

THE SEMI-WEEKLY JOURNAL.

TUESDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 16, 1852

THO. J. WARREN, Editor.

Our Cotton Market.

Considerable briskness has prevailed in our Cotton market since our last...

We invite attention to the advertisement of Messrs. R. & A. P. CALDWELL...

Frost.

We have been visited by killing frosts at last. On Sunday, yesterday and this morning...

Presidential Election.

It is stated, or computed, that a Presidential election, including all expenditures...

We know that a great deal of fraud is practised on all such occasions. Betting on these elections is also a wholesale business...

We give below a single instance of the evil effects of this dreadful sin—one which is national...

The Cincinnati Commercial says "that a gentleman residing in that city...

The Electoral Question.

In our paper to-day an article may be found upon this subject, copied from the Charleston Mercury...

It is right that we should give the argument on both sides of the question. We are not willing on any matter of State policy...

Hon. Thomas H. Benton.

The following paragraph is going the rounds, which represents Mr. Benton in a very ridiculous light...

Georgetown Papers.

The "Winyah Observer," and "True Republican" are hereafter to be merged into one...

Hon. Jefferson Davis.

We are glad to see by the recent accounts that this distinguished son of Mississippi has recovered...

The Enterprise, Selma, in Dallas county, states that Col. Wm. R. King, the Vice President elect...

The South Carolinian.

We have delayed in noticing this excellent paper, which has been conducted so well by our friends Messrs. JONSTON & CAVIS...

Peterson's Magazine.

We have received the December number of this elegant Magazine for the Ladies...

FREE NAVIGATION.—It is stated that the navigation of the Parana and the River Platte has been thrown open to vessels of all nations...

CUBA.—The Madrid Military Gazette of the 15th announces that General Olloqui has received orders to proceed to the Island of Cuba...

GEN. PIERCE'S CABINET.—Some of the papers are already speculating as to who will constitute Gen. Pierce's Cabinet. One of them says there is no doubt of the Hon. James Buchanan...

From a communication in the Nashville Christian Advocate, we learn that Bishop Soule will postpone his contemplated visit to California until February next...

For the Camden Journal.

Mr. Editor:—A meeting was held at Union Church on Friday, Nov. 5th, 1852, for the purpose of organizing the above named Convention...

The Chairman, on taking his seat, briefly but pertinently explicated the object of this contemplated Convention, to be for the improvement and better understanding of vocal music...

As is usual on such occasions, the Chairman gave the Introductory Lesson; at the conclusion of which, a recess of fifteen minutes was granted to enable the Committee to hold a meeting...

After the closing Lesson by the Chairman, the meeting adjourned to 10 o'clock, A. M. Saturday. The Benediction was pronounced by Rev. H. L. Tiller.

Saturday.—The meeting assembled pursuant to adjournment, and was opened by prayer from John D. Price, esq. In accordance with the arrangements of the Committee...

Benediction was pronounced by John D. Price, esq.

An annual meeting will be held next fall, of which due notice will be given of the time and place. EPHRAIM E. TILLER, Chairman. J. JONATHAN LUCAS, Sec'y.

From the Edgefield Advertiser.

Messrs. Editors:—At the last meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Free Schools for Edgefield District, the following Preamble and Resolutions were passed...

Whereas, We, the Commissioners of the Free Schools for Edgefield District, feel that it is the duty of every free white man...

Resolved, That the Commissioners of the Free Schools for Edgefield District, petition the next Legislature to pass an Act requiring every free white man who has attained the full age of twenty-one years, to pay a Poll Tax.

Resolved, That this Board recommend to similar Boards to take into consideration this matter and to unite with this Board in petitioning for the same.

Resolved, That these resolutions be published in the Advertiser, and that all papers in the State, favorable to the object, be requested to copy them.

REV. THOMAS B. RUSSELL.—This accomplished teacher, late President of Oak Bowery Female College, has been elected to the Presidency of the Tusculooosa Methodist Female High School...

We learned from Jas. H. Grant, Esq. chief engineer of the Nashville and Chattanooga railroad...

The last column of the Great Exhibition building in Hyde Park has been prostrated, and the entire edifice is now demolished. The site is now covered with the debris of the election...

Tribute of Respect.

At the Regular Meeting of Wateree Division, No. 9, S. of T., the committee appointed to prepare resolutions expressive of the feelings of the Division on the death of Brother M. T. Mendenhall...

We are called to mourn the loss of an estimable Brother—a strong pillar in the Temple of our Order has been struck down—Past Grand Worthy Patriarch M. T. Mendenhall, of Charleston...

As such we knew him, and as such we shall revere his memory. We all remember him as one of the kindest of men. He has been for many years a devoted friend to the cause of Temperance...

Resolved, That in common with the brethren throughout the State, we mourn that the cause of Temperance has sustained so great a loss...

Resolved, That we do form ourselves into a body to be known as a Vocal Musical Convention.

Resolved, That the officers of this Convention shall be a Chairman and Secretary, to be elected at each annual meeting...

Resolved, That a blank page in our Book of Record be dedicated to his memory with his name and office inserted...

Resolved, That the above be published in the Temperance Advocate and Camden Journal. Respectfully submitted. W. E. HUGHSON, A. M. KENNEDY, T. CARPENTER.

Further from Europe.

BALTIMORE, Nov. 11.—The U. S. Mail steamship *Humboldt*, Capt. Lines, has arrived at New York from Havre via Southampton.

The sales during the three days comprised nearly fifty thousand bales. The market closed firm with an upward tendency.

The Circular of Messrs. Wright, Gandy & Co. quote Fair Orleans at 6 1-2d.; Middling Orleans, 6d.; Fair Uplands, 6 1-4d., and Middling Uplands, 5 7-8d.—the same quotations as were current at the sailing of the *Africa* on the 23d ult.

The London *Times* says that on the 28th ultimo, Cotton in Liverpool advanced from an eighth of a penny to a farthing per pound, and that the sales of the day comprised 35,000 bales, half of which amount was taken by speculators.

In the Manufacturing Districts generally, trade had improved and prices were better.

Later from Europe.—Arrival of the *Canada*.

BALTIMORE, Nov. 11.—The British Mail steamship *Canada*, Capt. Stone, arrived at Halifax (N. S.) on the 8th instant, from Liverpool, which port she left on the 30th ult.

THE LIVERPOOL MARKETS.—Since the departure of the *Africa* on the 23d ult. a large business has been transacted in Cotton, and a considerable speculative demand existed. Under the influence of the advices brought by the steamship *Atlantic* from America, prices advanced, and all qualities may be quoted at an eighth of a penny higher.

On Friday, the 29th ult. 20,000 bales were sold, of which speculators took 10,000; and the sales during the week comprised 67,550 bales, of which 56,500 were American, and of which speculators took 58,260, and exporters 4150.

The quotations are as follows: Fair Orleans, 6 5-8d.; Middling 6 1-4d.; Fair Mobile 6 3-8d.; Middling 6 1-8d.; Fair Upland 6 3-8d., and Middling 6 1-8d.

The stock of Cotton in Liverpool, exclusive of that on shipboard amounts to 425,000 bales, of which 235,000 are American.

ENGLAND.—The English press view the controversy that appears in some of the American papers with jealousy.

The London *Times* says that Louis Napoleon will protect Cuba against American aggressions. Mr. D'Israeli has addressed a letter to each member of Parliament friendly to the Earl of Derby's administration, urging a punctual attendance on the first day of the Session of Parliament, as a Speaker will be at once elected, and business of the utmost importance brought forward.

A severe Gale has occurred in the English Channel, which caused many shipwrecks, involving a considerable loss of life.

FRANCE.—Paris was tranquil. Another infernal machine had been discovered at Fontainebleau. The Pope refuses to crown Louis Napoleon as Emperor of France.

Great military preparations are being made, and considerable activity is manifested.

The Civil List of the Emperor is fixed at 30,000,000 francs.

LIVERPOOL, Oct. 30.—In the Liverpool Cotton market the sales during the week comprised 118,000 bales, of which speculators took 57,000, and exporters 4,000 bales, leaving 57,000 bales, all kinds, to the trade. The demand during the week, as the large sales evince, was exceedingly good, and prices advanced an eighth—Fair Orleans being quoted at 6 5-8d.; Middling Orleans, 6 1-4d.; Fair Uplands, 6 3-8d. and Middling Uplands, 6d.

ATTEMPT TO BLOW UP JAMES GORDON BENNETT.—The New-York *Herald* of Monday contains a long account of an attempt having been made to destroy the life of the proprietor, Mr. Bennett, from which we glean the following particulars:

It appears that on the evening of the 18th ult., a man whose identity has not been made out, employed a hackman at the Park to take him to the Fulton Ferry. On their way down, the person stopped the hackman at the *Herald* office, and asked him to deliver a package. The hackman did as he was requested, and left in the *Herald* office a small round box. The box was subsequently handed to Mr. Bennett, the editor of the *Herald*. It was, as is said, marked as follows: "Native silver and copper ore from the Cuba mountains, with letter inside the box."

For James Gordon Bennett, proprietor and editor, Office, N. W. corner of Fulton and Nassau-streets. Private and with care." Accompanying the box was a card, on which was printed with a pen as follows: "Senor V. Alcazar, of Cuba, for Mr. Bennett, who will call on his return to the city." The outer envelope being removed it disclosed a small pasteboard box, resembling those used by shirt dealers for putting up collars. On the side of the box was affixed by means of red sealing wax, a slip of foolscap paper, on which was printed in the same handwriting, but in red ink, these words—"Specimens and private documents from the interior of Havana for Mr. Bennett (only). Should he be out of town, keep for him. Island of Cuba, September, 1852." As the box could not be readily opened, Mr. Hudson, one of the editors of the *Herald*, who was present, made an incision with a knife, when some black grains of some hard substance, rolled out upon his desk. These grains proved to be powder, and a subsequent investigation proved that the paper box was a most ingeniously contrived torpedo, or infernal machine, and that it contained such a quantity of powder that its explosion would have been certain death, to all who might happen to be near it. A circular piece of pine wood, half inch thick, was supported by four light pegs, fastened in the bottom of the box, and about the height of an inch and three-quarters over it. About three-quarters of an inch above this piece of wood was another similar one, but somewhat less in circumference. This was fastened to the bottom of the box by two pieces of strong cord, running through holes in the lower wood, and was supported by a bunch of detonating matches, resting on a groove in the upper surface of the lower wheel, and forming a sort of column in the centre. This groove was covered with sandpaper, and the lid of the box was fastened to the upper piece of wood, so that in attempting to screw off the cover, the friction should ignite the matches.—This being all so ingeniously constructed, the box was filled with fine rifle powder by means of a hole made in the centre of the bottom, the powder passing through holes and niches cut in the lower piece of wood until the box was entirely filled with it. About a dozen hard paper pellets were found among the powder, which were designed to have acted as bullets. The

hole was covered with a circular piece of tin, and entirely concealed and secured by a quantity of black sealing wax, impressed with an American cent. Altogether, it was a most diabolically constructed affair, and had it exploded in Mr. Bennett's hands, would have not only killed him, but Mr. Hudson, and probably another gentleman then in the office. But instead of twisting round the cover as designed, Mr. Bennett endeavored to pull it up and thus raised the matches off the sand paper. The escape, however, was a most miraculous and providential one.

The Electoral Question.

The approaching session of our Legislature is pregnant with results of serious and lasting import to the State. Overshadowing all other questions is that of changing the mode of choosing the Electors of President and Vice President. And in view of the momentous consequences, to the political character and welfare of the State, which hang upon its issue, we do not hesitate to declare that it is scarcely inferior to any question which has been submitted to the deliberation and decision of the Legislature. When this question, a few years ago, was agitated on the stump and through the medium of the press, the Mercury devoted its earnest efforts towards vindicating and perpetuating that mode which the tests of time and experience had so nobly proven.—Still further tests, and a maturer reflection, furnish us no reasons to regret that course, or remodel our opinions. Indeed, when we cast our eyes over this country, and mark the desolating triumphs of a false republicanism—triumphs which, while they sweep down the venerable and sage institutions of better times, plant in their stead the dominion of self-constituted irresponsible bodies of socialism, demagoguism, and mobocracy, and see that all this is done under the catch-penny pretenses of "progress," and "a regard to the people's rights," we vainly would withstand more boldly the tide which threatens, and cherish with a truer devotion the heritage which has come down to us.

But there are other considerations which pierce to the root of this matter. The chief end aimed at in any election, is faithfully to collect and express the opinions of the voters. Has it ever been honestly objected to the present mode that it fails to do this? Who, among all the partisans for the change, has pointed to a single instance since the birth of the system to the present time, where the Legislature of South Carolina has cast her vote in opposition to the sentiments of the people? Have they in their primary assemblies ever disapproved of its choice?—The people themselves, in the election of members of the Legislature, indicate their choice for President and Vice President. During the Cass and Taylor contest, the people of this city preferred the latter, and they accordingly elected a delegation who executed their will. If, then, under the present mode, the voice of the people is faithfully expressed, the query naturally recurs, why alter it? Why exchange an ancient law, whose operations has been just and satisfactory, for one which can promise even no more, and must inevitably do less?

But it is urged that the present mode is anti-republican, and deprives the people of one of their peculiar rights. Our answer is simple.—Those who allege this, forget that it existed in all of the Old Thirteen States, and was established by the fathers of the Republic. The Federal Constitution provides that each State shall appoint electors in such manner as directed by the Legislature, and the patriot statesmen in every one of the Old Thirteen, in the ripe maturity of wisdom, decided that the mode now in operation among us, was the true, constitutional, Republican mode. They knew well enough the rights of the people, for they were the people who bled for and won them, and they loved republicanism indeed, for it was the proud work of their own stout hearts and clear intellect.

A new republicanism has, however, come forth in these latter days, in comparison with which theirs is very foolishness. Proscribed and cast out from every other State in the Union, their principles still linger in South Carolina, as a cherished home. Not long to rest. The heel of the invader is here too, to disturb, trample and destroy. Let those who would now tear down the edifice, remember the builders!

Still further, it is not anti-republican, because it was established by the people of the State, and has been approvingly acquiesced in by them for near three quarters of a century. Herein they have endorsed its wisdom. To those who profess so much zeal for the rights of the people, and desire so ardently to carry out their wishes, we would propose a simple question. What reasons have they for saying that the people desire a change? We know that the question has been mooted here and there, and that struggling majorities in different quarters of the State have expressed such a wish. But we deny that the issue has been so generally made, or the matter so thoroughly discussed and canvassed, as that any one can honestly declare that he believes the people at large are anxious for it. We believe that the present law is altogether satisfactory to them, and that on a fair and full investigation, they would spurn this mongrel republicanism now offered, and hold to that their Fathers gave. We reserve other points for a future occasion.—*Char. Mercury.*

MISSISSIPPI REDEMPTION.—Under the old constitution of Mississippi, the State chartered the "Planters' Bank of the State of Mississippi," with a capital stock of \$3,000,000. Of this capital, two millions were reserved to the State, and the remaining million, left to individuals, was subsequently increased to two millions. The individual stockholders paid up; but the State only subscribed and sold its bonds for \$500,000 of the amount reserved, the bonds not being issued to the bank, but negotiated abroad. This stock was subsequently invested in the Natchez Railroad, and was there sunk, together with the sinking fund created to meet the bonds. These bonds were afterwards repudiated by the State, and the question has ever since been a matter in the elections of that State. We are pleased to see that it is now settled, and that the people, in the late election, have voted that the bonds must be paid.

SPIRITOUS GOLD COIN.—It is said that much spurious gold coin is in circulation in our city. It is thickly coated with the precious metal, and has to be filed deeply to reach the base, which makes it absolutely necessary that persons who handle much of this coin should have scales with which to detect the cheat.—*Cincinnati Gaz.*