

[From the *Massachusetts Wesleyan Journal*]

NEW ENGLAND CONFERENCE

Minutes of the Conference.—Some time since it occurred to us that the attitude assumed by our brethren, who seemed to differ very widely on the question of slavery, was in a great degree, at least unnecessary, and that there was some common ground on which all might meet and be at peace. And we are happy to learn, from the document below, that others have taken the same view of the subject. A few days since, a plan to accomplish this object was presented to the New England conference; which commenced its session in Boston, June 6. The plan was first suggested to brethren Fisk, Scott and others, who received the proposition kindly, and thought it possible that the proposed measure might succeed. Indeed the plan, (the one below) was thoroughly canvassed in the presence of these brethren, first privately. And it was concluded by all, that this, at least, might be a basis of union. It was then brought before the conference, who appointed a committee of twelve, six on each side, (which committee were to choose another, who was to be chairman,) to whom the proposition was referred. After various meetings, however, the final report of the committee was, that an adjustment could not probably be made.

The proposition was then made to the conference, with the request that all who would sanction it, should ultimately append their names to it, after having voted in favor of it, with the understanding, however, that unless there was a decided majority, the question was then taken should be null and void. The question was then taken by yeas and nays. The result was, if we recollect rightly, fifty-eight for, and twenty against its adoption. It was understood, however, that there were eighteen present who did not answer to their names. Subsequently, the names of six or eight were added to it.

We will add, that the terms of peace receive as a whole, approbation; and what will be more interesting to our readers, is, that we are able to state that they are regarded in the same light by Dr. Bangs, Bishops Soul and Hedding—the first two of whom gave their views in open conference. Bishop Soul spoke in a very impressive manner for more than an hour upon the subject.

COMMON GROUND.

Whereas, the Methodist Episcopal Church in the North has been, and still is, greatly excited on the subject of American slavery, and the means which should be used for its removal from the Church should be secured, in order to her prosperity—

And, whereas it is recognized as a cardinal virtue in religion by our blessed Lord, that his followers should be 'peace makers,' and love one another—and which are given as tests of discipleship—

Therefore, the undersigned, ministers of said Church, after mutual consultation, have agreed to adopt the following Principles and Measures for the purpose above named.

Principles.

We believe that the system of American slavery is a great moral evil; and that the relations springing from this, which bind an innocent race to perpetual bondage to others, against their wish, are sinful, although we conceive that the master who sustains this relation is not, in every case, necessarily guilty.

Measures.

We agree that, in any action we may be disposed to take on this or any other subject, we will—

1. Never attack an officer, clergyman, or private member of the Church in a public journal or lecture, or publicly arraign the official acts of any Church officer; but all such difficulties shall be adjusted according to the discipline of our church. Provided, however, that this shall not prevent the courteous investigations of principles and opinions.
2. We agree that we will not countenance any brother in leaving his proper work to lecture upon this or any other subject, without the sanction of the proper authorities of the Church.
3. No paper shall be established ostensibly for the purpose above stated, by our aid or sanction, or shall be countenanced by us, which claims to be controlled by any Methodist or Wesleyan societies, or having appellations attached to them peculiar to our Church.
4. We agree that no societies or conventions claiming the character of a general conference, shall receive our approbation or aid. Our conviction is, that the present state of affairs, demands a different course, at each church.

that organizations of this character should not exist.

5. We hold that our ministers and private members are at liberty (nor shall it be regarded as an offence for them thus to do) to connect themselves as they may choose with anti-slavery societies independent of the Church—provided, however, that our action in such cases shall not contravene the principles of this agreement.

6. It shall not be regarded as an offence by us—but considered just—that prayer be offered in public for the master and his slave, or for the abolitionment of the system. But we recommend that apostolic language be used, as far as may be, in such devotions.

7. Our preachers have liberty not only to read our rules once a quarter to the societies, and once a year to the whole congregation, but to explain at these seasons any part of our discipline.

8. We hold that our people hold the right of petitioning the General conference through the yearly conferences, or otherwise, upon this or any subject with which they have to do.

9. Nevertheless, in all circumstances relating to the above, we recommend our preachers and people to exercise 'the wisdom of the serpent and the harmlessness of the dove.'

The horrible effects of intemperance were never portrayed in more appalling colors than in the subjoined account of a recent murder in Pope county, Arkansas.—*Fay's Observer*.

Brown, according to the testimony of his children, had been threatening his wife on the morning of the murder (the 5th inst.) and pointing his rifle at her; but she evaded him, by sheltering herself behind a tree. He finally told her not to make a fool of herself, that he did not intend to injure her. She, confiding in his word, left her shelter, and set down under the shade of a tree about 30 feet in the rear of the house and proceeded with her sewing. In a few minutes she heard a noise in the house, and looked in that direction just in time to see the muzzle of a rifle aimed at her through the logs, and before she could rise, she received the contents of it (two balls) between her breasts. She ran 15 or 20 feet, when she fell and died. The children immediately fled, the eldest taking the youngest on his back, and alarmed the neighbors at Dardanelle, about three miles from the house, who repaired to the scene of the dreadful tragedy. When they arrived there, the brutal murderer had laid his victim on the bed, and washed the blood from her hands and face, and then drank himself stupidly drunk, and laid down at her feet, with two loaded rifles at his side; and fallen into a senseless slumber. His weapons were secured and himself seized and bound. An inquest was then held on the body of the unfortunate woman, and a verdict of wilful murder returned by the coroner's jury. The body of the deceased was buried in the grave yard at Dardanelle, attended by a large concourse of inhabitants of the surrounding country. The murderer himself followed the corpse, manacled and guarded; and so hardened did he appear that when the coffin was opened at the grave, and he took a last look at the work of his hands, amid the screams of his bereaved children, he did not even shed a tear in testimony of remorse for his villainy.

Our correspondents do not state any probable cause of offence given by the wife to provoke her murder. It was probably caused by a too liberal use of whiskey, that curse of the country.

Brown and his wife were both from the neighborhood of Concord, North Carolina, and were the father and mother of five children, the eldest 14, and the youngest 2 years old, and she was pregnant at the time of her murder.

From the Lynchburg Virginian.

MR. JEFFERSON AND MR. CLAY.
We are indebted to the *Mayesville Whig* for examining the subjoined letter of the Sage of Monticello, and giving it to the public—though we fear that Thos. J. Randolph, Esq. might have searched Heruleum for months without discovering it. Such testimony from the Author of the Declaration of Independence and the father of the true democratic party will not be lightly regarded.

Monticello, May 25th, 1823.

You ask my opinion of the merits of Henry Clay, and his policy for the protection of domestic industry and manufactures. These are questions you put to me; I beg that you will not at this juncture give my views to the public through the press. As for Mr. Clay, I consider him to be one of the most talented and brilliant men and statesmen

that the country has ever produced, and should I live many years longer, I hope to see him hold the place of chief executive of the American republic. His career, this far, in life has been a career of glory, and he has achieved that for his country whilst engaged in her cause, which would ornament the brightest place in the escutcheon of the most favored statesman in any age or nation.

I say thus much in reply to your interrogatories, but as I said before, I do not wish to have my remarks given to the press, for the simple reason that this country is involved in a political excitement, in which I am not disposed to take part in the politics of the times.—My wrist, which is quite lame, admonishes to discontinue this hasty note.—With assurance of the most perfect respect I am your obliged fellow citizen.

TPOS. JEFFERSON.

FROM EUROPE.

The Virginia brought dates to New York of 7th June exclusive.

Mr. Fector's election for Maidstone is declared void. The Queen, in answer to the address, recommends ecclesiastical preferment to the late Chaplain of the House. The Irish Corporation bill was reported and reconsidered.—The county rates, election expenses, and the married women's bills were all rejected. The copy-right law was to be reconsidered.

The Steamboat Royal William was to leave Liverpool for New York on the 5th of July, and it was confidently asserted would beat all the other boats.

The King of Naples has pardoned the persons implicated in the rebellion of Sicily.

Dr. Huisgen has been appointed by the Pope, administrator of the Archdiocese of Cologne.

Criminal information has been filed against D'Israeli, the younger, for a letter published by him in the *Morning Post*.

A public dinner has been given to Sir F. B. Head.

The Chief Baron of Ireland is dangerously ill.

Her majesty's coronation robes, just out from the loom, attract great crowds at the house of Mr. Howe, silk weaver. The robe is 10 yards long, and of the pattern of that worn by George IV. The warp is rich gold colored silk; the shute of gold and silver twist, &c. 20 different shuttles were employed in weaving it. The principal surface appears to be of gold, with massive raised figures, shamrock, thistle, &c.

Liverpool Cotton market, June 5.
The demand for cotton on Tuesday was extensive, and former prices were fully supported; the sales were 6000 bags. To-day the enquiry was limited, and rather easier prices were accepted in some instances; 4000 bags were sold chiefly to the trade.

Lord Brougham was received with marks of the highest distinction at Brussels, by King Leopold and the Belgian Chambers. Leopold recollects Brougham in the Green Bay affair towards his first wife's mother, and if this is any criterion of the alleged influence of Leopold over his niece Victoria, we may soon expect to see Lord B. in Melbourne's place.

The Assessment Law.—We are glad to learn that in some of the counties the members of the Legislature have been called on to explain the reasons for the adoption of the new mode of assessing the value on lands; and the subject has been met fully and fairly, to the perfect satisfaction, generally, of the people. It needed only a proper understanding of the subject to make all honest men favor the plan: It is so manifestly unjust, that of two individuals who own land worth \$10,000 each, one should pay sixty cents tax, and the other six dollars, to the injury of the State, of the conscientious tax-payer, and of the public morals, that the wonder is that any individual could be found to prefer the old system. Every one who has any knowledge of the affairs of his country, must know that that system operated to produce this inequality in innumerable instances. The conscientious landholder gave in his land at its value, \$10,000; whilst he who had no scruples, gave in his at 1000. The system was nothing less than a bounty for fraud.

From the two following paragraphs it will be seen how well the new law is working. In addition, we may mention that we understand the valuation of the land of this county is \$200,000 more than last year.—*Fayetteville Observer*.

Assessment Law.—The salutary effects of this law are visible in the returns from several counties. We have not

the table before us, to enable us to give an exact amount of the annual decrease which has taken place in successive years; but it is a well known fact, that not only the amount, but the number of acres grew less from year to year; and thus while the honest citizen paid his fair quota of the public burdens, the less conscientious got off with a smaller amount than was just and equal. When these matters are considered the new assessment law must meet with general approbation. In fact we do not see how any honest man or patriotic citizen can object to it.—*Raleigh Star*.

Land Valuation.—The new regulation under the act of the last session of the Legislature, providing for the more uniform and just valuation of lands, is likely to result in a very handsome increase of the revenue. The returns from 8 counties received at the Comptroller's Office, show an increase in those counties of 1,329,400 dollars.—The last year's valuation under the old system, was \$3,830,020—valuation under the new, \$5,065,410.—*Raleigh Standard*.

CINCINNATI AND CHARLESTON RAIL ROAD.

At a meeting of a number of the Stockholders in the Cincinnati and Charleston rail road, at this place on Friday last, (says the Knoxville Register of the 11th inst.) resolutions were unanimously adopted requesting the Directors from this State to make immediate application to the president, for a corps of Engineers, to make a final survey between this place and the N. Carolina line, preparatory to its definite location, and putting under contract; and also requesting the location of a branch of the South Western Bank at this place, at as early a day as practicable. The meeting then adjourned to meet again at this place on the first Tuesday, 7th day of August next. The object of this adjourned meeting is that the Stockholders in Tennessee may deliberate and instruct their Directors upon an early commencement of the work in Tennessee. A general meeting of the Directors takes place in September, and if our local Directors request it, immediate steps will be taken to commence the construction of the Road in Tennessee. This is an important question, and we trust our Stockholders will generally attend the meeting in August.

Richmond and Fredericksburg rail road.—By the report of the President and Directors, it seems that the whole cost of the road and fixtures amounted to \$998,241.46. The road itself cost 642,680.07. They think they will be able to divide four per cent on the first of September, and three per cent the first of May; and that increased dividends may hereafter be reasonably expected.

ELECTION RETURNS.

A GOOD BEGINNING!

PITT COUNTY.—Gen. Alfred Moye, *Senate*; J. L. Foreman, and J. C. Gorham, *Commons*—All Whigs! Last legislature, one whig and two Vans. State poll—Dudley 637, Branch 175, W. N. Edwards 2, W. H. Haywood 1. *Senate*—Alfred Moye 313, M. Dickinson not a candidate 210. Alfred Forbes not a candidate 24. *Commons*—J. L. Foreman 638, John G. Gorham 611, Col. M. Moye 591, John Spiers 587. Sheriff, Benjamin M. Selby 389.

Edgecomb.—1. D. Wilson, *senate*; Rob't. Bryan, and Wm. S. Baker, *Commons*—all Vans. No change. Branch's majority for Governor was only 242 votes, where uniformly, hitherto, the administration majority has been about 1100!—*R. Register*.

It is with feelings of the most sincere sorrow, that we learn from the *Mobile Chronicle* slip of July 25, that Col. R. H. Alexander, of that City, but formerly of this State, fell from the window in the third story of his boarding house, and was so much bruised, that he died shortly after. As he never spoke afterwards, the presumption is that he was asleep when he fell.

R. Register

General Pinckney Henderson, the Texian Minister to England, was in Paris at the last accounts.

Important Decision.—Judge Thompson, at the sitting of the circuit court of this county, decided, that if a subscriber to a newspaper failed either to notify the editor to discontinue the paper at the end of the time subscribed for, or to pay up arrearages, he is bound for another year. In other words, the terms of the paper had to be complied with or an editor is not bound to discontinue a paper and could compel a person to pay for any length of time he had continued his paper, until the terms are complied with. This settles a very important principle—at least to printers.—*Corydon Investigator*.

DREADFUL.

A man by the name of Van Buren at Washington City, on the 25th inst. who had for a considerable time labored under a species of insanity, met with an accident which should serve as a caution. Nothing would satisfy him but a ride on a very tall hobby horse, and at the same time insisting that his friends Cam, Amos and Calhoun should keep the nag in motion, whilst Jackson held the string to prevent it from capsizing, but on the above day by some means the string broke, and Van was completely turned over, bringing down in his fall a number of his friends. He fell directly on his head, but fortunately, his fall was a little broken by his skull coming directly on Calhoun's toes, which were dreadfully mashed, and it is believed he will be a cripple during life. Cam's brains were knocked out, and the rest badly hurt.

Doctors Webster and Clay were called in, who, after a careful examination of the parties, reported that Van had received a concussion of the brain, which they thought might be of service to him, and restore him to reason—that Cam's loss of brains would be of no consequence to him; as he would do as well without the little he had as he ever had done.—*N. Y. Gaz.*

SUPREME COURT.

Ruffin, C. J. delivered the Opinion of the Court, in the case of *McRae vs. McRae's administrators*, from Montgomery, affirming the judgment below. Also in *State v. Smith* from Rockingham, affirming the judgment below.

Daniel, J. delivered the Opinion of the court, in the case of *Phillips v. Garland*, from Yancy, ordering a new trial. Also in *Smitherman et al v. Smith et al* from Moore, ordering a new trial. Also in *State v. Jones* from Chowan, affirming the judgment below. Also in *State v. Morrison*, from Cumberland, reversing the judgment below. Also in the case of the *Legatees v. the personal Representatives of Mathews*, from Pasquotank affirming the judgment below.

Gaston, J. delivered the opinion of the Court, in the *State v. Robinson, et al* from Lincoln, ordering a new trial. Also in *Governor to use of White adm'r v. Miller, et al* from Randolph, reversing the judgment below. Also, in *Doc ex dem Miller et al v. Twitty*, from Ruthertord, affirming the judgment below. Also in *State v. Jolly*, from Martin, directing a *renouveau*.

Guilty or not Guilty.—Not long since an Irishman was carried before a Court in Boston to be tried on a criminal charge. The Clerk asked him in the usual form—'guilty or not guilty.' 'Zounds,' replied the prisoner, 'do you think I will tell you, that's what you have to try.'

Shipwreck.—The ship Nathaniel Hooper, Capt. Bogardus, from Havana to Boston, went ashore on Nantucket South Shoal on Friday, and was totally lost. Cargo 3,500 boxes sugar. Crew saved.

The bank of Cape Fear resumed specie payments on the 26th ult.