For the Standard.

DEMOCRATIC DISTRICT CONVENTION.

On Wednesday, the 22d inst., according to appointment, the delegates assembled at Franklinton. The proprietors of the Academy having granted the use of their Hall, at 11 o'clock the Convention was called to order by Wm. H. Bailey, Esq., of Orange, moving that W. W. Holden, Esq., of Wake, be requested to take the chair; which being agreed to, Mr. Holden was conducted to the chair by Mr. Bailey amidst the cheers of the meeting.

The chairman thanked his brother Democrats for the honor they had conferred on him in calling him to preside over a Convention called to re-affirm Democratic principles and nominate a candidate for Congress. They met under circumstances of the most gratifying and auspicious character. He alluded to the setting sun of Franklin Pierce, leaving its glorious radiance on the political horizon, [cheers,] and to the sun of Lancaster, which had taken its place, with continued hope and healing in its beams. [cheers.] He described Democratic principles as established upon the impregnable foundations of the constitution. He called upon the meeting to look back and survey their course for the last ten years, and say what could be more gratifying than the progress of Democracy, as contrasted with the ever-changing professions of the opposition, whose principles were changed with every moon [loud cheers.] Democratic principles had extended from sea to sea, extending their influences over the Union, until these principles are established as the law of the land [cheers;] a reduced tariff—the constitutional law of slavery settled—the Missouri restriction struck from the statute book, and the Democratic doctrine confirmed, by the decision of the Supreme Court, as the constitutional law of the country.

Mr. H. then spoke of the opposition, and amidst cheers and laughter recounted the various names under which this party had appeared for the last few years, until it assumed that most despicable of all names and all parties—Know Nothingism. It met in caverns, in fence corners and in darkness; but it died in open daylight, amidst the execrations and withering contempt of all honest men [tremendous cheering.]

Mr. H. proceeded to point out the beneficent influences of Democratic principles upon the State and national councils, and sarcastically complimented the old Federal party upon their ingenuity in inventing names, and adopting good names, to cover evil purposes. But these would pass away as their predecessors like the dew of the morning, and leave Democratic principles triumphant, to advance and protect the true interests of the country and the happiness of mankind.

From this point to the close of his address, Mr. Holden was frequently interrupted by the enthusiastic applause of the assembly. We regret that we cannot give his eloquent and spirit-stirring conclusion verbatim. An admirably delivered poetical quotation elicited great cheering, and a graceful allusion to the merits and services of Hon. L. O'B. Branch was likewise loudly applauded.

When Mr. Holden resumed his seat, he was again greeted with hearty cheers.

T. L. Hargrove, Esq., of Granville, moved that seven vice presidents be appointed—one from each county—to be named by their respective delegations; which being agreed to, the following gentlemen were appointed, and took their seats on the platform:

W. F. Strayhorn, of Orange; Dr T. J. Pitchford, of Warren; Col. Isaac Winston, of Franklin; W. B. Dunn, of Wake; S. A. Smith, of Johnston; A. J. Taylor, of Nash; J. M. Stone, of Granville.

On motion of Mr. Hargrove, Dr. T. S. Vickers, of Orange, W. A. Walsh, of Warren, M. Lankford, of Franklin, and J. K. Marriott, of Wake, were appointed secretaries.

Mr. Hargrove stated that the county meeting in Granville had authorized every good Democrat from that county, present at the Convention, to act as a delegate, and moved that the same privilege be extended to the other counties of the district. After some dissenting remarks from Mr. Patterson, of Franklin, the motion was unanimously adopted.

The lists of the county delegations being then called over by the secretary, the following gentlemen answered:

WAKE COUNTY.—J. P. Robertson, W. C. Mangum, M. Thompson, W. B. Dunn, J. A. Hicks, S. H. Dunn, Dr. J. B. Dunn, G. H. Pennington, G. H. Faribault, Dr. J. C. Marriott, H. A. Dowd, N. J. Whitaker, J. M. Bunting, M. A. Bledsoe, J. R. Harrison, J. K. Marriott, W. W. Holden, Ed. Cantwell, P. E. Dunn, W. H. High, J. J. Parnell, W. T. Rogers, Peterson Dunn, Edward Haswell.

GRANVILLE COUNTY.—J. M. Stone, N. E. Canady, J. H. Davis, W. Williams, J. D. Moss, E. L. Davis, J. J. W. Jones, H. Healy, J. Y. Magee, H. S. Fuller, J. J. Peace, J. Y. Moss, G. Catlitt, Willis Pierce, J. W. Estis, T. L. Hargrove, W. H. Canady, Philo White.

WARREN COUNTY.—Thos. Reynolds, Dr. H. I. Davis, J. W. White, W. A. Walsh, R. G. Moore, Dr. Hugh I. Davis, Dr. T. J. Pitchford, J. H. Mayfield, J. S. Walker, R. A. White, J. H. Foster, J. W. Hayes.

FRANKLIN COUNTY.—E. Green, C. Perry, T. H. Conyers, S. Harris, A. Gupton, J. D. Perdue, J. S. Gill, Isaac Winston, W. F. Hilliard, H. Cooke, S. Fuller, T. Winston, H. Harris, J. E. Lankford, W. A. Moore, Young Patterson, W. F. Green, M. Lankford, S. D. Williams, W. C. Finch, W. C. Lankford, E. T. Fuller, H. H. Hight, C. H. Stallings, John Green, S. Perry, A. C. Perry, R. H. Winston, C. Kearney.

JOHNSTON COUNTY.—Sydney A. Smith, Perry Renfrow.

ORANGE COUNTY.—Dr. T. S. Vickers, W. H. Bailey, W. F. Stroud, W. F. Strayhorn.

NASH COUNTY.—A. J. Taylor, G. N. Lewis, M. H. Deans, C. B. Strickland.

The chairman having announced the meeting organized, after some remarks from Mr. Patterson, the two-thirds rule was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Cantwell, of Wake, moved that a committee of one from each county be appointed to draft resolutions to submit to the meeting.

The following delegates were then appoiniod.

Messrs. Ed. Cantwell, of Wake; T. L. Hargrove, of Granville; W. H. Bailey, of Orange; W. F. Green, of Franklin; S. A. Smith, of Johnson; G. N. Lewis, of Nash, and Dr. Hugh I. Davis, of Warren.

The committee having retired Dr. Geoghegan was called upon and addressed the meeting. He declared himself unprepared, but came forward in answer to the call upon him. He said he was born in Virginia and rocked in the cradle of Democracy, but in early life had strayed from the true fold. He was a hard-cider Whig—he was not ashamed of that—but that he acknowledged with regret that he had slipped into Know Nothingism, and expressed his contrition for having helped to initiate *one* drunken man into a Know Nothing lodge. Dr. G. gave a graphic account of his experience with Sam, but declared his abandonment of all such heresies, and the declaration of his firm adherence to the only true national party was received with applause. After some very pertinent remarks relative to the future progress of the great Southern American Democracy, the Dr. retired.

Mr. M. Lankford, being loudly called for, made a very spirited address. He warned the Convention in time of peace to prepare for war. They must not be carried away by prosperity, but be vigilant and watchful, for the enemy was in their midst. He indignantly repelled the slander "that Democrats were fighting for the spoils." The Democratic President, not seeking a second term of office, was untrammelled and would act independently. To prove the independence of Mr. Buchanan's cabinet, he alluded to Secretary Toucey's rebuff to Bennett, of the N. Y. Herald. Mr. L. concluded a very effective speech by declaring, as they had fought and conquered under the triple B, a quartette of them would render the Democracy invincible (cheers.)

Mr. J. K. Marriott, being called upon, made some remarks, but deferred speaking at length until another opportunity.

Mr. Y. Patterson answered to the call upon him by declaring himself an old-fashioned Jackson Democrat, and at some length explained his convictions of what was true Democratic doctrine on the subject of the distribution of lands and the Treasury surplus.

Mr. P., in concluding his remarks, expressed his unflinching devotion to the constitutional principles of the Democratic party.

Dr. Pitchford, of Warren, said he did not rise to make a speech, but merely to explain, as chairman of the Warren county meeting, the reason of their not having a resolution endorsing Mr. Branch for renomination. It arose from a lack of time, there being some disappointments which prevented them assembling until a late hour. He assured the meeting the Warren delegation were not only satisfied with the old Democratic rule of two-thirds, but, when the time came, would go the three-thirds unanimously. [Cheers.] Dr. P. then alluded to the violent conduct of the abolitionists. He said they would not let us alone merely because they did not wish to do so It was not from a want of sense they persevered, but a want of will, and declared he was convinced they were influenced by political motives, not by their love of niggers.

Mr. Cantwell, from the committee, then read the following resolutions:

1. *Resolved*, That the election of James Buchanan to the Presidency—the sound and conservative character of his Cabinet—the views and purposes announced in his Inaugural, together with the experience and wisdom of a life successfully devoted in high public station to the service of his country, assure us of the South and of the Union that peace, justice and order will prevail in the land, during the continuance of the present administration.

2. *Resolved*, That our congratulations are especially due to those patriotic Northern Democrats, who, before the decision of the Supreme Court in the Dred Scott case, manfully sustained the true principles of the Constitution as now declared by that august tribunal, and lent their aid to the repeal of the Missouri restriction; and that we give especial greeting to our brother Democrats of Connecticut, and regard the result of the late election there as the dawn of a brighter day for them and for the country.

3. *Resolved*, That Franklin Pierce, by his sterling patriotism and strict adhesion to the principles of the Constitution, in executing the laws of the country even at the cannon's mouth, has endeared himself to the hearts of all good and patriotic men in every section; and that we renew to him in his present retirement, the good wishes and respect of the people of this District. Let others pay their worship only to the rising sun—we will also gaze with ardor and with admiration upon his setting beam.

4. *Resolved*, That this Convention reaffirm, in part and in whole, the ancient faith and time honored principles of the Democratic party, in opposition to the narrow, bigoted and dangerous *isms* of modern fanaticism and folly, Know Nothingism included; and that we still maintain to their fullest extent the responsibility of the representative to his constituents—the economical administration of the State and federal governments—a strict construction of the Constitution, and the unimpaired exercise of State as well as federal authority in their respective spheres.

5. *Resolved*, That we are in favor of a Tariff for revenue only; and do not sanction a policy which extorts from the pockets of the people more money than is needed for the economical administration of the government.

6. *Resolved*, That the public lands are the common property of all the States; and that the lands and their proceeds should be held by the general government to aid in defraying the common charge and expenditure, and in reducing the Tariff-taxes on the people; and that we are therefore now, as heretofore, opposed to a distribution of said lands or their proceeds among the several States.

7. *Resolved further*, That we are opposed to any policy which unduly favors a portion of the States in this or any other respect, at the expense of the others, or which squanders the lands on corporations or particular States.

8. *Resolved*, That the Hon. L. O'B. Branch, by his integrity, ability, and unflinching Democracy, and independence, has sustained the good name and high reputation of his State and District, and has endeared himself to his constituents of all classes by his courtesy and attention to their wishes; and instructed by their unanimous desire, and moreover impelled by a sense of merited honor and confidence, we hereby re-nominate him for Congress.

9. *Resolved*, That a Committee of seven be appointed by the President of this Convention, to wait upon Mr. Branch, at his residence in the City of Raleigh, inform him of the action of this Convention and of his nomination, and request him to accept the same; and that they be authorized to publish any correspondence which may take place.

Mr. Patterson moved that each resolution, with the exception of the one relative to Mr. Branch, should be read separately and acted on by the Convention.

Mr. Strayhorn stated it was his intention to make that motion, and he hoped the meeting would adopt it.

The chair put the question, which was agreed to.

Mr. N. E. Cannady having made some objection to the phraseology of one of the resolutions, a discussion ensued between Messrs. Cantwell, Stone, Bledsoe, Patterson and N. E. Cannady.. After some remarks from the chairman and Dr Pitchford, the committee adopted Mr. Canady's suggestion.

An amendment by Mr. Patterson was withdrawn after some observations by Mr. Bailey, and the resolutions were agreed to without a dissenting voice.

The resolutions then passed unanimously; and on the reading of the eighth resolution, Mr. J. M. Stone moved it be adopted by acclamation, which was done with great enthusiasm.

The chairman appointed the following gentlemen to wait upon Mr. Branch:

M. A. Bledsoe of Wake, A. J. Taylor of Nash, W. F. Stroud of Orange, N. E. Canady of Granvile, S. A. Smith of Johnston, J. H. Mayfield of Warren, Capt. D. Beves of Franklin.

A resolution of thanks to the officers of the meeting was passed; also, a special resolution of thanks to the proprietors of the Franklinton Academy for their kindness in granting the use of their hall.

The chairman then declared the Convention adjourned *sine die*.

W. W. HOLDEN, Chairman.

W. F. STRAYHORN, T. J. PITCHFORD, ISAAC WINSTON, W. B. DUNN, S. A. SMITH, A. J. TAYLOR, J. M. STONE, } Vice Presidents.

T. S. VICKERS, J. K. MARRIOTT, M. LANKFORD, W. A. WALSH, } Secretaries.

RAILROAD METTING IN LYNCHBURG.—A meeting of the citizens of Lynchburg was held in Masonic Hall on Saturday evening last to appoint delegates to the Winston (N. C. Convention) which is to assemble sometime in June next, and to give some expression of the public sentiment in that community relative to the proposed Railway connection between Lynchburg and North Carolina. A report and resolutions were adopted highly approbatory of the said Improvement, and twenty-five delegates were appointed to represent the city in the Winston Convention.

This movement is designed to open the way for an extension of the railroad about to be constructed from High Point, on the North Carolina Central Road, to the Virginia line in Stokes county, through the counties of Patrick, (opposite Stokes) Franklin, and Bedford, to some point, we presume, on the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad, so as to connect the North Carolina Central with Alexandria, Washington, Baltimore, &c., via Lynchburg and Charlottesville. The North Carolina Legislature at its last session passed an act granting a charter for the road from High Point in Stokes county to the Virginia line, and an effort is now being made to continue it from its terminus there to the Virginia and Tennessee Road, so as to divert the *through* travel between North and South from the present lines to the new route. Should this scheme and its object be accomplished the Wilmington and Manchester, Wilmington and Weldon, Petersburg, Richmond and Petersburg, and Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroads will, all of them, be liable to suffer.

A NUT FOR ABOLITIONISM.—In January last, the Schr. Emily, bound from Charleston to this port, was abandoned at sea and all the survivors, six in number, were taken on board the Ship Embassador, and carried to Liverpool. Among those thus rescued were two slaves, owned in this place. Intelligent, active and capable of getting a living anywhere, perfectly aware that they could not be forced to return, they have voluntarily signified their preference for slavery and are now on their way to Charleston (most probably are there) on their return to their owners. Such facts as these are worth the ravings of a thousand Beechers or Greelys.

Beaufort N. C. Journal.

Correspondence of the National Intelligencer.

THE MORMONS—THE MILITARY POWER AND POLITICAL PURPOSES OF THE MORMONS.

GENTLEMEN: From a military order recently published in your paper, I infer that a division of the United States army is to move into Utah. This news will be hailed with joy by thousands of American citizens in every State and Territory of the Confederacy, who have suffered directly or indirectly by the merciless outrages of the Mormons, committed while quietly pursuing their toilsome journey overland to Oregon and California. Every indignity has been offered to emigrants, every species of property stolen, and every species of crime has been committed. The Federal laws have been trampled in the dust, Government officials set at defiance, menaced, threatened and insulted; juries have been influenced, and the ends of justice thwarted; the prison-doors have been opened and the criminals set free. All this did not satisfy them, but they must enter the hall of records and publicly burn the archives of the Territory.

Now, as evidence of their inveterate hatred to Americans and every thing pertaining to America, (and these sentiments are constantly taught and preached,) I will cite as follows:

A Gentile shall not board in my family, and if one of my houses was rented to a Gentile, after the time had expired I would burn it down! That's the doctrine. *Jedediah M. Grant.*

If a Gentile were boarding in my family, and I should bow down to pray, and the Gentile or *heathen* should hesitate, I would say to him, bow down, you devil! That is the doctrine, and I know it; and any man who shall oppose it shall be destroyed. *Heber C. Kimball.*

Their religious tenets may be inferred from the following:

I believe in marrying brothers and sisters; I believe in the pre-existence of man; that Adam and Eve are the parents of all men, spiritually and physically; that all the saints of this dispensation will be resurrected by Joseph Smith, Jr. If I am ever saved, I expect to be saved by and through the atonement of Joseph Smith! *Brigham Young.*

Were my daughter to marry a Gentile, I would save her in this kingdom, namely, cut her throat, from ear to ear. *Brigham Young.*

Their advocacy of internal improvements may be inferred from the following:

Mr. Lee, who piloted the government troops through on that route (south side of Great Salt Lake) last Spring, (1854,) wished to publish a book—a guide of the route—but was prevailed on not to do it, as the Presidency there (Carson Valley) did not wish the emigration to pass that way. *Elder Johnson.*

Objects of the Missionaries:—Most of the former Missionaries will be called home. They will be sent all among the Indian tribes to teach them agriculture, the mechanic arts, and *military tactics.* *Brigham Young.*

Means of defense:—We have the self-loading twenty-four repeating rifle, the Minnie rifle, Browning's revolving five-shooting rifle and pistol, and a revolving cannon or field-piece. *Elder Teins.*

All the above-named fire-arms, powder, ball, &c., are in process of secret manufacture.

What the Indians are expected to do;—It (the United States mail, may come *this* way a while yet, as they (the Indians) wish to cut off the mail going from here! *Elder Purkins.*

The Sioux, Cheyennes, and Arapahoes have banded together against the Gentiles to the number of 3,000 warriors. *Walker, Chief of the Utah Indians.*

The Lamanites (Indians) are the battle-axe of the Lord in the hands of the Mormons. *Mormon Bible.*

There is more union in the Masonic Order than any other except the Mormon. *Heber C. Kimball.*

The right of private search by "rogues keys" is a peculiarly characteristic *order* of the Mormon. *Memoranda.*

The law and the prophets:

A kingdom *can* exist *within* a Republic. *Brigham Young.*

No one was ever known to dissent from the *will* of Brigham Young. *Orson Pratt.*

What may be expected:

If government officers ever interfere with our women again, I will cut their throats from ear to ear. *Brigham Young.*

A division of the United States Army shall never winter in this valley again. *Brigham Young.*

The above quotations are taken from a mass of information collected in 1854–'55, during nearly a year's stay in Utah, all of which came under my personal observation, and was noted at the time it was spoken. I have been thus particular in noticing these quotations, that the public may know upon what is based the conclusions that follow.

The Mormon priesthood is a consolidated system of *police*, compounded from the old Aaronatic, Levitical, and Milchisedeck priesthoods, and is known by the name of "The Church of the Latter Day Saints of Jesus Christ." Brigham Young is the Prophet, Priest and King of the Saints. His *will* is law; he is the vicegerent of God, deriving authority directly from Him, which is *absolute* whenever he says "*thus saith* the Lord." Brigham stands upon the shoulders of his two councillors; they stand upon the shoulders of the other ten apostles; they stand upon the shoulders of the high priests; they stand upon the shoulders of the bishops; they stand upon the shoulders of captains of fifties and seventies; they stand upon the shoulders of elders; they stand upon the shoulders of the lay members of the church; they stand upon the shoulders of the laboring masses who till the soil which supports the pile. From his towering height Brigham issues forth his edicts to the people, and with the scorpion lash of his serpent tongue he lashes every one into silence. "*No one was ever known to dissent from his will.*" The entire fraternity is bound together by oaths the most solemn to support the church, and nothing but the church, and every man, woman, and child is constituted a police officer, always on duty, and required to report to the *head* whenever any thing of sufficient interest occurs to justify it. From this you will not fail to perceive that the church *form* is but a closely compacted system of police, having a head from which it derives all power, and a body forming a *nucleus* around which are gathering the ignorant, the superstitious, the bigot, the outlaw, and the disaffected of all countries in the world, who are taking refuge, as they suppose, under the wings of the angel of the last dispensation. However deluded the great mass of their followers may be, the leaders are not deluded, but are knaves from choice, willfully misleading the masses for the purpose of obtaining and wielding power, boldly predicting the overthrow of the Republic, when they will resume the reins of government, and proclaim Mormonism to the benighted nations of the world.

Every species of information is studiously kept from the people, except their own doctrines, which are so ingenious and fascinating that they bewilder rather than enlighten, till the feeble mind becomes lost in the mazes of metaphysical theories, and, looking around for some sure anchor of safety, despairing, falls prostrate at the feet of the monster, imploring him, in the language of scripture, "I believe; help thou my belief."

The endearing appellation of "brother and sister" is applied to all classes indiscriminately, which, with the plurality wife system, and the marriage of blood sisters, breaks up and obliterates every vestige of the family relation."

One-tenth of all property, and one-tenth of all products, are demanded as "tithing;" and then, not only the man, but his wives and children, and his property entire, are consecrated to the Church. All are at the disposal of Brigham.

The entire male population of the State are enrolled in the militia, who are under weekly (some daily) military drill, every one of whom, from the boy of twelve to the man of eighty years, is required to keep on hand one hundred rounds of cartridges, one gun or rifle, one or more pistols, swords, sabres, knives, &c., all he can obtain; and then, in the event of war, the women and children are to fight with whatever weapons they can command. Now, when we consider their location, a thousand miles inland on every side, in the mountain fastnesses of the continent; their numbers, which, according to Chief Justice Drummond, are one hundred thousand in the Territory, and two hundred thousand in surrounding States and Territories; their appliances of war; their secret agents in every nook and corner of the Republic; their emissaries among every Indian tribe on the continent, teaching them "mechanic arts and military tactics," they amount to something more than we have been accustomed to regard them. They have settlements on Salmon River, Oregon Territory, and on Lewis River, near Puget Sound, in Washington Territory, and in Carson Valley and at San Barnardino, California. They instigated the Indians to revolt in Oregon and Washington Territories in the late war, and were, in my judgment, the cause that created the necessity for the proclamation of martial law by Governor Stevens; and when the Governor forwarded a supply train of goods up to and for Nez Perces in payment of debts contracted with them when returning from treating with the Blackfeet or Crows, in the winter of 1855–'6, on the arrival of the train at Col. Craig's, the Indian agency for the Nez Perces, they had been induced to favor Kom-in kun, the Yakima war chief, refused to receive the goods either in payment of debts or as presents, and ordered all the whites to leave their country. Col. Craig, the Indian Agent, was retained in case of need; the train returned hastily to the Dalles; but other whites among the Nez Perces, instead of coming to the Dalles and claiming the protection of the United States Army, *went through the country of the war Indians to the Mormon settlement, on Salmon River, for protection!* In Col. Shaw's last battle with the Indians in the Grand Bonde, among the camp equipage of the enemy, he captured *ammunition with Mormon labels on them.*

Now, permit me to conduct you to San Francisco, Cal., on the ever memorable 18th day of August, 1856, and behold the streets of that ill-fated city thronged with men and arms. The Federal Constitution has been upheaved, the laws overthrown, and the "Committee Vigilantes" have instituted a reign of terror. The Committee lays down into its power and calls out its adherents to celebrate its retirement to law and order. The streets are decorated and hung with flags; but, alas! the star spangled flag of the free was set aside! "The all-seeing eye over the crescent," on which was inscribed "Vigilantes," occupied the foreground, with a United States flag on either side. Immediately in the rear of these, also hung the Mormon emblem (worn by them as military badges) of "bee-hive and bees;" in the rear of these, between other United States flags, was the "Lone Star" on blue ground, surrounded by a constellation. These are the prominent ensigns of Mormonism, except the secret signs of the priesthood, which are worn on under garments, and are of course invisible. No one knew the *object* of the secret order "Vigilantes" but those who recognise Brigham as their Prophet, Priest and King. The Vigilance Committee of 1851 was an *experiment* of Mormon strength, headed by Samuel Brenan, Parley P. Pratt and others, and the Vigilance Committee of 1856 may be regarded in the same light. If not Mormon, let some one assign reasons for the setting aside of the United States flag and the display of ensigns of Mormonism.

Throughout the States and Territories, at various and convenient localities, the Mormons have what are termed "Stakes in Zion," and each stake is governed by a presidency. It may not be known to many that there is a stake in the city of New York, whose president is the editor of a paper called The Mormon; at Council Bluffs is another stake and another paper; at Independence another stake; at St. Louis, &c. Their agents and spies are in every city in the Union, adapting themselves to surrounding circumstances, luring the ignorant and unsuspecting into the meshes; secretly denouncing individuals whom they suspect capable of informing against them; pursuing their victims with a pertinacity that overcomes all obstacles, and their agent in Congress keeps them constantly advised of the policy and aims of the General Government. They are in the frontier post-offices either by appointment as postmasters or as clerks, and have the opportunity of supervising the transit and distribution of all mail matter; and it may not be improbable that to *this course* may be traced the loss of so many letters going to and coming from the Pacific Territories.

Now, in view of the facts herein set forth, and the assumption by Chief Justice Drummond that they are a hundred thousand strong in Utah and two hundred thousand *spies* and emissaries in adjoining States and Territories, with every facility for obtaining and transmitting information; and allied to a savage Indian horde of three hundred thousand more, who are, in their lands, the "battle-axe of the Lord," to be wielded against the Gentiles; added to a thousand miles of land travel, prairie and mountain, with natual means at hand to throw every obstacle in the way of an army, by running off their animals, cutting off small parties, poisoning the springs of water, and blockading the canons and mountain passes; I repeat, in view, of all these facts staring us boldly in the face, the form an obstacle to the peaceful settlement of the interior of the country of no mean character, and which should be promptly met by the General Government. In my judgment the only way to meet the necessity of the case is to appoint a military Governor for the Territory, with discretionary power to place the whole Territory under martial law, backed by a military force of at least 5,000 men, amply equipped with munitions of war and a year's supply of provisions; then station the army at three several points in the Territory, not to fight the people, but defend them. By proclamation now call on all true citizens of the United States to come out and enroll themselves under the flag of the Republic; warning all hostile thereto to leave the Territory under penalty of capture, trial and execution by martial law. This, in my judgment, will be the easiest, cheapest, and safest mode of reaching and remedying the evil. The idea that if left to themselves they will break up an disband by internal dissensions is futile and absurd.

They have a solid *nucleus* of one hunderd thousand strong, with 200,000 spies and emissaries scattered over the whole country, and a savage ally of three hundred thousand to do their bidding. And what want they more? A State Government? No; they already have that which to them is far better, namely, a *wilful perversion* of the democratic principle of self-government, declared in the Kansas-Nebraska bill, "to regulate their own institutions in their own way." This leaves them in a far better condition to propagate their *treasonable* designs than if they were existing under the form of State Government. As there is no power in the Constitution to force them into the Union, (God forbid they should ever come in!) they may always remain a Territory of the United States, recognizing the Federal laws merely as a *form*, while the power *de facto* remains absolute, and the head of the Church becomes the head of the State.

Something ought—something should be done.—Let the Government look well to it that its army be sufficient, amply supplied with munitions of war and provisions for at least one year, as the task it is about the assume is no child's play. More anon.

Very respecfully, VERASTUS.

DISTANCES FROM WASHINGTON.—The following is a list of the capitals of the States, with their distance from Washington, District Columbia, by the Post Office records, according to the course of the mail:

	Miles.		Miles.
Augusta, Me.	635	Austin, Texas,	2,106
Concord, N. H.	542	Little Rock, Ark.	1,781
Montpelier, Vt.	557	Frankfort, Ky.	791
Boston, Mass.	468	Nashville, Tenn.	1,112
Providence, R. I.	407	Columbus, Ohio,	542
Hartford, Conn.	344	Indianapolis, Ind.	720
Albany, N. Y.	376	Springfield, Ill.	1,046
Trenton, N. J.	173	Jefferson City, Mo.	1,288
Harrisburg, Penn.	127	Lansing, Mich.	786
Dover, Del.	160	Madison, Wis.	993
Annapolis, Md.	43	Des Moines, Iowa,	1,242
Richmond, Va.	171	Sacram'to C'y, Ca.	5,917
Raleigh, N. C.	356	St. Paul, M. T.	1,376
Columbia, S. C.	617	Omaha City, N. T.	1,391
Milledgeville. Ga.	872	Lecompton, K. T.	1,495
Tallahassee, Fla.	1,535	Santa Fe, N. M.	2,814
Montgomery, Ala.	1,553	Salem, O. T.	6,687
Jackson, Miss.	1,334	Olympia, W. T.	6,643
Baton Rouge, La.	1,558	Fillmore, U. T.	2,679

SMALL SILVER.—One of the interesting features of the United States coinage operations of late years is, that of the smaller silver coins, which, by the recent action of Congress, will hereafter form the principal part of our currency, in lieu of the old Spanish coins. Of the new coins, over twenty-five millions in value have been coined during the four years 1853–'56, and the product of domestic silver is now over $300,000 annually. The new coins having a legal value of five to ten per cent. above their value as metal, will not be absorbed or lessened hereafter for export or for manufacturing purposes.

Pennsylvanian.

THE GREAT PREACHERS OF LONDON—SPURGEON, BINNEY AND PUNSHON.—I have reached London, and heard Mr. Spurgeon. These two facts are mentioned together, not as a necessary sequence, the one to the other, nor even as an indispensable attendant, one upon the other, but as at least a very desirable one. Arriving late last (Saturday) evening, the necessary instructions were eagerly sought to enable me to pilot my way to the Surrey Gardens, wherein stands a splendid musical hall, capable of holding ten thousand persons. Being too late to secure a ticket, the day previous, you must go early so as to be near the entrance when it is opened to the unticketed crowd. As far back from the Gardens as London Bridge, a steady current of people, generally grave and serious in demeanor, gives the assurance that you are on the right road.

As you near the Gardens, it becomes a stream of people, and as they approach the place, the attraction seems to get stronger, and they start in a trot, and then in a run—young men and young women, boys and girls, are seen in a very fast walk, or run, all bending in one direction. Here is a gate; a policeman cries "tickets here;" you press up—"Where's your ticket?" "Have none; but I am all the way from America—let me pass!" "Pass, sir!" You fall into the current that flows on in increasing volume toward the reception room of the Hall. Though an hour is yet to pass before service begins, the lower floor is filled, the dress circle is densely crowded; so betake yourself to the second gallery, and feel grateful that you get a front seat. All has the bustling air of a concert room. No one takes his hat off, and the buzz of hundreds of voices makes it difficult for you to feel that you have come for the pupose of worship. But the Hall is filled to its utmost capacity—in all vacant spaces, hundreds stand patiently.

Now you see toward the stage a movement and general taking off of hats. The preacher is making his way toward the pulpit. A young man only twenty-two—with a pale but full face, benignant yet serious, enters and bows down over the Bible in prayer—Everything is silent as the grave. He rises from his knees and thousands of hymn books over the vast assembly are opened. "Let us sing the 30th hymn of the Watt's Collection," "Come ye that love the Lord," is spoken in a clear, full, silvery voice—and you have heard the voice of the "modern Whitfield," as he is now termed. His prayer is fervent, simple, humble. He prays most powerfully for the ungodly and most touchingly for grace to aid the speaker in his position of fearful responsibility. But how can he fail of fervour after the singing of the beautiful hymn by ten thousand persons, for all sing and the music is purely vocal.

Another hymn is sung. "Grace," 'tis a charming sound,' after the reading of the lesson, which is the 84th psalm. In reading the lesson, the speaker makes a few simple, and, on the whole, appropriate comments; but listen to the voice and observe the well chosen gesture. His voice fills the house, and though you are seated near the furthest end of the hall, every word is distinctly heard. His prayers and comments indicate his general style of speech. His sentences are simple. His prayer opened: "O Lord, we want a blessing this morning." His opening comment, "In David's time there was but one tabernacle. But now

'Every where may grace be found,
And every spot of earth is consecrated ground.

For where two or three are met together," etc.—Yor are now not only satisfied that you will hear the sermon, but also the text. It is the 8th verse of the 106th Psalm. "Nevertheless he saved them for his name's sake." He proceeds announcing his division, first, who saves them? secondly' who is it that is saved? thirdly, why are they saved? fourthly, what difficulty is understood as removed in the word "nevertheless?" His discourse is as simple as may be; but throughout it the same silvery voice, and the same striking action. He gestures chiefly with the left hand, the hand closed, all but his forefinger. Generally he passes his right hand under his left arm; keeping it there while using the left.

While he speaks not a breath is heard, and at the close of every division the audience cough or re-adjust themselves in their seats, or as they may otherwise place themselves at ease before he re-commences He is bold in his enumeration and denunciation of sin, and holds up the cross throughout.—As he closes he cries; "Let us send up one glad, hearty note of praise to our God. "Praise God from whom all blessings flow," all sing—and you leave the house with a thankful and improved heart. Mr. Spurgeon is a remarkable instance of the power of voice and action. His sermons, in composition, are surpassed by several hundred ministers every Sunday in the city in which he now preaches but while many of them fail to get a tolerable congregation, no house can be found large enough to accommodate his audience.

At night I attended the Independent Chapel served by the Rev. Mr. Binney, who is justly regarded as one of the ablest preachers of the world's metropolis. He had a large audience, his spacious chapel being filled, and one cannot help wondering if any one of his audience could ever forget such a discourse. His text is John iii., 14, 15, and 16 verses. His manner was all his own; he never could be imitated. Without any of what are sometimes called the charms of oratory, he enchained his audience for an hour and a half. It was a profound, logical and heart-searching discourse. In the course of his sermon he gave a most lucid, explanation on the entire freedom of the will and the universality of the atonement.

But this page is almost full—and not a word has been written about Mr Punshon (Wesleyan) whose lecture last night in Exeter Hall, to about four thousand hearers, called forth the unbounded enthusiasm of his audience. Do not be alarmed at the rapid consumption of superlatives evident in these pages. What is one to do when in London, and favored to hear the great men of the world? To dispense with superlatives will be to put the pulpit of London on a level with the rest of the world, which it is not, that is, in the cases referred to. The subject of Mr. Punshon's lectures was John Bunyan, apparently the very subject to call out his genius: For two hours one stream of eloquence flowed from his lips.

Chaste, classical powerful, he hurried along, pouring forth a perfect torrent of beautiful similes, bold figures and splendid climaxes. He reminds you of Bishop Bascom in the rapidity with which he speaks, but his action is very different. A most delightful feature in his lecture was an earnest and powerful appeal to the young on the subject of religion. At its close one prolonged shout of admiration broke from the listening thousands, and for several minutes after the speaker sat down, the cheers and waving of hats and handkerchiefs testified the admiration of all.

Charleston Advocate.

FROSTS AND FAMINE IN TEXAS.—We have letters from San Antonio and Indianola, Texas, dated respectively on the 7th and 8th inst., from which we make the following interesting extracts:

"We hoped to have had fine gardens, but this year the frosts have been severe. On last night (April 6th) we had a frost that killed every garden in this part of Texas. We have all to plant over again. While at Indianola I saw one of the camels tried with a couple of 500 pound bales of cotton. He moved off with them with as much ease as a mule would with a sack of corn. The natives looked astonished. He could have carried another bale, I am satisfied, with perfect ease" * * * *

"We have a wretched prospect before us for the summer. Two frosts—the last two days ago—have cut down the corn, cotton, vegetables, and all the fruit. For the want of rain the ground is now too dry to plant. Unless it rains in two weeks, there is danger of famine. No grass is up for pasture; the streams are dry that can get so; the cattle are, some of them, starving, and have to be thrown out to save the calves, so that we shall soon be without milk, while butter is already forty cents per pound, and rising. It is a lamentable prospect which a merciful Providence can alone avert the realization of."

A FACT.—A young lady in Brooklyn, New York, has recently had her leg amputated midway between the hip and knee in consequence of a wound caused by a broken hoop. The hoop was of steel, and in some unaccountable manner a broken point penetrated to the bone. The wound became inflamed, amputation was thus made necessary. We have the story from a young lady who is a friend of the now crippled-for-life victim of fashion, and can vouch for its authenticity. *Winstead Herald.*

It is an error to think that a long face is essential to good morals, or that laughing is an unpardonable crime.

The Standard.

RALEIGH, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 1857.

FOURTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT.

FOR CONGRESS:

L. O'B. BRANCH,

OF WAKE.

HOLDEN & WILSON, STATE PRINTERS, AND AUTHORIZED PUBLISHERS OF THE LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES.

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Mr. Branch's Letter of Acceptance.

Our readers will find below the letter of the committee of the Franklinton Convention informing the Hon. L. O'B. Branch of his nomination for Congress, and the letter of that gentleman in reply, accepting the nomination and giving his views at some length on public affairs. Mr. Branch's letter will be perused with interest by the people of this District and by our readers generally; and it is not necessary that we should do more than direct their attention to it. It is an able and eloquent production, and speaks for itself.

FRANKLINTON, N. C., April 22d, 1857.

DEAR SIR: At a Convention of the delegates of the Democratic party of the fourth Congressional District, held in this place to-day, we were appointed a committee to inform you of your renomination by acclamation, as a candidate for a seat in the next Congress of the United States, and to request your acceptance of the same.

We herewith transmit a copy of the resolutions passed by the Convention.

Earnestly hoping that you may not find it incompatible with your interest or inclination to accept the nomination so cordially tendered to you by your warm personal and political friends, we are, with much respect,

Your friends and ob't servants,

M. A. BLEDSOE, of Wake,
S. A. SMITH, of Johnston