

Vol. 2.

RALEIGH, (N. C.)
WEEKLY, BY LUCAS & HARVEY.
Subscription: Three dollars per year...

Domestic.

DOMESTIC ECONOMY.

When I have neither a good book at hand, nor a letter to write, nor a visit to pay, nor a walk to take, I read a political paper, which indifference will prevent me from considering as the only subject which should command attention...

that few girls thus educated, ever made truly distinguished wives. Well, then, if you must have separate schools, will you also take such schools under your patronage and protection? Is the cultivation of the female mind—females with whom we pray to live, from whom we religiously part, an object of indifference?...

House of Delegates are now absent from this city.

The meeting being thus organized, a motion was made by Mr. Yancey to call over the list of former Electors.

Mr. Bayly moved an adjournment—upon the ground of the sensibility excited by the intelligence just received from Washington, and the propriety of waiting for further accounts, before any nomination was made.

Mr. Chamberlayne seconded the motion—he referred to the compromise spoken of at Washington—and intimated his hope that Virginia would pursue the principle which had always governed her, Principles not men.

Mr. Wooding said, when they adjourned, it were better to adjourn till a particular time—and he named next Wednesday night.

Mr. Mayo wished particularly to know what information had been received from Washington.

A member then rose, and stated that he had received a letter from an honorable Senator, stating that the bill for the admission of Maine and Missouri had at this time only a majority of one in the Senate; that one of the members from a non-slave-holding state would vote against it, unless a compromise was made by drawing a boundary at the line 36° 30' latitude, (W. of the Mississippi) slavery to be admitted S. of this line, and prohibited to the N. of it, &c. &c.

Mr. Brown of Fauquier hoped gentlemen would not adjourn till some written resolution had been adopted, assigning the reasons for adjournment.

The question was then taken on adjourning till Thursday night, the 27th inst. And the meeting adjourned.

ROBBERY—and Murder attempted. The following is a copy of a letter, from a gentleman unknown to us—dated FAYETTEVILLE, 30TH FEB. 1820.

"Dear Sir—I have taken the liberty to inform you, that a gentleman was robbed near this place last night. He was travelling from the south, and when arrived within two miles of town, was attacked on his horse—and all the money he had was taken; and him again set on his horse by the robbers, and bid to start—at the same time intimating that if he did not they would kill him—however, during the time consumed in assisting him on his horse, he had the opportunity of drawing a pistol from his belt, and on being seated and ordered to start, he fired, and injured one of the robbers—the rest flew to arms, and one of them fished a gun or musket near his breast, and the others were preparing to shoot him—when he rode off—He arrived in town in great surprise, and very much hurt at the loss of his money. Mr. A. F. Edwards was his name, from Northampton County, N. Carolina. He is here in distress, and his friends, by your making this known through your paper, will hear of it sooner than if he was to write to them. I am, Sir, your most obedient servant. JAMES JONES."

State Affairs.

FROM THE HALIFAX COMPILER. To His Excellency, JOHN BRASOR—Governor of North Carolina.

Sir—Permit me to make a few remarks on several subjects, which are, in a great measure, under your management and direction:

1st. The system of education in our university is very defective—the students of that seminary, on their leaving it, are far from possessing that kind of knowledge, which can render them qualified for the various offices and duties of civil life. They know nothing of the duties appertaining to the military or naval service or the mechanical or agricultural arts; and are entirely novices in the science of legislation. The rule, requiring a student to have a knowledge of the latin and greek languages, before he can enter the University, should be exploded. Some have not the time, and others have not the means to acquire a knowledge of these languages; nor can the acquisition be of any importance but to persons intended to become teachers in schools, or to follow some one of the learned professions. Whereas, a knowledge of geography, history, mathematics, astronomy, navigation, French language, natural philosophy, civil and political law, (at least a knowledge of Blackstone's Commentaries, the Constitutions of the States, and of the United States—also the Statutes of the State and United States; and some treatise on the laws of nations) is of the utmost importance to men of every office, class and profession. It is well known to you, that the libraries at the University, indifferent as they are, are the best in our state; and if no person can get access to them, but to those who have been wading for four or five years through the latin and greek, looking into nothing but Virgil and Horace, Homer and Xenophon; a great part of the usefulness intended by those libraries, will be lost. If the plan of education adopted in the University, was placed on a more liberal footing, it would be of immense advantage to the State; many persons would then have the aid of the establishment, who are entirely unable to pay for the tedious process of learning the dead languages, before they are permitted to join those classes where the useful branches of learning are taught. The English East India company were obliged

to establish a college of its own, (in the county of Kentucky) in which those youths, who were intended to act for them in either the military, or civil departments: or as merchants, traders, factors, &c. were educated in a more expeditious way than they could be at any of the other universities of the kingdom; and it is a well known fact, that they have realised every hope and expectation from this establishment. In the Austrian dominions, the dull formality and tedious process of education, has almost banished literature; and it is cultivated but by a very few, except foreigners. It requires ten or twelve years to trudge through a sufficient portion of literary lumber, to be qualified for a Chamberlaine to the Emperor.

2d. The situation and condition of the poor in this state, ought to be enquired into. We have no knowledge of their number, or of the amount of money which is annually expended for their maintenance. I was informed, that two years ago, the poor tax of Halifax County was three thousand dollars! This is surely a very large and grievous tax—and doubly grievous, when we reflect that it has been taken by avorite contractors; and the objects of public charity, to have been so little benefited. I should wish to see poor houses established in every county—where the Wardens should place the poor, and see that they were well attended to. And, not only attention to feeding and clothing should be required, but attention also to their morals, manners and education. Many on the poor list are children; and it should be an indispensable duty of the Wardens to have them taught to read, write and cypher. This could, in many instances, be done by the aged persons belonging to the poor house. It is unnecessary for me to point out to your Excellency, the blessings which would result to the individuals thus attended to, as well as the public. The people would pay the tax very cheerfully, and I am sure it would not be near as heavy as it is under the wretched system now established in a great number of counties in this state.

3dly. You are, by a resolution of the last session of the General Assembly, a member of the Board of Public Works. The agents of the State have too long omitted to have a survey and report of the contemplated Canal, or Inlet from the sea, direct across the bank into Albemarle Sound. I cannot help thinking this project, if carried into effect, would be attended with more advantages to the state, and the United States, than any other object which has attracted the attention of the commissioners of Internal Improvement. There are persons now alive, who have navigated vessels of seventy tons burthen, through Roanoke Inlet. The waters of the various rivers falling into Albemarle Sound, formerly found their way to the ocean through that Inlet; and I think they could again be given that direction, with a comparative small expense. If the Steam Plough, lately invented, is worth any thing, it may be employed in opening this canal with much effect. The Albemarle Sound will admit vessels drawing from 15 to 20 feet water to Edenton, and perhaps to Plymouth—Small vessels of war might be brought into these rivers, repaired and provisioned. An immense quantity of ship timber, saw stores, and provisions, might be procured on the various rivers falling into the Sound. Should there be any difficulty of getting ships over the bar, it might be in a great measure obviated by the use of buoyant vessels, known in the Russian parts of the Black Sea, by the name of camels. The opening of this canal, would save 200 miles sailing to any of the northern ports. Vessels would avoid the dangers of the Swash, Oarcock Bar, and the Shoals off Cape Hatteras.

Permit me to give you a faint sketch of the commerce which would pass through this canal.—The best wheat land in the states is on the Perquimans and Pasquotank rivers; large quantities of it are made in every county north of the Sound. It is shipped in small vessels through Currituck Inlet, (where the water is only 5 1-2 feet on the bar) to Baltimore, Philadelphia and New-York. The quantity of lumber, which is got from the swamps and elsewhere on the streams of the Albemarle Sound, is very great. Much of this finds its way to Norfolk through the Daniel Swamp Canal, and a great deal is shipped to the northern and West India markets. The gross products of the Herring and Shad Fisheries, amount to at least \$100,000 per annum—and more than 20,000 blbs. of Indian Corn per annum is shipped from the rivers flowing into the Sound. Many thousand barrels of tar pitch, and turpentine are also shipped. If the canals through the sea bank and around the falls of Roanoke, should be completed, all the tobacco, cotton and flour, which is now wagoned, at great expense, to the Virginia markets, from the Dan, Staunton, the Upper Roanoke, together with the vast quantity of pork, drove from this state to Virginia, would take a new direction. Plymouth would be an immense mart.—Ships would sail direct from it to all parts of the world—Millions of Wealth arising from the products of our forests, rivers and fields, would pass through the New Inlet—Industry and enterprise would be promoted—and, (if Congress would sell no more land on credit) the richest farmers would remain among us, contented on the east side of the mountains, improving their lands, and adding wealth to the state.

These are not the dreams of a visionary theorist or projector, but are truths, capable of being comprehended by every person of the plainest understanding.

Congressional Proceedings.

IN SENATE.

February 11.

MISSOURI QUESTION.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the Maine bill, and the amendment reported thereto by the Judiciary committee (adding provisions for the formation of a state government in Missouri.) Mr. King of New-York, agreeably to the intimation which he gave on Wednesday, rose and addressed the Senate about two hours in support of the right and expediency of restricting the contemplated state of Missouri from permitting slavery therein; and then, on motion of Mr. Smith, the subject was postponed to Monday; to which day the Senate adjourned.

Thursday, Feb. 17.

The New States Bill.—The following amendment, offered by Mr. Thomas, and pending when the Senate adjourned yesterday, being still under consideration: "And be it further enacted, That the sixth article of compact of the ordinance of Congress, passed on the thirteenth day of July, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven, for the government of the territory of the United States north-west of the river Ohio, shall, to all intents and purposes, be, and hereby is, deemed and held applicable to, and shall have full force and effect on and over, all that tract of country ceded by France to the United States, under the name of Louisiana, which lies north of thirty-six degrees and thirty minutes north latitude—excepting only such part thereof as is included within the limits of the state contemplated by this act."

Mr. Thomas rose and withdrew this amendment, and in lieu thereof offered a substitute embracing the same limits, beyond which slavery shall be excluded and varying from it, only in defining its extent by express words, and omitting all reference to the ordinance of 1787; (the same as the amendment offered by him on the 2d inst. and withdrawn.)

Mr. Trimble [whose amendment yesterday was rejected, and not withdrawn, as stated] moved to amend Mr. Thomas's amendment, by striking out so much thereof as defines the line of separation, and to insert the following: "all that part of Louisiana (as ceded by France to the United States) which lies west of the Mississippi river, except that part which is contained in the state of Louisiana, and except that part of the territory which lies north of the state or Louisiana, and east of the 17th or 24th degree of west longitude, (agreeably to Mellich's map) and south of the line which may be established for the northern boundary for the proposed state of Missouri;" (in substance, to exclude slavery from the whole country west of the Mississippi, except in Louisiana, Arkansas, and Missouri.)

This motion was, after some discussion, decided in the negative, by yeas and nays, as follows:

For Mr. Trimble's amendment—Messrs. Burritt, Dana, Dickerson, Horsey, Hunter, King of New-York, Lanman, Lawrie, Mellen, Morrill, Otis, Palmer, Parrott, Roberts, Ruggles, Sanford, Tichenor, Trimble, Van Dyke, Wilson, —20.

Against it—Messrs. Barbour, Brown, Eaton, Elliot, Edwards, Gaillard, Johnson of Kentucky, Johnson of Louisiana, King of Alabama, Leake, Lloyd, Logan, Mason, Noble, Pinkney, Pleasants, Smith, Stokes, Taylor, Thomas, Walker of Alabama, Walker of Georgia, Williams of Mississippi, Williams of Tennessee—24.

The question then recurred on Mr. Thomas's amendment, which is in the following words:

"And be it further enacted, That in all that territory ceded by France to the United States, under the name of Louisiana, which lies north of thirty-six degrees and thirty minutes north latitude excepting only such part thereof as is included within the limits of the state contemplated by this act, slavery and involuntary servitude, otherwise than in the punishment of crimes whereof the party shall have been duly convicted; shall be and is hereby forever prohibited: Provided, always, That any person escaping into the same, from whom labor or service is lawfully claimed in any state or territory of the United States, such fugitive may be lawfully reclaimed, and conveyed to the person claiming his or her labor or service, as aforesaid."

On the adoption of this amendment the question was taken by yeas and nays, and determined in the affirmative, as follows:

For the amendment—Messrs. Brown, Burritt, Dana, Dickerson, Eaton, Edwards, Horsey, Hunter, Johnson of Kentucky, Johnson, of Louisiana, King of Alabama, Leake, Lloyd, Logan, Lawrie, Mellen, Morrill, Otis, Palmer, Parrott, Pinkney, Roberts, Ruggles, Sanford, Stokes, Thomas, Tichenor, Trimble, Van Dyke, Walker, of Alabama, Williams, of Tennessee, Wilson—34.

Against the amendment—Messrs. Barbour, Elliot, Gaillard, Mason, Noble, Pleasants, Smith, Taylor, Walker, of Georgia, Williams, of Mississippi—10. Mr. Trimble then moved to amend the bill so as to bring the north line of the state of Missouri, about half south of the line proposed.