



TARBORO'.

SATURDAY, MAY 2, 1835.

We give below the proceedings of a public meeting held at the Court House in this place on Thursday last, for the purpose of selecting two individuals to be recommended to the people of the county as suitable persons to represent them in the Convention for altering the Constitution of this State. We are also requested to state, that a vote was taken at the election in District No. 2, on the same subject, when Joshua Lawrence and Spencer L. Hart, received 71 votes out of the 73 given in, as delegates to the Convention.

FOR THE TARBORO' PRESS.

At a meeting of a number of the Citizens of Edgecombe county, convened at the Court House in Tarboro' on Thursday, the 30th inst. agreeably to public notice previously given, to take into consideration the propriety of nominating two candidates to represent the county in the approaching State Convention—**DEMSEY BRYAN**, Esq. was unanimously called to the Chair and **Geo. Howard**, appointed Secretary. Joseph R. Lloyd, Esq. at the request of the Chair, explained the objects of the meeting in a brief and pertinent address—after which, on motion, Francis L. Dancy, Esq. Gen. Louis D. Wilson, Mr. Ed. D. Macnair, and Spencer L. Hart, Esq. were nominated as suitable persons to represent this county in the State Convention.

On motion resolved, that this meeting proceed to vote by ballot for the persons in nomination.

Messrs. Chas. W. Knight and Solomon T. Braddy having been appointed Tellers by the Chair, reported that of the ballots given in, F. L. Dancy, Esq. received 40—Gen. L. D. Wilson, 33—Mr. E. D. Macnair, 20—S. L. Hart, Esq. 14—scattering 5.

On motion resolved, that the votes given to each individual nominated be stated in these proceedings.

On motion resolved, that the proceedings of this meeting be signed by the Chairman and Secretary, and published in the Tarboro' Press.

On motion resolved, that the thanks of this meeting be tendered to the Chairman and Secretary thereof.

On motion, the meeting adjourned.

Dempsey Bryan, Ch'n.
Geo. Howard, Sec'y.

Petersburg Market, April 23.—Cotton—Some hundred bales have been sold at 17 cts. few at 17½; and some choice quality is reported to have brought 17½; extreme quotations 15 a 17½ cts.

27th.—Cotton—a considerable portion of what was in market was sold last week at 17½ a 18c. Supplies to a moderate extent continue to arrive.—*Int.*

University of North Carolina.—The public Anniversary Examination of the Students of the University of North Carolina will be held at Chapel Hill, on Monday, the 15th day of June next, and continued from day to day until Thursday, the 25th; which last mentioned day is appointed for the Annual Commencement of the College.

Bank Agency at Milton.—The Branch of the Bank of the State of North Carolina at Milton commenced operations last week. Thomas M'Gehee, Esq. is President; Augustus C. Findly, Esq. Agent; and Dr. John T. Garland, John Wilson, George Williamson and Samuel Watkins, Directors.—*Ral. Star.*

An application was recently made to the President of the United States, for the pardon of the youth Dallerhite, aged 13 years, who was convicted at the last Term of the Federal Court for this District, of robbing the mail between Raleigh and Roxborough. The President declined, for the present, a compliance with the application.

The President, in accordance with a suggestion to that effect, has instructed the Postmasters to prevent the employment of youths under a proper age in the transportation of the mail.—*Ral. Reg.*

Rail Road Accident.—We learn that one of the cars on the Petersburg and Roanoke Rail Road, ran off the track about 10 miles this side of Petersburg, on Friday afternoon of last week; by which the whole train was more or less injured—one or two of the passenger cars being nearly demolished. None of the passengers, however, lost their lives, although several were severely wounded—a gentleman from Fayetteville having received a dangerous cut on his head. The accident happened at a curve of the road, where the iron on the railing was loose the train being at full speed.—*Ral. Standard.*

From the New York Commercial, April 18.

Fire on the rail road.—Yesterday, soon after the cars had departed from Bordentown, and when about two miles from the Sand Hills, the conductor discovered that the baggage was on fire. The engine was immediately stopped, and every exertion used to extinguish the flames; but being some distance from water and procuring but two buckets, the fire soon obtained such a headway, that it was found impracticable to put it out.

Efforts were now made to obtain an axe to cut away the sides of the car—but this could not be procured, and the only resort was to capsize it when it rolled over, and unfortunately rested bottom up, preventing any access to the trunks, &c. The passengers (and there were upwards of two hundred) had to stand by and witness the destruction of their property, saving now and then an article as it could be snatched from the flames.

The wind blew very fresh, and the fire was seen at a great distance, and many persons came to the Sand Hills, a distance of three or four miles, but only to witness the destruction that was going on. Knowing that the cars bound south were approaching, an engine was sent off to stop them. Besides the passengers' baggage, the mail bag was totally burnt, with all the newspapers. The letters were also much mutilated, many of them burnt, but the number is not ascertained. The number lost cannot be known until we learn the amount of the mail sent from Philadelphia, as the way bill which accompanied it was burnt. A scorched bundle of letters has been received, and the subscriptions on forty-four were decyphered. How the fire originated has not been ascertained, but it is believed to have caught from a spark from the chimney of the engine. The loss is great, but we have not been able to ascertain the amount. We have heard various sums mentioned, from 5 to 10,000 dollars.

Many of the passengers were left entirely destitute—and we have heard of some peculiar cases of misfortune. Among the number, is that of a lady with a child, who had a journey of more than 600 miles to perform, and who lost every vestige of her property. The following additional particulars we copy from the Gazette. Among the passengers who were the greatest sufferers were Mrs. R—e. of Boston, and Mrs. Austin of the Theatre. The former lost a large quantity of valuable clothing, worth fifteen hundred dollars, but fortunately saved her diamonds and other jewellery. Mrs. Austin also lost all her baggage, including many valuable articles of dress, but saved a box of jewels which was providentially taken from the centre of her trunk.

A German gentleman and his wife who lost all their clothing, were fortunate enough to recover a tin box, which was in one of their trunks, containing documents necessary for the recovery of a large estate in Europe, whither he is proceeding for that purpose.

Mr. Knowles, of Amherst, Mass. had a package in his trunk, containing fifteen thousand dollars, which was fortunately rescued from the flames, the top of the trunk having been burnt up. We understand the money was put in his charge by one of the Philadelphia Banks, for a New York Bank.

We understand the Agent of the Company acted with great coolness and intrepidity, and did every thing in his power to arrest the progress of the flames.

When the passengers got on board the steamboat, a meeting was called to take the matter into consideration. **Joseph P. Grant**, Esq. of Baltimore, was appointed Chairman, and **J. J. Smith**, of Philadelphia, appointed Secretary. A committee of three was appointed to call upon the Company and represent the nature of the accident, and request remuneration to the sufferers.

We hear that on Friday night last, at the President's Mansion, the slumbers of the family were disturbed by an incident, with all the particulars of which we are not acquainted, but we believe is substantially described thus: The sleep of the President was broken by the noise of some one at the door of his chamber, endeavoring apparently, to obtain entrance into it. On the President's demanding who it was and what was his object, the intruder answered that he was trying (or wanted to find the way) to get out. The noise having roused some members of the family sleeping in adjacent rooms, they promptly repaired to the spot, and succeeded in arresting the offender. On being examined, the first impression, that his object, in attempting to get in to the President's room, was personal violence, entirely gave way before the fact that he was without arms or weapons of offence of any kind; he was an ordinary person of the appearance of a day laborer, who had, to all appearance got into the house with a view to plunder, but missed at the same time his way and his object. In order to keep the fellow safe until the morning when he could be sent before a magistrate, he was locked up in an apartment on the premises usually occupied as a stable, but at the time vacant, where it was supposed he would be safe enough till morning.

When the morning came, however, the bird had flown; having escaped out of a height from the ground that no one supposed he could possibly reach it. This is the substance of the story as we have heard it. Should an authentic account of the occurrence appear, differing in any material particulars from this version of it, we shall place it before our readers. We hope some clue will yet be found to lead to the apprehension of this depredator, and bring him to a just punishment.—*Nat. Int.*

From the Norfolk Beacon.

Mr. Van Buren.—Perhaps no man was ever more abused and less known to those who would revile him, than this distinguished statesman. He happens to stand in the way of certain aspiring politicians and who, conscious of their unjust conduct towards him, hate him in proportion to their own injustice. If we were to listen to, and to believe, what is said of him, we should conclude he was monstrous horridum.

It is a safe rule by which to find out the true character of any man, to go into his own country for information. Now by this rule let us try Mr. Van Buren—he has been about 30 years in public life. In his State he has been frequently a member of each branch of the Legislature. He has been elected to the Senate of the United States by the Legislature of New York. He has been elected by the people of New York, Governor of the State. He was appointed Secretary of State.

He was sent Minister Plenipotentiary to England—the Whig majority of the Senate of the United States, in order to degrade him, rejected his nomination, and the people of the United States made him Vice President. To the honor of the Virginia Senators at that time, Messrs. Frazewell and Tyler, they voted to confirm his appointment. This is the man whom the people delight to honor; who is abused and vilified in terms as coarse as malignity and vulgarity can suggest and utter.

When the calumniators of Mr. Van Buren are called upon to specify any political crime committed by him, they can give but one general reply, and that is summed up in one item, "he is a grand intriguer!"

Now a charge of this sort comes very badly from men who at this very moment are engaged in an intrigue, which has no example in the political history of our country, except that by which the people were cheated out of their rights in the election of Mr. Adams when opposed to General Jackson, who was sustained by a majority of the people.

The Whigs finding that there is not the most distant chance of electing a President of their choice by the people, are now using all their efforts to defeat an election by the people, and bring it before the House of Representatives, where as the vote will be by States, the minority may control the majority.—This is no intrigue when carried on by the Whigs!

To advance their cause they have selected a gentleman of high and honorable character, from the Republican ranks, without either wishing or intending to elect him. He is a gentleman that went hand in hand with the President in all the measures the Whigs so violently condemn. When his friends, so justly denominated him the Cato of the Senate, the Whigs sneered; he is now their idol.

It is not with a view to defend Mr. Van Buren that this article is written, (for I know of nothing he has done to require it) but to expose political hypocrisy. When men denounce political intrigue, let them examine their own conduct and see if they are free from the same crime. EXAMINER.

P. S.—To show the injustice that can be practiced by intrigue, it might be so managed that eleven States having 205 electoral votes, could be outvoted by thirteen States having 83 votes, and this is the honest, candid plan of our Whigs! Will the people countenance such a wicked attempt to delude them of their rights?

Tax on Passengers.—The bill which we mentioned as having passed both branches of the Legislature of Louisiana laying a tax on passengers has been vetoed by Gov. White. The Legislature then reconsidered the remainder of the bill imposing a tax of \$100 a year on taverns, coffee-houses, grog-shops and other such professions; \$1000 a year on the agents of foreign insurance companies, and 10 per cent. on the property of foreigners in the state. The bill in this shape passed both houses.

Baptist Mission.—A late number of the London Christian Advocate contains the following paragraph: The Rev. Dr. Cox, of Hackney, and the Rev. Mr. Hoby, of Birmingham, have been deputed by the Baptist churches in this country, to visit those of the U. States. Their first object is, to meet, in the State of Virginia, a convention of delegates from 4000 Baptist churches, and to establish relations of friendship and brotherhood between the British and American Baptists, who are the most numerous of the many large bodies of Christians in the United States. The other objects of the mission are, to investigate the state of religion generally, to ascertain the nature of the celebrated revivals, and the means by which, apparently, they have been produced, to inquire into the literature of the country, her biblical literature in particular, to collect information concerning edu-

cation from Sunday schools to colleges, with special reference to the mode of training for the ministry, &c. &c.

[Messrs. Cox and Hoby arrived at New York in the ship Constitution.]—*National Intelligencer.*

Matthias, the Impostor.—This notorious impostor was placed on his trial before the Circuit Court and the Court of Oyer and Terminer of Westchester, N. Y. on Monday last. After some civil business was disposed of, the accused was brought into Court. The reporter of the Courier and Enquirer states that his appearance indicated no fear or apprehension—he walked with a firm step, and on taking his place, looked around him with an eye indicative of scorn and contempt. He had on a light green frock coat, lined with silk plaid, a buff waistcoat, and green pantaloons. Around his waist he wore a military red silk sash; and his hands were decorated with large ruffles. The report proceeds:

Mr. Western, counsel for the prisoner, rose and said that he was not ready to proceed instantly to trial on account of the absence of several important witnesses. They have been subpoenaed to the number of forty, but not more than six were present. However, his principal witness, Isabella, a black woman, who was servant to Mrs. Folger, at the time of Mr. Pierson's death, and who helped to lay out his body, was in Court and ready to give her evidence, but as her character for veracity had been impeached, he wished to support it by the testimony of some witnesses who had not yet got there. It was true he held in his hand several certificates of her good character from respectable individuals, and if the District Attorney was willing to allow them to be read in evidence, he was ready to proceed to trial immediately.

The District Attorney replied that he was not willing to allow such certificates to be read, nor did he think it his duty to allow any evidence on trial which was not strictly legal. He would not, however, object to afford Mr. Western a reasonable time to produce his witnesses.

The court then postponed the trial until the afternoon, and Matthias was taken back to prison; subsequently the trial was set down for this morning, at nine o'clock.

We learn that when again placed in his cell, and asked how he felt: "I feel," said he, "that the Lord is my stay and will be my exceeding great reward. That like gold seven times purified I shall come out of this fiery furnace. But as I have lost my dinner, I am now hungry and weak, and should like to have a bite of something."

On being told that an important witness who had been advertised for in the Courier and Enquirer, had been found, he exclaimed—"Good God, can it be possible! what, Lewis—Lewis—then Mr. Western has persevered to get him, has he? well that is better than two dinners."

A man having come up to the cell door cried out. "Let's have a peep at the old devil." Matthias solemnly said, "Young man, I wonder your tongue does not cleave to the roof of your mouth, thus to address the prophet of the Lord. But it is in the time of Jesus of Nazareth, when they said: He hath a devil."

To one of the Reporters he said—"The press is a mighty engine, speak of me as I am, nothing extenuate nor set down aught in malice; tell the truth. He refused to shake hands with any one, saying, "Know ye not, 'tis written touch not the prophet of the Lord."

A second indictment has been found by the Grand Jury against the Prophet, for an assault of an aggravated nature on the body of his own daughter; and it is said that a third bill will be found against him for another heinous crime, though not that of murder.

As may be supposed, the town of West Chester is full of people, curious to witness the trial. Mrs. Folger appears in ill health. The witness alluded to, whom Matthias called Lewis, is also present at West Chester, he was Mr. Pierson's coachman, and helped to lay out his corpse with the black woman.

Afterwards he enlisted in the army, and was stationed at Point Comfort, Virginia; where there an advertisement in the Western the Counsel, requesting him to make his place of residence known—accidentally came to the knowledge, and through the medium of his officer, a correspondence ensued with Mr. Western, which ended in bringing him hither.

It is a lamentable instance of the weakness of human nature, that many people in the neighborhood of White Plains should still place implicit faith in this outrageous impostor. He lately issued a decree from the jail, ordered all the farmers to lay down their ploughs for, he says, "as I live there shall be no more sowing in the earth until I, Matthias, the twelfth of the Apostles, am delivered out of the House of Bondage." He has also prophesied, that he will be found guilty, "White Plains should be destroyed by an earthquake, and not an inhabitant left to tell the tale of its destruction."

Phil. Inquirer.

Facts Stated and Information Wanted.—On the fourth day of June, 1817, was left at Mr. Abraham Bennet's, at the head of Cayuga lake, two miles north of Ithaca, an infant female child, said by the woman who left it to be six months of age, and supposed by Mrs. Bennet to have been about that age. No name was ever pretended to be left for a short time. The child had black eyes, brown hair, and a fair skin. The woman called herself Sylvia Burt, and said she was from the above named place. Mr. Bennet's family are of opinion that the child had been stolen from some family in the Black river country, and they further represent that they have some recollection of an advertisement for a stolen child about that time.—The young lady, now about seventeen, is exceedingly desirous of learning the history of her parentage, and whether her relations are if any she has.

She is a very respectable young lady, and well worthy of being owned by any parents. Any information respecting the above mysterious affair would be thankfully received. The young lady resides in Ovid, Seneca county, N. Y. Information may be given through the postmaster at Ovid. All publishers of papers friendly to the distressed, may confer a particular favor upon a deserving young female, by giving the above an insertion.—*Orleans, N. Y. Republican.*

Important to Tanners.—Edward S. & Daniel Bell, inform the public of an important improvement in the art of tanning animal skins. It consists of converting hides and skins into leather, in the short space of two, three, and eight weeks. The process is based upon the principle of compression and expansion. Persons who wish to confer with the patentees, can address their communications to "Edward S. & Daniel Bell, Middleway, Jefferson county, Virginia."

A Monstrous Long Tail.—From the Almanac of the Bureau of Longitude for 1835 we learn that Halley's famous comet of 1805 will make its appearance about the middle of October next, with an enormous tail of about eight million miles in length.

If Lieut. Morrison's account of the approaching comet be correct, we of the corps editorial shall have our hands full the ensuing two years—provided, nevertheless, are not burnt up, reabsorbed into the sun, or resolved into original elements.—The comet's