

TARBOROUGH FREE PRESS.

Whole No. 528.

Tarborough, (Edgecombe County, N. C.) Friday, November 14, 1834.

Vol. X—No 60.

The "Tarborough Free Press,"

BY GEORGE HOWARD,

Is published weekly, at *Two Dollars and Fifty Cents* per year, if paid in advance—or, *Three Dollars*, at the expiration of the subscription year. For any period less than a year, *Twenty-five Cents* per month. Subscribers are at liberty to discontinue at any time, on giving notice thereof and paying arrears—those residing at a distance must invariably pay in advance, or give a responsible reference in this vicinity. Advertisements, not exceeding 16 lines, will be inserted at 50 cents the first insertion, and 25 cents each subsequent. Longer ones at that rate for every 16 lines. Advertisements must be marked the number of insertions required, or they will be continued until otherwise ordered, and charged accordingly. Letters addressed to the Editor must be post paid, or they may not be attended to.

DOMESTIC.

The following is the letter addressed by Mr. Van Buren to the Committee of Invitations for the recent great Democratic Festival at Castle Garden.

Albany, October 24, 1834.

Gentlemen—I thank you for your kind invitation to attend the proposed public festival at Castle Garden, for the purpose of celebrating the triumphs of our political brethren in Maine, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Georgia, and I sincerely regret that it is not in my power to accept it.

I know of no events subject to the control of the suffrages of the people which are of greater importance to them, or more deserving of such a commemoration as you have in view, than those you are about to celebrate. Our political contests heretofore, have turned mainly upon the feelings and opinions of the people, with regard to the measures of the government, and the selections of their public functionaries; leaving the action of the public mind untouched, both as regards its freedom and the conclusiveness of its decisions. The results of such contests have partaken largely of the character of a personal triumph, on the part of the successful candidate. Not so with the triumphs you design to celebrate. With regard to them the issue was not so much to ascertain what the will of the people was as to determine whether that will, when clearly understood, should or should not prevail.

It was sufficiently known last winter that a great majority of the people of this country, were opposed to a re-charter of the Bank of the United States; and yet, with a full knowledge of that fact, public and private embarrassments of the severest character were deliberately created, in the hope, and with the design of being able, through the means of those embarrassments, to coerce the people into the support of that institution. With respect to the truth of these positions, the mass of thinking and candid minds are now of one accord.

Never, except in cases where military force has been resorted to, have such formidable means been used to bend the determined will of the many, to the interested views of the few.

If they had been successful, nothing worth preserving would have been left in our political system. The democratic triumphs which you propose to honor, have, I trust, saved our country from so great a calamity.

Those constitutional expressions of the public will, operating in concert with similar expressions in other states, and supported by that, which is, I trust, to follow in New York, will place the absolute supremacy of that will upon grounds, which, if they do not conciliate the respect and good feeling of every one, cannot fail to command the acquiescence of all.

You are right, therefore, in looking upon these victories as upon "a general triumph of the great principle of equal rights."

In contemplating their consequences, the interests of individual candidates sink into insignificance, when compared with the additional safeguards which they throw around the interests of the great body of the people.

I beg you, gentlemen, to be assured, that although I cannot be with you in person, I shall not on that account participate with less feeling in your gratulations.

I am, very respectfully,

Your most ob't. serv't.

M. VAN BUREN.

To. P. S. Crooke William Leggett, Barnabas Bates, P. M. Wetmore, John J. Bedient, Morgan L. Smith, Esqrs, Committee.

The Cotton Crop.—Clayton & Burt's annual statement of the cotton crop, appears in their Shipping Commercial list of Saturday. They make the whole crop,

	Bales.
From Gulf of Mexico,	641,435
Atlantic,	563,959
Total,	1,205,394
Exported,	1,027,429
Consumed,	1,96,935

This crop has proved to be 134,956 bales larger than that of the previous year which was itself more than 30,000 bales larger than any previous crop.

The consumption in this country appears, from the statement, to have been about the same with the previous year, the whole increase having been exported. Yet so great has been the increase of cotton manufacturing abroad, that the stocks remaining on hand at the end of 1834, will probably be a good deal less than they were at the end of 1833.

Journal of Commerce.

A Murderer caught.—Michael Sikes, who perpetrated a most atrocious murder on Thursday the 23rd inst. in Norfolk County, Va. on two of his neighbors, *Batson Fentress* and *John Murden*, was arrested on Thursday last, by Mr. Daniel Spence, in the upper part of this County, in the edge of the Dismal Swamp, and is now safely lodged in our jail.

We glean the following particulars of this revolting act of human butchery from the Norfolk papers:—Sikes, it appears, had promised Fentress the pickings of his field for taking care of his enclosures during his absence; but when his crop was gathered, instead of fulfilling that promise, he turned in his own stock, and Fentress, accompanied by Murden, set off to turn them out. On the road they were met by Sikes and three boys, two sons and a nephew, all armed with guns and pistols. When Fentress declared his determination, Sikes insisted he should not turn out his stock. This produced a controversy, which was suddenly terminated by Sikes, who discharged his gun at the breast of Fentress, then but a few feet from the muzzle, who fell dead. Sikes then ordered his nephew to shoot Murden; the boy obeyed and wounded him in the arm, as he was making off. He turned to remonstrate, telling Sikes he had never injured him, and begged he would spare his life. Sikes snatched the gun from one of his sons, and lodged the contents in the side of Murden, who fell mortally wounded.

Eliz. City Star.

A regular North Carolinian, on Monday, made his appearance in the office of the U. S. Gazette, measuring *six feet eight inches* in height, and as straight as a *pine tree*. His whole family belong to the breed of "Long uns." The united measure of himself and four brothers amounts to 32 feet and 3 inches, and they are not the highest that can be produced by "a great smelt; for a neighbor of his, measures over seven feet perpendicular."

N. Y. Star.

Two well dressed females, on Tuesday, in Philadelphia, in Chesnut street, near Second, got into a regular set-to, scratching, tearing and biting each other, without mercy,—ruffles, bonnets, caps and shoes flew around, till at last one of them, summing up all her strength, made

a rush, and with a cat-squeal of victory overcame her antagonist, throwing her on the ground and planting her knee upon her breast and her talons in her cheek.

To the unfortunate.—Mr. S. Howland of West Brookfield, manufactures wooden legs with joints, that are so light and easy as to answer almost as well as the natural limbs. A man from Vt. lost both his legs not long since by a log's rolling over him; he procured an artificial pair, and is able, he says, to perform nearly all kinds of work with the same facility as before. We are astonished at the varied ingenuity of man. He has succeeded in replacing nearly all the organs of the body which are ever lost. He makes teeth and eyes, and clothes the bald head, and makes limbs for the destitute.—*Westfield Journal*.

Portsmouth and Roanoke Rail Road.—The Norfolk Beacon says, "it is almost reduced to a certainty, that within twelve months from this date, the entire route to Weldon will have been completed; and the Portsmouth and Roanoke Rail Road will demonstrate the successful enterprise of our people."

Rockford, Oct. 23, 1834.

Aeuf Occurrence.—On Monday, the 20th ultimo, at the mills, near Rockford, Surry county, *William G. Haynes*, Esq. his son Stephen, and two or three others, were employed in repairing the saw mill, when, unexpectedly, the decayed and precarious supports of the upper floor gave way, and Mr. Haynes was thrown a distance of eighteen or twenty feet, on the rocky foundation below. On extricating him from the situation in which the fall had placed him, he was found to be badly bruised and mangled; he, however, struggled with all the agonies of expiring nature, until Tuesday, about 5 o'clock, P.M. when, after severe pain, he expired. Fortunately, no other injury of consequence was sustained by the others. Stephen was slightly hurt by the fall, but has since recovered. By this unexpected and premature death of one of our best citizens, the neighborhood has lost a friend, a distressed wife a kind and affectionate husband, and several children a good and benevolent parent.

Salem Reporter.

The Hartford Review informs us, that a quantity of gunpowder, placed by some malicious persons at the entrance of the Free Church in that city, exploded during service on Sunday evening last, fortunately without injury to the congregation. A reward of \$100 has been offered for the discovery of the persons who placed it there. On the same evening, a mob collected at the African Methodist church, and an affray took place, in which one colored man was seriously injured.

A new sect have made their appearance in Connecticut, calling themselves Perfectionists, and established a paper at New Haven, called the "Perfectionist."

The Niece of George Washington.—The story which has been travelling through the newspapers that a woman had lately applied to be admitted into a poor house in England, who, it was ascertained was a niece of Gen. Washington, turns out as we expected it would—entirely false. A writer in the Winchester Virginian thus settles it: "Gen. Washington never had but *one own niece*—my aunt, the late Mrs. Charles Carter—who never was in England certainly, and I believe never out of her native State, (Virginia,) and who died in my house four years since."

A Queer Oath.—The Tennessee Convention, which was lately in session, for the purpose of remodelling the Constitution of that State, had considerable diffi-

culty in settling the phraseology of the oath to be taken by the members of the Legislature. A great variety of forms were offered by various members, and among others the following by Mr. M'Kinney. It was rejected, we believe but we are of opinion it comes nearer than any other form, to the course followed by a great many members of the Legislative bodies, and that it might be taken with less risk of violation than the ordinary oath.—"I, A. B. do solemnly swear, that as a member of this General Assembly, I will, in the first place, do the best I can for myself—in the second place, for my friends—and in the third place for the State of Tennessee."

N. Y. Cour.

The negro *Cæsar's* cure for poison—for discovering which the Assembly of South Carolina purchased his freedom, and gave him an annuity of one hundred pounds.

1782.—*Cæsar's cure for the bite of a Rattlesnake.*—Take the roots of a plantain or hoarhound, (in summer, roots and branches together,) a sufficient quantity, bruise them in a mortar and squeeze out the juice; of which give as soon as possible, one large spoonful; if the patient is swollen you must force it down his throat; this generally will cure, put if he finds no relief in an hour afterwards, give another spoonful, which never has failed. If the roots are dried they must be moistened with a little water. To the wound may be applied a leaf of tobacco moistened with rum.

The Dog Population of the United States is estimated at one million and three hundred thousand, and the expense of keeping them upwards of ten million of dollars annually.

Child killed by rats.—The Coroner of Philadelphia was called a few days since to view the dead body of a black child, which the mother deposed, she found dead in its bed—its face being nearly eaten off by rats.

The Temple Fraud.—At the time of the suicide of Judge Temple, agents were in the vicinity of Rutland, (Vt.) investigating the number and extent of his speculations. It is stated in a letter from Vermont, that more than a week ago twenty one cases of entire forgery had already been ascertained upon which over \$4000 had been drawn; it was also discovered that considerable sums had been drawn for real pensioners after their decease. The family of the unfortunate Judge have, with a feeling that does them great honor, resolved to refund to Government, so far as his estate will admit of it, the money he had fraudulently obtained.

The Biter Bit.—It is currently reported, says the Boston Journal, that a large stockholder in one of our Banks, wishing to effect a change among the Directors, lately transferred a number of shares to certain individuals, with a view to increase the number of proxies at his disposal. It is said that one individual who is insolvent, held shares in this way to the amount of \$2000; but one of his creditors casually hearing of the circumstance, yesterday attached the shares, and it is thought that the original, and actual owner, will have to whistle for his property.

The First Methodist Conference.—The first Methodist Conference held was assembled at London, June 25, 1774. The Methodist Preachers then, throughout the world, were six. They are now more than three thousand, and the actual members of the Society, near a million.

If you would be rich, think of saving as well as getting.