

whether of domestic or foreign relation, as it appeared to me desirable and useful to the special notice of Congress. Unlike the great States of Europe and Asia, and many of those of America, these United States are warring their strength neither in foreign war nor domestic strife. Whatever of discontent or public dissatisfaction exists is attributable to the imperfections of human nature, or is incident to all governments, however perfect, human wisdom can devise. Such subjects of political agitation, as occupy the public mind, consist, to a great extent, of exaggeration of inevitable evils, or of zeal in social improvement, or mere imagination of grievance, having but remote connexion with any of the constitutional functions or duties of the federal government. To whatever extent these questions exhibit a tendency menacing to the stability of the constitution, or the integrity of the Union, and no further, they demand the consideration of the Executive, and should be presented by him to Congress.

Before the Thirteen Colonies became a confederation of independent States, they were associated only by community of transatlantic origin, by geographical position, and by the mutual tie of common dependence on Great Britain. When that tie was severed, they severally assumed the powers and rights of absolute self-government. The municipal and social institutions of each, its laws of property and of personal relation, its political organization, were such only as each chose to establish, wholly without interference from any other. In the language of the Declaration of Independence, each State had "full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, establish commerce, and to do all acts and things which independent States may of right do." The several colonies differed in climate, in soil, in natural productions, in religion, in systems of education, in legislation, and in the forms of political administration; and they continued to differ in these respects when they voluntarily allied themselves as States to carry on the war of the revolution.

The object of that war was to dismember the United Colonies from foreign rule, which had proved to be oppressive, and to separate them permanently from the mother country; the political result was the foundation of a federal republic, the free white men of the colonies constituted a people, in distinct, and reciprocally independent, State governments. As for the subject races, whether Indian or African, the wise and brave Statesmen of that day, engaged in no extravagant scheme of social change, left them as they were, and thus preserved themselves and their posterity from the anxiety, and the ever-recurring evil-war, which have prevailed in other revolutionary European colonies of America.

When the confederated States found it convenient to modify the conditions of their association, by giving to the general government direct access in some respects to the people of the States, instead of confining it to action on the States as such, they proceeded to frame the existing constitution, adhering steadily to one guiding thought, which was, to delegate only such power as was necessary and proper to the execution of specific purposes, or, in other words, to retain as much as possible, consistently with those purposes, of the independent powers of the individual States. For objects of common defense and security, they entrusted to the general government certain carefully defined functions, leaving all others as the undelimited rights of the separate independent sovereignties.

Such is the constitutional theory of our government; the practical observation of it, which has carried us and us alone among modern republics, through nearly three generations of time, without the cost of one drop of blood shed in civil war. With freedom and concert of action it has enabled us to contend successfully on the battle field against foreign foes, has elevated the feeble colonies into powerful States, and has raised our industrial productions, and our commerce, which transports them, to the level of the richest and the greatest nations of Europe. And the admirable adaptation of our political institutions to their objects, combining local self-government with aggregate strength, has established the practicability of a government like ours to cover a continent with confederate States.

The Congress of the United States is, in effect, that Congress of sovereigns, which good men in the Old World have sought for, but could never attain, and which imparts to America an exception from the mutable league for common action, from the wars, the mutual invasions and vague aspirations after the balance of power which convulse from time to time the governments of Europe. Our co-operative action rests in the conditions of permanent confederation prescribed by the constitution. Our balance of power is in the separate reserved rights of the States, and their equal representation in the Senate. That independent sovereignty in every one of the States, with its reserved rights of local self-government assured to each by their co-equal power in the Senate, was the fundamental condition of the constitution. Without it the Union would never have existed.

However desirous the larger States might be to re-organize the government so as to give to their population its proportionate weight in the common councils, they knew it was impossible, unless they conceded to the smaller one authority to exercise at least a negative influence on all the measures of the government, whether legislative or executive, through their equal representation in the Senate.

Indeed, the larger States themselves could not have failed to perceive, that the same power was equally necessary to them, for the security of their own domestic interests against the aggregate force of the general government. In a word, the original States went into this permanent league on the agreed premises, of existing their common strength for the defence of the whole, and of all its parts, but of utterly excluding all possibility of reciprocal aggression. Each solemnly bound itself to all the others, neither to undertake, nor permit any encroachment upon, or interference with, another's reserved rights.

Where it was deemed expedient, particular rights of the States were guaranteed by the Constitution; but in all things beside, these rights were guarded by the limitation of the powers granted, and by the reservation of all powers not granted, in the compact of union. Thus the great power of taxation was limited to purposes of common defence and general welfare, excluding objects appertaining to the local legislation of the several States, and those purposes of general welfare and common defence were afterwards defined by specific enumeration, as being matters only of correlation between the States themselves, or between them and

foreign governments, which, because of common and general nature, could not be left to the separate control of each State. Of the circumstances of local condition, interest and rights, in which a section of the States, constituting the great section of the Union, differed from the rest, and from another section, the most important was the peculiarity of a larger relative colored population in the southern than in the northern States.

A population of this class, held in subjection, existed in nearly all the States, but was more numerous and of more serious concernment in the South than in the North, on account of natural difference of climate and productions; and it was foreseen that, for the same reasons, while this population would diminish, and, sooner or later, cease to exist, in some States, it might increase in others. The peculiar character and magnitude of this question of local rights, not in material relations only, but still more in social ones, caused it to enter into the special stipulations of the Constitution.

Hence, while the general government, as well by the enumerated powers granted to it, as by those not enumerated, and, therefore refused to it, was forbidden, to touch this matter in the sense of attack or defence, it was bound under the general safeguard of the Union, in the sense of defence against either invasion or domestic violence, like all other local interests of the several States. Each State expressly stipulated, as well for itself as for each and all of its citizens, and every citizen of each State, because solemnly bound by his allegiance to the constitution, that any person, held to service or labor in one State, escaping into another, should not, in consequence of any law or regulation thereof, be discharged from such service or labor, but should be delivered upon claim of the party to whom such service or labor might be due by the laws of his State.

Thus, and thus only, by the reciprocal guaranty of all the rights of every State against interference from the part of another, was the present form of government established by our fathers and transmitted to us; and by no other means is it possible for it to exist. If one State ceases to respect the rights of another, and objectively, or if it terminates with its local interests, or if a portion of the States assume to impose their institutions on the others, or refuse to fulfill their obligations to them—we are no longer united friendly States, but distracted, hostile and with little capacity left of common advantage, but abundant means of reciprocal injury and mischief.

Practically, it is immaterial whether aggressive interference between the States, or deliberate refusal on the part of any one of them to comply with constitutional obligations, arise from erroneous conviction or blind prejudice, or whether it be perpetrated by direction or inducement. In either case, it is full of threat and of danger to the durability of the Union.

Placed in the office of Chief Magistrate as the executive agent of the whole country, bound to take care that the laws be faithfully executed, and specially enjoined by the constitution to give information to Congress of the state of the Union, it would be palpable neglect of duty on my part to pass over a subject like this, which beyond all things at the present time, vitally concerns individual and public security.

It has been matter of painful regret to see States complain for their services in founding this Republic, and equally sharing its advantages, disregard their constitutional obligations to it. Although conscious of their inability to deal advisedly and palpably with their social evils, and which are completely within their jurisdiction, they engage in the offensive and hopeless undertaking of reforming the domestic institutions of other States wholly beyond their control and authority. In the vain pursuit of ends, by them entirely unattainable, and which they may not legally attempt to compass, they peril the very existence of the constitution, and all the countless benefits which it has conferred. While the people of the Southern States confine their attention to their own affairs, not presuming officiously to intermeddle with the social institutions of the northern States, too many of the inhabitants of the latter are permanently organized in associations to inflict injury on the former, by wrongful acts, which would be cause of war as between foreign powers, and only fail to be such in our system, because perpetrated under cover of the Union.

It is impossible to present this subject as the matter requires, without noticing the reiterated, but groundless allegations, that the South has permanently asserted claims and obtained advantages, in the practical administration of the general government, to the prejudice of the North, and in which the latter has acquiesced. That is, the States, which either promote or tolerate attacks on the rights of persons and of property in other States, to disguise their own injustice, pretend or imagine, and constantly aver, that they, whose constitutional rights are thus systematically assailed, are themselves the aggressors. At the present time, this imputed aggression, resting, as it does, only in the vague, declamatory charges of political agitators, resolves itself into misapprehension, or misinterpretation, of the principles and facts of the political organization of the new Territories of the United States.

What is the value of history? When the ordinance, which provided for the government of the territory northwest of the river Ohio, was adopted in the Congress of the confederation, it is not to be supposed that the question of future relative power, as between the States which retained, and those which did not retain a numerous colored population, escaped notice, or failed to be considered. And yet the possession of that vast territory to the interests and opinions of the Northern States, a territory now the seat of five among the largest members of the Union, was in a great measure, the act of Virginia and of the South.

When Louisiana was acquired by the United States, it was an acquisition not only to the North than to the South; for while it was important to the country at the mouth of the river Mississippi to become theemporium of the country above it, so also it was even more important to the whole Union to have that empire; and although settlement was mainly regarded as on the Gulf of Mexico, yet, in fact, it extended to the opposite boundaries of the United States, with far greater breadth than below, and was as territory, as every thing else, equally at least an acquisition to the northern States. It is mere delusion and prejudice, therefore, to speak of Louisiana as acquisition in the special interest of the South.

The patriotic and just men, who partici-

ated in that act, were influenced by motives far above all sectional jealousies. It was in truth the great event, which, by completing for us the possession of the Valley of the Mississippi, imparted unity and strength to the whole confederation, and attached together by indissoluble ties the East and the West, as well as the North and the South. As to Florida, that was but the transfer by Spain to the United States of territory on the east side of the river Mississippi, in exchange for large territory, which the United States transferred to Spain on the west side of that river, as the entire diplomatic history of the transaction serves to demonstrate. Moreover, it was an acquisition demanded by the commercial interests and the security of the whole Union.

In the meantime, the people of the United States had grown up to a proper consciousness of their strength, and in a brief contest with France, and in a second war with Great Britain, they had shaken off all shackles of European influence, and emerged into the atmosphere of those transatlantic influences which surrounded the infant Republic, and had begun to turn their attention to the full and systematic development of the internal resources of the Union.

Among the evanescent controversies of that period, the most conspicuous was the question of regulation by Congress of the social condition of the future States to be founded in the territory of Louisiana.

The ordinance for the government of the territory northwest of the river Ohio had contained a provision, which prohibited the use of servile labor therein, subject to the condition of the extradition of fugitives from service due in any part of the United States. Subsequently to the adoption of the constitution, this provision ceased to remain as a law; for its operation as such was absolutely superseded by the constitution. But the collection of the fact excited the zeal of social propagandism in some sections of the confederation; and when a second State, that of Missouri, came to be formed in the territory of Louisiana, propositions were made to extend to the latter territory the restriction originally applied to the country situated between the rivers Ohio and Mississippi.

Most questionable as this proposition in all its constitutional relations, nevertheless it received the sanction of Congress, with some slight modifications of line, to save the existing rights of the intended new State. It was reluctantly acquiesced in by southern States as a sacrifice to the cause of peace and of the Union, not only of the rights stipulated by the treaty of Louisiana, but of the principles of equality among the States guaranteed by the constitution. It was received by the northern States with angry and resentful condemnation and complaint, because it did not concede all which they had exactingly demanded. Having passed through the forms of legislation, it took its place in the statute book, standing open to repeal, like any other act of doubtful constitutionality, subject to be pronounced null and void by the courts of law, and possessing no possible efficacy to control the rights of the States which might thereafter be organized out of any part of the original territory of Louisiana.

In all this, if any aggression there were, any innovation upon pre-existing rights, of which portion of the Union are they justly chargeable?

This controversy passed away with the occasion, nothing surviving it save the dormant rights of the statute.

But, long afterwards, by the proposed accession of the Republic of Texas, the United States were to take their step in territorial greatness, a similar contingency occurred, and became the occasion for systematized attempts to intervene in the domestic affairs of one section of the Union, in defiance of their rights as States; and of the stipulations of the constitution. These attempts assumed a practical direction, in the shape of proslavery educators, by some of the representatives, in both houses of Congress, to deprive the southern States of the supposed benefit of the provisions of the act authorizing the organization of the State of Missouri.

But the good sense of the people, and the vital force of the constitution, triumphed over sectional prejudice, and the political errors of the day, and the State of Texas returned to the Union as she was, with social institutions which her people had chosen for themselves, and with express agreement, by their annexation, that she should be susceptible of subdivision into a plurality of States.

Whatever advantage the interests of the Southern States, as such, gained by this, were far inferior in results, as they unfolded in the progress of time, as those which sprang from previous concessions made by the South. To every thoughtful friend of the Union, to the true lovers of their country,—to all who longed and labored for the full success of this great experiment of republican government,—it was cause of gratulation that an opportunity had occurred to illustrate our advancing power on the continent, and to furnish to the world additional assurance of the strength and stability of the constitution. Who would wish to see Florida still a European colony? Who would rejoice to hail Texas as a lone star, instead of one in the galaxy of States? Who does not appreciate the incalculable benefits of the acquisition of Louisiana? And yet narrow views and sectional purposes would inevitably have excluded them all from the Union.

But another struggle on the same point ensued, when our victorious armies returned from Mexico, and it devolved on Congress to provide for the territories acquired by the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. The great relations of the subject had now become distinct and clear to the perception of the public mind, which appreciated the evils of sectional controversy upon the question of the admission of new States. In that crisis intense solicitude pervaded the nation. But the patriotic impulses of the popular heart, guided by the advisory advice of the Father of his Country, rose superior to all the difficulties of the hour, and a new empire into the Union. In the councils of Congress there was manifested extreme antagonism of opinion and action between some representatives, who sought by the abusive and unconstitutional employment of the legislative powers of the government to interfere in the condition of the incipient States, and to impose their own social theories upon the latter; and other representatives, who repelled the interposition of the general government in this respect, and maintained the self-regulating rights of the States. In truth, the thing attempted was, in form alone, section of the general government, while in reality it was the endeavor, by abuse of legislative power, to force the idea of internal partition, or partition of States, upon allied independent States. Once more the consti-

tution and the Union triumphed signally. The new Territories were organized without restrictions on the disputed point, and were thus left to judge in that particular for themselves, and the sense of the constitutional faith proved vigorous enough in Congress not only to accomplish this primary object, but also the incidental and hardly less important one, of assuaging the provisions of the statute for the extradition of fugitives from service, as to place that public duty under the safeguard of the general government, and thus relieve it from obstacles raised up by the legislation of some of the States.

Vain declaration regarding the provisions of law for the extradition of fugitives from service, with occasional episodes of frantic effort to obstruct their execution by riot and murder, continued, for a brief time, to agitate certain localities. But the true principle, of leaving each State and Territory to regulate its own laws of labor, according to its own sense of right and expediency, and of abstaining from all interference, to such a degree, that, by common consent, it was observed in the organization of the Territory of Washington.

When, more recently, it became requisite to organize the Territories of Nebraska and Kansas, it was the natural and legitimate, if not the inevitable, consequence of previous events and legislation, that the same great and sound principle, which had already been applied to Utah and New Mexico, should be applied to them; that they should stand exempt from the restrictions proposed in the act relative to the State of Missouri.

These restrictions were, in the estimation of many thoughtful men, and from the beginning, unauthorized by the Constitution, contrary to the treaty stipulations for the cession of Louisiana, and inconsistent with the equality of the States.

They had been stripped of all moral authority, by persistent efforts to procure their indirect repeal through contradictory enactments. They had been partially abrogated by the legislation attending the organization of Utah, New Mexico, and Washington. If any vitality remained in them, it would have been taken away, in effect, by the new territorial acts in the form originally proposed to the Senate at the first session of the last Congress. It was mainly and ingeniously, as well as patriotically and just, to do this directly and plainly, and thus relieve the statute-book of an act, which might be of possible future injury, but of no possible future benefit; and the measure of its repeal was the final consummation and complete recognition of the principle, that no portion of the United States shall undertake, through assumption of the powers of the general government, to dictate the social institutions of any other portion.

The scope and effect of the language of repeal were not left in doubt. It was declared, in terms, to be the true intent and meaning of this act not to legislate slavery into any Territory or State, nor to exclude it therefrom, but to leave the people thereof perfectly free to form and regulate their domestic institutions in their own way, subject only to the Constitution of the United States.

The measure could not be withdrawn upon its merits alone. It was attacked with violence on the false or delusive pretext that it constituted a breach of faith. Never was objection more utterly destitute of substantial justification. When, before, was it imagined by sensible men that a regulative or declarative statute, whether enacted ten or forty years ago, is irrevocable—that an act of Congress, above the Constitution? If, indeed, there were in the facts any cause to impute bad faith, it would attach to those of the enactment day, to denounce and condemn it, who have constantly refused to complete it by beneficial supplementary legislation; who have spared no exertion to deprive it of moral force; who have themselves again and again attempted its repeal by the enactment of incompatible provisions; and who, by the inevitable retroactive effect of their own violence on the subject, awakened the country to perception of the true constitutional principle, of leaving the matter involved to the discretion of the people of the respective existing or incipient States.

It is not pretended that this principle, or any other, precludes the possibility of evils in practice, disturbed as political action is liable to be by human passions. No form of government is exempt from inconveniences; but in this case they are the result of the abuse, and not of the legitimate exercise, of the powers reserved or conferred in the organization of a Territory. They are not to be charged to the great principle of popular sovereignty; on the contrary, they disappear before the intelligence and patriotism of the people, existing through the ballot box their peaceful and silent but irresistible power.

If the friends of the Constitution are to have another struggle, its enemies could not present a more acceptable issue than that of State, whose constitution clearly embraces "a republican form of government," being excluded from the Union because its domestic institutions may not in all respects conform with the ideas of what is wise and expedient entertained in some other State,—fresh from gross and impertinent breaches of faith against others, men will commence the agitation of this new question with indubitable violation of an express compact between the independent sovereign powers of the United States and of the republic of Texas, as well as of the older and equally solemn compact which assure the equality of all the States.

But, deplorable as would be such a violation of compact to itself, and in all its direct consequences, that is the very least of the evils involved. When sectional agitators shall have succeeded in forcing on this issue, on their pretensions fail to be met by counter pretensions? Will not different States be compelled respectively to meet extremes with extremes? And, if other extremes carry their point, what is that, so far forth, but dissolution of the Union? If a new State, formed from the territory of the United States, be absolutely excluded from admission there, that fact of itself constitutes the disruption of union between it and the other States. But the process of dissolution could not stop there. Would not a sectional decision, producing such results by a majority of votes, either Northern or Southern, of necessity drive out the oppressed and aggrieved minority, and place in presence of each other two irreconcilable hostile confederations?

It is necessary to speak thus plainly of projects, the offspring of that sectional agitation now prevailing in some of the States, which are as impracticable as they are unconstitutional, and which, if presented in any form, and will be calamitous. It is either dissolution and civil war, or it is no war, or it is, under the disguise of public peace and tranquility, division for what? If the

passionate rage of fanaticism and partisan spirit did not force the fact upon our attention, it would be difficult to believe, that any considerable portion of the people of this enlightened country could have so surrendered themselves to a fanatical devotion to the supposed interests of the relatively few Africans in the United States, as to totally to abandon and disregard the interests of the twenty-five millions of Americans, to trample under foot the injunctions of moral and constitutional obligation, and to engage in plans of vindictive hostility against those who are associated with them in the enjoyment of the common heritage of our national institutions.

Nor is it hostility against their fellow-citizens of one section of the Union alone. The interests, the honor, the duty, the peace, and the prosperity of the people of all sections are equally involved and imperilled in this question. And are patriotic men in any part of the Union prepared, on such an issue, thus maldy to invite all the consequences of the forfeiture of their constitutional engagements? It is impossible. The storm of phrensy and faction must inevitably dash itself in ruin against the unshakable rock of the Constitution. I shall never doubt it. I know the union is stronger a thousand times than all the wild and chimerical schemes of social change which are generated, one after another, in the unstable minds of visionary sophists and interested agitators. I rely confidently on the patriotism of the people, on the dignity and self-respect of the States, on the wisdom of Congress, and, above all, on the continued vigorous favor of Almighty God, to maintain, against all enemies, whether at home or abroad, the sanctity of the Constitution and the integrity of the Union.

FRANKLIN PIERCE.  
WASHINGTON, DECEMBER 31, 1855.

A VALUABLE FAMILY MEDICINE.  
Dr. McLean's Vermifuge, and the only specific cure for worms. Families should never be without a supply of it. At this season particularly, when worms are so troublesome and frequently fatal among children, parents should be watchful; and on the first appearance of those distressing symptoms which were used their presence, at once apply this powerful and efficacious remedy. We are confident that it only requires a trial, to convince all that it really merits the praises that have been lavished upon it. It is safe and infallible. Volumes of certificates can be produced, showing its great medical virtues.

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CONSIGNEES PER RAIL ROAD.  
FROM THE 27th to the 15th of JANUARY.  
MURPHY & H. J. CONNELL, S. WEBB, G. MOWLER & CO., L. SPRINGS, D. C. O. CRAWFORD & M. HILL, HOPE, W. A. CO. DAWKINS & K. W. B. CONNELL, J. P. PARK & CO., HIGH SHOALS M. C. J. P. HENDERSON, ROSSBORO, C. & CO., JAS. HARPER, J. RAMSEUR & CO., W. C. ERWIN, E. J. ERWIN, R. F. STOCKTON, J. & C. J. COXIE.

TO THE AMERICAN ORDER IN THE UNITED STATES.  
NATIONAL COUNCIL,  
Lynchburg, Va., Nov. 27, 1855.  
COVENTRY, Ky., Nov. 27, 1855.

Be it known that at the annual meeting of the National Council, in June, 1855, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, that a Convention, for the purpose of nominating candidates for the Presidency and Vice Presidency, be held in Philadelphia on the 22d of February, 1856; to be composed of delegates chosen by the subordinate Councils, State Councils, and Senatorial delegates at large.

In consequence of the existence of this resolution, and to give it full effect, I hereby proclaim and make it known that, without delay, the Councils of the Order in each Congressional District in each State, and that each State Council, shall proceed to elect delegates to represent them in said National Convention, appointed by said resolution; and to secure a full representation, it is recommended that each Congressional and State delegate, two alternates be at the same time chosen by each District and State Council.

E. B. BARTLETT,  
President National Council, U. S. N. A.

TO THE AMERICAN ORDER IN THE U. STATES.

In accordance with section 3 of article 3 of the Constitution of the National Council of the United States of North America, authorizing the President to call a special meeting upon the written request of five delegates representing five State Councils, the provisions of said section having been complied with, by the authority of the said National Council, notice is hereby given to the several State Councils, and to the Delegates to the National Council, that there will be a special meeting of said Councils, to be held in Philadelphia, on Monday, the 15th day of February next, for the transaction of such business as may be brought before it.

E. B. BARTLETT,  
President National Council, U. S. N. A.

IRISH KNOW NOTINGS.

A Know Nothing meeting was held in Crawford, Ky., on the 19th inst, at which C. D. O'Sullivan, Esq., a native of Ireland, but a friend to the American cause, made a short and eloquent speech, in which he insisted upon the principles of the justice of the American party. In Ireland, he said, he had struggled for the right of Irishmen to govern their own country. It was for this that O'Brien and Mitchell and all the other Irish patriots had contended; and he should feel himself an ingrate and a hypocrite if he should deny in America what he had struggled for in Ireland—the right of the native sons of every country to rule their own land. "Ireland for the Irish" had been the motto of all the Irish patriots at home—"America for the Americans" ought to be their motto here.

THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION.  
The Democratic National Convention, in Washington city on the 8th, and after a brief discussion as to a proper day for holding the National Convention, they fixed upon June 23, as the time of meeting. The Convention will be held in Cincinnati.

A sixty lawyer placed on his office door a card with the inscription: "Those who call on business will please make it brief."



CHARLOTTE:

Tuesday, January 15, 1856.

If we have given up nearly our entire paper this week to the President's Message.

If we suppose the severe cold weather, which we have had for the last few days, has frozen up our Charlotte correspondent as we have not received his usual communications.

Municipal Election.

Yesterday the following gentlemen were elected Municipal Officers of this town for the ensuing year, by a majority of 22 votes, viz:

FOR TOWN CLERK,  
WM. F. DAVIDSON.  
FOR COMMISSIONERS,  
T. H. BREM,  
JAMES M. HUTCHISON,  
WM. HARTY,  
MCKEE JIMISON,  
W. R. MYERS,  
WM. F. PHIPPS.

No Speaker Yet.

We are if our readers are not, tired of seeing the head "No Speaker Yet," and the prospect seems to be farther off than ever. The last halp cent piece was 92 votes, Richardson 85, Fuller 28, Pennington 4 and 5 scattering.

More Snow.

On Friday night last, we had another snow and our prediction was nearly verified to the letter, being deeper than the one on the previous week. Some have been finely enjoying the amusement of skating. The ice has been in excellent order, affording fine opportunity to the lovers of skating to amuse themselves, and also enabling persons having skates to fill them.

The Telegraph.

We are pleased to learn, from the following article from the Chester Standard, that there is a prospect of our Telegraph being put in good working order and kept so. The line having been loaned to a gentleman whose interest it will be to attend to its proper management.

At a meeting of the Stockholders of the Columbia and Charlotte Telegraph Company, on the 31st inst., the line was leased to our enterprising townsmen, Eli Elliott, for a series of years, he to put and keep it in good working order. We are truly glad that so satisfactory an arrangement has been effected, and congratulate the people of Chester, and others interested, upon the prospective re-establishment of the whole line. Mr. E. requests us to notify those who are the owners of "his" line, who have been trespassing upon the line by converting insulators and portions of the wire to their private purposes, that such portions be returned to him for their value, the law, in all its rigors, will be enforced in every case. These wrongs, therefore, you who in the honesty and simplicity of your hearts regarded the lines as abandoned, and render unto Eliott the things which are Eliott's.

Our Table.

We have received the Atlantic and Carolina Cultivator for January, 1856. The Cultivator addresses to its readers that it has resumed the services of Prof. B. S. Hedrick, Professor of Agricultural Chemistry in the University of North Carolina, and that it is published at the office of the Spirit of the Age, and makes a most agreeable and will prove a valuable accession to the Church.

We have also received two Nos. of the Rail Road Times, printed at Greensboro, N. C. by Egbert & Albright. It makes a most agreeable and the enterprising proprietors deserve encouragement.

We have also received the Greenboro Patriot considerably enlarged and improved.

Seminole Indians.

The people of Florida are manifesting great indignation at the recent murders committed by the Indians. At a meeting of the citizens of Tampa resolutions were adopted calling upon the Government to take prompt measures for the immediate removal of these Indians to the far West, and recommending that the people of that State should not make any compromise with these Indians, until the last one is expelled from their territory.

From our Correspondent.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.

To those who are watching the affairs of the world, the position of Austria is one of the highest interest. Founded upon fraud, cunning and rapine, she occupies at this day among nations much the same position that a highway does among honest men. A few words will give an insight into her history and character.

In the early part of the twelfth century a Roush Bishop named Werner, built a fortified palace high up among the crags of the Tyrolean Alps on the banks of the Aar, the dwellers in the valley called it "Der Habsburg" or "the Hawk's nest." The hamlet, which for protection grew up under its walls, took the same name, which they finally contracted into Hapsburg.

The course of its masters justified the name. Ever eager for power, they enlarged their sway until in the true spirit of the time, they added to the authority of Bishop, the title of Count, of Hapsburg. In 1240, Rudolf became Count. Fully inheriting the character of his ancestors, he never ceased his rapacious career.

He raised the sword against his uncle and guardian and received a strip of territory as indemnity for his expenses; left guardian of his cousin Anne, he added her territories to his own. Brave warrior and unscrupulous, by such means he raised himself to power, and in the midst of an expedition against Basle, a messenger announced that he had been elected Emperor of Germany. The Duke refused him allegiance and in return was stripped of his territory and thus the House of Hapsburg ascended the throne of Austria.

From that day to this their course has been the same although they have aspired to the place of the Eagle, they never have lost the character of the hawk. By intermarriage they obtained the throne of Bohemia and by election that of Hungary. The same sovereign was Duke of Austria, King of Bohemia, King of Hungary, and Emperor of Germany, though each was a separate and independent State.

The Duke of Austria tightened their grip upon Bohemia and Hungary, annexed provinces after province around them,

aided in the partition of Poland, passed over the Alps and seized upon the territories of Venice and Lombardy and now the sovereigns of Florence are addressed as Austrian Archdukes, by an Austrian Minister. Austria thus compounded has great points of weakness. Scarcely any of her territory beyond the Arch-Duchy of Austria can be said to be willingly subjected to her, most of it is held by force of arms. For a long time she has been endeavoring to break down the nationalities comprised within her limits, to destroy their sovereign right and to mould the whole Empire into one flexible mass. The war in Hungary was the result of an unscrupulous and tyrannical effort to accomplish this, and resistance on the part of the people against it. It was a perfect act of injustice and Austria now holds Hungary as a conquered State and rules it by martial law. It would take too long to tell how it was accomplished. Suffice it to say, that a power behind the throne rules Austria, the Camarilla or "the Arch-cabinet," at the head of which was the Arch-Duchess, Sophia. The old Emperor was troubled with a conscience and therefore resuscitated to their purposes and was made to resign. The next heir, his brother, the husband of Sophia, renounced in favor of his son, Francis Joseph, an inexperienced youth of sixteen; a mere tool in the hands of the Jews.

Baron Jellachich, an old lover of the Arch-Duchess, was despatched to bring on a struggle, by raising a rebellion of Croats against the Hungarian Diet as they supposed in favor of the grand Republic of all the Slaves, and fraud and force of arms accomplished the rest. There is not a clearer case of wrong in history. But the most astonishing thing of all is the Concordat agreed upon between the Emperor and the Pope. If the Austrian Emperor did not bear a reputation for integrity and shrewdness equal to any in Europe, we should consider it a foolish yielding on the part of the Emperor to the wily counsels of the priests. Doubtless that is in part true, but Austrian Statesmen can never have yielded so much without expectation of some great return.

By it the Empire in all educational and religious matters is brought directly under the control of the Pope. The State abandons all authority over the church, while the latter appoints all teachers, selects all books, controls all subjects presented to children, is to have the power of preventing the circulation of books and punishing those who oppose its tenets, takes the jurisdiction of marriages and has entire control of all church property.

In short the Emperor has surrendered to the tender mercies of the papacy, absolute control over all her dearest privileges and relations of life. It is only one step more in the same she has taken to make herself a disgrace to humanity. Austria cannot have a more humiliating and degrading prospect before her than this.

Let us look a little at the circumstances. In the first place that chapter of despotism, to inaugurate which the present Emperor received his crown has not yet been accomplished. In the old Kingdom of Hungary there are in round numbers five millions of Protestants to which the remainder of the Empire will add a large number more. There are also several millions of the Greek church. The Protestants of Hungary are mainly found among the Magyars. The bold free spirit of Luther and of Calvin early found a ready response among them. When that act of despotism, by which their constitutional rights of a thousand years duration were blotted out, was consummated they were placed under the control of the military police, their pulpits razed and their church government broken.

One of the first acts of this tyranny was the expulsion of the Jews from the Concordat is already doing its work of persecution among the Protestant churches of Hungary. The spirit of Protestantism is antagonistic to the spirit of Austria and therefore she seeks to strike it down. Here is one secret of the union between Austria and the Pope. Here are two of the first nations of the earth, league together ostensibly to protect the Turks against the Russians, and to maintain the liberties of Europe and at the same time courting the alliance of Austria, who only goes on perpetrating a worse tyranny than has entered into the mind of Russia.

There is a tide in the "laine of men, and the indications of the current are, that the present war of cabinets, if it continues will be one of peoples, which will bend down in its current, the bulwarks which hem them in. There are thousands of brave hearts in waiting anxiously for the time to strike.

Not long ago I met a Hungarian exile, who had been an officer in the Austrian service, before the revolution.

He was waiting anxiously the summons to go back and strike for his fatherland again, and if it did come he said he would be impatient to wait for the railroad train.— There was a touching eloquence in his voice and manner as he said, "It would be the greatest pleasure of my life, if I could go back and lay down to die, beneath my native sky, but it would be greater if I could know that the enemies of my country had fallen in battle by my hand. The patriot soldier, when he goes into battle