

South Carolina and the Presidency.

Happily for the public repose of the order-loving people of South Carolina, there are two causes which give them peace and quietness during a Presidential canvass, while all around them the political storm rages and howls for the space of three or four months.

The first and grand cause is that the citizens of this State are a unit with regard to national party politics—they are Democrats. Scarcely a ripple of Whiggery or Federalism disturbs the placid surface of her political system; it is only periodically or at irregular intervals any motion is visible on the waters, and then they soon return to their accustomed calmness. The next cause is that her electoral vote is not given by the people, at least not directly. They choose the men who cast the vote of the State, but they rarely or never chosen with reference to this question. There is no political necessity that it should be otherwise, although the change in our system is one which the people may claim at some future day. Another cause, not less influential than the two already mentioned, in keeping down national politics and its strife among us, is that South Carolina and her people are more wedded to the doctrine of entire State Sovereignty, and more opposed to that of Federalism and consolidation, than perhaps any other State in the Union. Her people decline having a hand in forging any chain, even a golden one, that would bind them to the chariot of federal politics, or that would fetter them in their earnest and devoted defence of that palladium of American republicanism—State Rights.

But although her people thus voluntarily and patriotically abstain from joining the hurrahs of the party contests which take place every four years, they cannot—so long as they form a portion of the people, so long as South Carolina is a State of the confederacy—they cannot, we say, remain disinterested, much less indifferent, to these quadrennial struggles for political ascendancy. The Government has to be administered, and its administration must be marked by a policy either favorable or detrimental to the well-established and cardinal doctrines of republican liberty. A government wielding the power and influence of this, and dispensing a patronage of over fifty millions of dollars, has within it the elements of a despotism, and its tendencies will all be directed towards the centralization of power in the hands of its executive ministers.—To keep these elements from combining, and to check and repress these tendencies, experience has taught the American people that the pure and unadulterated principles of Democracy, engrafted on American politics by the master spirits of 17-98, must control the reins of government, and that the best safeguard of the rights of the States and the liberties of the people, is an adherence to the Constitution under its strictest construction. The statesmen and people of South Carolina have long manifested their devotion to these principles, and to day she presents the spectacle of a people more united on the principles and policy of government than the citizens of any State in the Union, or the people of any country in the world. He will not be her friend who shall attempt to sow the seeds of political distraction among them. On questions of State policy her citizens may richly differ, and with wholesome results; but any step towards causing them to become active partisans in the field of federal politics, will be fatal to her own peace, and weld her forever in a Union for which, as now governed, she has little affection or reverence.

Another contest is now being vigorously carried on all around her. Her people have become sickened of federal politics, and their disgust has not been lessened by the recent campaign through which they have passed; and when the cause and result of that controversy are considered, it is not surprising that an indifference, greater than usual, in relation to the Presidential struggle, seems to have settled on the public mind here.—But this indifference is doubtless increased by the fact, conceded by all parties, that the State will give her electoral vote for the Democratic nominees. Nor does this indifference reach a point that would cause her to hesitate in making a choice between the two individuals named by their respective parties for the Presidency. Besides the principles of government involved in the contest which, so long as no other issue more vital to her is mixed up with it, must ever keep South Carolina a Democratic State, the individuals themselves would leave her small opportunity to hesitate in her choice.

The Whigs have presented to the country, as a candidate for its highest civil office, a military chieftain of well-earned fame, but a man whose life has been spent in a position, the duties and associations of which have naturally impressed him with the idea that all around him must obey his will; a man jealous of his rank and station, and exacting in his requirements from those associated with him; a man whose qualifications as a statesman, legislator, or for any civil office have yet to be developed; and above all, so far as the South is concerned, a man who is believed to be, on pretty good evidence too, inimical to her interests and institutions. Besides this, it is morally certain that his administration would be characterized by ultra Whiggery, and that every article of that creed which had not become obsolete would be sought to be impressed upon the policy of the country. South Carolina has no liking for the man, and she loathes the doctrines of his party.

Not so the Democratic candidate. Mr. Pierce is a man who has been in public life, and has discharged its duties creditably; he is a man for whom the seductions of office and spoils have had little attraction, having resigned a United States Senatorship, and refused a seat in Mr. Polk's Cabinet; and a man against whose political integrity, firmness and inflexibility no breath of defamation can be directed. All we know and hear of him show that he is a State Rights Democrat, and that he is perfectly sound in his political principles. He is young—in the 46th year of his age—and in the full bloom of intellectual vigor; and what is still more, he has been no intriguer, for, with regard to this nomination, the words of Mr. Polk, when inviting him to his cabinet, may be appropriately repeated: "In this instance, at least, the office has sought the man, and not the man the office." His entire freedom from party intrigue, factions and cabals, is a strong recommendation for him to South Carolina.

And in these remarks, we do not desire to be

understood as becoming a partizan. Our object is to show that, whilst there are no senseless hurrahs for Pierce and King heard from South Carolina, there is no necessity for them. The members of both the late parties in this State agree as to whom the vote of the State should be given and that vote will be unanimous. In choosing the least of two evils, and without any reference to the platforms of either party, the people compromise neither their honor nor their present position with regard to the compromise. Both parties promise to abstain from further aggression and robbery, but neither of them proffer restitution of that already taken, nor does either of the platforms afford security for the future. Whilst therefore the people of South Carolina cannot fraternize with either party, and although stricken and dispirited they may be, they have not unlearned the political lessons of the past, nor can they be found giving aid and comfort to Whiggery and Federalism by withholding it from its opponents. It may be that a better time is coming; at all events whenever or wherever the battle of Southern Rights is to be fought the position of South Carolina can be easily assigned. Until a day of restitution or disenfranchisement shall come, she can never be a partizan in these national contests, but in the mean time, neither friends nor enemies may expect to see her desert her long-cherished political principles.

[From the Anderson Gazette, 14th inst.]

Judge O'Neill's Address to the Rail Road Convention.

Judge O'Neill on taking the Chair, said that he was fully sensible of the honor conferred on him, in calling him to preside over the deliberations of the Convention. He and a friend from Columbia (Mr. John Bryce) were all of that immense column of Delegates from South Carolina to the Knoxville Convention, in 1836, who were present to-day.

The work thus begun is now, after sixteen years of repose to be completed. The connection between Charleston and the Great West, through the centre of South-Carolina, is a work deserving not only encouragement: by words, but by money and untiring effort.

He said, he hoped that there was no feeling in the body, but that the work should be done, and that all selfish and local considerations should be sacrificed on the altar of our common good.

In looking around over the vast assemblage, he felt that there was that interest which would with the unanimous concurrence of South-Carolina, Georgia, North Carolina and Tennessee, press unceasingly the mighty work until the Blue Ridge was scaled and the valley of the Tennessee reached and penetrated.

This day the 1st of July, 1852 he trusted would be long remembered as a day of great consequence to the South and South West. It was the beginning of a work calculated not only to make us the recipients of untold wealth, but also to secure to the people and their children, and children's children a heritage of liberty won for them by so much blood and suffering.

Are those no motives to make us of one mind and of one purpose in carrying out the great work before us? Can it be that we are to fall out by the way, and forfeit the hopes of Southern country? Surely not, when it only requires a long pull, a strong pull and a pull together, and the neighing of the iron horse will be heard, as he thunders on over the Blue Ridge and pours his breath of fire on the rich fields of Tennessee!

Sure am I, said he, that we who have left our homes, and come for many miles to this meeting have no other prompting than success in the great work. South-Carolina has looked to the charter of the Blue Ridge Rail Road Company with intense interest! She rejoiced in its enactment, as the opening out of a way, whereby she and her sisters of Georgia, North-Carolina and Tennessee, were to be equally benefitted, and to be bound together by a band of iron stronger during its time. She is, I believe prepared both by her people and Legislature, to do whatever may be necessary to build the road from Anderson to such point in Tennessee, as may enable her to connect with Chattanooga and Knoxville.

The Company over which I preside, the Greenville and Columbia Road will do all it can to contribute to this great end. It will interpose no obstacle to the granting of a charter which shall connect Anderson with the Blue Ridge.—Indeed, we only desire that the connection should be made with our road at this place, and then with a spirit of mutual accommodation and benefit, there will be no other strife but to "do the most good!"

I hope, said he, we are here, to-day to write in letters of light, "prosperity" on our common country!

THE STARS.—The unusual spectacle is now presented of all the visible Planets being above the horizon early in the night; and they are so distributed as to mark the line of the Ecliptic, or the plane of their own and the Earth's orbits with distinctness. With Venus in the West, said to be more brilliant at present than any time within the last ten years, and Jupiter with his usual splendor in the East, with the lesser lights, Mars and Saturn between them, the arrangement of the planetary orbs affords an interesting view to all who take pleasure in such contemplations. Mars now appears much reduced in size and brilliancy on account of the relative position of himself and the Earth in their respective orbits but still retains his ruddy glow.—The pale white light of Saturn makes it appear like a star of the second magnitude. These with the fine constellation of the Scorpion, Lyra, and the Greater Bear, all visible at present, make the contemplation of the "starry heavens" interesting and instructive.—*Richmond Enquirer.*

Notice has just been renewed to the press in France that the writer's signature must be attached to every published article, or the penalties will be inflicted upon the proprietors. The Brussels Emancipator has been stopped at the French post office, because it contained reports of the proceedings of the Council of State.

RUMORS.—It is said that Mr. Crittenden, the Attorney General, is going to England, in October place of Mr. Lawrence who has resigned. Mr. Crittenden however, denies that there is any truth in the rumor. We should think he ought to know.

THE SEMI-WEEKLY JOURNAL.

TUESDAY EVENING JULY 20, 1852.

THO. J. WARREN, Editor.

The Weather.

We have had an abundance of rain, and fear if such heavy showers as fell here on Saturday and Sunday last become frequent, with corresponding rains above us, the river will overflow its banks, and ruin the fine crops of corn which we are glad to say are unusually abundant along its margin. As yet, we are happy to say, no immediate danger is apprehended, but how true it is we cannot tell what a day may bring forth.

Brigadier General of Cavalry.

In our paper June 1st, we noticed the nomination of Col. THOMAS J. ANCRUM, in the following manner: "We see by the last Palmetto Standard that Col. ANCRUM has been nominated by 'Chester Squadron of Cavalry' for the office of Brigadier General in place of Gen. OWENS, who it is said has or intends to resign."

Our information, as we have expressly stated, was derived from the Palmetto Standard—a respectable and reliable source. We observed the nomination of Col. ANCRUM over the signature of "Chester Squadron of Cavalry." It was not natural that we should notice it as a matter of information for our readers, as Col. ANCRUM is a citizen of our District, and a well known Cavalry officer.

It is true we might have noticed this nomination in terms somewhat different—something like the following: "In the Palmetto Standard of the—inst., Col. ANCRUM is nominated for the office of Brigadier General over the signature of Chester Squadron" &c.—the word over in place of "by," which would have altered the reading of the sentence in some degree. This is however a matter of taste, and is adopting another mode of expression embracing the same point. We "expressly stated" nothing "in the Camden Journal" "untrue in fact," but that Col. ANCRUM had been nominated &c., in the Palmetto Standard. The presumption was very reasonable on our part, as we had no right to doubt the veracity of the nomination—that duty was competent only for the Editor of the Standard through the medium of whose paper it was made.

It is due to us that these remarks should accompany the communication which we publish from the Palmetto Standard. "Fair play" is all we want, or ask; and we cheerfully give place to the article as requested. We have no interest in this election beyond that of any other ordinary citizen of the community, and are unwilling that any thing "expressly stated in the Camden Journal" should be in any degree prejudicial to the election of Major NELSON, a gentleman for whom we entertain a high regard.

The following is the article from the Standard:

"Mr. Editor: An impression has gone abroad that the Chester Squadron has nominated Col. Ancrum for Brigadier General of the 3d Brigade of Cavalry, and I understand it has been so expressly stated in the Camden Journal. The friends of Maj. Nelson in that Squadron are unwilling that his election should be in any degree prejudiced by this statement, and I therefore ask the liberty to say it is untrue in fact, no meeting of the Squadron having been had for that, or indeed for any other purpose since the resignation of Gen. Owens. It is therefore due in justice to Maj. Nelson, that this impression be corrected, and especially as in my opinion the vote of the Chester Squadron will be almost equally divided between the two candidates."

"P. S. Will the Camden Journal and the Sumter papers oblige the writer by copying."

We ask that the Palmetto Standard and all other papers which may copy the above article, will oblige us also by inserting our explanation, that it may prevent further misunderstanding.—[ED. CAMDEN JOURNAL.]

The Western Democrat

Is the name of a new paper recently established at Charlotte, N. C. It has unfurled the Democratic banner, with the names of Pierce and King. It is a handsome, well filled sheet, and from the ability and taste displayed, promises to be a valuable accession to the corps in the Old North State. R. P. Waring, Esq. is editor and proprietor.

Winnsboro' Register.

From Friday's paper we extract the following from the leading editorial:

"THE CAMDEN JOURNAL.—We assure our friend of this paper that we entertain for him and his Journal the very kindest feelings, and in our late comments upon his course in relation to the Democratic nomination merely wished to set forth our views of it, and express our opinion thereof. The difference between us seems to be very little, but that little is very susceptible of being extended to a great length, tho' in the present instance we hope it will contract rather, than expand."

"We have no disposition to enter into a controversy upon the subject, especially as the difference between us is one of so slight import, and is as much a matter of taste as principle. And as we have no particular fancy for the phrase, 'Making tracks towards the fence,' we are willing to retract it, our meaning being sufficiently explicit without it."

We assure our friends of the Register that this explanation is abundantly satisfactory to us, and so far as we are concerned, the difference between us will "contract rather than expand."

Sugar.

This is another of the important productions of the Slave States which requires slave labor for its cultivation. The acquisition of Louisiana, Florida and Texas, has given us a large extent of country suitable for Sugar, an article that enters so largely into the comfort and luxuries of life. The raising of sugar, requires like rice, rich lands, which are only found in sufficient quantity in the vicinity of streams; it may be cultivated to some extent on poor land, but does not there become so profitable. Sugar is produced in Louisiana and Texas, to which we may soon add Florida as it yields well there.

In Alabama, Georgia and South Carolina, the cane is grown and considerable sugar made. This, like the other staple crops of the South, by increasing the means of the master, enables him to increase the comfort of the slave, for in his owner's prosperity he is sure to participate. Were it not for slave labor, this great luxury of life would be wanting.

The island of Jamaica, a productive and once prosperous island, while raising sugar and other tropical plants by slave labor has, by the folly of the British Government, been doomed to poverty and destitution, and is fast becoming a wretched exemplification of the folly of man, in the abuse and perversion of heaven's blessings.

MR. CLAY'S SUCCESSOR.—The Hon. David Merriweather has been appointed by the Governor of Kentucky, to fill the vacancy in the U. S. Senate, created by the death of Mr. Clay, and has taken his seat. He can serve no longer than the first of September, at which time he will be succeeded by Mr. Dixon.

DROUGHT IN VIRGINIA.—A severe drought is prevailing in Dinwiddie, Brunswick and Mecklenburg counties, Va., no rain having fallen for a month. The apprehension of a short crop of corn has raised the price of the old crop to 3.50 and \$4 per barrel. The wheat crop on the James River, however, will be large, but of tobacco and oats not more than half a crop it is said, will be realized.

TOBACCO CHEWERS.—The Lancaster Ledger says that Mr. C. M. Heath of that District, aged 47 years, quit chewing tobacco on the 20th of May. His weight at that time was 139—on the 25th of June he weighed 153—gain in five weeks 15 pounds. He also states that he has been free from a nervous headache, which constantly attended him while in the habit of chewing.

ALABAMA CONVENTION.—The Southern Rights Convention of Alabama adjourned sine die on the 14th inst. Both sets of resolutions were laid on the table, and a Committee appointed to interrogate General Pierce and Scott as to their opinions on the compromise measures, the right of secession, and other points of their political faith. If either party answers in accordance with the views of the Southern Rights Party of Alabama, he will receive their support for the Presidency. If their answers are not satisfactory, the Committee are authorized to call another Convention to nominate an independent candidate.

For the Camden Journal.

Celebration of American Independence at Jefferson, Chesterfield District, S. C.

Pursuant to previous arrangements about five or six hundred of the citizens of the community assembled on Saturday, the 8d July, at Jefferson, to celebrate the anniversary of American Independence. At 12 o'clock, M., the procession was formed under the direction of J. E. ROBINSON and Dr. W. J. BASKIN, Marshals of the day, and moved to a stand prepared in a grove, accompanied by the excellent music of the "Jefferson Band;" when, after Prayer by the Rev. WM. MOORE, and the reading of the Declaration of Independence by Col. HUGH CRAIG, an Oration was delivered by Maj. ALLAN MACFARLAN, replete with patriotic and chivalric sentiments, and abounding in sage suggestions and arguments in favor of a more practical system of Education, by which the mental faculties would be more fully developed, and the mind trained to a closer application and thoughtfulness as the great means of perpetuating the blessings of liberty which we now enjoy.

After the Oration the company repaired to the dinner table, where a splendid dinner was served up, when the cloth was removed, the following regular toasts were drank:

- 1st. *The Day we Celebrate.*
- 2d. *The Constitution of the United States.*—The only bond of union between the States of this Confederacy. A strict adherence to its provisions will perpetuate the Union, but, its repeated violations have already put it in jeopardy, and will if persisted in, rend it asunder.
- 3d. *George Washington.*
- 4th. *Non-Intervention.*—The true policy of our country.
- 5th. *The Heroes of the Revolution.*—Let their memory ever be cherished by a grateful and patriotic people, and their example followed whenever the occasion demands it.
- 6th. *The Orator of the Day.*
- 7th. *Agriculture, Commerce and Manufactures.*—The three leading sources of national wealth—if left to the control of the laws of trade they will each be abundantly more prosperous than they ever can be under the influence of laws passed by a corrupt majority in Congress.
- 8th. *The State of South Carolina.*—Unwilling from motives of expediency, to take the redress of her wrongs in her own hands at present—yet her sons with one heart and soul will do better for the cause of liberty and equal rights, when the proper time arrives.
- 9th. *John C. Calhoun.*
- 10th. *The Domestic Institutions of the South.*—Under the sanctions of a wise Providence they have produced the highest degree of happiness to two races of people. Let the South see to it, that the sacred trust reposed in them is not abused through their own neglect or want of foresight.
- 11th. *The Democratic Nominees for President and Vice President.*—The South will confide in their political integrity for the preservation of her rights.
- 12th. *The Hon. J. J. Evans.*—May he be our next Senator in Congress.
13. *The Ladies.*—The first to be respected and the last to be neglected.

After the 6th regular toast Maj. Macfarlan very feelingly thanked the company for the honor conferred on him, and in conclusion offered the following:

Chesterfield District.—May her prosperity never end.

By Wm. A. Evans. *The State of South Carolina.*—May all divisions among her sons cease, and her wisdom and integrity give strength and stability to our confederacy.

By S. J. Lucy, *Calhoun.*—May the memory of his virtues animate the hearts of every South Carolinian, to the latest posterity.

By B. F. Garland. May this day be remembered when many others are forgotten.

By M. B. Aarant. *Gen. John McQueen*, our representative in Congress—true and faithful to the rights of the South. He has our abiding confidence.

By John W. McLemore. *The Ladies.*—Ever remembered but never forgotten.

By Maj. John S. Miller. *General Pierce.*—Should he be elected the next President, may he act with honor to the office and justice to the government.

By Capt. Leonidas Lowry. *Col. E. B. C. Cash.*—May he meet with a welcome reception to a seat in the Legislature by the voters of Chesterfield.

By Thomas H. Mangum. May the tree of liberty flourish round the globe, and all partake of its fruit.

By Capt. Leonidas Lowry. *The South.*—May her patriotic sons firmly unite in resisting aggressions interfering with her institutions, come from what source they may, and concert of action prevail on all momentous questions, and may faction and dissension cease to exist among her noble sons.

By N. F. Edgeworth. We will fight the battles of our country and love the girls of our land.

By Maj. Jno. S. Miller. *The Jefferson Band.*

Their excellent performance will do them honor upon all such occasions.

By Capt. Leonidas Lowry. *Gen. F. Pierce*, the Democratic nominee for the Presidency—May success attend him, and his administration meet the approbation of the South.

By Col. Hugh Craig. *Gen. J. W. Blakeney*, our former able Representative.—He has the thanks of the District for his faithful services.

[After this toast Gen. Blakeney eloquently returned his thanks to the company and to the District for the repeated evidences of their confidence in him, and concluded by offering the following:]—

Hon. A. P. Butler.—Our vigilant sentinel on the watch-tower of liberty.

By Maj. John S. Miller. *Henry McIver, Esq.*—He has a hearty welcome to a participation of our festivities.

[Mr. McIver thanked the company for their kind notice taken of him, although a comparative stranger among them, and warmly advocated the sentiment contained in the fourth regular toast (non-intervention,) showing the folly and danger to us as a people, of intermeddling with the internal political affairs of other nations.]

By Dr. W. J. Baskin. *The State Homestead Bill.*—It has an unjust and immoral tendency, a curse to the poor, and injurious to the people at large.

M. B. Aarant Esq. acted as President of the day, and Dr. W. J. Baskin as Vice President.—The utmost harmony and good order prevailed throughout the whole proceedings. In conclusion, it was

Resolved, That the proceedings be furnished to the Camden, Lancaster and Cheraw papers for publication.

TELEGRAPHIC INTELLIGENCE.

GEORGIA UNION CONVENTION.—We are indebted to the attention of a friend for the following:

MACON, July 17.—The Constitutional Union Convention, after a session of two days, were unable to agree, and finally split wide open. The Scott men incontinently vomited. The Webster and Fillmore men, numbering forty or fifty, supplemented, and nominated Webster for the Presidency, and Charles J. Jenkins, of this State, for the Vice Presidency. The Cobb men, mostly from Cherokee county, nominated what they call a Pierce and King ticket, but which looks suspicious, being composed of some of the most ultra Whigs in Georgia. The Cobb men are chapfallen and greatly distressed, and the Union Hotel is closed.

WASHINGTON, July 18.—Senators Cass, Fish and Stockton, have returned from Lexington, Ky, whither they accompanied the remains of Mr. Clay.

A special messenger has arrived at New York from Boston on his way to Washington in relation to the Fisheries on the coast of New Foundland. It is rumored that unexpected troubles of a serious nature are likely to arise between England and the United States.

STABBING—STRANGE DEPOSITION.—A man by the name of Wm. Brown, was yesterday brought for examination before Magistrate Robertson, upon a voluntary revelation made by himself to Mr. James J. Beaseley, proprietor of an ice cream garden in the upper part of the city, where he (Brown) was staying. The following is the deposition made by Brown.

On Wednesday night last, between one and two o'clock, being aroused by a noise in the yard, Mr. B., the proprietor being absent, he got up and repaired to the spot, accompanied by a little negro boy about six years old. On approaching the place, they discovered several men in the yard, and one up a tree. Brown, on reaching them, was seized and thrown upon the ground, by which he was much injured in the hand, and having a knife, he, upon recovering himself, pursued one of the party, and inflicted several stabs upon his body; he says the man cried out don't kill me! don't kill me! Brown stabbed him several times; the man fell, and appeared as though he was dead. Brown says, that some time afterwards, thinking he had killed the man, he took the body, and placing it in a large sack, took it out into the woods for concealment, and after going a considerable distance, deposited it on the ground; the man did not move when thrown down.

Brown then returned to Mr. Beaseley's premises, slept the rest of the night, and returned for the body, with the object of delivering it up to the authorities, but on reaching the spot it could not be found. He does not know how to account for its disappearance, but supposes that he must have been followed by the party, who no doubt removed the body.

Brown does not know certainly if the persons were white or black, but thinks they may have been negroes as they looked black to him, but may have had their faces blacked. He thinks their object was to steal chickens or commit some theft.

The above was detailed to Mr. Beaseley by Brown, who also requested that Mr. Beaseley would publish the circumstance in some of the papers, which might lead to some discovery of the injured person.

On Mr. Beaseley's return, previous to seeing Brown, he enquired of the boy where Mr. Brown was, the boy mentioned that he had gone down to the city, having had a fight the night previous with some men, and hurt his hand.—He mentioned that Brown had given him a knife to clean, and when questioned with regard to the state of the knife, said that it had blood on it. Search had been made, and up to the present time, without any further discovery or disclosure. Brown has been committed for further examination.—*Southern Standard.*

REMARKABLE FATALITY.—During the last 48 hours says the Philadelphia Bulletin of Monday last no less than eight persons—men and boys—have been injured in the city and its vicinity, all by different mishaps, so seriously as to cause death in a short time. Two of the deaths were instantaneous, one man killing himself by falling through a hatch and another dashing his brain out by a fall through the joists of a new building.

The Ohio river is so low that all the large packets have withdrawn from the trade.