

The Commencement of the Laurensville Female College.

The Laurensville Herald gives a very interesting account of the recent Commencement exercises of the Female College, at that place.

THE INDEPENDENT PRESS

IS PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY MORNING BY W. A. LEE, Editor.

Individuals, like nations, fall in nothing which they boldly attempt, which sustained by virtuous principles, and determined resolution.—LAWRY CLAY "Willing to protest, yet not afraid to blame."

Terms—Two Dollars a Year, in Advance.

ABBEVILLE O. H. FRIDAY, JULY 10, 1858.

The numerous friends of WESLEY A. BLACK Esq., respectfully announce him as a Candidate for Tax Collector at the next election.

The Communications of our friends "H." and "S. P." will receive early attention.

We have been favored during the past week, with abundant rains, which have cooled the atmosphere, and refreshed the growing crops.

The Examination.

It will be recollected that this is the day of the examination and exhibition, at the Female Academy.

The Episcopal Church.

An adjourned meeting of the Pew-holders of this Church will be held on Monday next, at 10 o'clock a. m., for the purpose of adopting the report of the Committee on the new Church.

Advertisements.

We direct attention to the advertisement of Jeffers & Cothrans, Commission Merchants, Charleston, S. C.; Cowan & Reilly, Grocers, Columbia; Appleton & R. Perryman, New Market; the Cavalry Election of the Washington Troop; on the 24th inst.; the programme of the Thespian Corps; and the Ordinary and Sheriff's advertisements.

Death of Dr. S. V. Cain.

We omitted to mention in our last issue, the death of Dr. S. V. Cain, a prominent citizen of Greenwood, who died on the 7th inst. He had been suffering some time from dyspepsia, and it is thought he hastened to his death by an imprudent attendance at the Masonic Celebration on the 24th ult.

Gas Light.

Abbeville Village is indebted to the enterprise of some of her citizens, for the introduction of gas light, which at no distant day, we have no doubt will be very generally used.

Bank of Newberry.

At the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Bank of Newberry, S. C., held on Wednesday 7th inst., the following gentlemen were elected Directors for the ensuing year, viz:

Charles Collins, B. D. Boyd, James M. Baxter, Joseph Caldwell, Jacob H. Wells, John L. Young, R. L. McCaughrin, John W. Simpson, Samuel R. Todd, John S. Renwick, James A. Renwick, John P. Kinard and Andrew Turner.

At a meeting of the Directors held, subsequently held, B. D. Boyd was unanimously re-elected President.

It will be seen by the above that nine out of the thirteen directors are citizens of this district.

The Collins Steamer.

The New York Tribune says that the Collins line of steamers are trying to make an arrangement to resume their trips to England on the 17th inst. Brown Brothers, who held a mortgage for \$500,000, on which the ships were sold, also owned \$600,000 of the stock. They have, since the sale of the steam ships, offered to sacrifice their share of stocks and give up the Company at the time of the sale, provided they are relieved from all further connection with the steamers and liabilities on their account. If the Post Office Department will sanction a change of terms from Liverpool to Southampton, the Stockholders, the Tribune says, are disposed to close with the offer. If the arrangements can be made, a steamer will leave on the 17th inst. If not, they will be sold to parties in France.

Usury Law.

The new Usury Law of Pennsylvania, as passed by the last Legislature and approved by the Governor, went into effect on the 1st inst. By this law, says the Enquirer, money can be borrowed and loaned, according to the terms agreed upon by the parties. There is no restriction with regard to the rate.

Southern Vegetables.

One steamer from Savannah last week, to New York, brought three hundred and thirty bushels of sweet potatoes, and some other vegetables, which are said to be of superior quality, and well adapted for the use of the South.

Another steamer from Savannah, Va., had on board about 5000 bushels of sweet potatoes, and 5000 bushels of corn, which are also said to be of superior quality.

There are also on board a large quantity of other vegetables, which are also said to be of superior quality.

The following is a list of the names of the steamer and the names of the passengers, which are also said to be of superior quality.

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THE BARBAROUS AT MCCASLAN'S

We had the pleasure, on Saturday last, of attending a very interesting social gathering, at the Spring of Capt. P. C. McCaslan, in the neighborhood of Bradley's Old Field and the Lower Long Can Church. This was one of a number of public gatherings held on the same day in various portions of the District, at which the various candidates now before the people, enjoyed the opportunity of making the acquaintance and partaking of the hospitality of their fellow citizens. And coming on as they did on the same day, they no doubt perplexed even the old Stagers in electioneering with their opposing claims. There was the Artillery Dinner at Calhoun's Mills, and another dinner at Swaney's Ferry on the Saluda; the muster at Warren, the muster at Hogskin; several horse races, &c., &c. As might be imagined, there was quite a scattering of the forces, North, South, East and West; reminding us of some of Milton's descriptions, whom we are almost tempted to quote, but shall spare our readers the infliction of a present.

The effect of these forays, was to deprive our Stables, of almost every available conveyance; and we being somewhat late in making our arrangements, had to content ourselves, with a saddle horse, but must congratulate our good fortune in getting a fine "dapple grey," which escaped one of the candidates, by being at the time, at the Blacksmith shop, and his fine gait and quick elastic step, made some amends for our lack of equestrian skill. Besides, we were cheered every moment of our ride, with the prospect of getting a seat in that buggy, which a gentleman informed us would soon be in sight. "Hope told a flattering tale."

The day was quite pleasant, and the route one of the finest Summer roads in the District. It is true there is not much variety in the scenery; not many beautiful villas "dazzling, glittering in the sun," but instead, (with a few exceptions,) a "boundless contiguity of shade," which in a hot summer day is rather more refreshing to the weary traveller. About a mile from the village, we pass the beautiful rural retreat of Mr. W. J. Lomax, which gives evidence, and ample preparation of Webster. The work contains a glowing tribute to his memory.

Harper's Weekly and Bennett.

The last number of Harper's Weekly contains a Photograph and Biographical sketch of James Gordon Bennett, the editor and proprietor of the New York Herald. This seems to be giving rather undue prominence to a man, who, whatever may be his energy and business capacity is equally notorious, for want of principle, an unscrupulous devotion to self, and a reckless disregard of the proprieties of life. No one denies his sagacity and enterprise, but to eulogize these, and at the same time to ignore his moral obliquities—his venality and inconsistency, is certainly an offence against the public morals. To deny the merit of the Herald, says the writer, would be to impugn the judgment and morality of the community, which for twenty years has given it a generous support; but certainly its superiority in point of circulation, advertising, and general intelligence will account for this without implying any endorsement of its course, or admiration of its editor.

The writer gives Bennett the credit of two great reforms in Journalism, and to which he attributes the secret of his success. He was the first newspaper proprietor in the United States who refused to advertise or supply his paper on credit; and in this connection he mentions, that the present outstanding debts, on the books of the National Intelligencer, amount to nearly half a million of dollars.—Again, he was the first editor who taught the press of the country, the duty of self-dependence, and to look to the public for patronage, and not to politicians.

When the Herald was first started, Mr. Bennett may be said to have written it all himself, and to have managed the business department besides. His scanty resources did not permit him to employ a copious staff of assistants. As success dawned upon him he increased his force, until, at the present time, the staff of editors, reporters, and correspondents engaged on the Herald is considerably larger than that of any other newspaper in the country. His spirit imbues every article and every paragraph. Through his means and his past labors would justify him in the enjoyment of leisure in the country he is an attentive to his editorial duties as if he were working for a livelihood. Every morning, it is said, he may be found in his office at work, and he is often here at a late hour in the afternoon. He reads and looks over every copy of his paper, and the closest attention not to be surprised by him.—Nothing escapes him that is of newspaper value. He will evidently die in the harness.

Washington News.

WASHINGTON, July 7.—The Cabinet Council, yesterday, had under consideration for some time the affairs of Mexico, and Mr. Forayth's conduct with reference to the forced loan. Attorney General Black has since had an interview with General Cass on the subject. No decision has yet been made. It is regarded as a very nice international question, and the Attorney General is preparing to give in a formal decision.

Great efforts are being made to have Senator Benjamin Davis as Minister to Mexico. The question is still before the Senate for their consideration. It is understood that those interested in the Tehuantepec route are urging his appointment.—New York Herald.

WASHINGTON, July 4.—Mr. Forayth, in his despatches, says, that while he hesitated to hold diplomatic intercourse with the Government of Zolozago, he deemed it better to remain in Mexico to afford protection to American citizens, and until he could learn the policy of the Government as to his course. While the President views the action of the Zolozago Government with regard to the forced contributions, as an impolitic stretch of power and injurious to American interests, it has not yet decided if it will sanction treaties. Attorney General Black has the matter under consideration, and will soon submit his views to the President. We have a treaty with Mexico, based on the treaty made by that republic previously with England, forbidding the imposition of taxes on foreign goods. The question for the Attorney General to decide, then, is, is a forced loan against the terms of the treaty?

Monsieur Belli had a long interview with General Cass, in his last dispatch, in which he set forth his entire magnificent scheme of a canal by the Isthmus of Nicaragua. He is enthusiastic of success. He does not pretend to have any connection with the French Government, but he seems especially desirous of forming an American alliance, and of securing the good opinion of the American public.

Interrogatories.

The following interrogatories have been submitted to the candidates for the Legislature in this District:

1. "Are you in favor of the re-opening of the Abbeville slave trade?"

2. "If called upon to vote for a Senator to represent this State in the United States, how would you support National or State Rights?"

3. "Are you in favor of the State being represented in National Congress by a non-resident?"

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