

THE JOURNAL:

CAMDEN, MARCH 5, 1866.

FLORIDA.

Under the proper head, in another column, will be found every thing of interest from this territory. Gen. Scott is concentrating the forces, and we may shortly expect to hear of measures of a decisive character.

IMPORTANT IF TRUE.—It is reported that the Queen of Spain has acknowledged the Independence of Spanish America. Doubtful.

COL. CROCKETT.—It is reported that Col. Crockett, whom we mentioned some time since, had volunteered his services in Texas, died soon after his arrival there. We hope there is no truth in the statement; for whatever else the Col. may be, he is certainly not deficient either in courage or patriotism.

SMALL BOAT.

This loathsome and fatal disease, ranging to considerable extent in Ashe county, N. C. Several cases had terminated fatally.

Atheists.—A bill has been before the Legislature of Massachusetts, providing for the admission of professed atheists to testify as witnesses, in courts of justice. The bill, to the honor of the State, was rejected, by a vote of 353 nays, to 130 yeas. We are only surprised that there should have been found among that "moral and religious people," 130 statesmen, willing to place the lives and property of themselves and their constituents at the mercy of men, regardless of the obligations of religion.

THE SPIRIT OF THE TIMES.

This paper came to hand on Saturday last, in an entire new and improved dress. To those of our readers, fond of a paper, devoted to the interests of the sporting world, we would recommend this as the best. The prospects of the new series, will be found in another column, and from the event heretofore displayed in the columns of the *Spirit of the Times*, we have no doubt but it will be all that it promises to be, or its friends could wish it. The Editor has given ample proof of his ability to do justice to the undertaking, and the improvements which have taken place in the appearance of the paper attest his enterprise.

The establishment of the Methodist book concern in New York, was destroyed by fire, on the 16th ultimo. The loss is estimated at two thousand and fifty thousand dollars, only about forty thousand of which was insured, and but ten thousand in solvent companies. This establishment gave employment to between two and three hundred persons, many of whom are at a most unpropitious season thrown upon the charity of the community.

THE ABOLITION QUESTION.

We stated a week or two since, that the debate in Congress, on this exciting subject, had been arrested, by the adoption of the resolution of Mr. P. S. COOPER. The remark however, had hardly gone to press, before we ascertained that we were mistaken. We had supposed, that Mr. Cooper's resolution anticipated the reference of all the memorials that had, or might be presented to Congress, relative to the abolition of slavery, to the select committee raised under the resolution. A short time after its adoption however, Mr. BRADDOCK, of Massachusetts, presented a petition for the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, whereupon Mr. WISE of Virginia, whose legislative powers seem to be interminable, moved its rejection. The Speaker decided that the motion was in order, and the question open for debate. Mr. WISE then went on, instead of supporting his motion to reject, with almost violent and indecorous tirade against Mr. P. S. COOPER, relative to his resolution, when he was called to order by the chair. Mr. WISE appealed from the decision of the speaker, on the grounds that by the adoption of the resolution of Mr. P. S. COOPER, to refer all petitions heretofore filed, and which should thereafter be presented on that subject to a select committee, it was not in order to entertain the question of reception or rejection. The point of order was discussed at some length, and the chair sustained by Messrs. LEWIS, JACKSON, WISE and GARLAND, of Virginia, as opposed by Messrs. BEARDSLEY, GREENLEE, VANDERKROOT, and MANNING.

On the question "shall the decision of the chair stand as the judgment of the House?" the vote stood, yeas 50, nays 147—so the petition was referred to the select committee, and we can now say that the debate has been arrested for the present, and it is to be hoped that the business of Congress may now go on without so much unprofitable debate, though we need hardly expect such a result, for as a correspondent very justly observes, "the masters are all well paid, and it is very easy now, as it always has been, for the Representatives of the people to say a great deal about a very small matter."

VIRGINIA RESOLUTIONS.

Since the adoption of the expunging resolutions, (which will be found in another part of this paper,) by the General Assembly of Virginia, Governor PAYNE has sent a message to that body, in which he announces to it, that he declines complying with the request contained in the last resolution.

This request it will be perceived, is simply that he should send a copy of the resolutions to both the Senators from Virginia, and request them to lay them before the Senate. The Governor refuses, because, as he says, "neither of these bills am I requested to perform, or embraced within the sphere of any duty assigned to the Governor of this Commonwealth, either by its constitution or laws;" and therefore, as the duty is not my *act*, he, contrary to all usage, refuses to comply with a request, made in the most courteous manner, simply because he happens to differ in opinion with the majority of the Legislature.

The design of the Legislature however, was no doubt frustrated by the quibbles or scruples of his Excellency. Immediately on reading the message, Mr. WATKISS, the mover of the expunging resolu-

tion, which, after some sparring was adopted by a vote of 70 to 49. The following is the resolution

Resolved, by the General Assembly of Virginia, That the Speakers of the Senate and House of Delegates, be, and they are hereby requested forthwith to transmit the aforesaid preamble and resolutions to each of the Senators from Virginia in the Congress of the United States, with a request that they lay the same before the Senate of the United States.

So that is to be hoped that the Senators will long be in possession of the sentiments of their constituents. We hope *ruefully*, in this instance, will not prove as true in relation to the Senators as it has with respect to his excellency. We shall see

IRON STEAM BOATS.

The practicability of navigating the Water by steam boats has been tested, and there remains not the shadow of a doubt but it may be done with complete success. The boat with which the experiment was made, with a freight of six hundred barrels of cotton, drew between 24 and 25 feet water—Such a boat would not, of course, answer to run the river but a very small portion of the season, but, if one of the kind mentioned in the following article were procured, with some variation in its construction, there could be no question, but it might be successfully run between Camden and Charleston, from one end of the season to the other. It will be perceived that the boat alluded to in the following article, is to carry the same number of barrels, as the one, with which our experiment was made, but is to draw at least three and a half feet less water—The continuance of steam navigation on our river is essential, we think, to the prosperity of Camden, and therefore important to all our citizens, and we would recommend the Steam Boat Company, whenever they shall commence their operations to take the subject of iron steam boats into consideration.

From the London Times, Dec. 26.

Iron Steam Vessel.—There is at present building in London an iron steam boat 120 feet long and 20 feet wide, at Mr. Laird's yard, on the other side of the river. The vessel is to be taken to pieces and sent across the Atlantic to Savannah, to be re-constructed, and August she is intended to ply with cotton, &c.—She is so constructed as only to draw two feet, and a half of water, and yet to carry 600 barrels of cotton on her deck, which, when the wood-work is added, will be upwards of forty feet wide. Her burden is 22 tons, carpenter's measure. We believe that she is the largest iron steam boat ever built in this port, she is certainly one of the most curious and ingenious.

We add to this a paragraph which we have since found in a Boston paper, from which it will be seen that a boat larger than the one intended to ply between Savannah and Augusta is to be constructed, as to draw only two feet water.

"A strong iron steam boat has been completed in London for the East India Company, to be employed in the navigation of the Ganges. It is 120 feet in length, entirely of iron, except the deck carries an engine of 60 horse-power, and draws less than two feet of water."—*Boston paper*.

EXPUNGING RESOLUTIONS.

We mentioned last week, that the expunging resolutions had passed the Virginia House of Delegates. They have since passed the Senate in the same form in which they were adopted by the house. The second resolution, which avows the right of instruction, was adopted by a vote of 25 to 5. With such an expression of opinion before them, the senators from Virginia, will scarcely continue long to misrepresent the principles of the old Democratic party.

The following are the resolutions as they passed both houses:

"Whereas, the Senate of the United States did, on the twenty-second day of March, eighteen hundred and thirty four, adopt the following resolution:—"Resolved, That the President, in the like executive proceeding in relation to the public revenue, has assumed upon himself authority and power not conferred upon him by the Constitution, and presenting his proposed budget, and the accompanying statement of his financial resources, and the probable expenses of the year, has violated the Constitution, and the law, and the principles of our free institutions;

And whereas this Assembly doth, in their solemn duty again to assert, in behalf of themselves and the people of Virginia, the right of the constituent to instruct, and the duty of the representative to obey or resign:—Therefore,

I Resolved, by the General Assembly of Virginia, That the Senate of this State, in the Congress of the United States, be, and they are hereby instructed to introduce, and vote for, a resolution, directing the aforesaid resolution of the Senate, on the twenty-eighth day of March, eighteen hundred and thirty-four, desisting, "that the President, in the like executive proceedings in relation to the public revenue, has assumed upon himself authority and power not conferred upon him by the Constitution, and the law, and the principles of our free institutions, and the law, and the principles of our free institutions;

And whereas this Assembly doth, in their solemn duty again to assert, in behalf of themselves and the people of Virginia, the right of the constituent to instruct, and the duty of the representative to obey or resign:—Therefore,

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And whereas this Assembly doth, in their solemn duty again to assert, in behalf of themselves and the people of Virginia, the right of the constituent to instruct, and the duty of the representative to obey or resign:—Therefore,

I Resolved, That the Governor of the commonwealth be requested to transmit the foregoing resolutions to each of the Senators from Virginia, in the Congress of the United States, with a request that they lay the same before the Senate.

3. Resolved, That the Governor of the commonwealth be requested to transmit the foregoing resolutions to each of the Senators from Virginia, in the Congress of the United States, with a request that they lay the same before the Senate.

Agreed to by both Houses of the General Assembly, Feb. 20th, 1866.

GEORG. W. MUNFORD, c. n. p."

COMMUNICATED.

The Kershaw Corps, under the command of Lieut. M. M. LEVY, paraded in this place on Saturday last, strong headed by many volunteers in uniform, who it is hoped will continue organized with this favorite corps, at least during the absence of a large number of its regular members. Its appearance was highly imposing, and calculated to procure soon an effect as must at this time, be regarded as a matter of no ordinary importance, after the usual drill and parade, the corps with many invited citizens moved to the magazine Spring, where they partook of a barbecue prepared for the occasion.

THOMAS DALE, Esq., was requested to preside, assisted by Mr. A. DELEON as Vice President.

The following toasts are a few among the many that were drunk:

By the President.—The present time—an era of good feeling, party spirit is broken down, and harmony prevails among us.

By the Vice President.—The Camden Corps of Cavalry.—The same spirit of patriotic fervor pervades every member. It is the pride of our District.

By Lieut. M. M. LEVY.—The Town of Columbia—ever characteristic for hospitality, it was conspicuous during the sojourn of our Volunteers. It has our warmest gratitude, and our best wishes.

The reception of this toast was very enthusiastic when the applause ceased.

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