

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30th, 1846

To the Editor of the Charleston Mercury: Permit me, through your columns, to draw the attention of the Planters of your State to the cultivation of the "Bear Grass"...

NEW YORK, Nov. 7th.

We certainly think that there is no question but that this article will favorably compare with Sisal Hemp, and command a price nearly equal to it...

We shall be happy to receive the samples, you think it probable, you may send us in the Spring as an experiment...

Prices paid for Sisal, 3135 per ton 240 lbs. " " Manilla, 150 " "

Manilla " " 140 to 150 " "

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 18.

I have a good opinion in regard to the cultivation of Manilla Hemp at the South, and should like to know where the sample came from you sent me a short time ago...

Extract from Gov. Call of Florida.

The "Bear Grass" may be prepared for use at any season, and if the planter had a sufficient crop he might employ the whole year in its preparation without sustaining any loss from its depreciation or destruction...

This will require planting but once in an ordinary life time, and with but little cultivation, will continue to produce its abundant crops of five or six tons per acre...

After boiling the leaves and putting them up in small bundles of a convenient size for the purpose, I have passed them through an ordinary wooden sugar mill, dipping them in water at each passage until the surplus water has been removed...

From the prices above and the facts hereunto, it is but reasonable to suppose, that the Hemp from the Bear Grass will yield a much greater amount in money to the producer of this article than any other staple article of the South.

From Manilla can be manufactured Rope, Cotton Bagging, and a very fine summer cloth.

Having examined closely the "fibrous texture of the Bear Grass," I find it to be finer than either Manilla or Sisal. It is easy to cultivate, and simple in its preparation, and less expensive to manufacture than the ordinary Hemp...

I have given my attention to this subject for this year past, in the hopes that my efforts with a hearty co-operation of the part of the planting South, from seeing the advantages they would derive in one particular alone, that of making themselves independent of other sources for Bagging and Bale Rope.

I am, sir, very respectfully, Your obedient servant, DAVID MYERLE.

Later from the Army.

We have dates from Brig. Santiago, as late as the 11th inst. They, however, contain nothing of very great interest. Saltillo is in the undisputed possession of a portion of our troops, under Gen. Worth. Our scouts had discovered about 3000 Mexican cavalry, only 20 miles from Saltillo. Gen. Wool has been ordered by Gen. Taylor to take possession of Parras, a small town seventy miles north east from Saltillo...

The Mexicans have succeeded in inducing some of our army to desert, by the promise of large rewards, promotions, &c. A rumor had reached Santa Ana, that six United States' wagons, with provisions, specie, &c., for our army, had been captured between Camargo and Mier.

Means of Monterey.

It was our pleasure, yesterday, to hold a conference with Doctor Wilson, of Col. Woods' Texas Rangers. He arrived here on the steamship Alabama, on Monday evening, and is one of the last persons from Monterey having left there on the 25th ult. Sickness was abating in the camp, and the wounded, generally speaking, were rapidly recovering. Gen. Butler was among those whose convalescence was most slow. Gen. Worth, with about 1200 men, was at Saltillo, where he found very comfortable quarters. By the way, a good story is told of old "Rough and Ready," who accompanied General Worth's Brigade to Saltillo, in connection with the march into that place...

"O, I'll bear no more of it," said the General. "March!" He ordered the bugler to sound the advance, and again the column was in motion.

The number of men fit for active duty at Monterey at the present time is about 1000. Of these, one regiment is quartered in the city—the remainder are encamped at the Walnut Springs.

From the representation which Doctor Wilson makes to us, Gen. Taylor cannot advance with his forces from Saltillo to San Luis Potosi. The Mexicans in their retreat, performed the march at a great sacrifice of life: the Americans cannot accomplish it—first, because the enemy would let the water out of the tanks and thus deprive them of this necessary element of existence; next, because they could find no provisions on the way—a distance of 250 miles, and because it amounts to almost absolute impossibility to convey the necessary forage and provisions over the mountains in the line indicated. There would seem to be no probability then that a junction can be formed with the two wings of our army at San Luis Potosi—the one marching from Tampico, the other from Monterey and Saltillo—which report has been saying is to be the movement.

A report circulated along the Rio Grande that Santa Anna had challenged Gen. Taylor to meet him with 30,000 men, in pitched battle, between San Luis Potosi and Saltillo. "Rough and Ready" replied, that so soon as he would have 10,000 efficient men under his command, he would meet him any where, whatever might be the strength of his forces.

A few days before Doctor Wilson left Monterey an express arrived there from Gen. Wool, at Monterey. It is not his present purpose to join Gen. Taylor. In this decision he is guided by the instruction or advice of the latter. Col. Hancey and his dragoons are at Chihua, into which they marched without firing a gun. In

deed, they were cordially welcomed, & got from the authorities a decent "blow out" into the bargain.

The regular army at Monterey conduct themselves with great order and regularity; no so, always, with the volunteers. They and the Mexicans too often get into difficulties, and homicides follow. On the day before Doctor W. left the camp, the body of a member of the Louisville Legion was found in a position which showed that he had been violently murdered. His comrades buried him, and the next day the Doctor heard, when he reached Camargo, they called out and killed several Mexicans. He further heard, that for the Gen. Taylor had ordered them back from camp, with a strong reprimand, either to Llaneros or Camargo. The 4th regiment of Illinois volunteers which had marched from Camargo to Matamoros, on the way to Tampico, were ordered back, probably to take the place of the Kentucky Legion, or possibly to repel some threatened attack on Camargo. Whatever the motive, they were, at least, ordered to counter-march from Matamoros.

The report at Monterey, that Gen. Anagnon had been tried by a military court at San Luis Potosi, for his conduct at Monterey, and ordered to be shot.—Ibid

Mexico.

A rumor is brought by the New Orleans papers, of great interest, and of well founded, of the first importance. It is that the Mexican Congress has reiterated the declaration of Santa Anna to Gen. Taylor, that no negotiation for peace can be entered into while our troops are on Mexican soil and our ships on her coast. It requires confirmation, certainly, and indeed seems improbable—but it may be true for all that, and if so, there is work enough to be done. The first authentic glimpse of the Mexican Congress will be looked for with great anxiety. If they propose such conditions as are indicated above, to us they announce to the world that they desire the continuance of war and will not have peace. Let them have war then, to their hearts content. And the indications of such a disposition are already sufficient to justify our Government in acting as if the declaration had been formally made by Mexico and all hopes of speedy peace been effectually quenched.

LOSS OF THE U. S. BRIG SOMERS.

We regret to record the loss of this brig, which was considered one of the best belonging to our Gulf Squadron. She was captured and sunk in a heavy squall on the 8th inst. near Vera Cruz. There were 80 persons on board, of whom about 20 perished, and among them, passed midshipman H. A. Clemens and John R. Henson, two of the most promising officers belonging to the Navy. Some of the crew who escaped by clinging to spars, &c. were taken prisoners by the Mexicans, and are now in Vera Cruz.

The U. S. Steamer, Gopher, was likewise lost near Brazos Santiago on the 13th inst.—also Pilot Boat Ariel. We have no room for further particulars this week. Disaster seem to have attended our fleet ever since it anchored in the Gulf.

More Troops.

The Military Committee reported a Bill to provide for enlistment and organization of ten Regiments, one of Dragoons and nine of Infantry, for the whole term of the war, or for five years, as the term of enlistment. The troops to be subjected to the regulations of the Army, and all the officers to be appointed by the President. One Assistant Major is also recommended, for each regiment now in service, to be taken from the Captains of the Regiment.

Expenses of Volunteers.—Upon a proposition to refund the several States the expenses incurred by them, for subsistence and transportation of volunteers, all they were mustered in the United States service, Mr. Burd offered a resolution, which was adopted, instructing the Military Committee to report a Bill making a general provision on the subject.

The North Carolina Regiment.—We are glad to be able to say that there is now every prospect of the speedy formation of the required Regiment in our State. The people were somewhat slow to act, but if our news is correct, they are at last stirring up in earnest. At the last dates from Raleigh only 2 Companies had been reported as ready—1 from Rowan, and 1 from Edgecomb, but it is stated that a Company was ready to organize in Caswell and one in Wayne. We hear this week that one has been raised in Cabarrus, and one in Mecklenburg—both probably reported before this time. These would make six, and doubtless others will be speedily formed. Edgecomb raised a fine company of one hundred and fifteen men at the Regimental muster ordered for the purpose, and Gen. Louis D. Wilson, Senator in the present Legislature from the County, was elected Captain. Well done Edgecomb! she has effectually silenced all sneers this time.

Efforts, we see, by the papers, are making in Fayetteville to raise a Company, and between 30 and 40 are enrolled.

The Legislature.

Owing to the Christmas holidays, and the absence of a number of Members on a visit to Wilmington, but little business has been done in the Legislature since our last. We give in another portion of our paper, a sketch of the proceedings up to Saturday last; and we refer our readers to an article in another column headed "the Senate Debates."

In the Senate on yesterday, the bill to enclose the State Capitol, passed its second reading by a majority of ten; and the House on yesterday, was mainly engaged in discussing the bill and amendments in relation to the appointment of Field Officers for the North Carolina Regiment. A proposition, made by Mr. Raper, to vest the power to appoint in the Governor, was voted down by a large majority. We incline to the opinion that the House will pass the Senate bill, which gives the appointment of these officers to the officers and privates of the Regiment—others think however, that the Legislature itself will appoint.

The two Houses were engaged last evening in appointing Justices of the Peace.

Raleigh Standard.

Trustees of the University.—The following gentlemen have been elected Trustees of the University, by the Legislature, to fill vacancies viz: John A. Gilmer, of Guilford; Daniel W. Cooris, of Rockingham; John Kerr, of Caswell; Walter F. Leake, of Richmond; Thomas N. Cameron, of Cumberland, and Giles Mebane, of Orange.

Bill to Repeal our Rail Road.—A bill is before the Senate, introduced we believe, by Mr. Guimer, to revise and re-establish the Raleigh and Gaston Road. It proposes that the Legislature shall provide for a joint ownership of the Road, between the State and original Stockholders if they shall subscribe \$200,000 to the extension of the Road to the South Carolina line.

Maine.—In the Gloucester and Danville district, upon the sixth trial, Charles Maguire, Democrat, was elected a member of the Maine House of Representatives by a Majority of two votes.

Arkansas.—An election for a member of Congress took place recently in Arkansas. The returns render it probable that T. W. Newton, Democrat, is elected.

Massachusetts.—The two vacant Districts are probably filled. The Whigs having elected their regular candidates Messrs. King and Palfrey, if the latter are defeated by an alleged informality in the election.

Rowan Volunteers.—On Thursday of last week, Capt. Long's Company took up the line of march for the road, west of Charlotte. They were escorted out of Town by a great number of the citizens, and proceeded on the way, with the good wishes of all whom they left behind, to engage in an honorable service at the call of their country. May they return in safety to enjoy the distinction which their courage and self sacrifice merits.—Salisbury Journal.

Presentation of a Flag.—Last week, on Wednesday, Miss Louisa Vegler presented the "Rowan Volunteers." Capt. Long, a beautiful flag, with a brief and appropriate address, which was responded to by a Capt. Long in a becoming manner on accepting the gift of patriotism. It was unfurled over the Company who are to bear it in their distant and honorable service and displayed the "Star Spangled" emblem of American liberty, with this inscription: "ROWAN VOLUNTEERS."

A large number of spectators were present on the interesting occasion.—Ibid.

CONGRESS.

The mail of last evening brought us nothing of very special interest from Washington. The President has responded to the resolution of inquiry offered by Mr. Garrett Davis of Kentucky, in regard to the orders issued to our Military Commanders in Mexico. The President, in his reply, states, in substance, that the instruction given to Gen. Taylor, Wool, Kearney, &c., were only such as are recognized by the laws of nations. These instructions merely contemplated the establishment of provisional governments in the conquered provinces. The act of Gen. Kearney, so far as it went to establish a permanent territorial government, and invest the inhabitants of the conquered province with the political rights of citizens of the United States, virtually annexing the same, is declared to be unauthorized. Mr. Polk's exposition of the matter is brief, frank and explicit.

Mr. Thompson, of Ky. submitted a resolution declaring that when Mexico shall have made remuneration for her indebtedness to us, and acknowledged the Rio Grande as the boundary, peace ought to be restored. Upon the question of suspending the rules to consider this resolution, the vote was 33 yeas to 138 nays. This vote is regarded as strongly indicative of the views of the House upon a proposition of this character.

Jews has been admitted into the Union, and her two Representatives have already taken their seats. Her Senator had not arrived.

Mr. Calhoun, on the 21st inst., presented the credentials of Jud. Butler, who was qualified and took his seat in the Senate.

Arrival of the Cambria.

FIFTEEN DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 18—10, P. M. The steamer Cambria arrived at Boston on Wednesday evening, having left Liverpool on the 4th instant. The C. brought out 70 passengers to Boston.

The most prominent political news is the obliteration by Russia, Austria and Prussia, of the Republic of Cracow, the last remnant of Poland.

The Cotton market has been very excited. The Manchester trade feel important at the present movement, supported by speculators only.

Upwards of 25,000 bales being taken by speculators since Friday last—a rise of three eighths of a penny.

The English ports are to be opened. Indian Corn 56s. a 68s. per quarter.—American Flour had advanced one shilling per barrel in Liverpool during the 3d inst., with a downward tendency.

Ireland is enjoying more tranquility and Landlords have adopted efficient and successful measures for the relief of the people.

Gen. Flores, the South American renegade, is reported to have sailed from Spain with 1000 monarchists to conquer the Republic of Ecuador.

The steamer Great Britain is still on the rocks at Dundirk Bay.

Belgium has opened her ports until the 1st October, 1847, and has prohibited the export of food.

The Pope has authorized the people of Rome to organize their own local police—an immense concession.

The Queen of Portugal is in a critical position. The rebellion is very general and it is supposed she will be compelled to abdicate.

Fresh troubles have broken out in India. The British are preparing for new conquests.

England has protested against the occupation of Cracow.

Parliament is to meet on the 19 of January.

Two of the Royal Family of France have died of Cholera (Doubtful). This plague is extending westward, 1400 persons having died of it at Bagdad. Cholera has appeared in Spain. Spanish papers call on France and England to establish a monarchy in Mexico to save that country from falling into the hands of the Americans.

Their Sons.

Major Van Buren, son of the Ex. president, acted as aid to General Taylor at the siege of Monterey. John C. Calhoun's son is aid to Major General Gaines. Henry Clay's son is Lieutenant Colonel of a regiment of Kentucky Volunteers. Daniel Webster's son is captain of a company of volunteers, and will be in Mexico soon. John Crittenden's son is a Captain in the new regiment of Mounted riflemen.

Mr. A. R. MONTGOMERY HAVING resigned as agent of the S. C. Rail Road in this place, and volunteered in the Richmond Company, Mr. C. J. Billin has been appointed his successor. Mr. Billin has long been connected with the Rail Road, and from his integrity, industry and accommodating disposition, will make a most efficient officer in the agency assigned him, Columbia Banner.

Death of Senator Barrow of Louisiana.—The Hon. Alexander Barrow, Senator from Louisiana, died at Baltimore, on the 29th ult., at 5 o'clock, from an attack of bilious cholera. In consequence of this melancholy event, but little was done in either branch of Congress on the 30th.—The funeral took place on the 31st and was unusually large. Nothing of interest transpired in Congress, which has reached us after that date.

The Washington Union asserts that the books of the Treasurer of the United States, show that the expenditures of our Government for the nine months ending Sept. 30, 1846, (at which time the war had been carried on nearly five months,) were about \$27,000,000, and that during the same months of the year 1845—a year of peace—the expenses of the Government were \$24,000,000, as shown by official reports.

Precipice Department.—When you stand on a precipice with a young lady, (says the Albany Knickerbocker,) always remember and put your arm around her waist to prevent her becoming dizzy. Ladies who have tried, say there is no antidote in the world at all comparable with it. Indeed a young lady of our acquaintance says that, under such circumstances, she could look down Niagara for hours and not experience the first disagreeable sensation whatever. Quiver isn't it?