

CONGRESSIONAL.

The Right of Visitation.—Accompanying the President's Message on this subject, was the following letter from the Secretary of State.

To the Hon. the Speaker, &c. &c.—The Secretary of State, to whom has been referred a resolution of the House of Representatives of the 22d inst., requesting that the President of the United States be requested to communicate to that House, if not in his opinion improper, whatever correspondence or communication may have been received from the British Government respecting the President's construction of the late Treaty concluded at Washington as it concerns an alleged right to visit American vessels, has the honor to inform the President that Mr. Fox, H. B. M. Envoy Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, came to the Department of State on the 24th of Feb. inst., and informed the Secretary of State that he had received from Lord Aberdeen, H. M. Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a despatch under date of the 18th of January, which he was directed to read to the Secretary of State of the United States. The substance of that despatch was that there was a statement in a paragraph of the President's Message to Congress at the opening of the present session of serious import, because, to persons unacquainted with the facts, it would tend to convey the supposition not only that the question of right of search had been disavowed by the Plenipotentiary at Washington; but that Great Britain had made concession on that point.

That the President knew that the right of search never formed the subject of discussion during the late negotiation, and that neither was any concession required by the United States Government nor made by Great Britain.

That the engagement entered into by the parties to the Treaty of Washington for suppressing the African Slave Trade was unconditionally proposed and agreed to.

That the British Government saw in an attempt on the part of the Government of the United States to give a practical effect to their repeated declarations against the trade, and recognized with satisfaction an advance towards the humane and enlightened policy of all Christian States from which they anticipated much good.

That Great Britain would scrupulously fulfil the conditions of this engagement; but that from the principles which she has constantly asserted, and which are recorded in the correspondence between the ministers of the United States, in England, and himself, in 1841, England has not receded and would not recede. That he had no intention to renew, at present, the discussion upon the subject. That his last note was yet unanswered. That the President might be assured that Great Britain would always respect the just claims of the United States. That Great Britain made no pretensions to interfere in any manner whatever, either by detention visit, or search with vessels of the United States, known or believed to be such; but that it still maintained and would exercise when necessary its own right to search a suspected vessel might hear, that if the exercise of this right, either from involuntary error, or in spite of every precaution, loss or injury should be sustained, a prompt reparation would be afforded. But that it should entertain for a single instant the notion of abandoning the right itself, would be quite impossible.

That these observations had been rendered necessary by the message to Congress. That the President is undoubtedly at liberty to address that assembly in any terms which he may think proper, but if the Queen's servants should not deem it expedient to advise Her Majesty also to advert to these topics in her speech from the throne, they desired nevertheless to hold themselves perfectly free when questioned in Parliament, to give all such explanations as they might feel to be consistent with their duty, and necessary for the elucidation of the truth.

The paper having been read, and its contents understood, Mr. Fox was told in reply that the subject would be taken into consideration, and that a despatch relative to it would be sent, at an early day, to the American Minister in London, who would have instructions to read it to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

DANIEL WEBSTER.

Congress.—The Correspondent of the Charleston Courier, under date of the 2nd inst., says:—Except the curious scene of the majority attempting at the last moment to pass through without discussion or examination bills to which the minority were irreconcilably opposed, Congress offers little of interest in the proceedings of Wednesday and Thursday.

The bill to carry out the Treaty with England passed the Senate without amendment and is therefore a law. The Naval Appropriation bill was still detained by a difference about the dry dock matter. The bill to put down Express Mails was not taken up in the House, and the bill to modify the rates of postage was so changed in the House that the Senate would not listen to it. The bill rechartering the District banks and that refunding to Massachusetts certain militia expenses during the last war, were opposed and would probably be defeated in the House. All was going well, like a crowd getting out of a house on fire—pushing, shouting, cursing, laughing, threatening, trampling—fierce, tragedy and comedy trundled together on the stage. The Senate decided on a night session, Thursday—and the House decided the contrary. It is not strange that in the midst of such a chaos Mr. Adams had the audacity to offer the following resolutions.

Resolved, That the repudiation, by any States of this Union, of any debt to foreigners, contracted by authority of the Legislature of the said State, is a violation of the Constitution of the United States, in the first paragraph of the tenth section of the first article, which provides that no State shall pass any law impairing the obligation of contracts.

Resolved, That if any State of this Union shall, by or in consequence of such repudiation, involve herself in war with any foreign power, the Congress of the United States has no power to involve them, or any other of the States of this Union, or the people thereof in such war.

Resolved, That in the event of such war, the State involving herself therein, will cease thereby to be a State of this Union, and will have no right of claim to aid in her defence from the United States, or any of them.

The House refused a motion to print—yeas 72; nays 108.

Matters at Washington.—The correspondent at the Herald writes as follows:—Now a word with regard to the Message. I have seen the rough copy written out by the President, and it contains many erasures and interlineations, in Mr. Legare's handwriting. The message is not fully approved of by Mr. Webster.

So much for the treaty. The nomination of the Hon. Henry A. Wise, as minister to France, was this day sent into the Senate. It will probably be confirmed. Wise told me he cares not a straw whether they confirm it or not.

Mr. Forward holds over till after the 4th of March, so as to obviate the necessity of sending Mr. Spencer's name into the Senate as Secretary of the Treasury. The price of this consideration is, that Judge Patten is to go to Denmark, and Dr. Forward is to have Judge Patten's place; his residence in Pennsylvania is in Judge Patten's district. A fair business transaction.

It is understood that Mr. Webster does not think proper to go out at present to please any body. Events thicken, as Congress is about to close. One member of Congress had his ear, or part of his ear bit off at Jenkins tavern the other night. Several members have just left the city, and all Mr. Webster's plate was stolen from his house last night or early this morning, including the magnificent vase given him by the people of Boston.

The nomination of Mr. Wise and the retirement of Mr. Forward are settled—but the Globe of Thursday night states that Mr. Cushing's name has been sent to the Senate for the Treasury. The appointment of Mr. Wise seems to us a good one. His honor, his courage and his ability give him the highest claims to the confidence of the country.—Chas. Mercury.

Hon. W. W. Irwin, Representative from the Pittsburg District, was nominated and unanimously confirmed as Charge to the Court of Denmark.

The Hon. Edward Everett, at present Minister to the Court of Great Britain, was nominated and confirmed as Commissioner to facilitate the commercial intercourse with the Empire of China.

Calvin Blythe was nominated and unanimously confirmed as Collector of the port of Philadelphia.

Col. Henderson of the Marine Corps was brevetted Brigadier General, and was confirmed by the Senate.

MISCELLANEOUS.

From the South-Carolinian.

Democratic Meeting in Charleston.—A meeting of the Democrats of the Sixth Congressional District is to be held in Charleston on Saturday next, "to take into consideration the nomination of a candidate for the Presidency, and to consider the principles on which a National Convention should be organized, and delegates selected." The call is thus noticed by the Mercury:

The meeting of Saturday.—As the meeting of Saturday is for the purpose of securing the proper representation of this Congressional District in the Democratic Convention, it is of importance that the attention should be full, not only from the city but all the parishes of the Sixth District, that what is done may be as it is intended, a movement of the people, and have the full moral effect of such a movement. This meeting will arrange the time and mode of selecting a delegate for Charleston District to the Democratic Convention, which will be held, it is presumed, in May, 1844.

It is understood that ours will be followed up by similar meetings in all the Districts of the State, which will show that the nomination of Mr. Calhoun by our Legislature, was not an act originating with politicians at Columbia, but one demanded by the popular sentiment of the State, a duty without discharging which our legislators dared not to come home and face their constituents.

It is as the choice of the people that Mr. Calhoun will be nominated, if at all, by the Convention; and the confidence in him of the universal Democratic party, which such a nomination will indicate, will arm him for the great reform of which he is the projector and champion, and which his whole splendid public life has been spent in steadily advancing. The people therefore should begin to take the matter in hand actively throughout the Union. We invite to this meeting all who rejoice in the hope that with the adjournment of Congress on Saturday last, which misrule expired—and who, with the firm determination to oppose and beat down all attempts at its revival, have enlisted, heart and hand, under the banner of "Free Trade—Low Duties—No connection with Banks—No Land Distribution—Economy—Retrenchment, and a strict adherence to the Constitution," and under this banner pledge themselves to redeem the Union from the disgrace and degradation which Federalism has inflicted.

Additional interest from the presence of such members of Congress of this State and other Southern States as may arrive here, on their way home during this week and whom we hope to detain for the occasion.

Let us have another such overflow as we had at the same place, when we sent our great Senator forth to the people's "battle two years ago."

We trust this meeting will be promptly followed up by a similar one in every District of the State, and have no doubt that it will be.

From the Old Dominion.

The Bull-still rolling.—The proposition that the Delegates to the Democratic National Convention be chosen by Congressional Districts, seems to be gathering strength and favor with every evolution of it in the public mind. During the recent visit to Washington, several gentlemen of the highest standing in the Democratic party, and among the warmest friends of Mr. Van Buren, assured us of their hearty approbation of the plan, and of their disposition to urge its adoption, as one which was absolutely right in principle, and therefore one that should be freely and cheerfully conceded to the friends of Mr. Calhoun.

The New York Plebeian, one of the most decided in its preferences for Mr. Van Buren of any of the papers that yet have spoken out in his behalf, and one that is second in influence with the Northern Democracy to but few if any of its contemporaries, thus speaks out in reply to the Albany Argus—

"We do not design to interfere in the affairs of other States, but so far as New York is concerned we hold that as a matter of principle as well as sound policy the delegates to the National Convention should be elected by districts. The old mode has nothing to recommend it save that it has been the previous custom. For the townships or wards to first send delegates to a county convention—the county convention to select delegates to Albany—the convention at Albany to select delegates to Baltimore—four stratactions of the popular will—is an absurdity unworthy the age, and a party claiming to reflect the popular sentiment. Would it not be more in consonance with our professed principles to select these delegates directly from our Congressional districts? We think it would. The adoption of this more Democratic and satisfactory mode could not effect our distinctive State character as intimated by the Argus. The delegates to that convention are to represent our State in its numerical strength, each delegate representing the will of his immediate constituents.—We would be willing to carry our State Right notions so far as to yield to Rhode Island the same voice in the Convention as the right belongs to New York."

We no longer doubt the general concurrence of the Democracy, in this proposition. Indeed, it is not generally concurred in, great if not tremendous difficulty will be the consequence. What ever may be the nation State-wise, in any of the States, in most if not in all of them, Delegates will be chosen by Districts.

These will go and insist on their right to seats in the Convention and to participation in its action. We need not attempt to depict the consequences which must ensue. Suffice it for this time to say that in our judgment the harmony of the party imperatively demands of our Northern friends this concession to the friends of the Southern candidate; and we believe that in no other way can the union of the party be secured.

NORFOLK, March 7. Mr. Calhoun.—The Hon. John C. Calhoun arrived here on Sunday morning on the steamer from Washington, on his return to his domicile in South Carolina. At the earnest request of those of our citizens who desire his nomination as a candidate for the Presidency, he consented to remain until this morning, when he will take the cars on the Portsmouth Rail Road for the South.

On his arrival on Sunday morning, he was met by a committee, who conducted him to French's Hotel, where lodgings had been prepared for his accommodation; and in the afternoon he attended Divine Service at Christ Church. As Mr. Calhoun had positively declined all public demonstrations of respect, he received yesterday forenoon at his lodgings, the visits of a large number of citizens who called on him to pay their individual respects. They were all of them Calhoun men—though probably only a small minority of them were so in a party sense,—all, however, delighting to honor the distinguished statesman of any country who had done honor to his country.

Mr. Calhoun appears to be in fine health and excellent spirits. "Time has not thinned that flowing hair," which graced his head when he visited us in company with La Fayette, in November, 1824; but it has scattered its locks on it with a liberal hand. Still he looks well, and is the impersonation of a fine, social, affable and courteous gentleman.

After the hour of receiving visits had elapsed, Mr. Calhoun visited the Pennsylvania, the Navy Yard, &c., and passed the evening at the Crawford House, in Portsmouth, at the invitation of a committee of friends there.—Herald.

United States Court—Important Decision against Stay Laws. WASHINGTON, Feb. 23. Gentlemen.—As it cannot be too soon, or too generally known, it gives me pleasure to inform you of a decision of much moment, and of high conservative character, made to-day, by the Supreme Court, with no other dissent but his Honor Mr. Justice McLean. It is this: That the States have no authority, with reference to existing contracts entered into prior to such legislation, to provide for the exemption of property from sale under decrees on judgments until it shall have been first appraised under such a law, and unless it shall bring a sum bearing a prescribed proportion to the amount of such appraisement. The question arose upon a certificate of division in opinion between the Judges of the Circuit Court of the United States for the District of Illinois in the case of Bronson and Kinzie, involving the constitutionality of two Acts of Congress, passed on the 19th February, 1841; the other the 27th of the same month and year. The following is a copy of the answer of the Supreme Court to the questions:

"First.—The decree should direct the premises to be sold at auction to the highest bidder, without regard to the law of the 19th February, 1841, which gives the right of redemption to the mortgagor for twelve months, and to the judgment creditor for fifteen months.

"Second.—The decree should direct the sale of the mortgaged premises without being first valued by three householders, and without requiring two-thirds of the amount of the said valuation to be bid according to the law of Feb. 27, 1841."

To all who properly regard the inestimable value of having contracts inviolably observed, as not only in itself right, but as demanded by the plainest principles of public policy, this decision will be received with unqualified gratification. The course of legislation upon which some of the States appear too willing to embark, of casting every impediment in the way of the collection of debts is thus early and happily arrested; and the reasoning of the Chief Justice, by whom the opinion was delivered, is so lucid, and addresses itself so commanding to the judgment, that I have no doubt it will receive the sanction of every intelligent mind in the country.—Baltimore American.

Snow.—The South Carolinian of the 9th inst. says:—We had a fall of Snow here on Tuesday, which was unusually heavy for this season—commencing about 4 o'clock A. M., and ending about 4 o'clock P. M.; and though it melted very fast, its depth on the ground was perhaps three inches or more. It had entirely disappeared yesterday, partly in consequence of the rain in the morning, and is the only snow we have had this winter, which has been mostly a very mild one. The snow on the Rail Road, by checking the speed of the Cars, delayed their arrival here till 9 o'clock; and when they came they brought no Northern mail, nor our Washington and New York letters."

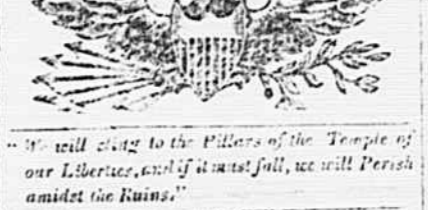
Fire in Lexington District.—We regret to learn that the dwelling of Mr. William Knotts, in Lexington District, near the Orangeburg line, was completely destroyed by fire on the night of the 18th ult., and together with the furniture, clothing, &c., except a few beds, and nearly all his papers. It was doubtless caused by carrying a lighted torch into the bed-room in which the fire afterward broke out, when all had retired, and were asleep.—South Carolinian.

The weather has been unusually cold, wet and disagreeable since Saturday last. We understand there is considerable snow in the mountains, and until that is removed, we cannot expect much change for the better.—Greenfield Mountaineer.

Distress.—These are hard times, indeed, as the Gen said when he was turned out of his house because his creditors could not pay him any more.

The Advertiser.

EDGEFIELD C. H. WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 1842.



FOR PRESIDENT: JOHN C. CALHOUN. Not subject to the action of any Convention.

Our Subscribers are informed that they will be enabled to procure their own Paper at \$2 50 per annum, by their addressing a new name to our list, and paying in advance.

The Court of Common Pleas and General Sessions for this District, commenced its regular Spring session on Monday last, Judge Butler presiding.

Thomas Lehre, Esq., has been re-elected Ordinary for Charleston District, without opposition.

The Philadelphia Ledger, states that James Madison Porter, Esq., has received the appointment of Secretary of War, and has repaired to Washington to attend to the duties of the office.

The same paper states, that Henry A. Wise, Esq., will be appointed Minister to Austria, in the place of Mr. Jenifer. The appointment to take place some time this spring.

U. States Senator from Maine.—Gov. Fairfield, (says the Portland Advertiser,) has been nominated by a caucus of Democratic members of the Legislature, and that Gorman Parks, Esq., was the other Democratic candidate spoken of.

Mississippi.—The Democratic Convention recently held at Jackson, Miss., adjourned on the 24th ult., after nominating the following ticket:—For Governor—A. G. Brown. For Congress—Jacob Thompson; Wm. M. Gwin; Dr. Hammet; Wm. A. Stone.

Ourself.—We had concluded, after the remarks in our last, relative to our own affairs, to have let the subject of the late election pass without further notice; but we have understood that some of our opponents, who are not satisfied with withdrawing their names from our list, have put in requisition what title in consequence may possess, to injure if possible, our establishment, and thereby deprive us of our "daily bread," which for years, it is well known, we have earned by the "sweat of our brow." That some have been dissatisfied with the course we pursued during the late campaign, we are well aware; but that we have acted fairly, and above board, in all our proceedings, none will deny. We have never, directly or indirectly, assailed either of the candidates, or their principles, who were opposed to us; but, on the contrary, in all the remarks we made relative to either of them, we used such language as were due from us towards any gentlemen of their standing in the community. Our fault, or what is termed by our proscribers a fault, was, that we dared to follow the dictates of our conscience, and support the candidate of our own choice, their dictation "to the contrary notwithstanding."

The following statement of the course pursued by us during the recent campaign, we lay before our patrons, to satisfy them that we acted from pure motives, and that from the outset we were not governed by the promises or threats of any man or set of men.

Immediately on the receipt of the Hon. F. W. Pickens's letter declining a re-election to Congress, we, without holding communion with any man or set of men, hoisted the flag at the head of our columns, for Col. Whitfield Brooks, under conviction that he was a citizen in every way qualified to make a good representative to the Congress of the United States, and without knowing at the time what Districts would compose the present Congressional District, or who would be his competitors.—This independent act was no doubt the first sin against our proscribers.

In a few days, after raising the flag for Col. Brooks, we were called upon by a gentleman to insert an article in our editorial columns, and in fact, as if coming from our pen, nominating Col. Burt, together with the furniture, clothing, &c., except a few beds, and nearly all his papers. It was doubtless caused by carrying a lighted torch into the bed-room in which the fire afterward broke out, when all had retired, and were asleep.—South Carolinian.

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as a communication, over the signature of "Edgefield," which was published. This, we believe, was our second sin against some of our opponents, for which we are to be proscribed. We feel assured that no one of our liberal subscribers will attach any censure to us, for acting as above stated, and for fearlessly supporting the candidate whose name we first introduced to them, as we have always been opposed to "wire pulling, or double dealing."

Our third sin was, we presume, the publication of the communications of "Piney Woods," in our columns, (although some of our opponents says his writings helped their cause.) The writer of those articles never changed either of the opposing candidates with any fault, but merely advanced his own opinions, relative to the fitness of the candidate whose cause he espoused; we will answer for it, that he never consulted any man or set of men, to know which way to "pull the wires." We have at all times been willing to admit into our columns, communications upon any subject, political or otherwise, which have not for their object abuse or ridicule, and for this we are to be proscribed. We have always adhered to the doctrine of our beloved Declaration of Independence, which expressly declares that "all men are equal," and sooner than conduct a Press, under the whims and caprices of a few would be politicians, we would agree to serve a year in a Turkish Gallies.

The last, and never to be forgotten sin, was, we suppose committed after the die had been cast; that was, our refusing to be dictated to, by one who had no concern with our columns, and not allowing him to make out, (after we had the full returns from the Managers in type,) a return to answer party purposes, if we may be allowed the expression, and thereby, in a measure, turn into ridicule, by means of our own columns, the candidate of our choice, who man, who had any sense of feeling, would have asked the editor of a paper, whom he knew to be opposed to him, to publish a return of the kind, and an editor who could so far forget himself, as to submit to such a demand, even should it be the means of his losing the whole, instead of twelve or sixteen subscribers, (who, by the by, we care not one "red cent," whether they ever come back,) would deserve the contempt of all honest, well meaning men. This is the last cause assigned for proscribing us.

That the foregoing is a true statement of the reasons for our proscription, we feel confident none of those who has stated, that "we should be injured by our course," will deny. We therefore ask our thinking friends, of all sides, as party in this contest has been out of the question, to point out any article in the columns of the Advertiser, that was repugnant to the feelings of any disinterested citizen, and whether we ought to be frowned down and proscribed, for advocating and supporting the man of our choice, especially when we have never, either by word or deed, denied that right to others.

We return our thanks to those friends of all sides, who have taken the trouble to state the course we have pursued during the late contest in its proper light.

State Bank.—The following gentlemen were, on the 5th inst., at Charleston, elected Directors of this Institution:—James Jervey, John Wilkes, N. R. Middleton, J. B. Legare, E. H. Edwards, J. H. Ludlow, S. P. Ripley, George Gibbon, Thomas J. Kerr, George M. Coffin, Edward Sebring, *E. W. Mathews.

At a meeting of the Directors on the 9th inst., James Jervey, Esq., was unanimously re-elected President for the ensuing year.

In the place of John Barrett who declined a re-election.

Union Bank.—The following gentlemen were, on the 5th inst., at Charleston, elected Directors of this Institution, for the term of one year:—

Rene Godard, Alexander Brown, Cornelius Burkmyer, James Felt, William Mazzyk, Smith Mowry, Janr., Abraham Tobias, Joseph A. Winthrop, Samuel Chadwick, Otis Mills, A. Ortolengui, *T. L. Hadley, *W. C. Hiebhorn.

At a meeting of the Directors on the 9th inst., Rene Godard, Esq., was unanimously re-elected President, for the ensuing year.

New Directors in the room of John Magrath and Jno. C. Burkmyer, resigned.

The Charon Gazette.—This valuable paper, we perceive, has changed hands, its late respectable editor, M. Maclean, Esq., having sold out the establishment to John Stubbs, Esq., who for the last few years conducted the mechanical department of the South Carolinian; from the prospectus, which we shall publish as soon as we have room, the paper is to support the Democratic cause.

The Farmer's Advocate.—This Agricultural Journal, published at Jamestown, N. C., which has been for some time suspended, has again made its appearance, in charge of Messrs. Sherwood & Richards. It has done, we understand, much for the Agricultural cause, in its immediate vicinity, we therefore wish its proprietors success in their arduous undertaking.