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War Declared against Russia by Great Britain and France.

Two Liverpool steamers, bringing late European news, arrived yesterday—the Hermann, at New York, and the America, at Halifax. The latest date is to the first of April.

By these arrivals we have the important intelligence that war against Russia has been formally declared by Great Britain and France. Under these declarations, however, active hostilities are not to commence until the 30th of this month. It is barely possible that this delay may yet afford an opportunity of a pacific settlement of the pending difficulties, though we confess we do not expect such a result, but, on the contrary, apprehend that Europe is about to be plunged into a protracted and devastating war. To our perception there are no means by which this dread alternative can now be avoided. We give the substance of the news as communicated through the telegraph:

The Cabinet courier despatched by Great Britain and France to Russia, bearing their ultimatum, had returned with the announcement that no reply would be made.

The result was communicated by the Queen to the British Parliament on the 27th, in a message which concluded with the declaration that she relied in this emergency upon the bravery of the army and navy.

A formal declaration of war was promulgated in the London papers on the 28th of March, to take effect on the 30th of April. Of this proclamation we have the following summary.

"The Queen's declaration of war states that the unprovoked aggressions of the Czar upon Turkey have been persisted in without regard to consequences, and that she is compelled by a sense of duty to come forward in defence of an ally.—In alluding to the difficulties between Russia and Turkey, she states that had the Czar been amicably disposed every thing would have been satisfactorily settled, and that the sending of her fleets to aid the Sultan was not decided upon until Russia exhibited the most determined attitude.

"After reviewing the proceedings of the Czar's seizure upon the Principalities, and charging Russia with bad faith throughout the whole transaction, the Queen says that the time has now arrived when the advice and remonstrances of the Four Powers are wholly ineffectual to prevent the usurpations of Russia, which, if unchecked, would lead to the destruction of the Ottoman Empire.

"She concludes with a determination, in conjunction with France, to support Turkey at all hazards."

The Queen has also issued a proclamation in reference to the commerce of neutral nations, of which we have the following copy:

"Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, having been compelled to take up arms in support of an ally, is desirous of rendering the war as little onerous as possible to those powers with whom she remains at peace. To preserve the commerce of neutrals from all unnecessary obstruction, her Majesty is willing for the present to waive a part of the belligerent rights appertaining to her by the law of nations. It is impossible for her Majesty to forego the exercise of her right of seizing articles contraband of war, and of preventing neutrals from bearing the enemy's despatches, and she must maintain the right of a belligerent to prevent neutrals from breaking any effective blockade which may be established with an adequate force against the enemy's forts, harbors, or coasts. But her Majesty will waive the right of seizing the enemy's property laden on board a neutral vessel, unless it be contraband of war.—It is not her Majesty's intention to claim the confiscation of neutral property not being contraband of war found on board the enemy's ships; and her Majesty further declares that, being anxious to lessen as much as possible the evils of war, and restrict its operations to the regularly organized forces of the country, it is not her present intention to issue letters of marque for commissioning privateers."

In an explanation made in the House of Commons the Attorney General stated, in reference to the above declaration, that Great Britain cannot and does not forego the right to search neutral vessels for articles contraband of war.

The French Government has made an announcement similar to that of England respecting the commerce of neutrals, and stating that France will not at present issue letters of marque. The Minister of Marine had addressed a circular to the Chamber of Commerce highly applauding the United States for refusing to grant letters of marque.

The Tripartite Treaty between Great Britain, France, and Turkey, consists of five articles, providing as follows:

1. That England and France engage to support Turkey by force of arms until the conclusion of a peace that shall secure the independence and integrity of the Sultan's dominions.

2. That the Porte shall not conclude a peace without the consent of its allies.

3. That the allies shall evacuate the Turkish territories after the war.

4. This Treaty to remain open for the adhesion of the other Powers of Europe.

5. Turkey guarantees to all subjects of the Porte, withount distinction of creed, perfect equality in law.

Switzerland, and Austria, and Prussia have not committed themselves by any overt act.

The Queen of Spain has granted an amnesty to all the prisoners implicated in the Lopez expedition against Cuba.

The overland China mail had reached London with Hong Kong dates of February 11. Shanghai was in possession of the rebels, and the Patriot army was mustering near Pekin.

The Latest.

On the same day as the declaration of war appeared in London—the 28th ult.—the Legislature of Paris received a message from the Emperor Napoleon, in which Napoleon declares that Russia had placed herself in a state of war with France. The announcement was received in both Chambers with extraordinary enthusiasm, and all is warlike in France.

The French Government had announced that it would not grant letters of marque to American vessels.

Admiral Napier's fleet was anchored off Kiel on the 27th.

The British cavalry designed for the East passed through France and Denmark.

The Duke of Parma was stabbed on the 26th ult., by an assassin and died.

The Tripartite Treaty has been entered into.

The campaign has begun in earnest. The Russians had crossed the Danube in great force, to strike a decisive blow before the arrival of the Allies.

Tutukai.—A telegraphic despatch dated Belgrade, states that on the 15th March, Gortchakoff wished to depart from his position on the island opposite Tutukai. His troops were already occupying the bridge. Of a sudden the Turks opened upon them a deadly and terrible fire with musketry and cannon. The consternation became awful. Very soon the main arches of the bridge were cut in twain, when it gave way, precipitating over two thousand souls into the stream below, all of whom were drowned. The scene is described as heart-rending in the extreme. The Turks suffered no loss whatever.

On the 23d, Gortchakoff crossed the Danube and captured Tutukai. Luders crossed with the main body at Galatz, without much loss. Full 50,000 Russians are now on the right bank of the Danube. On the 23d, Luders commenced preparations for the seizure of Matschin. On the 23d, a body of Russians attempted to cross at Oltenitxa. A desperate battle ensued. The Russians were repulsed with the loss of 3,000 killed. The Turks were so cut up that they had to retire to their entrenchments.

The very day the Russians commenced crossing the Danube, Omar Pasha designed attacking the Russians at Hagana, which was reported to be more inclined to the Western Powers.

The Russian fleet had left Sebastopol with provissions for the Russian fortresses on the Circassian coast.

At Vienna on the 31st ult., it was reported that the Russians on the 29th attacked Kalafat, and carried three redoubts.

The rupture between Turkey and Greece was complete.

Dates from Constantinople of the 20th ult., state that the steamers Retribution and Colon had returned from the mouth of the Danube without succeeding in removing the obstructions.

In London on the 1st inst.—the day the America left Liverpool—it was reported that Admiral Napier had captured a Russian frigate, but the report was confradicted. It was also reported that a Russian ship had been seized at Fatterford, and that the crew were held as prisoners of war.

[Correspondence of the Balt. Evening Times.]

Startling Disclosures.

Washington, April 9, 1854.

Schemes of Russia, France and England in regard to Turkey.—It is rumored here that the advices at the State Department by the last steamer, bring highly important information in regard to European affairs. It is believed by our best informed representatives abroad, that there is a secret understanding between Russia, England and France in regard to Turkey; that the appearance of hostility is merely a cloak, to cover the design, and that design is the annihilation of the Ottoman empire. The stupendous fraud is to be carried out by France and England obtaining the control of the power of Turkey, under the pretence of friendship England is to have Egypt and Candia, France, Turin and other possessions. Russia, Constantinople. The department is in possession of startling disclosures, through the private correspondence of our representatives abroad.

Mexico.

Advices have been received from Mexico, which state that Santa Anna, in his progress against Alvarez, the insurrectionary leader, was everywhere received with the greatest enthusiasm by the people. He had several encounters with the troops of Alvarez, in which the latter were generally worsted. A number of prisoners had been taken on both sides, some of whom had been shot. Reinforcements of Government troops were constantly advancing towards the scene of revolt, and the papers report that the soldiers of Alvarez were deserting. The insurrection was more formidable than was at first represented.

Congressional.

Washington Correspondence of the South Carolinian.

Washington, April 12, 1854.

Dr. Gwin, of California, made a very elaborate speech on the Pacific Railroad, the discussion of which will resuscitate the Gadsden treaty, and by the time it is in executive session a few more months, it may be passed by only a sufficient constitutional majority—two-thirds. Dr. Gwin has done himself some credit by this effort. He is the most devoted friend of the enterprise, and everything that will effect the interest of California. It is to be regretted that so much opposition to his return to the Senate exists, when he has labored so long and assiduously to her interest. No man could have exerted himself to greater advantage than Dr. Gwin for the young State which he has honorably represented in the Senate.

It is said that General Almonte, the Mexican Minister, has no authority to accept new propositions in the Gadsden treaty, or so to modify those that were originally presented, without consultation with Santa Anna.

Resolutions were introduced in reference to international points which have never been negotiated between this and the European governments; but now, as war seems to be inevitable with Russia, the United States are desirous that some definite understanding should exist in reference to the points which have not been adjusted. They were the *casus belli* forty two years ago. The impressment of American seamen, that free ships make free goods, and the execution of the statute against the system of privateering, these are now questions that will affect our country to the extent that they once did; and that the governments of Europe should be decided in their course, must be taken as the proper necessity that will be adopted by this. The resolutions were referred to the committe on foreign relations.

The Nebraska bill has not been neglected in the proceedings of the House. Mr. McDonald, of Maine, made a very bold and manly defence of the principles involved in the bill. With all the sectional opposition and the denunciations of the pulpit thundering from the north, he must be regarded as a bold man. He spoke of the party that opposed the principle as the same that had always thrust themselves between the advancement of the government and our institutions; the opponents of the war of 1812; the purchase of Louisiana; the annexation of Texas; and everything, in fine, that had tended to the growth and advancement of popular rights. Mr. Faulkner, of Virginia, also spoke in favor of the bill.

Col. Gorman, Governor of Minnesota, has arrived in this city, bringing with him Little Crow, (as distinguished from his late father, Big Crow,) a chief of the lower bands of Sioux, of that territory. This Indian is remarkably intelligent, and in conversation with the Choctaw, who related to him the advancement in civilization and knowledge among the people, said that, on his return to Minnesota, he intended to establish school-houses for his people and otherwise improve their social condition. We learn that Little Crow yesterday paid his respects to his Great Father, the President of the United States, and that the interview was highly interesting.—*Washington Sentinel 12th.*

CHARLOTTE:

FRIDAY MORNING, April 21, 1854.

☞ The Editor is absent attending the Democratic State Convention which assembled in Raleigh on Wednesday, the 19th inst. The proceedings have not reached us yet, so we cannot inform our readers as to who is the nominee. This much, however, we may safely premise, that he is at least equal in 'personal pulchritude' to the renowned champion of the Whig cause, and that when the Editor of the "Whig" receives the news of the nomination he will have a solution of that long-mooted, favorite, knotty question of his—he will know "who struck Billy Patterson."

☞ The Editor tenders his thanks to Messrs. T. Trotter & Son, for the present of a very handsome and substantial walking cane. They have on hand a large variety of fine Watches, Jewelry, and Fancy Articles of every description, which they sell at prices to suit the times.

"Discussion about Candidates."

Under this head the last "Whig" in speaking about Mr. Elms, says—"It is needless to discuss his merits as a candidate until he becomes one," and that it has been led to advert to the subject again, "at the request of 'Distribution.'" Wonder if 'Distribution' feels any *personal* concern in the matter!

The Southern Literary Messenger.

A friend has laid upon our table the April No. of this sterling monthly. No serial in the United States has more uniformly maintained itself, both with respect to the dignity of its criticisms, and the eloquence and value of its literature. It spreads a literary table—a feast of intellect—at which all may sit down, and all tastes may be promptly gratified. The puerile love stories, nauseating rhyme and mournful trash which form the staple of so large a portion of the periodical literature of the day, never deface its pages.

The Southern people owe it to themselves to patronize their own periodicals. The North has enjoyed the monopoly of literary productions, or of publication at least, too long. Reader, are you among those who have sent their one, two, or three dollars to the New York or Philadelphia publisher to receive in return his weekly or monthly, to which, perhaps, Mrs. Stowe and others of that ilk are fee-ed contributors, while your own weeklies and monthlies are giving up the ghost, or at best leading a precarious existence, in default of the one thing needful?

We do not speak thus with a view of drawing invidious distinctions between sections of our common country, but because it is high time the South was looking to this matter; most of all, at this juncture when its enemies are employing literature as their most potent weapon of attack.

The Messenger is published at $3 per annum in advance, by MacFarlane, Fergusson & Co., Richmond, Va.

Millinery Store.

The want of a good Millinery Store in this town has induced Mrs. Shaw, a lady of large experience in the business, to open an establishment on an extensive scale in order to meet the wants of the fashionable circle. It will no longer be necessary to send North to have Dresses made or buy Bonnets, as she will have the former put up in the most fashionable manner, and keep on hand an endless variety of the latter of the latest style and shape from which to make selections. We are confident that after examining the profusion of tasty trimmings, fancy articles, &c., at her Store, our ladies will desire to go no further. See advertisement.

☞ We invite attention to the advertisement of C. Johnston, in to-day's paper. Persons in want of Boots, Shoes, &c., can be supplied at his establishment.

☞ Snow fell in this place on Monday, the 17th of April.

Fire in Jacksonville, Fla.—A fire broke out in Jacksonville, Fla., on the 5th inst. which laid the Town in ruins. Thirty six stores and shops, five wharves, twelve dwellings, both printing offices, Ice House, Custom House, and several other buildings were burnt. The total loss is estimated at about $300,000. Various Atlantic Cities are already sending on sapplies, or preparing to do so, to relieve the distress of the citizens. It is apprehended that there will be great suffering for want of provisions as all were destroyed.

Fire in Charleston.

We learn from the Charleston Courier that on yesterday morning between one and two o'clock a fire was discovered in the third story of the extensive Drug and Chemical establishment of Messrs. P. M. Cohen & Co., situated in Hayne and extending through to Market-street. Notwithstanding the energetic efforts of the Fire Companies, who were quickly on the spot, the flames soon wrapped the adjacent stores in a blaze, and at five o'clock the establishments of Messrs. P. M. Cohen & Co., Z G. Waldron & Co., F. D. Fanning & Co., Gilklands, Howell & Co., and Haviland, Harral & Co., had been destroyed.

The establishment of Messrs. T. M. Horsey & Co., on the east, and Messrs. Courtenay, Tennant & Co., on the west of the buildings destroyed, were on fire at 5 o'clock.—*Carolinian 19th inst.*

Columbia, April 19.

Our cotton market still continues dull and inactive at the decline noticed in our report of Saturday; the supply on sale is light, with but little disposition evinced on the part of buyers to operate. 104 bales were sold yesterday, at 6½ for inferior to 8 cents for good middling.—*Caro.*

Santa Anna.—A Mexican correspondent of the New Orleans Bee says that Santa Anna will find the city of Mexico closed against him on his return from the expedition against Alvarez. The revolutionary elements are active in all parts of the Republic. Colima is even now in revolt, and it is rumored that Col. Guzman has pronounced at the head of 800 men.

☞ Arrangements are making at Wilmington, N. C., to tender Ex-President Fillmore the hospitalities of the town should he pass through there.

Commercial Convention.

We clip the following extract from the Charleston Mercury of the 17th inst:

"The Commercial Convention closed its session on Saturday. There was a good share of spirited and interesting debate, and a number of propositions of much practical interest were adopted. Among these were recommendations for a reduction of the duty on Railroad Iron; for the establishment of one or more mail routes from Southern ports to Europe; for negotiating with Brazil for the opening of the navigation of the Amazon. A Committee of one from each State represented, was ordered, whose business it will be to examine into the mail service throughout the South and devise means of improving it. Finally, a resolution was adopted, nearly unanimously, recommending that the Southern States take stock in a Railroad to the Pacific. The general agreement on this proposition was caused in no small degree by the reported action of the Senate on the Gadsden Treaty. The attempt to close the Southern route was felt to be a movement of political spite, as in a commercial point of view there could be no question of great superiority of this route in shortness, cheapness of construction and facility of use. This is the only act of the Convention having a political cast, and it is in answer to a political movement of the North—and a very appropriate answer."

From the South Carolinian.

The Convention.

The following are the resolutions adopted by the Convention, and which may be termed its *action*. They repudiated all begging from the Federal Congress, and have declared that they will rely on themselves, on their own energies, to carry out the grand scheme proposed—that of building a Southern Pacific Railroad. Speaking of the organization to effect that purpose, they say:

Resolved, That to effect this organization, this Convention respectfully advises the incorporation, by the Legislature of the State of Virginia, of a Southern Pacific Railroad Company, with a capital sufficient to build such road from the point or points and by the route indicated in the second resolution—of which corporation the several Southern States above mentioned, the several cities therein, and the several railroad companies therein, shall be invited to be corporation, together with such other companies and individuals as may choose to subscribe for stock, including, if they desire it, the Cherokee, Choctaw and Creek nations of Indians, west of the Mississippi. That said States be invited to take stock in such corporation to the amount of not less than two millions of dollars each, to be raised and secured in such manner as the Legislature of each such State shall direct. That each of said cities and railroad companies be invited to subscribe for stock to such amount as its means will admit. That the existence of said corporation be recognised by each of said States, and such powers be vested in, and such franchises and capacities granted to it by the Legislature of each such State, as may be necessary to effect the object of the organization; and that in its directory each such State be equally represented.

Resolved, That this Convention respectfully recommend that, if necessary, special sessions of the Legislatures of such States be called for the purpose of taking into consideration this plan; and that a committee of one member from each State represented in this Convention be appointed to draft a charter of incorporation for such company, and lay the same before the Governors of the said several States, and the National or General Councils of the Cherokee, Creek and Choctaw nations, requesting each of said Governors to convene the Legislature of his State, in order to consider the same, and take such other steps in regard to such road as may be necessary and proper, if, in his opinion, it should be expedient to do so; and especially praying the Governor of Virginia to lay said draft of a charter before the Legislature of that State, with his views in regard thereto; and requesting said Councils of the Cherokees, Choctaws and Creeks to act therein, to recognise such company, grant rights of way through their national lands for any branch or branches of said road that may pass through the same, and enact such other laws as shall secure to the South, so far as may be in their power, the exclusive benefits and advantages of the commerce of the Pacific, and of the wealthy provinces of Mexico intended to be traversed by said road.

Resolved, That this Convention recommend that power be given to said corporation, by its charter, to negotiate with Mexico for, and purchase, if necessary, a right of way through her territory to the Pacific Ocean, or to some point on the Gulf of California; to stipulate with that government that in the event the same is granted, no higher rates or charges shall ever be imposed or exacted for passage or transmission over said road on citizens of Mexico than on those of the United States; and to agree that the Company will maintain military posts along said road, will in all times submit to the jurisdiction and laws of Mexico, and claim no political rights, nor attempt to colonize the country.

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Convention, the Southern States, corporations and people are entirely able to build said road, and that no time should be lost in doing so; that it is as easy to commence it now as ten or twelve years hence, and it can as easily be completed in ten years as in a century; and that it is the duty of every Southern man, to himself, his children and his country, to engage earnestly in this great and indispensable measure of security, as well as of wealth, and of political and commercial power to the South.

Rev. Thales McDonald.

This gentleman was arrested by the Sheriff of Davidson county, on Sunday last, on a charge of *Forgery*. The Superior Court, now in session in that county, Judge Manly presiding, have the case before them. It is publicly rumored that he has been engaged in such conduct for years, forging the names of his friends in Bank, and in more private transactions. We have no accurate personal knowledge of the number or extent of these operations, but are led to believe that they amount to many thousands of dollars. He was arrested on a process from the county of Forsyth, for a forgery committed in the Salem Bank.

The arrest, and the circumstances which preceded it, have kept the public mind in this region, under high excitement for more than a week. No man enjoyed a larger share of public confidence and esteem than did McDonald. Few, if any, had warmer or more numerous and wealthy friends. Wealthy himself—his property being estimated at between sixty and seventy thousand dollars, exceeding the amount of all his liabilities by some ten or twelve thousand—his criminal conduct cannot easily be accounted for. His operations, as we understand them, were of such a nature as to preclude almost entirely the belief of any design of absolute fraud.

P. S. We learn from a gentleman who came through Lexington on yesterday, that McDonald was admitted to bail in the sum of fifteen hundred dollars.—*Salisbury Watchman.*

The unimproved lands of Oregon are so barren that a surveyor out there writes: "I think the United States ought to make Great Britain take it all back or fight. Thank God, we did not get up to 54 40; 40 is bad enough."

The Clergy vs. the Nebraska Bill.

Washington, April 9, 1854.

Judge Douglas has written a long letter of eight columns in the Sentinel, in reply to the resolutions of a meeting of twenty-five clergymen at Chicago, and in defence of his course in debate in the Senate on the protest of the New England clergymen against the repeal of the Missouri compromise.

Mr. Douglas retraverses the ground pursued by him in debate at the time the protest was presented in the Senate, and renews the charge that the protest was an outrage upon the privileges of a large body of citizens. He quotes a portion of his remarks made in opposition to the protest, and contends that the principle in the Nebraska bill is identical with the resolutions of the meeting at Chicago, and involves only the right of the people in the States to frame their own government. He also contends that the transfer of slaves from Kentucky to Nebraska would be a benefit to the slaves, and not alter the political complexion—that it would be simply reducing it in one State, where the land is exhausted, and increasing it in others where it is rich; denies that clergymen, as such, have a right to interfere in all matters embracing moral and religious truth; and intimates that a recognition of such a power would prove subversive of the principles of free government, and destructive of all the guaranties of civil and religious liberty. The sovereign right of the people to manage their own affairs, in conformity with the constitution of their own making, recedes and disappears, he says, when placed in subordination to the authority of a body of men claiming, by virtue of their office as ministers, to be a divinely appointed institution for the declaration and enforcement of God's will on earth.

The judge further argues, that it is necessary to annul the eighth section of the Missouri compromise as inimical to free government, and denies that the proposal to do so is a breach of faith.—The principles of the Nebraska bill, he says, is purely a question of self-government, involving the right and capacity of the people to manage their own local and domestic concerns. This is the only controverted principle involved in the bill. He says: "I am unwilling to believe that, upon mature reflection, and with all the advantages which your Christian character and experience may enable you to summon to your assistance, you will sanction the declaration that a proposition to carry this principle into effect is a great moral wrong—exposing us to the righteous judgments of the Almighty."

The letter is argumentative rather than denunciatory, and is milder than might have been expected from its source; but still, upon some points, it is tart and sarcastic. The letter is clearly designed as a full vindication of his character, and covers all of his positions in regard to his opposition to the protest of the New England clergymen. It shows much care in its preparation, and when published, as it will be on Tuesday, it will be read with much interest by the foes as well as by the friends of Judge Douglas and his Nebraska bill.

New York Herald.

From the Raleigh Standard.

Gen. Dockery in Gates.

The public had lost sight for a time of the federal candidate for Governor, when behold! he suddenly shows himself at Gates Court House, "armed and equipped according to law"—tells his name, and proceeds in his work of exterminating the Democracy. The General, it must be admitted, would have had a fine time of it but for Mr. Bragg, who happened to be present, and who consented to meet and expose his declamation to the people. We learn that Mr. Bragg cut him up root and branch; that he left him no ground to stand upon; and that the most ultra partizans of the federal nominee were constrained to hang their heads in confusion and regret at the exhibition made by their champion.

Thomas Bragg is one of the best informed and ablest public men in the country. He possesses a clear head, a ready and impressive delivery, and a thorough acquaintance not only with the history of parties but with the great principles of Democracy, to which he has adhered from the first with marked fidelity and constancy; and one may very well imagine how easy a task it was for such a man to meet and overwhelm in argument the federal candidate for Governor.

A friend writing us from Hertford county says: "Gen. Dockery is down here among us. He comes out boldly and tells the people what his name is, how the public lands are to be distributed, &c., if he is elected. I was much amused at the General last Friday when he stopped here, to think that he should want to divide the public domain so soon." We trust the General will not parcel out the lands without due notice; he might, to say the least, serve a *scire facias* or some such instrument on his friends to let them know what is on foot, and where to locate so as to obtain the choice sections. At any rate, we hope he will not allow himself to be unduly distressed about the inability of the Roanoke farmers to procure "*gwanny*" to put on their "*poor* land"! We have our apprehensions, however, that the next Roanoke corn crop will be an indifferent one if the public lands should not be at once divided.

We are indebted to a friend at Edenton for the following notice of the discussion at Gatesville:

Edenton, N. C., April 2, 1854.

Mr. Editor: The first grand display of political fireworks in the East came off last Monday at Gatesville, and the incidents of the occasion seem to me to deserve a passing mention. The "*Gineral's*" plan of operations is a charming specimen of his capability to produce fine dramatic effect. His design was, no doubt, to descend in the midst of our quiet people with a sort of meteor-like rapidity, suddenness and brilliancy, dazzling us with the imposing scene, and taking captive our imaginations before we should have time to recover from the shock. Accordingly, without previous notice or intimation to the people, he appeared at Gatesville on Monday morning of Court week. Nobody expected him—nobody knew of his whereabouts, and least of all suspected that he was in our midst. The Whigs were of course gratified that their candidate had thus taken time by the fore-lock, and the anti-Convention members of that party (of which I can assure you there are not a few) eagerly flocked to hear what the "Gineral" had to say to Eastern men on that question. As for the "Gineral" himself, he was in a glorious humor—all the field to himself—no competitor to weary him in his speech, and a large crowd to practice his demagogueism upon.

The "Gineral" is conducted to the platform—the speakers' stand, and the crowd eagerly gather round. Just then there is a little stir—a gentleman of some consequence, it seems, has appeared, and sure enough *he* is escorted to the stand too, and introduced to the "Gineral" as Mr. Bragg. The "Gineral" smiled grimly. Mr. Bragg took another look at the redoubtable and quietly took his seat. Here was a pretty kettle of fish—"that man Bragg" had been scared up by the Locofocos to meet him, thought the "Gineral" there he was—he believed they called him Bragg—he had "*heered*" of him before. The "Gineral" thought, I expect, that the Democrats had been planning a little of the drama as well as himself—he thought, doubtless, that Mr. Bragg had been kept shut up until that moment, but the fact was that Mr. Bragg had just got to Court, and was entirely ignorant of Gen. Dockery's arrival until a short time before the speaking commenced. He was asked by the Democrats to reply to the Whig candidate, and although it was unexpected to him, he could not and did not decline. Depend upon it, before he got through, Gen. Dockery wished himself on the top of the Pilot Mountain or anywhere else, rather than stumping it through this low country with this sledge hammer thumping him on his head. I am by no means expressing myself in terms unjustly adulatory, when I say that Mr. Bragg's speech was one of the finest specimens of close logical argumentation, and of keen, exquisitely pointed ridicule that I ever heard. The Democrats were in great glee—the Whigs looked very serious and gloomy. "He'd better not travel with that man, Bragg," said an honest farmer. The anti-Convention Whigs tacitly agreed to kick the platform and candidate overboard. If this gladiatorial exhibition is an earnest of the balance, the Democratic nominee will achieve a prouder triumph than the annals of political warfare can yet boast of. And if Mr. Bragg (as is confidently expected here) should be that nominee, Gen. Dockery will receive a *quietus* that will consign him to the political shelf for life.

Yours truly,

A LOOKER ON.

The Duration of the War.—In regard to the duration of the war in Europe, Mr. Walsh the intelligent correspondent of the New York Journal of Commerce, says:

"In returning from a walk just now, I encountered near the Palais Royal a Senator of my acquaintance—an admiral, experienced in State concerns. I expressed to him my hope that the war would not endure beyond six months. In London the Ministers called it short and sharp, and the President of the French Legislative Body, in his address of last week, trusted that it would be vigorous, rapid and decisive. The Senator answered: "No one of my collegues or the members of the Government really expects that it will end in six months, or can imagine when it will end. According to the declarations of the British Cabinet, the struggle with Russia was *once for all*. That was the idea of the French Emperor, and the preparations on both sides of the channel were proportionate. Russia had strength, pride, persistency enough for a protracted, dauntless resistance; the Czar had been potent as a conservative; he could be equally or more so as a destructive.' I was reminded of Samson:—"When he had shaken the pillars, the house fell upon all the princes;" he killed more at his death than he had killed in his life time.

Great Match Race—Shortest Time on Record.—New Orleans, April 8.—Lecompte, the celebrated Louisiana horse, to-day won the four mile race, time 7 minutes 26 seconds, beating Lexington, winner of the great race some days ago. This is the shortest time on record. An immense concourse of people was present. It was a scene of intense interest and excitement, much money changing hands.

Found Guilty.—A man by the name of Kinman was tried on Thursday last at Laurensville, for stealing a negro in 1852; he was found guilty and has been sentenced to be hung.

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April 18 1854. 39-1w