

...of an appointed to see it, that no ... of any degree be permitted ... in this section of country, that said ... be requested to be vigilant in ... duties, that when any suspicious ... comes among us it be their care to ... report the same to the people at large, ... and a meeting be called to take the ... in hand.

Resolved further, That whenever it shall be known that an Abolitionist is in the country, it will be our duty to adopt summary and stern measures for their speedy expulsion. Adopted unanimously.

The Chair appointed the following Committee of Vigilance: Major Wm. G. Roberts, Dr. Joseph W. Duncan, and Mr. W. W. Garvin, Mathew's Bluff; Major A. R. Johnston and Edward Forrester, Beech Branch; R. T. Lawton and J. M. Taylor, Pipe Creek; P. S. Maner and Wm. Daniels, Robertsonville; White W. Hardee and Augustus Buche, Puryburg.

On motion of W. W. Garvin, **Resolved,** That in the opinion of this meeting, any of our own citizens who may hereafter give countenance to Major and his companion (knowing them to be the same,) by entertaining them or otherwise, shall be regarded as wanting in patriotism, and inimical to the interests of the South. Adopted unanimously.

On motion of Wm. C. Johnston, **Resolved,** That the proceedings of this meeting be offered for publication to the Charleston Mercury and the Savannah Georgian, with the request that other Southern papers would copy the same.

On motion, **Resolved,** That this meeting do now adjourn.

J. D. JOHNSTON, Chairman.
JOHN M. TAYLOR, Secretary.
Lawtonville, St. Peter's Parish,
May 20, 1848.

By special and Extraordinary overland Express to Daily Telegraph.

PEACE! PEACE! PEACE!!!

Later Intelligence from Mexico.

Ratification of the Treaty by the Mexican Senate—Reported Withdrawal of the United S. Troops—Gen. Patterson's Division, to which the Palmetto Regiment belongs, First on the Move—United States Commissioners at Queretaro. Sevier and Clifford, etc.

The U. S. steamer Hetzel arrived at New Orleans late on Saturday night from Vera Cruz, bringing the ratification of the adoption of the Treaty in the Senate by a vote of 33 yeas to 4 nays—being almost unanimous. This vote was taken at three o'clock p. m., on the 25th of May.

Major Graham was hourly expected at Vera Cruz with the ratified treaty when the steamer Hetzel left, and one of the naval steamers of the squadron was ordered to be held in readiness to convey him to New Orleans or Mobile on his arrival at Vera Cruz.

The English courier, it was said, started direct from Queretaro for Vera Cruz immediately after the ratification.

Gen. Kearny [says the Free American of the 28th ult.] is ordered to the command in the city of Mexico, in place of Gen. Smith, who is to superintend the embarkation of the troops. Gen. Patterson, it was said, would come down to Vera Cruz with Gen. Smith.

Great uneasiness was felt in the city of Mexico with regard to the menacing attitude lately assumed by the Indians, whose cries of "Death to the whites—long live the Indians!" were heard at a recent bull fight in the Plaza.

A train of wagons, escorted by Lieut. Stead's company, left Vera Cruz on the 28th ult. They were wagons sent up to transport to Vera Cruz the sick and discharged soldiers who are now at Jalapa.

CITY OF MEXICO, May 25. . . The officers and others who had been sentenced to be hanged to-day have been respited by Gen. Butler, by a special order of the following substance:

The sentence of death, which has been passed upon persons by Courts of the American Army, whether Americans or Mexicans, is hereby suspended until further orders.

I am not aware what has influenced the commanding officer in suspending the sentence of death upon the officers and others for the murder and burglary at No. 5. Cella de la Palma, but really it does seem to many a very strange proceeding, and has surprised the community generally. They were undoubtedly guilty of one of the grossest outrages ever perpetrated upon society, and have, to some extent stigmatised the corps and the army to which they belonged, which could only have been wiped out by blood, in a manner sanctioned by the laws of the country under which they hold commissions. Their trial was fair and impartial, and I have no hesitation in saying, that the commission who tried and sentenced them, was the most able I have ever seen convene in the Army: there were men upon it of the highest legal attainments, and the body were all men of sound discriminating judgment. The prisoners had able counsel, who labored hard in their defence, and the conclusion of the trial left no doubt as to their guilt.

It was even so palpable that, upon its being rumored that they could be pardoned, the officers of the Pennsylvania regiment, to which they belonged, remonstrated

against their receiving any clemency whatever at the hands of the commanding General, and asked that the law be allowed to take its regular course.

The good citizens of Queretaro are going to give our Commissioners a grand ball.

The exchange of ratifications was to take place to-day.

Gen. Arista is to be the Governor here when the Mexican Government takes up their quarters here. I expect to see all the Mexican authorities here this week—coming in.

The Commissioners, Messrs. Sevier and Clifford, arrived at Queretaro at 4 o'clock yesterday.

My express has arrived ahead of all others. The Mexican government express is expected momentarily. If it brings anything additional of moment, I will send another express.

MUSTANG.
CITY OF MEXICO, May 26. . . I have this moment received the final ratification of the treaty of peace by the Mexican Congress, and hasten to forward it to you. It was put to vote in the Senate on the 25th, at 3 o'clock. The vote stood 33 for, and 4 against it. It was reported by the chairman of the committee on foreign relations on the 22d, and the debate continued by several members up to its being put on its passage. You will see that it did not meet with so much opposition in the Senate as it did in the chamber of deputies.

I enclose to you the letters of my Queretaro correspondent.

Gen. Smith left for Vera Cruz on the 24th, to make preparations, for embarking the troops.

All the outposts have been ordered in to this city—they will be ready to march in three days after they arrive, which will be in a day or two.

Gen. Patterson's division being the first to move, will march in two or three days.

In ten days or less the American army will be on their march for the coast.

We will be hampered some with our sick, but this cannot be helped, as it would not do to leave those behind who are unable to travel.

Messrs. Sevier and Clifford left here for Queretaro with an American escort on the 22d at 7 o'clock. The exchange of ratifications will take place in Queretaro. The commissioners have full power to exchange there or here.

We have 2000 sick to take away with this will cut short our transportation for the well.

THE SUMTER BANNER:

SUMTERVILLE, S. C.

Wednesday, June 14, 1848.

FRANCIS M. ADAMS, EDITOR.

[REPEATED BY REQUEST.]

MANCHESTER AND WILMINGTON RAIL ROAD CONVENTION.

We are particularly requested to call the attention of the stockholders in the Wilmington and Manchester Rail Road to the annual meeting, or Convention rather, of the stockholders, which is to be held at Darlington Court House, on Thursday, the 22nd of June, being the third day after the third Monday in this month, the time appointed for the annual meeting.

It is especially desired and desirable that as many of the stockholders as possible should be present, and that those not able to be present should appoint and send proxies, that the representation should be as full as possible, as it is understood that important business will be brought before the meeting.

SUMTER STOCKHOLDERS.

We are requested to state that there will be a meeting of the Sumter stockholders in the Wilmington and Manchester rail road, at the Court House, on Monday next, the 19th inst., to appoint delegates or proxies to attend the annual convention of all the stockholders to be held at Darlington Court House, on Thursday, the 22nd inst.

It is also understood that other business of importance will be brought before the meeting on the 19th. A full attendance of the Sumter stockholders is requested.

SUMTER EQUITY COURT.

The Court of Equity for this District, held by Chancellor DUNKIN, closed its session on the 10th inst. All the business before the court, we believe, was attended to; and the Chancellor, on the same day, proceeded to Camden, to open court there on the 12th inst.

COTTON.

Since our last issue, the price of cotton has decreased in the Charleston market, very slightly however, being now from 4 1/2 to 6 1/8 cents per pound.—The European market seems to be full of this article, and this to be the cause of the present weakness of prices.

PEACE WITH MEXICO.

At length the welcome news has arrived that the Mexican Senate ratified the treaty on the 25th of May by a majority of 33 to 4, making the vote almost unanimous.

President Polk, to all appearance, will not leave on the hands of his successor the troublesome task of concluding a war, of which the commencement was during his administration. With whatever of glory or of censure posterity may view this war, the whole rests with Mr.

Polk. However precipitate to some and ill-advised, his conduct, immediately preceding it, may have appeared to many, and especially to his political opponents, there can be but little doubt that war between the United States and Mexico, in the course of a few years, could not be avoided. Too long have we borne injuries and indignities, inflicted with impunity and frequently with the connivance of the Mexican government on our citizens. Admiration of the American character was mingled in the breast of the Mexican with hatred on account of the supposed unjust acquisition of the fair province of Texas. No fear was entertained of the American arms. The Mexicans thought themselves able to cope with a republic, simply because our country was such, and was not believed to possess the executive might and despatch of a monarchy. Our citizens, too, were unsafe under the protection of Mexican faith. Our army was attacked within our own territory, and any longer forbearance would have been attributed to fear and produced contempt. Negotiation had been spurned with contempt and consequently failed. No redress was to be obtained for national wrongs. The United States were not looked upon with sufficient fear to produce respect for their rights. We repeat it, war, in the course of a few years, would have been inevitable. It has come and is concluded. Have the objects of the war been attained? The immediate has, the future only can disclose how the rights of our citizens and nations and the provisions of the treaty will be observed.

Is it probable that the treaty will be observed? It seems to be the general opinion that, after the withdrawal of the American army from the Mexican territory, civil discord will arise, and a determined attempt made to overthrow the existing government, and to violate the treaty, by some, with the desire of doing away with the priesthood and of bringing the country into subjection to the United States with the hope and belief of enjoying better government and more liberal institutions, by others, simply from hostility to the existing authorities, because they believe they have concluded a treaty disgraceful to the republic of Mexico in a principal feature of ceding away a portion of territory to a foreign power. No other resource, however, remained to the fallen republic; and it is sincerely to be hoped that the terrible lesson she has lately received will prove to her a lesson of wisdom as it has of experience. Little faith is to be placed in the stability of the Mexican people; yet there is reason to believe the present lawful government will be sustained, and this too by a support the most strange and unexpected. We allude to the large number of deserters from the American army, who find it their interest to promote the treaty and to uphold a government to make it. In several recent attempts against the authorities, the energy and power of these deserters was most efficient in quelling them. Formerly, they knew that certain and ignominious death awaited them in case of capture by the Americans; now they know their political salvation depends on upholding one and the same government which has employed them. Hence their interest makes active in the service of their present employers, and their numerical strength is sufficient for effective action against Mexicans.

The Mexicans seem still ignorant of the power of the United States, as is in some degree shown by the late frequent attempts at insurrection during the occupation of the country consequent on the conquest both of their arms and soil. Yet it is to be hoped they will for a long time retain such a fear of our arms as may induce them to refrain from offensive hostilities and to conduct themselves with national propriety towards their more powerful sister republic. Their existence demands the observance of the treaty; and the late humiliating conquest will doubt, less produce good results, though the present feeling must be most galling to Mexican pride.

THE CANDIDATES.

Gen. Cass and Gen. Taylor are now before the people as the nominees of the democratic and whig conventions. The democrats, it seems to us, have made an unfortunate choice, as it is known to the south that Gen. Cass is unsound and uncertain on some questions both theoretically and practically of vital importance to the south. Among other things, he is in favor of allowing the territories, while such, to determine for themselves whether slavery shall exist within them, an opinion favoring of the Wilmot proviso and in direct opposition to the constitutional provision which allows the residence of any citizen with his property in the territory of the United States. We cannot too carefully guard against chicanery and trickery of any kind; and it cannot be doubted that

many southern delegates were induced to vote in favor of the democratic nominee by representations made solely for the occasion and of as much validity as the passing wind. The whig nominees will find favor in the south, and democratic votes will be thrown for him, unless Gen. Cass publishes opinions favorable to the south. The general impression is that the contest will be a close one, considering the strength of the parties and their candidates.)

[FOR THE BANNER.]

Mr. Editor: Allow me to call attention to the meeting of Stockholders of the Wilmington and Manchester Rail Road to be held at Darlington Court House on Thursday, the 22nd of this month (June). The meeting at this time is of great importance, and its deliberations will probably determine the question, whether we are to have the road or not. The estimated cost of the entire road is one million five hundred thousand dollars, and a moiety of this amount (with a fraction) has been subscribed. The practicability and necessity of the very road, which is contemplated, from Wilmington to Manchester, and over the identical line designated for its course, have been acknowledged and enforced by various presses from Boston to Galveston, and (amongst others) by Rail Road Journals, conducted with ability and fully possessed of all necessary information on such subjects. Yet strange to say, the only opposition, with which the enterprise has been assailed, has arisen in this State and N. Carolina, and on the margin of the road proposed. This opposition consists of the advocates of a rival project, which, by their own confession, is a failure. The vital spark is still unextinguished in our enterprise, and it must succeed, if union of action is preserved, and if a degree more of quickness of action can be imparted. Every citizen of Sumter District has an interest in the road either directly or indirectly; it most certainly would benefit a part of the District directly and as certainly the remainder indirectly.

This is an enterprise to which the public attention cannot be too frequently drawn, though earnestly called; for its merits are not superficial and will bear the closest scrutiny.

Each and every stockholder in the District should be present at the meeting next to be held, either in person or by proxy. Let the 22nd June, 1848, be borne in mind.

PRO BONO PUBLICO.

ARRIVAL OF TROOPS AT VERA CRUZ. We learned yesterday that a despatch had been forwarded to the Adjutant General of the United States, at Washington, from Gen. Brooke, of New Orleans, to the effect that some five or six thousand of our troops had arrived at Vera Cruz, from the interior of Mexico, on their way home.

As our Regiment is attached to Gen. Patterson's Division, which was to have come down first, we may look for them even earlier than we at first supposed.

It should be known that Governor Johnson ever mindful of the comfort and welfare of our Regiment, in a correspondence with the War Department at Washington, received a pledge that our Regiment should sail direct from Vera Cruz to Charleston, so as to avoid the danger of detention and hazard of Yellow Fever at New Orleans.—*Col. Daily Telegraph.*

WHIG NATIONAL CONVENTION.

GEN. TAYLOR NOMINATED.

BALTIMORE, June 9, 1848.

Gen. ZACHARY TAYLOR has received the nomination for the Presidency of the United States on the fourth ballot—received 171 votes.—*Char. Etc. News.*

LATEST DESPATCH.

NOMINATION OF VICE PRESIDENT. A little after ten o'clock last evening we received another missive from our attentive Baltimore correspondent, giving us the result of the nomination for Vice President.

On the first ballot ABRAHAM LAWRENCE received 113 votes, and Mr. MILLARD 111. A second ballot resulted in the nomination of Mr. MILLARD. The state of the vote is not given.—*Char. Cour.*

[FOR THE BANNER.]

MECHANICSVILLE, JUNE 1848.

Mr. Editor: Some time has elapsed since the following interrogatories were propounded to the candidates for the Legislature in this election District, through the columns of your paper, viz:—

1. Are you in favor of increasing the jurisdiction of the Ordinary in both real and personal property? to five thousand dollars; if so, why? if opposed, why?

2. Are you in favor of increasing the jurisdiction of Magistrates to fifty dollars and establishing the county court system?

3. Are you in favor of revising the free school system and establishing a permanent school fund; if so, say from what source you would get the money, &c.

4. Are you in favor of re-establishing the brigade encampment system?

My reason for not answering these questions when they were first submitted, is, that I did not consider them as at all test questions, or questions furnishing issues upon which this election for the Legislature is likely to turn. Entertaining however, no disrespect for the source from which they may have emanated, the questions in themselves are sensible enough, but seem to me to have originated more in a spirit of curiosity and a disposition to create excitement, than in a feeling of earnest and solemn enquiry as to the subjects themselves; for the public mind has been enlightened on them from various sources. Legislative debates, newspaper prints, and last not least, stump orators have in their times contributed to enlighten the people upon these much vexed questions of state policy; but taking it for granted that the enquiries are honest and sincere, I will endeavor to answer them with the utmost candour.

...of the Ordinary, the jurisdiction of the Ordinary in both real and personal property, to five thousand dollars; if so, why? if opposed, why? 2. Are you in favor of increasing the jurisdiction of Magistrates to fifty dollars, and establishing the county court system? I can only say, that under the present system, I would be unwilling to see the Magistrate's jurisdiction increased to any considerable extent; but I would be willing to see it increased and the county court system established. The only reason I have ever heard of, why that system was abolished in 1795, was, because it was found difficult to get a man who would take the office of Judge, who was in every respect competent to exercise its functions (see Gov. Johnson's message No. 1, p. 14, of the Journal of the House of Reps.). The principles and practice of those courts were never complained of. I would therefore, be happy to see that system re-established, as the only reason which prevailed, at the time of its abolition, would now, be entirely obviated; for since the legal profession has become so crowded, I am sure that many gentlemen of that profession would be willing and able to act as Judges of the county court to the entire satisfaction and well-being of the community at large.

Thirdly, I am in favor of revising and correcting as far as may be the evils of the present free school system; but pardon me for saying that I am unable to discover how we can very much improve the present system, except it is in requiring and enforcing the stricter accountability of the commissioners. I can conceive of no other practical plan of disturbing the fund, but by local commissioners appointed for that purpose, even if a general superintendent should be appointed by the Legislature, as has been recommended by some of our former Executive. As to the establishment of a permanent free school fund, I do not think the State prepared now to enter into any permanent provision in relation to this matter. Under existing circumstances, I had much rather see her available funds, not otherwise permanently invested, applied to foster a judicious system of rail road improvements, than embarked in novel or chimerical schemes of general education, which might, as the present system has done, waste her means, without producing results at all commensurate with the expenditures. I have no doubt, however, but that the time will soon arrive, when the State will have it in her power to take the matter in hand and make such provision, both ample and permanent, as shall have the effect of producing that most desirable of all ends in a republican form of government, popular enlightenment.

Fourthly, I am opposed to re-establishing the brigade encampment system. It was in my humble opinion quite a failure, producing very few of the practical results intended. The revolutionary patriots of South Carolina were not trained in a school like that, though it is true, that many of the officers and men of the Palmetto regiment attended these encampments; but I doubt not, that the same number might be chosen among us, who were not, who would act, no less gallantly. The spirit essentially belongs to our people, and it requires but a short apprenticeship to qualify them for the field of action.

Very respectfully, yours, &c.

F. H. KENNEDY.

JUDICIAL ANECDOTE.

A friend has communicated to us the following amusing judicial anecdote.

Judge B., one of our present distinguished Senators in Congress, while on the law bench, was holding court at Sumter. One term day, while sitting in court, a Mr. B. was present, who, for many years past, has been continually engaged in law suits, sitting at a short distance from the judge. Suddenly, a portion of the ceiling of the court house fell down, on Mr. B., we believe. The judge, as was natural, was at first somewhat alarmed, amid the attendant noise and dust, thinking the whole ceiling was falling and started up. Almost immediately, however, perceiving how things were, and that no one had received any injury, he quietly remarked, "flat justice, real ceiling."

For the Sumter Banner.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

BY J. D.

The Death Penalty.—It is well known that capital punishment has been abolished in several States. One reason for its abolition, is, that it will tend to diminish crime. But, has this been the result? So far from it, crime has fearfully increased, wherever the experiment has been made. Thus in Michigan, we are informed, that "twice the number of murders have been committed in that State in a year and a half, since the abolition of capital punishment, than were perpetrated in ten years previous to the passage of that law." Such a result was to be expected, and the above and similar facts, show the *impolicy*, to say the least, of a departure from the divine requirement in this case.

An Old Bird.—The following curious fact may interest some readers. It shows that man is not, by far, the most long-lived animal on earth. It is supposed, that the raven lives to the good old age of 200 years; and we recently saw it stated, that one was not long since captured, with a silver plate round its neck, on which was this inscription:—"English." This raven was caught by Capt. Duncan of the Scotch Guards, in garrison at Rheims, was set at liberty, Jan. 7, 1847. A sage bird indeed! 200 years of age!

A Good Law.—The Mississippi Legislature has lately passed an act prohibiting the sale of vicious and spiteful dogs.