the crop cannot fail to be very large."

Up to the present time, says the Picayune, the season has proved very propitious, and there is good reason to suppose that the coming season will give yet still stronger evidence of the great capacity of our State in the production of sugar.

WHAT IS FAITH.—A simple minded christian being asked, "What is faith?" he answered, "A sweet lullaby in the lay of Jesus."

The Camden Weekly Journal.

Tuesday, April 19, 1853.

THO. J. WARREN, Editor.

The Wateree House Burned.

On Friday night last, about a quarter past eleven o'clock, our citizens were aroused by the alarm of fire, which proved to be the Wateree House, formerly Davis Hotel, owned and occupied by Capt. H. HOLLYMAX, who at the time was absent at Augusta. When discovered, the roof was on fire in one or two places, and so rapidly did the flames spread, that in a few minutes the entire roof was enveloped, putting it entirely beyond all human efforts to save it. The exertions of our Firemen and citizens were then devoted exclusively to the preservation of property immediately contiguous to the burning house; and nobly did our people work. We have seen several fires before, but none which appeared more alarming, and which called for greater exertions. Providentially the flames did not extend beyond the premises of the Wateree. A small house was torn down to prevent an extension of the fire, and the exertions of the Fire Companies upon those houses most in danger succeeded in keeping the fire where it was. The night was calm and of course was greatly in our favor. Everything was exceedingly dry, and had the fire got under way there is no telling where it would have been arrested.

The general impression is, that the House was set on fire, but there is no positive information.

We understand the house and furniture were insured for about thirteen thousand dollars.

Lancaster Rail Road.

As the attention of a part of our citizens seems now directed to the project of a Rail Road to Lancaster, it perhaps may be well that we occupy our columns today with a few thoughts upon the subject.

We are still of opinion that a Rail Road from Camden to Lancaster would be comparatively of little value to us; and that a Plank Road is now the only feasible plan upon which any reliance can be placed looking to the benefit of our town. Yet, notwithstanding our own opinion is decidedly against a Rail Road to Lancaster, and strongly in favor, as we have always been, of a Plank Road into North Carolina, for the sake of concluding as far as possible existing differences of opinion, we are willing to waive our views at least for a time, and give the friends of the Rail Road a candid hearing and a fair chance. We advise that measures be at once adopted to ascertain what amount can be raised by subscription in aid of the construction of said road. The people of Lancaster with commendable zeal, have taken the matter in hand in good earnest, and seem determined if possible to have a road. They are moving every thing within their reach to effect this object. We do not blame them at all. They are right in trying to get a road, and the question now is, shall we aid them? There is no need for long speeches—the matter has heretofore been thoroughly discussed, and the whole range of speculation gone into with as nice a calculation of probable cost, and anticipated results, as could be desired. Then let the Rail Road friends here go to work, and show their faith by their works—let them subscribe if they desire the road, and let them do so without delay.

It is manifest that the only route practicable and possible will be to Camden; it is idle to talk about a connection at Chester or Ridgeway with the Charlotte road; the money for either of these routes will never be raised, notwithstanding the Chester Standard urges upon the people the importance of entering into this enterprise. We do not believe it will be done by the people of Chester. What good will it do them? Camden is the route—the best and only route for the people to consider.

If any thing is to be done for the Lancaster Rail Road, let it be done at once, and if possible ascertain at the earliest moment exactly what amount can be raised in Camden and vicinity for said road.

We of course do not desire the friends of the Plank Road to give up this project; let us still keep in heart, and entertain the idea of a Plank Road into North Carolina ultimately, with or without a Rail Road.

"Look Out! Look Out!"

A fellow calling himself Howard has chiselled us out of a Circus poster, and an advertisement of a grand Circus Company to exhibit here on the 25th of April. He "goes ahead" engaging lodgings for men and horses, and thus gets his own, leaving the bills to be paid by the Company which has no existence.

The same scam passed through this place and gave us a benefit after the same fashion.

The South-Carolina Rail Road.

A correspondent of the Charleston Mercury, writing from Augusta, in regard to the South Carolina Rail Road says:—

"The Road, it is understood, is doing a very heavy and profitable business. The receipts for the month of March amounted to \$145,000; while the aggregate receipts for January, February and March were \$375,000, or at the rate of \$1,500,000 per annum, with every prospect of a progressive increase."

College of Charleston.

At a recent meeting of the Alumni of this Institution, the following gentlemen were elected officers: Hon. W. D. PORTER, President. JOSEPH T. LEE, Vice President. JACOB WILLIAMS, Secretary and Treasurer. Rev. C. C. PINKNEY, Orator for 1854.

Mr. King's Health.

Mr. KING has arrived at Mobile, on his way to his home. A dispatch dated the 14th inst. says that he "has experienced since his arrival several spells of coughing. Last night, however, he rested well, and seemed decidedly better this morning, but his cough has returned. Should he be no worse he will go up the river to his plantation on Saturday."

The Lady's Book.

The May number is at hand. We will let GODBY tell his own tale. "Our May Number—Seventy contributors and forty engravings—a great Number!! We have never published a prettier mezzotint than "Attacking a Crowned Head or the May Queen in Danger"—a prettier fashion plate—"The Dogged Artist" will provoke a smile—while the ladies must be pleased with "The Embroidered Note Case" and Net for the hair."

Peterson's Magazine.

We have also this monthly for May. The embellishments are "Crossing the Brook," "Fashions for May," "Hannah More," "Travelling Day." This is a cheap and interesting periodical, published at two dollars, by C. J. PETERSON, Philadelphia.

The Wheat Crop.

THE WHEAT CROP.—The editor of the Milledgville (Geo.) Recorder, who has just returned from the upper counties of the State, says the growing wheat crop promises an abundant harvest in that region, and also in Tennessee. In Middle Georgia it is remarkably promising.

Mr. Christian Snavely.

Mr. Christian Snavely, a worthy citizen of Harrisburg, Pa., has become a victim to the spiritual knockings, and has been sent to the insane asylum. He is not to be a raging maniac.

A Washington correspondent of the New York Courier and Enquirer says:—"Gen. Dix has accepted the appointment of Assistant Treasurer, and has returned to New York. It is expected that he will hold office about sixty days; after which he will probably receive an important foreign appointment."

CALIFORNIA GOLD.—Hunt's Magazine, from reliable sources, puts down the gold dust shipped from San Francisco at \$15,559,171. Of this \$39,007,367 was destined to New York; \$470,783 to New Orleans; \$6,020,027 to London; \$46,000 to Panama; \$15,000 to San Juan.

The Virginia House of Delegates has passed a bill providing for the removal of free negroes and mulattoes from the Commonwealth, with the title of the bill amended so as to read "an act establishing a colonization board, and making an appropriation for the removal of free negroes from the Commonwealth." (The appropriation of this bill is \$30,000 per annum, and a tax of one dollar per head on all male free negroes over twenty-one years old.)

EARLY SQUASHES.—The Ocala (Fla.) Mirror notices a squash vine, on the premises of Mordcael Alexander, Esq., which has already extended eight branches, two measuring 17 feet, and the shortest 5 feet. On it are 25 fine young squashes.

GEN. SCOTT.—We see it stated that Gen. Scott intends taking up his residence permanently in New York. He has purchased a splendid house in Twelfth street, for \$26,000.

THREE CENT PIECES.—Over thirty-six millions of three cent pieces have been coined at the Mint. Their coinage has been discontinued for the present, with the view to the more active employment of the whole force of the establishment in the manufacture of the new silver coin.

The New York Journal of Commerce, in noticing the opening of the spring fashions at the milliners' establishments in that city, says: "bonnets are lambered up with 'artificial' lace and ribbons to a remarkable extent—making them more like flower beds than head dresses."

CAN ABOLITIONISTS BE GENTLEMAN?—The New York Pick says: Of course not—they acknowledge themselves the black-guards of the North.

BISHOP SOULE.—We had the pleasure, this afternoon, of meeting Bishop Soule; the venerable patriarch of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, in the United States. The old man is 72 years of age; but his step is vigorous and his form erect. He looks as though he would outstand many more days of travel. He remarked, respecting his trip to California, that, in addition to the objects of his mission, he had another incentive—having journeyed through every other State in the Union, and the territories adjacent, he strongly desired to see the whole of California. For half a century, this man has wielded no unbecoming influence in the Church organization by which he is now venerated as a patriarch. He is a powerful preacher, an effective defender of the Church, at all points—and he bears the unmistakable impression of the man upon his massive forehead.—Panama Echo.

MILLS DESTROYED BY FIRE.—We regret to learn, that the Chester Steam Mill, that on Thursday night last, the Grist and Saw Mills of Mr. Danl. G. Anderson, at Cedar Shoal, on Fishing Creek, were entirely destroyed by fire. These Mills had been recently fitted up in a large and commodious building, and furnished with the most approved machinery. The loss, it is said, will scarcely be less than \$5,000. The fire is supposed to have resulted from accident.

WILMINGTON AND MANCHESTER R. R.—The cars are now running on this road to the Darlington (James) Depot, and we learn that the track-layers have progressed several miles farther, and will likely reach Greeg's within a few miles of the Pee Dee river, by the first of May.—Darlington Flag.

FREE NEGROES IN VIRGINIA.—The Virginia house of delegates has passed a bill providing for the removal of free negroes and mulattoes from the Commonwealth, with the title of the bill amended so as to read "an act establishing a colonization board and making an appropriation for the removal of free negroes from the Commonwealth." The appropriation of this bill is \$30,000 per annum, and a tax of one dollar per head on all male free negroes over twenty-one years old.

THE AFRICAN RACE IN NEW YORK.—All persons having a shade of philanthropy in their composition, must have that feeling excited by witnessing the poverty and degradation in which the African race exist in this city. Systematically shut out from all mechanical pursuits, and expelled from almost all the inferior positions they were once allowed to hold here, they have seen their places filled by Germans and Irish; and now there are not more than half a dozen occupations in which they can engage. Even as waiters in our hotels—one of the last and best strongholds left them—they find that they are constantly losing ground by the abler competition of immigrants from Europe. This expulsion of the negroes from almost every branch of industry has had its natural effect in thinning their numbers. And while during the last ten years they have increased in the Southern States at the ratio of thirty per cent. the negro population of this State has fallen from fifty to forty-seven thousand.—N. Y. Herald.

Our Village and the surrounding country was, on Wednesday last, visited by a most violent wind. The morning, though calm, as the day advanced, became more and more blustering. About twelve the wind raged with great fury, blowing off one of the chimneys of the Court House, in which the Court was then sitting, besides blowing down much fencing and a great quantity of timber. On the same day many were great sufferers by fire, the woods being ignited, and the wind blowing so violently that to attempt to subdue it in its onward progress was worse than vain. Some had all their fencing entirely consumed, or nearly so. We expect still to hear of more disasters, as we have never witnessed so violent a wind.—Pickens Courier.

DEATH OF A CENTENARIAN.—We are indebted to a friend, says the Augusta Chronicle, for the following notice of the death and sketch of the life of a Centenarian who has gone to his account:—

Died, in this county, on the 5th inst., a negro man, familiarly known as "Old Jacob," whose great age, faithful service, and well known pro-

bility of character, render him well worthy of a passing notice.

He was purchased by Mr. Thos. Walker, one of the earliest settlers of this county, in 1768, as the bill of sale declares for £200, being then 20 years of age, making him at the time of his death 105 years old. During the revolutionary war he was frequently taken from his owner by marauding parties of Whigs or Tories, as one or the other happened to be in the ascendant, and was an eye-witness to many of the scenes of that eventful period. He would narrate with considerable eloquence the inglorious defeat at Brier Creek, of the Americans under Gen. Ashe.

He served as cook to an officer whose name he said was Williams-Williamson, in the British army at the siege of Savannah. His invariable practice was to seize the first opportunity of escape and return to his master. His ideas of the merits of the glorious contest then going on, seem never to have been very well defined, for when asked which service he preferred, Whig or Royalist, his reply was "wer'nt no difference—all rogues, sir, all rogues." Doubtless a correct commentary upon his individual experience.

For many years before the death of Mr. Thos. Walker, he was but nominally a slave, and at his death Major Abram-Walker, whose property he became, gave him entire freedom, which for forty-five years he has enjoyed in uninterrupted health, and with every comfort, with which those anxious to repay his fidelity, could surround him.

His death was the result of no positive disease, but apparently a mild and gradual decadence of his physical powers.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—We regret to learn that on Thursday the 31st ult., Mr. William E. Muse, of this District was killed near Elizabeth in Bladen County, North Carolina, by the accidental discharge of a pistol in his own hands. It seems that Mr. Muse was sitting down a pair of bars, when the pistol fired; the ball entering near the edge of the jawbone, between the throat and chin, and coming out of the mouth. He lived several hours, and as he could not use the muscles of his mouth, to throw off the blood accumulating in his throat, it is probable he died more from strangulation than pain caused by the wound.

Darlington Flag.

EXTENSIVE PIGEON ROOST.—We learn that there is a pigeon roost, extending for upwards of 20 miles on either side of the Potomac, commencing about 28 miles from this city, and running within a few miles of Waldron, in Scott county. We have seen several persons who have visited the roost, and the accounts they give of the number of pigeons to be found there is beyond computation—the eggs are scattered over the ground, broken. The air, in this region, at this time, is filled with large flocks of them flying in every direction, affording fine sport to the fowler.—Fort Smith Herald.

THE SILVER COINAGE.—The money article in the Baltimore Sun, of the 8th, says:—Large amounts of silver are daily being sent to the Mint, by Banks in New-York and other cities, for coinage, and the Mint will be fully occupied for some time. About \$100,000 are already coined, and will be delivered about the 15th of this month. The quarter-dollars are said, by those who have seen them, to be a very handsome coin. The price offered for silver is, if the coin be new, a fraction over 4 per cent. premium on American, and about 5 per cent. on Mexican dollars. The denominations of coins that will be first issued are quarters, dimes and half dimes.

THE COPPER MINES OF NORTH CAROLINA. Though it has been long known that there was Copper in Guilford and Chatham counties, of which we had rich specimens given us when in Hillsboro three or four years ago, it is but recently that these mineral deposits have attracted much attention. From a gentleman of North Carolina, an old acquaintance of ours, we learn that there is now quite a mania on the subject—that an individual who is the owner of one fourth of one of these mines, has been offered \$250,000 for his interest in it, which he has refused—that a good miner can get out a ton a day of the ore, and that it yields thirty per cent. of pure metal—and that by the rail roads and plank roads now in progress, it will find a ready market. There is no telling what North Carolina may yet become—with her forests yielding lumber, tar and turpentine—with her mines of gold, and coal and copper—with her agricultural treasures—and what is more valuable than all, an educational system which is beginning to operate with effect, in developing her amazing resources.—Richmond Observer.

Bunker Hill Monument was twice struck by lightning on Wednesday afternoon. Persons who were in the monument thought it was going over. The bottom of one of the rods where it entered the earth was slightly melted, and a gentleman near the top who was passing down and holding by the front rail received a shock from which he did not recover entirely for a couple of hours. The second shock, Mr. Goodenow says, sounded like the crash of a large quantity of glass thrown down the inside of the monument.—Aurora.

MORMON EMIGRANTS.—The St. Louis News says:—

The Grand Tower, up on the 29th March, had 225 Danes, all Mormons, and bound for Salt Lake. The John Simonds, in this morning, (March 30) has 240 English and Welsh of the same faith, and bound for the same destination. Large numbers of emigrants professing this creed, are now on their way from Europe. A ship was at the Balize when the J. In Simonds left New Orleans, with about 400 of them on board.

The News of the 31st has the following:—

Faithless Mormons.—We are told that a large number of the English, and a few of the Welsh arriving here within a few days past, professing the Mormon faith, have refused to emigrate farther, and more especially do they refuse to go to Salt Lake. From what we are told, a large portion of these emigrants came over to this country under the care of a Mormon agent, and by a joint stock concern, making bargains with ships and steamboats for a large number, several hundred at a time the pro rata cost of transportation is greatly reduced, and the average per head, including members of families, does not, by this wholesale system, exceed \$8 or \$10 per head from Liverpool or London to this city.