

THE KEOWEE COURIER.

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PICKENS COURT HOUSE, S. C., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1850.

NO 32

THE
KEOWEE COURIER,

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W. K. EASLEY, Editor.

TERMS.

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THE POSITION OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

The friends of the South are most anxiously watching the movements of the South Carolina Legislature; and lightly as they speak and affect to think of her, the conservators of the "glorious Union," are solicitous spectators of the position which the gallant State is assuming in this crisis. Since the days of nullification, South Carolina has been the object of the bitterest hatred and the fiercest opposition of federalism. Her name has been jeered at, and envy, and half concealed in the garb of devotion to the Union, has attempted to point the finger of contempt at the great men who have lived and battled and died in her cause. From the Federalist in the Senate chamber to the meanest sycophant of power who prates on politics from the stump, South Carolina has been abused, aspersed and misrepresented; and all for the sin of being republican; all for daring to maintain her rights. It has been said, and most truly, that there are but two parties in this government: the one stands upon Plymouth rock in Massachusetts, the other on soil of S. Carolina. From the earliest dawn of this republic, till now, federalism and States Rights have been the two conflicting elements in the Union; and upon these two opposing ideas have been built all the political distinctions which have, from that day to this, divided the country. While he lived, Mr. Calhoun was the great embodiment of republicanism in this country, and though he no longer lives to counsel, South Carolina yet stands the firm, unyielding champion of the cause to which his life was devoted. To her, it is no new thing to be arrayed against the usurpation of power by the General Government. She has dared to assert her rights before; she will not prove forgetful of what is due to her now.

Whether she will determine to take her cause into her own hands, or will await the co-operation of her sister States of the South, has not yet been fully indicated. One thing is certain, she will not content herself with empty resolutions against future wrongs. The past is full of outrage, and she will neither close her eyes to the fact, nor ingloriously purchase peace for the future by submitting to the wrongs which have been already inflicted. Resistance, in some form, will be determined upon, and this whether the South acts with her, or she stands alone. As to the mode or measure of that resistance we know nothing; we only know that some mode will be adopted, and that it will be measured alone by the wrong which has been imposed.

The question is frequently asked, if South Carolina secedes, will any other State unite with her? Mississippi probably might, but we do not believe she would. These are unwelcome truths, but we believe they are nevertheless truths. Our own recent election has taught us that there is a special party, a charm in good prices for cotton, and a power in the cry of "Union," to strong for the love of right or devotion to principle. The lesson is humiliating, but we do not respond under it, for we know that though the South slumbers now, she will not sleep always. Sooner or later she must awake and act. Let South Carolina then secede, alone if need be, and the day is not distant when she will join her, we do believe that there is not one, from Virginia to Texas, which would not stand by her in arms, if necessary, in the exercise of the right of secession. The first federal gun which was fired within her limits would be the signal of a rally from the Potomac to the Rio Grande. The first federal gun though would never be fired. If South Carolina choose to go out of the Union she has the right to do so, and the General Government will not attempt to arrest her movement.—*Columbus Sentinel.*

THE LEGISLATURE.

We make no regular report of the proceedings of the Legislature yesterday. The whole interest of the proceedings was transferred to the House of Representatives, that body having made a bill calling for a Convention of the people the special order of the day at 10 o'clock.

At 12 o'clock the Senate and House joined in a ballot for United States Senator, which resulted as follows:

R. B. Rhett	56
J. H. Hammond	50
R. W. Barnwell	27
Jas. Chesnut, jr.	15
J. A. Woodward	9
J. S. Preston	2
J. P. Richardson	2
Blank	2

There was consequently no election. Messages were interchanged ordering a second ballot this day at 12 o'clock.

A bill to provide for the defence of the State came up for a second reading, and after some discussion on proposed amendments, was passed, and ordered to the Senate for concurrence.

A message was received from his Excellency Governor Means, communicating the reply of the President in relation to certain inquiries; also, a memorial from England in relation to the imprisonment of colored seamen. Referred to the committee on federal relations.

Carolinian, 18th inst.

COLUMBIA, Dec. 18.

The Bill to elect members to the Southern Congress and to provide for a Convention of the people, passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 109 to 12. The Delegates to the Convention are to be elected in February, and to represent the State in the Southern Congress in the ensuing October. No time fixed for the meeting of either. Phillips, Dunkin, Heyward, Lesesne, Mitchell and Wilkinson, of the Charleston Delegation, voted against the bill, and the rest in favor of it.

On the fourth ballot for United States Senator, Rhett received 47 votes, and is elected; Hammond 46. Scattering 10.

A mistake was made in the time and place of meeting of the Southern Congress. It is to be held in Montgomery, (Ala.) on the 2nd January 1852.

Mr. Canby sent to the Senate a resolution that 300,000 dollars be placed at the disposal of the Ordinance Board for defence of the State and that 50,000 dollars be added to the Governor's contingent fund, to be used only in case of actual hostility.

The House passed the appropriation bill, but the Senate dissented from it.

The Richland Senatorial election has been referred to the people.

The contested election of Representative has resulted in favor of Mr. Taylor. The vote stood, Taylor, 567, Desautels, 565.—*Ch. Courier.*

Dec. 20.

Both Houses have been engaged all day in reading Bills. The reporter of the Sun was expelled the floor of the House of Representatives for strictures on Mr. Thomson.

R. W. Barnwell, John P. Richardson, Wade Hampton and Langdon Cheves were elected Deputies to the Southern Congress on the second ballot.

The Mexican Minister, M. de la Rosa, has again urged upon the government the necessity of protecting the Mexican population on the frontiers from the hostile incursions of the Indians within their limits according to the 11th article of the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo.

The Friends of BARTON ABBOTT, Esq., beg leave to announce him as a Candidate for Sheriff of Pickens District, at the ensuing election.

MR. EDITOR:—Please announce Capt. SAMUEL M. WILKES as a candidate to fill the vacancy in the Legislature, from this Election District, occasioned by the resignation of J. P. REED, Esq.—*Gazette.*

THE TAX BILL.—The following is an abstract of the bill reported by the committee of ways and means to "raise supplies for the year commencing October 1st, 1850."

On all lands granted per \$100 ad valorem, 53 cents; Catawba lands, 1-2 of one per cent; on slaves, per capita, 85 cents; free negroes, mulattoes, and mestizos, with usual exception, \$2; on town lots, buildings, &c., per \$100, 37 1-2 cents; factories, employments, professions, &c., per \$100, 90 cents; goods, wares, and merchandise, per \$100, 90 cents; goods, wares &c., of transient persons.—shows, exhibitions, &c. per day \$20. In taxing factories &c., the machinery shall not be assessed, but only the value of houses and lots, as property. Goods directly imported from foreign markets to be exempt from taxation in the hands of importers.

CONVENTION OF THE STATES.—Gov. Floyd has sent into the Virginia Legislature a message recommending and strongly urging the propriety of a General Convention of all the States of the Union. We quote the following from the message.

"I would recommend the adoption, by the Legislature, of resolutions inviting all the States of the Union to unite in sending delegates to represent the whole people in a General Convention, which ought to assemble at an early period—not later than May—at Baltimore or some other convenient central point, for the purpose of bringing to an end all sectional controversies relative to slavery."

On motion 5000 copies were ordered to be printed, and the subject was referred to a special committee.

KEOWEE COURIER

Saturday, Dec. 28, 1850.

With a view of accommodating our subscribers who live at a distance, the following gentlemen are authorized and requested to act as agents in receiving and forwarding Subscriptions to the KEOWEE COURIER, viz:

MAJ. W. S. GRIMM, at West Union.	EDWARD HUGHES, Esq., "Horse Shoe."
E. P. VERNER, Esq., "Baeheler's Retreat."	M. F. MITCHELL, Esq., "Pickensville."
J. E. HAGOOD, "Twelve Mile."	T. J. WEBB, for Anderson District.

According to the usual Christmas custom, we send our readers, this week, but half a sheet, in which, however, they will find all the news of importance or interest.

THE CONTEMPLATED SOUTHERN CONGRESS.—We thought at first, and so expressed ourselves in private conversation, that the Southern Congress would be a failure, nor have we yet found reasons to induce a change of opinion. No one can be more keenly alive to the importance of concert on the part of the South than we are, nor can any one more ardently long for the time when that union of States shall be perfected.

But we do not believe this is to be brought about by the project of the Nashville Convention. Because, first, the recommendations of the Convention will not be regarded by more than one-third, if by so many, of the Southern States. South Carolina and Mississippi are the only two upon which we can count with certainty, and of the rest, Alabama, Florida, and Virginia are all upon which we can calculate with any degree of probability, the majority of the people in the remaining States having shown unequivocal signs of submission, of course these will have nothing to do with a Southern Congress. And secondly, suppose this project should receive the support of one half the States South, would it not, representing, as the majority of its members would, submission constitutions, would it not, as the Georgia Convention has done, inculcate submission doctrines? We think so.—Then why incur the dangers of delay for the purpose of going into a Southern Congress, when we are well assured that Congress will not assemble? and when too, if it should assemble, there is a strong probability that its action would be disastrous to the hopes of all true friends of the South. This is not the time when union can be procured, no matter

how desirable it may be. The great mass of the Southern people, we believe are indignant at the many outrages which have been inflicted upon them, and yet, because of the treachery and cowardice of their great men, the men in whom they have trusted, they contemplate submission, therefore it is impossible to procure concert of action with them until after the first blow shall have been struck; and the first blow will do the work more effectually than a thousand Congresses. This has been the history of all great popular reforms and revolutions.

Are we sure there would have been an American Revolution commenced in '76, had there been no drowning of tea, no rigid punishment of rioters in Boston, or no battle of Lexington? these measures brought about a direct issue between the Colonies and the parent country, they forced the people to act, and then it became easy to act in concert. Neither would there have been a great English revolution in 1640, had the bold and patriotic men, who led those times, waited for the co-operation of the masses; nor would France have been made a republic in 1848, had the daring spirits of Paris delayed the hour of action in the hope of striking in concert with the millions in the provinces. All contests between a people and its government must be put into active operation through the agency of a few men bolder and more resolute than their fellows. Then let us begin the contest, let us throw overboard the Federal tea, and all we wish for will follow as day succeeds to night.

Let Mississippi and South Carolina secede and they will constitute the nucleus around which a Southern confederacy will certainly and rapidly form.

CHRISTMAS has come. It "stole upon us" and we were almost unconscious of its presence. Not so was it with us of yore; then we were wont to give Christmas a joyous welcome, and in gladness and song did its merry hours glide sweetly away.

Not a king at his coronal feast,—not a bride at her bridal festival more happy than we at our simple Christmas feasts. But now, in the hurry and bustle of the world, men (and we are among them) find but little time to be happy, even on Christmas day, and so it comes and goes almost unnoticed by the multitude. Have you not marked, dear reader, you who remember to have heard your grandfather tell of the "olden time," and of the merry holidays with which it was enlivened? have you not marked that the incumbent generation appear not to pay half the respect to old feasts and holidays which their respectable progenitors were used to pay? Alas! we fear that there is too much materiality and utilitarianism in the world, and that men are too fond of what they call the substantial and real. We speak not of the "upper ten thousand," God knows there is frivolity enough there, but of the millions, we speak, who toil in this work-day world.

That insatiable thirst for advancement and amelioration so wonderfully characteristic of the present age, that undying desire to rise, which has seized upon society, pervading each and every of its ranks and equalizing all conditions, and which is carrying forward the great work of civilization with a rapidly unequalled in former times, is, we fear, developing the intellect to the neglect of the affection; and thus while it elevates his physical, leaves unimproved man's moral condition. For it is possible that communities of men may be enlightened and refined and yet morally corrupt and abandoned; and there might be such a thing as being able to ride on steamboats and railroads through great empires, in which

though schools and colleges and all the evidences of wealth and high civilization shall abound, there shall be found but little indication of moral improvement. Gold is the great lever by which men strive to elevate themselves, and nothing is to be sought after which cannot be turned into gold. Availability for this purpose is with many, too many, the touch-stone by which the worth of all things on earth is to be tried, and every other consideration must succumb to what is called the useful. In the nineteenth century it is known that Diva Moneta is a great goddess, and from the Babel of the world a voice is forever crying "Mammon! Mammon!" while the millions go up to worship in his temple. In every hamlet he has a synagogue, on every hearth-stone an altar, and day and night his praises are borne on the tongues of men. The rosy cheeked urchin, who should be laughing away in innocent sport the glad hours of childhood, has been told by an affectionate parent that to get gold is the end of life, and straight he goes about swindling his playmates. Cold worldly thoughts are obtruded into the minds of boys, and all the warm impulses and holy emotions of youth destroyed, and its beautiful visions degraded and rendered of the earth earthy by a hard apprenticeship to Mammon. "Mammon is a god," says the scheming mother, and straight her daughter sells her youth and beauty for gold. Manhood wears away long years in unceasing toil and, tho' weary and worn, can never rest, for there is gold, more gold in the way before him, and palsied age still crawls around its shining hoards and dies at the feet of Mammon.

In this ceaseless toil of man for wealth, all the warm affections of the heart are neglected or forgotten; all the kindly feelings of our nature, which would rise up and tell us of the brotherhood of man, are stifled in the beginning of life, and the voices are unheard that would whisper to us of death and of the land of the soul.

But all good christians will stop to be glad on Christmas, that great day when the stars sang in chorus with the angels and all heaven rang with the tidings that man had found one to redeem him. Christmas, the feast of the year, was the feast our fathers, even back to the times of dim tradition, loved. They loved it because it was kept in grateful commemoration of the goodness and mercies of God, and because it was a day of family re-union, when old ties were strengthened and almost forgotten affections awoke and glowed again with the strength and vigor of former years; a day when loving hearts went out in happiness together, for it was an old custom that brothers and sisters should come together on that day under the parent roof, and sit down as children once more around the family board.

We love Christmas, and will always love it, for the dear recollections it brings of our childhood's home.—How merrily would the old house ring with the frolic and glee of our innocent sports; with how much more than springtime brightness, did the sun seem to shine on Christmas day; and then when the wild birds came out and seemed to partake of the general joy, how sweetly did their music respond to the poetry of our happy hearts! What jokes we'd make! what tricks we'd play! exploding fire-crackers and shooting little air-guns made of the hollow stalks of alders.

But, alas, these halcyon days have fled with our youth away! Manhood and womanhood has come upon us, bringing with them cares and responsibilities that quench the impulses and steal away the freshness from the heart. To some of us the days have already waxed weary and long and the nights have become dolorous and full of grief, for sorrow

waits not to travel with age, but comes quickly in the morning of life, and long, long before its noon, she may spread her dark clouds athwart its sky and obscure forever the light of its rising sun.

We hope our readers will pardon us for this long homily, as we do not often obtrude such reflections upon them, and in conclusion take our best wishes for a prosperous and happy new year.

A LIST OF ACTS.

1. An act to restore the due compensation of the Tax Collector of St. Phillips and St. Michael's.
2. An act to incorporate the village of Totness.
3. An act to require the clerks of the Courts of Common Pleas and General Sessions to index the journals of their respective courts.
4. An act to amend the charter of the town of Hamburg.
5. An act to incorporate the Swedish Iron Company of South Carolina.
6. An act to amend the charter of the Graniteville Manufacturing Company.
7. An act to incorporate the Hamburg Paper Mills Company.
8. An act to incorporate the Wateree Manufacturing Company.
9. An act to establish certain roads, bridges and ferries.
10. An act to incorporate the So. Carolina Atlantic Steam Navigation Company.
11. An act to provide for the appointment of deputies to a Southern Congress, and to call a convention of the people of this State.
12. An act to incorporate the Commercial Insurance Company.
13. An act to amend the charter of the Charleston Insurance Company.
14. An act to amend an act passed on the 18th December, 1840, entitled "an act to ascertain and define the powers, duties, and liabilities of Masters, Commissioners, and Registers in Equity, and to provide for the organization and regulation of their respective offices."
15. An act to incorporate Erskine College, at Due West, Abbeville District.
16. An act to afford aid in constructing the Colleton Railroad.
17. An act to authorize the State to aid in the construction of the Spartanburg and Union Railroad.
18. An act to incorporate the new Charleston Water Company.
19. An act to provide for the payment of the instalments due on the shares held by the State in the South Carolina Railroad Company.
20. An act to incorporate the Columbia Insurance Company, in Columbia, S. C.
21. An act to prohibit betting on elections.
22. An act to incorporate the Furman University.
23. An act relating to the children of Atticus Tucker.
24. An act to confirm a grant unto John J. Moore, which by mistake was issued in the name of John Moore.
25. An act to raise supplies for the year commencing October, 1850.
26. An act to provide for the defence of the State.
27. An act to alter and amend the law relating to the time of holding elections, and for other purposes.
28. An act to provide for keeping open the offices of Clerks of Common Pleas and General Sessions, &c.

HYMENEAL.

MARRIED:—On the 19th inst., by Rev. D. H. Kennemuir, Mr. Samuel Stevens to Miss Joanna Smith, all of this District.

On 22nd inst., by Rev. J. R. Huncutt, Mr. Alfred Hembree to Miss Lucy J. Murry, all of Pickens District.

At Whetstone on 20th instant by Sam'l Moseley, Esq., Mr. Jno. Smith & Chauga, to Miss Rebecca Shed, daughter of Joel Shed of Bone Camp, and all of this District.

On 24th inst., by Rev. E. Collins, Mr. Henry D. Willbanks, of Georgia, to Miss Levina Bearden, of Pickens District.

W. K. EASLEY,
ATTORNEY AT LAW.
WILL PRACTICE IN THE COURTS OF THE WESTERN CIRCUIT.—OFFICE AT PICKENS C. H., S. C.