



THE STATES:
"Distinct as the Billows, but one as the Sea."

Western Democrat
BY JOHN J. PALMER,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

CHARLOTTE.
Tuesday Morning, Jan. 15, 1856

NO SPEAKER YET.

The balloting in the House continues daily with the same result. When Congress will be able to organize, is now as much a problem as it was on the first day of the session. The Federal Government is at an end—but this is not a matter so much to be deplored, as would be the success of Banks and the mischievous schemes of his fanatical party of Abolitionists.

CHARLOTTE MUNICIPAL ELECTION.

The election for Intendant and Commissioners of the town of Charlotte took place yesterday, and resulted in the success of the Democratic ticket. We had hoped that our Know-Nothing friends would present a ticket in opposition to that of the Democrats, but they had not the courage to do so, although last year they boasted through their "Organs," of a great "American" triumph in Charlotte, when they defeated some of the Democrats by a silent march to the polls. This year the Democrats were wide awake and determined to meet the issue presented by their opponents; but they declined the contest under such circumstances, and generally took shelter behind a "Temperance Ticket" which they were instrumental in bringing forward in the hope of defeating the Democratic ticket. But this move, well calculated as it was to defeat the Democratic ticket, proved unsuccessful. The opposition of Temperance Ticket was composed in part of several of our most respectable Democrats, and received many votes, it is believed, on account of its non-party character and Temperance character. With two parties to contend against, the defeat of the Democratic ticket would not have been a matter of surprise. As it is, we are pleased with its success, while we regret that the Temperance question was one of the elements of the contest. Indeed, as an original question, we should be opposed to the introduction of party into our town election, but since the Know-Nothings commenced it, we are decidedly in favor of action. We cannot consent to the defeat of our party by that party, or its defeat upon any outside issue that may be brought to bear against it. We annex the vote:

FOR INTENDANT:
Wm. F. Davidson (Democratic nominee) 156
Charles J. Fox (Temperance nominee) 144
Democratic majority, 22

FOR COMMISSIONERS.
Thomas H. Horn, James M. Hutchinson, William Hart, K. Mackay-Jamison, Wm. R. Myers, and Wm. F. Phifer, (Democratic nominees) were elected commissioners by the same majority over Messrs. Samuel T. Wriston, Hamilton Martin, Wm. A. Lucas, Samuel P. Alexander, Harry White, and Abram C. Steele, (Temperance nominees.)

THE WEATHER.
We have "cold" news from every point of the compass. During the past week we have not opened a paper without meeting an editorial on the weather, the cold weather, the snow, ice, &c. As it is fashionable to follow the fashion, we must state that we, too, have had "a spell of weather," with several inches of snow, since our last publication. The snow is not, as it is represented to be in some places north of us, from one to four feet deep, but it is of very respectable depth, "considering the size of the town." It has been quite sufficient, since Friday last, to accommodate the numerous sleighers and to render difficult all other modes of traveling. The ice problem, too, has been satisfactorily solved. All doubt on that subject is settled. There is now ice enough, and more than enough, for all useful purposes. The ice houses having been filled, the skaters are now the only persons who have any use for it, and they appear to be making the most of the fine season for the sport.

FALL OF A HOUSE.

On Sunday morning last, a wooden building, about 200 feet in length, not long since erected on Trade Street opposite the Presbyterian Church, chiefly for the storage of cotton, was crushed to ruins by the weight of the snow which had accumulated on the roof. It was the property of W. E. Elms, Esq., who sustains a considerable loss by its fall. Fortunately no person was in the building at the time it fell. Three carriages, we understand, were crushed by the falling timbers.

ACQUITTED.

T. J. Eccles, late Mail Agent on the Columbia and Charlotte Rail-Road, has been acquitted in the Federal Court at Charleston, of the first charge of robbing the mail. He is to be tried on five other counts in the indictment.

THE CHARLOTTE HOTEL.

This establishment, under the control of J. B. Kerr, Esq., the Proprietor, is one of the best hotels of the country. We speak from practical knowledge. Travelers and others who can enjoy, when hungry, a table loaded with every thing an appetite could reasonably desire—when weary and sleepy, a comfortable room and bed for repose—big fires in cold weather—an intelligent, cheerful and good-natured landlord, attentive servants—and all that makes a house emphatically "a home," would find themselves accommodated at the "Charlotte Hotel." A notice of Mr. Kerr's House appears in our advertising columns, to which we will not, according to custom, invite attention, but we invite attention to the hotel itself, as the best recommendation.

THE FIRST SHAD.—Shad are selling, in Savannah, at 82 each.

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The Charlotte Democrat has lately changed hands, and has been greatly improved in appearance. It is now under the management of Mr. John J. Palmer, and is among the neatest and ablest Democratic papers in the State. It is thoroughly Anti-American in politics. We can commend it for its clean, neat, comely face; but the political doctrines it promulgates, are monstrous bad; perfectly inexcusable, in this day of light and knowledge. Just think of it! An Anti-American newspaper published on the very spot where the Americans first proclaimed National Independence from British tyranny! If Washington could re-visit the scenes of his earthly pilgrimages would he not shed bitter tears of lamentation at the degeneracy of his sons? A century has passed since the "Father of his Country," made almost super-human exertions to permanently establish civil and religious liberty in this favored land, free from foreign control and Roman Catholic domination, and here in our midst a strong and powerful party has sprung up which says, a foreign Roman Catholic shall be preferred to a native born Protestant!—[*Greenboro' Patriot.*]

We are indebted to the Editor of the "Patriot" for the complimentary terms in which he speaks of our paper; but we must enter a protest against his classification of us as an "anti-American." Our first breath was drawn on American soil, and all that pertains to us is purely American. Opposition to the proscription of a man, because he entertains a certain religious belief, is "American" to our conception, and so is opposition to proscription, on account of the place of a man's birth, a circumstance over which he can have no control. The Declaration of Independence alluded to by the "Patriot," as having had its origin in our locality, declares that "all men are created free and equal," and the government under it was established to secure "civil and religious liberty;" but since the death of the Whig party—a party that worshipped foreigners with their "rich Irish brogue and sweet German accent"—another party has sprung up, with an entire new set of principles, termed "American," but in direct conflict with the Declaration of Independence, the Bill of Rights, the Constitution of the U. S., and all the principles of a free and enlightened government. Under this new "American" party "civil and religious liberty" is to be enjoyed only by those who happen to be born within the limits of the U. S., and who entertain a Know-Nothing religious belief. We are not an American of "Order." The idea that foreigners and Catholics are controlling and ruining this country is absurd. Where is the evidence of it? "High duties" once "made low prices" and now every man is an "anti-American," if he is not a Know-Nothing.

THE DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION.—The National Democratic committee met in Washington, on the 8th inst., at the National Hotel. The members only carried on a brief discussion as to the day for holding the National Convention. The Committee appointed the first Monday in June for holding the National Convention at Cincinnati. No other business was effected. An invitation was accepted to attend the meetings of the Jackson Democratic Association that evening, to celebrate the anniversary of the battle of New Orleans. They then adjourned.

THE FLORIDA INDIANS.—Great indignation is manifested by the people of Florida, on account of the recent murders committed by the Indians, and a firm determination to have the savages either removed or exterminated. At a recent meeting of the citizens at Tampa, resolutions were passed calling upon the general and State governments to adopt measures for the immediate removal of the Seminoles to the far West, and recommending that the people of that State, submit to no truce or compromise with these Indians, until the last one is ejected from their territory.

ELECTION OF GOVERNOR IN MAINE.—A despatch from Augusta, Me., dated January 4, says: The Legislature to-day elected Judge Wells, an old line democrat, Governor of the State. He received 88 votes in the House and 21 in the Senate. The Governor elect was immediately inaugurated, after which he sent in a message, in which he acquiesces in the Nebraska bill, takes strong ground against the prohibitory law; recommends a license system; condemns the alien and naturalization laws, and the personal liberty bill. The balance refers to local matters.

ANOTHER SPEAKER DIFFICULTY.—The Legislature of New York met on the 1st inst. The House made several ineffectual attempts to elect a Speaker. Strenuous exertions were made for a fusion of the Sells and Hards, but without effect. With the example of Congress before them, the Legislature of New York need be in no haste for an organization.

EXTENSIVE SALE AT AUCTION.—Messrs. Capers and Heyward (successors the Charleston Mercury) sold at auction on the 8th inst., the Swamp Plantation on Savannah River, with one hundred and forty negroes, belonging to the estate of the late Judge Huger, for \$188,000. Also the plantation on Wateree River, known as the Goodwill Plantation, also belonging to the estate of Judge Huger, with seventy negroes, for \$60,000.

SUPREME COURT OF NORTH CAROLINA.—The Winter Term commenced on Monday the 7th inst., at Raleigh. Chief Justice Nash and Judge Battle only were present—Judge Person being detained at home, which occurred at his residence in Yadkin county on Wednesday the 26th ult., of paralysis.

BANK STOCKS.—A few shares of Fayetteville Bank Stock were sold in Fayetteville on Tuesday last, at \$67, dividend off, six months' credit, and afterwards re-sold at \$63 cash. Also, some shares of Cape Fear Stock at \$126, six months' credit, re-sold at \$120 cash.—*Observer.*

GAMBLERS BROKEN UP.—A faro bank was broken up in Fayetteville, (N. C.) on Friday night last, and the apparatus seized and burnt in the streets on Saturday morning. The gamblers were non-residents, who had been there only a few days. One of them escaped from a window of their room, and the other deposited \$1050 as bail. We learn that officers Wooten and McArthur displayed much firmness in the affair.

DEATH OF "TOM THUMB'S" FATHER.—E. S. Stratton, father of "Tom Thumb," has died, leaving his son \$100,000. P. T. Barnum is his executor.

MRS. GAINES' FORTUNE.—The New Day Book says the court has at length decided that Mrs. Gaines is entitled to the property claimed by her in New Orleans. So at last, after twenty years litigation, she will come into possession of about \$15,000,000.

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STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Executive Committee of the North Carolina State Agricultural Society met in Raleigh on the 8th inst., pursuant to notice—present, Hon. Thos. Ruffin, Chairman, and John S. Dancy, R. A. Hamilton, W. H. Jones, W. R. Poole, and Charles L. Hinton, Esquires. Absent, R. H. Smith and Paul C. Cameron, Esquires—the latter of whom, is on a visit to the South. Mr. Smith would no doubt have been in attendance, but from causes over which he had no control.

The principal business of the Committee was to prepare a list of premiums, and this duty has been performed, and the list will be published at an early day. The list, we are informed, has been considerably increased, and larger sums than heretofore have been offered in some cases to competitors for premiums.

It is expected, also, that the tastes and views of the young gentlemen and ladies who may attend, will be consulted and met by *cotillon parties* every evening during the Fair, to be given at the Hotels in the City; these parties to be, of course, under the superintendence and management of the Marshals of the State Society.

We anticipate a larger, more useful, and more imposing Fair next October than has ever been held in this State. Let all the friends of agricultural, horticultural, pomological, and mechanical improvement, and all who desire advancement and perfection among our people in varied handicraft and the fine arts, bestir themselves at once, and second and sustain the Committee and the officers of the Society generally, in their efforts to make the next Fair what it should be—an honor, and the means of great usefulness to North-Carolina.—[*Raleigh Standard.*]

POLITICS FOR THE PULPIT.—The New Haven Register is responsible for the following: A few Sundays since, a certain highly popular and talented clergyman of the Methodist Church, read to his congregation the 2d chapter of Paul's Epistle to the Ephesians, the 19th verse of which is as follows: "Now, therefore, ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow-citizens with the saints, and of the household of God."

After reading this verse, he deliberately raised his eyes to the congregation, and remarked: "My dear hearers—St. Paul was not a Know-Nothing!" and without another word of comment, went on with his reading. The reverend gentleman, though opposed to making political remarks in the pulpit, could not let slip so favorable an opportunity of "defining" St. Paul's position on Hinduism.

ADVANTAGE OF RAILROADS.—The *Western Eagle*, published at Rutherfordton, (N. C.) in a well written article advocating the construction of a railroad to that point, says that the present wheat crop of that county amounts to 100,000 bushels, which is selling there at \$1,000, while at Charlotte it would bring \$1,65; showing a loss on wheat alone, of \$65,000, for want of market facilities.

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY MILES AN HOUR.—At the recent Exhibition in Paris, a locomotive weighing sixty tons was produced, with ten feet driving wheels, the construction of a French house, and said to be capable of attaining a speed of a hundred and fifty miles an hour.

THE TELEGRAPH.—At a meeting of the Stockholders of the Columbia and Charlotte Telegraph Company, at this place, on the 3d inst., the line was leased to our enterprising townsman, Eli Elliott, for a series of years, he to put and keep it in good working order. We are truly glad such a satisfactory arrangement has been effected, and congratulate the people of Chester, and others interested, upon the prospective re-establishment of the whole line.

Mr. E. requests us to notify "those within the sound of our voice," who have been trespassing upon the line by converting iron bars and portions of the wire to their private purposes, that unless the same be returned or paid for forthwith, the law, in all its rigors, will be enforced in every case. Take warning, therefore, ye who in the honesty and simplicity of your hearts regarded the line as abandoned, and render unto Elliott the things which are Elliott's.—[*Chester Standard.*]

MEETING OF THE SOLDIERS OF 1812.—At the adjourned Meeting of the soldiers of the war of 1812, held on the 8th inst., an address was delivered by G. W. P. Custis. Resolutions were passed that they consider Government was under the most solemn obligations to carry out the promise of the Continental Congress, regarding the provisions of the officers and soldiers of the Revolution, petitioning Congress to supply the omissions of former sessions for the declining years of the soldiers and sailors of the war of 1812, as done in the case of the Revolutionary patriots.

PRICE OF SLAVES IN MISSOURI.—One would not suppose that the tenure upon slavery was considered feeble and precarious in Missouri from the prices they readily command in that State. The following is extracted from an account of sales which recently took place in St. Louis: "Andy and Candy, each aged 45, sold for \$1,200; Hope, aged 30, \$1,635; Aleck, aged 30, 665; John aged 12, \$1,161; Job, aged 5, \$600; Ellen, aged 14, \$908; Ann, aged 15, \$1,059; Charlotte, aged 18, and child, \$1,231; Caroline, aged 4, \$760; Sam, aged 45, and Milly, aged 45, \$1,700; Anderson, aged 12, \$1,034.

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Mrs. John Hawkins, of Northampton county, (N. C.) died recently from eating too much snow! A North Carolina contemporary thinks if she had not eaten it raw it would not have disagreed with her.

THE CHINESE REBELLION.—It is estimated that in a single province of China alone one million persons have been killed in battle, starved or executed, since the rebellion commenced.

HANDSOME PRESENT.—Coroner White, of Louisville, recently found a baby in a basket upon his door step, with a note from the mother, that "this little body contained more life than all the bodies he had held inquests upon for a year," and requesting him and his lady to adopt the little stranger as their own.

SPIRITUALIST TAKEN IN.—The "Davenport Circle," a society of spiritualists—the most prominent in New York city—were arrested a few days since for deceiving the public. It appears that after their audience is assembled, the room is made dark, and the persons present hear all sort of beautiful music: On the occasion mentioned, one of the audience uncovered a dark lantern very suddenly, and discovered all the spiritualists with instruments in their hands. They were arrested and made to give up the admission money.

SEVEN CRIMINALS CONDEMNED TO BE HUNG.—The Yazoo City (Miss.) Banner, of Tuesday, 25th ult., says: Seven of the criminals tried in the Circuit Court, now in session in this city, have been convicted of murder—the three negroes, for the murder of Pritchard; Cotton, for the murder of Smith; Lynch, for the murder of Wright; Kent, for the murder of James; and last, that demon in human shape, Bovard, for the murder of his wife. They are all condemned to be hanged. We understand the jury in the last case, that of Bovard, were out only a few minutes before agreeing on their verdict.

RAILROAD ACCIDENT.—Friday night last the engine to the passenger train on the Wilmington and Manchester Railroad, became detached and ran a mile or two ahead, when near Wilmington, N. C. The engine, discovering the mishap, returned very rapidly, coming in collision with the train, mortally injuring Chas. Baldwin, the conductor, and badly injuring E. L. Sherwood, mail agent. None of the passengers were hurt. Mr. Baldwin has since died.

RAIL ROAD ACCIDENT.—We understand by a letter received here yesterday, that an accident occurred on the Cheraw and Darlington railroad, a day or two since, in consequence of the washing away of a portion of the embankment at Cedar Creek near Society Hill, by which the whole train was precipitated into the creek below, a distance of fifteen or twenty feet. We understand that a negro was instantly killed, and several persons wounded. The cars and engine are complete wrecks. The wonder is, that all on board the train were not killed.—[*Wilmington Daily Herald.*]

SUICIDE.
We learn that Mr. John Smoot, a young man residing in Davie county, committed suicide on Tuesday evening last, by shooting himself in the head with a pistol. He was residing with an uncle when the tragedy occurred. He returned from a neighbor's house that day, and after eating his dinner, without exhibiting any unusual symptoms, he asked for a piece of writing paper, retired to his room up stairs and commenced writing. A young man, who was a cousin, requested to see the contents of the paper, which Smoot laughingly declined, and the young man left the room. A few minutes afterwards Smoot went down stairs and after a short interval the report of a pistol was heard. On repairing to his room they found the young man a corpse, lying upon his bed, dressed in his grave clothes, with one arm folded across his breast and the other at his side holding a six barrel revolver, and his head awfully mutilated. One barrel only of the pistol was discharged, the contents of which entered his forehead and tore the upper part of it entirely off.—[*Salisbury Watchman.*]

Shocking Affair.—A son of Col. A. W. Hammond, of this city, came to his death in a most shocking manner, on Tuesday morning last. We understand the circumstances to be about these: It seems that he had by some means gotten on the track of the Macon and Western Railroad, near a mile from the Depot, when the engine attached to the passenger train which left the Depot at a quarter past five, picked him up on the cow catcher and it was not discovered until the train reached East Point, some six miles from this city. His body was dreadfully mangled, and fragments of his person were scattered along the road for several miles.—[*Atlanta Republican.*]

Too White to be Married.—A negro named Miles Jones, living at Rock Island, Illinois, has, for a long time been courting a white girl in that city, named Sarah Davis. His wooing was successful, so far as obtaining the consent of the lady to become his wife. To obtain a license from the clerk of the court Miles swore that his intended was three-quarters black; upon application to the Squire, he thought Sarah was two white to allow him to perform the marriage ceremony without violating the laws of the State. Miles is hunting up testimony to prove that the girl is three-quarters black.

Divorces in Alabama.—During the present session of the Alabama Legislature, there have been about 100 cases of divorce granted.

Botts Accepts.—Hon. John M. Botts has accepted the nomination for the Presidency tendered him by forty members of the "combined councils" of the city of Richmond.

Col. Braxton Bragg of a "little more grape" memory, who has resigned his commission in the U. S. Army, is about to become a Louisiana planter.

Judge Wells, Democrat, was on Friday last, elected Governor of Maine by the Legislature of that State.

THE RICHEST MAN IN CONGRESS is the Hon. Wm. Aiken of South Carolina. His property is estimated at two millions of dollars, including over one thousand negroes! Mr. Aiken is an elderly gentleman, active, accomplished and full of kindness of heart. He is a fair representative of a "fine old Southern gentleman," and he is highly esteemed for his consistent views and ripe ideas.

DIED LYING.—Miller, the murderer, of Dr. Hadel and young Graff, was hung here yesterday, in the presence of a large concourse of spectators. He protested his innocence to the last, and swung off—dying with severe struggles. His guilt, however, is beyond all controversy, and the deceased has thus passed into the presence of his Maker with a terrible falsehood on his soul.—[*Cumberland Citizen*, Jan. 5th.

A FUSION.—The Legislature of Maine has been organized by a fusion of the Democrats and Old Line Whigs.

A correspondent of the N. Y. Tribune says that recently, during the balloting for the Speakership, an old Democrat from Tennessee remarked that, "during the previous twenty-four hours, he had fancied that he could see the form of the immortal Jackson hovering over the Assembly, and with all the energy and determination that formerly characterized him, exclaiming, "By the Eternal, no more Banks!"

HARD FOR THE DOG.—The Pittsfield Eagle says great regard for the comfort of his fellow passengers, but not much for his dog, was manifested by a Frenchman who took the cars at Pittsfield, last week, for New York. The animal was a valuable one and he did not like to leave him, nor did he like to take him into the cars, to the discomfort of the passengers; so procuring a stout cord, he attached one end to the dog's collar, and the other to the rear car. The train went into Bridgeport, with a brass collar and a dog's ear attached. Considerable dog was strewn all along the track.

WAKEMANITES IN RUSSIA.—There is a sect in Russia called Malakani, or Milleanians. Their leader and founder was Terenti, who pretended that he was sent from God, and was the prophet Elias. He announced in 1833, that the Lord would appear in two years and a half, and fixed the day when he himself, like Elijah, should be carried up to heaven in a chariot of fire. The moment arrived, and thousands of his followers came from all parts of Russia to witness the miracle. Terenti appeared, majestically seated upon a chariot; ordered the multitude to prostrate themselves, and then, opening his arms like an eagle spreading his wings, he leapt into the air. The poor prophet fell heavily, and bruised an old woman who was near his car. The Malakani, irritated at having been duped, seized Terenti and delivered him to the police, who cast him into prison, where he persisted in declaring himself the prophet of God. He died soon after, but many still believe in his divine mission.

MARRIED.
In Ireddell county, on the 27th ult., by the Rev. Mr. Pressly, Mr. SAMUEL M. JOHNSTON, of Cabarrus county, to Mrs. MARY COLEMAN, of the former county.

In Cabarrus county, on the 27th ult., by Wesley T. Miller, Esq., Mr. CARELL FINK to Miss Susan Culp, daughter of Mr. John Culp.

On the 23d inst., by Charles Overman, Esq. Mr. J. L. STEPHENS to Miss JANE SMITH, all of Mecklenburg county.

DIED.
In this county on the 9th inst., JOSEPH, young son of Margaret and James Eagle, Esq., aged 10 years 9 months and 9 days.

NOTICE
I HEREBY GIVEN to all persons who may have claims against the Estate of the late JOHN G. Witherspoon, dec'd, resulting from any limitations of the landed estate of said deceased, to present them within the time prescribed by law, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

JAMES BOYCE, Adm'r.
Jan. 15, 1856—2t