*From the Louisville Journal.*

## ARE THE KNOW-NOTHINGS ABOLITIONISTS?

The standing charge, the daily charge, made by the Southern anti-Know-Nothing organs against the Know-Nothing party of the North, is that it is an abolition or free-soil party. Throughout the whole South there is not a single anti-Know-Nothing organ that does not press the charge upon all possible occasions, in season and out of season. It is the main charge, indeed the one charge, upon which the Southern anti-Know-Nothing leaders rely for success. Take it away from them, and they have little left. And it should be taken away from them. It is as false and calumnious a charge as the very genius of mendacity and malice could invent. Whatever sins the mass of the Know-Nothing party of the North may have to answer for here or hereafter, abolitionism is not one of them. Undoubtedly there are abolitionists among them, and undoubtedly in some few localities the abolitionists predominate among them, but take the whole of the Know-Nothing party of the North together, and it is sounder at heart, sounder in principle, and sounder in action upon the great slavery issues than any other party in that section has ever been known to be. Its strong efforts to nationalize itself by sinking the slavery agitation so as to be able to harmonize with the Know-Nothingism of the South, have been and still continue to be very great, and the degree of its success is cheering to the entire patriotism of the nation. If the slavery agitation is destined ever to be allayed, that mighty work is certainly to be accomplished by what is called the American party, which, if we are correctly informed, now requires of all its members a solemn obligation to adhere to the Constitution and the Union in any and every emergency that may arise.

If the Northern Know-Nothings were abolitionists or free-soilers, they would not, as they are accused of doing, seek to discourage the immigration of foreign hordes into this country. They know, as everybody else does, that nine-tenths of the immigrants who land in armies on our shores are abolitionists, if they themselves were abolitionists, and were looking around them for the most effectual means of promoting abolitionism, they would hail with joy the coming of these foreign allies, and promote it to the extent of their power. If they were abolitionists, they would throw no conceivable impediment in the way of the rushing stream by which the foul lake of abolitionism in this country has received and is receiving its chief supply. They would stretch forth their arms to the people of foreign lands, all of whom are abolitionists, to come over and join in the destruction of slavery. To say that the American party is an abolition party, and that it is struggling at the same time to shut out the treacherous tide of foreign abolitionists setting upon our shores, is nothing less than a monstrous absurdity.

We have repeatedly stated the fact, a fact which defies contradiction, that *all* of the regular free-soil organs, which surely ought to know who their own friends are, and nineteen twentieths of all the free-soil leaders of the North who currently know who their co-workers are, denounce the Know-Nothing party of the North as a proslavery party even more vehemently and vindictively, if possible, than its southern enemies denounce it as a free-soil party. Take up the virulent, bitter, and influential free-soil organs of the country; take up the Washington National Era, the New York Tribune, the New York Evening Post, the Albany Evening Journal, the Buffalo Express, the Cleveland Plaindealer, &c., &c., from alpha to omega; take up the speeches and letters of the abolition orators, and demagogues; take up those of Seward and Wade, and Giddings, and Chase, and Sumner, and you will find that all these free-soil newspaper organs and all these free-soil orators and letter-writers are there in their denunciations of the Know-Nothing party of the North, not only as an ally of slavery and a foe of freesoilism, but as the direct and most dangerous foe that northern freesoilism has ever been called on to encounter. We have before us extracts from the declarations of these northern freesoil newspapers and leaders, to prove all that we have here said; but we could not publish them without making this article much too long to be generally read.

The overwhelming mass then of Northern abolitionism is deadly in its hostility to the Know-Nothing or American party. And we say with the distinguished editor of the Richmond (Va.) Whig, that we are at a loss to conceive how any honest Southern man, with this fact staring him broadly in the face, can unite with the Northern enemies of the South in denouncing the abolitionism a party which those enemies describe as tending to repress agitation, to put down fanaticism, and blast the hopes of the abolition party. This ground they all take, from Seward down to the pettiest of Seward's flunkeys; and urge it upon the Northern people with all the zeal and fury characteristic of abolition madness. We have in former numbers quoted from Seward, from Greely, from Adams, from Weed, and a host of others, known to be determined and inveterate enemies of the South and Southern institutions, and they all, as we have said, without a solitary exception, concur in denouncing the Know-Nothing movement as inimical to abolitionism and favorable to the South and agree in the policy of opposing it at all hazards and to the last extremity.

Is this a policy importing nothing on the part of the abolitionists at the North? Has it indeed no important significance? No motive? No object? Is it reasonable to suppose that these abolition leaders would be willing to throw cold water on a great popular movement which promised to insure to the benefit of them or their cause? Have they ever been guilty of such folly before? Think downright stupidity? Such lack of common sense and common sagacity? Why, who credits the shrewdness, the penetration, the political foresight of William H. Seward? Who, in all the South, takes Greely to be a fool? Who considers Weed wanting in cunning? Who regards either sadly enough but to perceive when a movement or a party is calculated to promote the progress of abolitionism? And who has ever known either of them not to catch eagerly at any and everything which could be used to advance their schemes, and inflict injury upon the South. This being so, why have they not caught enthusiastically at Know-Nothingism, if, as alleged, the Know-Nothing movement is an abolition movement? Is their conduct in this respect totally and utterly incomprehensible? Can it be accounted for upon any hypothesis whatever, consistent with the rule and far-fetched allegation of the Democratic press at the South?

There may be errors, and important ones, in the creed of the Know-Nothing or American party, but we again say that a party of sounder nationality does not exist. Some of the Democratic organs and leaders in Kentucky denounce it as an abolition party, but this is always the one great weapon of their warfare against any and every man or party that they think proper to oppose. They denounced General Harrison as an abolitionists in 1840, they denounced Mr. Clay as an abolitionist in 1844, they denounced General Taylor as an abolitionist in 1848, they denounced General Scott as an abolitionist in 1852, they denounced the whole Whig party as a mass of abolitionists in each and all of those years, and have been thus denouncing it until within the last few weeks, and they would denounce Christianity itself as abolitionism if they believed that they could thereby fix their clutches upon the political spoils of the nation.


# North Carolina Whig.

CHARLOTTE:

Tuesday, May 1, 1855.


☞ We had on yesterday evening a refreshing shower, and every thing looks enlivened by its fructifying influence.

### Rail Road Accidents.

Accidents on the Charlotte and S.C. Rail Road are becoming rather frequent. On Monday the 23d the mail did not reach here until after night by accident, and on yesterday it was again detained from the same cause. The Directors should look into this thing.

### Arrival of the Steamer Isabel.

A slip from our absentee correspondent of the Charleston Standard, has put us in possession of late news from Havana, brought by the steamer Isabel, which arrived at Charleston on the 28th ult. Commodore McCauley had arrived in the San Jacinto, and from appearances, every thing was of the most friendly character. Commodore McCauley and the Capt. General is on the best terms, as the former went in the carriage of the latter on the 21st, to attend a review of the troops in Havana, which mustered 7 or 8000 strong. Peck has been liberated.

### STEAMER QUAKER CITY.

Attention is called to the advertisement of the Steamer Quaker City. It will be seen that she runs regularly between Charleston and Philadelphia and affords to our citizens a fine opportunity of removing from that city regular supplies there twice a month.

### Wilmington, Charlotte & Rutherford Railroad.

We learn that the subscription to the above road West of us, is as follows: Rutherfordton, $50,000; Shelby, $40,000; Lincolnton, $105,000; Dr. Ormand & co., Lincoln Co., $30,000; Dallas, $30,000; Hopewell, Mecklenburg Co., $50,000. This secures the charter of the road from Charlotte to Rutherfordton.

### Late Foreign News.

We have news from Europe, by the Africa and Scotsman, to the 14th April. Some fighting had taken place at Sevastopol, in which the Russians has suffered considerable, but no advantages had gained to speak of. It is reported that a great battle had been fought in Bessarabia, between the Turks and Russians, in which the latter lost 5,000 men, and Omer Pasha was killed. The latest of British market quotations are to the 13th. Sales of the week 73,000 bales, at the following rates: Fair Orleans, 5¾ d.; middling, 4¾d.; fair Mobile, 5¾ d.; middling, 5 1-16d. Stock, 668,000, including 419,000 Americans.

### Cotton Burnt.

On Tuesday morning last, about three miles from Charlotte, 40 bales of cotton was burnt on a freight train on the Charlotte & S.C. Rail Road. The cotton must have caught from a spark from the engine. It must certainly be dangerous to ship cotton on the platforms of such dry weather as we have had for the last month.

### The Know-Nothings and Democratic Grand Jury.

We stated last week that the Grand Jury of Buncombe county, in a charge from Judge Saunders, had presented the Know-Nothings for existence. We are so committed in error. In view of Judge Saunders charging the Jury to that effect, the Grand Jury made a presentment and refused to sanction the presentment and Judge Saunder's charge.

We look upon the course of the Grand Jury as the most high handed measure ever attempted in this country to overthrow men entitling support of a political principle. There is now enacted out in the country and must admit that it is a train of events of Mr. Clingman's friends to see, in operating as it does. If the Asheville Spectator is sincere, it seems that Mr. Clingman is serious in order to work relief for the election, before they joined the Know-Nothings. This shows that Mr. Clingman is a mere demagogue, and only desires that end accomplished, will be rewarded. The Know-Nothings are very likely, increasing in this District as they are in every other section, and Mr. Clingman, no doubt, being aware of this fact, is accordingly dormant therefore, they consider that can gratitude time, will be observed.

In connection with the foregoing, we publish the following extract from a letter dated

Buncombe, April 17, 1855.

"The Grand Jury, you will see, made a Presentment of the Know-Nothings. Clingman is engaged in Judge Saunders. CLINGMAN TAMPERED WITH THE JURY, as most of them have confessed. The proceedings were most infamous. Summers, it is believed, instigated the thing; but did not have the courage to stand up. He said, in his charge, 'write to work and say it is wanting,' when requested to write it out. Cin[illegible]."—*Raleigh Register.*

### Go It Sam.

We are informed says the *Raleigh Register* that upwards of two hundred persons were initiated into the American Order in the town of Asheville, during Court week there. *Fifty-seven* were "put through" in less than fifty steps from the Court-house, while Linsday was speaking.

### The American Party.

The Wilmington *Journal* has assumed the position, that inasmuch as only two great parties can exist in this country, and the Whig party having been broken to pieces, the establishment of the Know-Nothing or American Party is to break up the Democratic Party entirely. This is a position we have been expecting the Democratic papers to assume. But admitting, for argument sake, that such is the fact, that the Democratic party will be broken up, is that a good reason why men should not give up party predilections and join a party whose sole object is the salvation of our country. Here is a party forming, one of whose cardinal principles is, "that *Americans shall rule America*;" and yet Democrats are enjoined not to join it, because, forsooth, it will break up the Democratic party. Is that the way every friend to the perpetuity of our glorious republic should act? Or is it the voice of patriotism? Certainly not. There is no doubt both parties have been guilty of pandering to the prejudices of the foreign part of our population, so much so in fact, that in some sections they hold the balance of power, and whichever party is most favorable to their peculiar views, they will support. The new party, if they get the ascendency, will alter the naturalization laws so that no foreigner can vote until he has been long enough in the country to imbibe the spirit of our institutions, and no demagogue can ever have an opportunity of using the emigrants that flock to this country by thousands to aid them in their unholy cause. We have given the *principles of the American party before* and we give them again, and we ask every man, no matter what party he may belong to, if there is any thing in them that he cannot heartily subscribe to.

*First.* We shall advocate a *repeal* of the laws of naturalization, or if that cannot be accomplished, then such a modification of those laws, as will prevent future immigrants from becoming citizens, short of a residence of twenty-one years, after taking the oath of allegiance to the United States, and of *abjuration* of all other powers, potentates, and princes.

*Second.* We shall advocate a passage of a stringent law by Congress to prevent the immigration hither of *foreigners*, who are *either paupers or criminals*, and to send back to the countries from which they come, all such foreigners of those classes as may, in violation of such law, hereafter reach our ports; and to require the President of the United States to demand from any government, which may send hither such classes of its subjects, *immediate and ample satisfaction for such outrage*, and a proper indemnity against the repetition thereof.

*Third.* We shall oppose the election or appointment of any *foreign-born* citizen to any office of trust, honor or emolument, under the Federal or State governments, or the employment or enlistment of such persons in the army or navy *in time of war*; maintaining, as we do in the opinion, that the native-born citizens of the United States have the right to govern the land of their birth; and that all immigrants from abroad should be content with the enjoyment of life, liberty, and property, under our institutions, without seeking to participate in the election, administration or execution of our laws.

*Fourth.* We shall advocate and urge the adoption of such an *amended form of an oath to support the Constitution of the United States*, and to be administered to all persons elected or appointed to any office of trust, honor, or emolument, under the Federal or State governments, as will effectually exclude from such offices *all persons*, who shall not directly and *explicitly* recognize the obligations and binding force of the Constitution of the United States, as paramount to all obligations of allegiance or allegiance to any foreign prince, power, potentate, or authority, whatever, under any and all circumstances.

*Fifth.* We shall maintain the doctrine that no one of the States of this Union has the right to admit to the enjoyment of *free suffrage any* person of *foreign* birth, who has not been *first* made a citizen of the United States, according to the "uniform rule" of naturalization prescribed by Congress, under the provisions of the constitution.

*Sixth.* We shall oppose, now and hereafter, any "union of Church and State," no matter what class of religionists shall seek to bring about such union.

*Seventh.* We shall vigorously maintain the *reserved rights* of all persons, of native or *foreign* birth, and shall at all times oppose the slightest interference with such vested rights.

*Eighth.* We shall oppose and protest against all *abridgement of religious liberty*, inducing it as a cardinal maxim, that *religious faith* is a question between each individual and his God, and over which no political government, or other human power, can rightfully exercise any supervision or control, at any time, in any place, or in any form.

*Ninth.* We shall oppose all "higher law" doctrines, by whatever the association may be set at nought, violated or disregarded, whether by politicians, by resolutions, or by the sentences or decisions of courts, or by any other, class of persons.

*Tenth.* We shall maintain and defend the constitutional rights of slavery, the Union as it exists, and the *right of the States*, without intervention or guarantee from any quarter, to regulate all slavery and its relations, and all other matters of local policy and domestic concern, pertaining to the rights of our sister States and confederates, all who may assail them or either of them.

*Eleventh.* We shall oppose no man, and sustain no one, on the ground of his opposition to, or his support of, *Democratic* measures, as *Whig* measures; but we shall oppose those who oppose our doctrines, and sustain those who sustain our doctrines.

*Twelfth.* And lastly, we shall use our utmost exertions to build up an "*American party*," whose watch word shall be

AMERICANS SHALL RULE THEIR COUNTRY!

### The Priests Meddling in Politics.

It is believed and as it has been charged, that the Roman Catholic Priests in some part of this Country, have used their influence with their members and induced them to vote contrary to their better judgment. As an overt proof of this meddling could be adduced the papers of this county remained silent; we now invite the attention of our readers to the following extract taken from an article published in a Richmond paper. It is from a German, giving among others, the following reason for being in favor of the American party:

"But there is another thing that made me a Know-Nothing, and that is, that I was carried into a convent by my brother German, Mr. Henry Miller, where I saw the Elephant as large as life. In the month of September last, I was in Baltimore with him, and he took me up to the German Roman Catholic Church where I heard the Priest preach in the German language from 11 o'clock to 1, on politics, with a newspaper in his hand from which he would read and then address his congregation, and he told them, in my presence and in my hearing, that those who did not come upon the next Sunday and pledge themselves to vote for candidates first named parties were to nominate that week, (for the Maryland election was to come off on the following month of October,) would no longer be permitted to claim Jesus as the brother or Mary as the sister, pointing at the same time to the picture of Jesus, and the Virgin Mary. If I had not been satisfied before, this would have been enough to convince me of the dangerous influence of the Priesthood and the influence of the Roman Catholics to govern this country; and that the two matters of politics and religion, or Church and State were too much mixed up with that Communion of Christians, to command my confidence in the selection of proper persons to discharge public duties."

"That the Catholic clergy have a controlling influence over their members, is evident from the fact that Daniel O'Connel says as much in the following extract:

I declare my most unequivocal submission to the Head of the Church, and to the hierarchy in its different orders. If the Bishops make a decision on this bill, I never would be heard speaking against it, but would submit at once, though secretly, to their decision. They have only to declare, and they close their mouths; they unreservedly to determine, and I obey. I wish it to be understood that such is the duty of the Catholics.—*Daniel O'Connell*, 1843.

And he also urges the Catholic's, where they have the *electoral franchise*, to vote for none who will not assist in carrying out the intentions of the Pope. Hear him:

You should do all in your power to carry out the intentions of His Holiness, the Pope. Where you have the electoral franchise, give your votes to none but those who will assist you in so holy a struggle.—*Daniel O'Connell.*

### The Guardian.

We have received three numbers of "The Guardian," a temperance paper lately established in Greensboro', N. C. Its appearance is neat and bids fair to be an able advocate of temperance principles. We were sorry to see in the 3d number, that it takes ground against the "Know-Nothing or American Party." Do the editors of the Guardian wish to see America ruled by foreigners and the offices held by men who acknowledge fealty to a foreign potentate as the Catholic's do? The following extract is very applicable here:

"If I was at my home in Germany, and an American citizen was to come there and set himself up for an office, I should not feel that he had any right to complain of me, and feel unkindly towards me, because I prefer my own countryman to him: and I think it would be a very hard matter for any American to get an office where I came from that was worth anybody's having; and for that reason I don't complain because Americans choose to have their country controlled by their own people in preference to mine.' Again he says: 'As for proscription, I don't see that as a German I am any more proscribed by the Know-Nothings, than, as a Whig, I was proscribed by the Democrats.' And in another place he says: 'I am under greater obligations to the natives, than I am to foreigners—and, therefore, mean to vote with them. I have been three times ruined since I have been here, [illegible] by fire and once by robbery—and have [illegible] times re-established in business, and [illegible] the native Whigs and Democrats, [illegible] countrymen of mine ever yet lent me any aid in my distress, and, therefore, they have no claim on me to support them for offices, that, by the way, they will never get; and if any of my countrymen are weak and silly enough to let the Democrats use them as tools for their own purposes, up to the time of the election, and then be laughed at for their folly, they may do it, but they don't catch me in any such trap.'"

### Notices of New Books

FOR SALE AT LOWRIE & EWING'S BOOK STORE.

*Flora's Lexicon:* An Interpretation of the Language and Sentiment of Flowers: with an outline of Botany, and a Poetical Introduction. By Catherine H. Waterman. Cloth, gilt. Price, $1.50.

This is a handsome book, beautifully embellished with five illustrations, and is especially desirable at this time, when flowers, bouquets, &c., are "the order of the day," and of the night, too. "The language of flowers," says the author, "has recently attracted so much attention that an acquaintance with it seems to be deemed, if not an essential part of a polite education, at least a graceful and elegant accomplishment. A volume furnishing a complete interpretation of those meanings most generally attached to flowers, has therefore become a desirable if not an essential part of a gentleman's or lady's library;" and we regard the above as being the best work of the kind yet published.

*Spirit Manifestations Examined and Explained.* Judge Edmonds refuted; or, an Exposition of the Involuntary Powers and Instincts of the Human Mind. By John Bovee Dods. Author of "Philosophy of Electrical Psycology," "Immortality Triumphant," etc.

This work is composed of a number of lectures delivered at Auburn, N. Y. in 1851. The author, setting aside all spiritual agency in the matter shows, on philosophic and natural principles, the causes which produce the phenomena of the so-called "spirit manifestations," and illustrates his arguments by citing examples from history, and by calling to mind many recent occurrences and every-day facts. The book is written in a lively, pleasant style, and cannot fail to be interesting as well as instructive. Price $1.

### Mr. Wise's Prospects—No Chance for Him.

The Boston correspondent of the N. Y. Evening Post states that letters have been received in that State by political gentlemen of standing from Mr. Wise, in which he admits that he stands no chance whatever of becoming Governor of Virginia. This we suppose must be the truth, as the Richmond *Penny Post*, states that it has been "officially informed there are at this time 72,000 members of the 'American Party,' order in Virginia." The entire vote of Virginia at the Presidential election in 1852 was 129,545, so that unless Mr. Wise gets a much larger vote than Gen. Pierce did he stands no chance of being elected.

[From the Boston Telegraph.]

### SENATOR WILSON DENOUNCES THE AMERICAN PARTY.

Gen. Wilson gave the closing lecture of the anti-slavery course, last evening, at the Temple. He explained for himself the position with regard to slavery that he had occupied for twenty years, and called upon all to oppose any party that should try to smother the anti-slavery sentiment. He assumed that this course had been the death of the two great parties, and must be of the other party now forming. He said this party was perilous to the anti-slavery sentiment, and called upon the anti-slavery party to kill off the "American doughfaces," as they had the others.

Can the South want stronger evidence than this to satisfy her that the American Party is true to her interests? We think not. A happy riddance from all such.

### New Papers.

New papers are springing up in every direction. Mr. Shelton issues proposals to print a paper in Lexington; M. L. Ford also proposes to print a paper in Shelby by the name of "The Casket." And proposals for printing a paper in Rutherfordton has been issued also.

[FOR THE NORTH CAROLINA WHIG.]

### General Pierce.

A HUDIBRASTIC POEM.

While treading on the sacred sod,
Which covers the mighty dead,
Who for their country's freedom,
So nobly fought and bled,
My mind was, very naturally,
By association brought,
To the numerous patriotic deeds
Of the gallant General Scott.
Those patriots who so nobly led
The van in Freedom's cause,
Who their vital blood so freely shed
Against oppressive laws;
Their names as brilliant are in story,
They owed from me no eulogy;
For they were crowned by glory
With unfading wreaths of victory.
In this town where freedom first unfurled,
To the gaze of an admiring world,
The star-spangled banner, that it might wave
"O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave;"
Where Cornwallis fled, as from a pest,
In his retreat, calling it the "Hornet's Nest;"
While reflecting on the thrilling history
Of all our revolutionary glory,
My mind, Lucy, was by association brought
To think of the deeds of Winfield Scott.
Could, pardon me, General P. I had almost forgot
That you were the subject of my song.
Where was most decidedly wrong.
I therefore turn to you again,
Having nothing further to explain.
In that most memorable campaign,
Where you had fondly thought to gain
Laurels and an enduring name,
Inscribed high on the list of fame,
All your aspirations after glory
Were just as vain and illusory,
As an "ignis fatuus" that bewitches,
And leads men into pools and ditches.

CIVIS.

PRIVILEDGE OF FOREIGNERS IN MASSACHUSETTS.—On Wednesday the alien bill passed by the House, excluding foreigners from holding office, was so modified by the Senate of Massachusetts as to allow them to vote and hold office after a residence of 21 years.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,
BUNCOMBE COUNTY.
*Superior Court—Spring Term, 1855.*

The Jurors for the State, upon their oaths, present that they have reason to believe that a combination of men, commonly called "Know-Nothings," exist in this county, one of the objects of which is, by binding men with extra judicial oaths, secretly administered, and by other secret obligations, and by threatening those of their members who offer to withdraw from their order to control citizens of this county in the exercise of their right to vote conformably with their own free will, as contemplated by the Constitution and laws of this State. And the said Jurors are ready, if the Honorable Court shall so advise, to furnish for the information of the Court and the Solicitor for the State, a list of witnesses to prove these facts. And whether this is a violation of the criminal law, and what is their duty in the matter, they, the said Jurors are ignorant, and pray the advice of the Honorable Court in the premises.

D. J. ROBERTS, Foreman.
G. J. D. GARRISON,
J. WEST,
J. MILLER,
H. LINDSEY,
E. MORGAN,
SIMS OWNBEY,
J. BARNARD,
G. W. HAMPTON,
A. M. GUDGER,
T. O. ROBERTS,
R. HAWKINS,
J. M. RAY,
J. Mc. MERRELL,
U. WARREN,
E. HEREN.

### CHARGE OF JUDGE SAUNDERS.

The Grand Jury applied to the Judge for instructions as to whether it was an indictable offence, if it should appear that a Society had been formed in this country, the object and design of which, was to influence men to join the Society and then by oaths to bind its members to secrecy and to compel them to vote against their will, for or against a particular candidate. His Honor replied in substance, that it had been said by high authority, that few things are involved in greater doubt in the criminal law, than the point at which a combination of several persons in a common object becomes illegal. If this be so in England in regard to associations of a political character, still more must it be so in this country. It is the combination or agreement of a number of persons to do a particular act, that constitutes the gist of the offence. But to make the conspiracy or agreement criminal, the act proposed must be *unlawful*; or the combination and agreement must be to effect a legal purpose by illegal means. The administration of an oath to the members of any Society not to divulge its secrets, or to do or not to do any particular act, is legally of no binding obligation, and in a moral point of view decidedly wrong.* The law only authorises the Judge or Magistrate to administer an oath, in some legal investigation then pending and of which the Magistrate may have jurisdiction; and unless thus administered, the party, even should he swear falsely, could not be convicted of perjury. If a party's word of honor could not bind him, an unauthorised oath would not likely have the effect of doing so. In England, they have an act of Parliament declaring the Society of *United Irishmen*, and some other Societies, as unlawful, and forbidding the administration of an oath to its members, according to the rules of the Society. But we have no such statute in this State, and whatever may be thought of such oaths by Christian men, they cannot be treated as criminals. In this country, parties and associations may unite together to carry any political object by fair reason or argument, and even hold out personal honors or advantages to unite in support of particular men or measures. But if any set of men should conspire together to elect or defeat any one, who might be held up for any public trust, by forcing the voter to vote against his will, by threats or otherwise, the act would be unlawful, and therefore, criminal. And if the Grand Jury should know that any such act had been done, it would be their duty to present the offenders. So if the Grand Jury should know or have reason to believe that there existed in the county, any association of men, combined together to effect such a purpose, it would be their duty to investigate the matter and act accordingly. But the Jury should not institute such an investigation, unless they had sufficient grounds to suspect that such a conspiracy did exist, and that for an unlawful purpose.

*One of the Articles of Faith of the Episcopal Church—and the Methodist Church, it is believed, has an Article of similar import—declares "that rash and rash swearing is forbidden christians by our Lord Jesus Christ. But that a man may swear when the Magistrate requireth."

### ASSAULT UPON MR CLAY.

One Professor Harper, of the State University of Mississippi, in a recent address, made a coarse, ill-timed and bitter assault upon the character of Henry Clay, a patriot who has been sleeping in his grave for to these two years, and upwards! Think of a Professor in a State University, instructing the sons of gentlemen of all political parties—some of them the sons of the fast friends and admirers of the deceased statesman, insulting the memory of the deceased patriot, and slandering the character of the illustrious statesman whose soul is in the spirit land, and whose body has undergone decomposition long since, beneath the sods of his once cherished and loved Ashland! Professor Harper!—a professional instructor of young men! No decent man ought to patronise an institution where such a miscreant is allowed to stay. The *white-livered poltroon* ought to be *egged* out of the State of Mississippi. O, most impotent and malignant wretch!

But excuse us, gentle reader—the breath of calumny cannot disturb the repose of Henry Clay. He is gone to his eternal rest, his noble spirit will no more be harrassed by the petty strife of party quarrels—he is in that land where the honest, the sincere, and the good, meet their reward:

He laid him down when his career was run,
Like the rays of the brilliant Tropic sun;
Bold in glory that is seldom given
To aught of earth—because it is of heaven;
Above his kind he towering stood alone,
The Ashland Sage—Kentucky's noblest son;
Years may roll round, and nations pass away,
Ere Time brings forth another Henry Clay.

*Knoxville Whig.*

NEW ORLEANS, April 24.—Mr. Kendall, the Postmaster of this city has been arrested on the charge of purloining letters containing $600. His removal from office has also been ordered, and the post tendered to Mr. R. L. Adams, who declined it.

*From the Shelby Intelligencer.*

### RAIL ROAD MEETING IN CLEAVELAND COUNTY

SHELBY, N. C., April 21, 1855.

The citizens of Cleaveland, having been called together by public notice, assembled in the Court-House, where they were joined by highly respectable delegates from Lincoln, Gaston and Rutherford, to which counties invitations had been extended.

The meeting was organized by calling C. C. Henderson, of Lincoln, to the chair, and appointing Gen. George W. Logan, of Rutherford, and J. M. Newson, of Shelby, secretaries.

On motion of Mr. Holmesly, H. Cansler, Esq., of Lincoln, was invited to explain the object of the meeting: whereupon Mr. C. arose, and thanking the meeting for the honor conferred upon him, courteously declined to speak, on the ground that, as it was a county meeting, an address from some gentleman of Cleaveland would, he thought, be more appropriate and acceptable.

Dr. Miller, of Cleaveland, then moved the appointment of a committee to prepare resolutions for the consideration of the meeting. In accordance with which, the Chair appointed Dr. Miller, Dr. Williams, Rev. A. J. Cansler, J. K. Irby and Wm. Roberts, Esqrs., who retired to prepare a report.

During the absence of the committee the meeting was entertained by Jas. H. White, Esq., of Gaston, and Gen. Bynum, of Rutherford, whose eloquent remarks, encouraging the enterprise, gave the highest satisfaction.

When the cheers following Gen Bynum's admirable address had subsided, Dr. Miller, as chairman of the Committee, offered the following:

Whereas, there was a charter granted by the last Legislature to build a Rail Road from Wilmington, via Charlotte, to Rutherfordton, to be known as the Wilmington, Charlotte and Rutherford Rail Road Company; and whereas, a laudable zeal has been manifested by the citizens of Mecklenburg, Lincoln, Gaston and Rutherford counties, to secure the charter; and whereas, we, the citizens of Cleaveland county, believe that, if the road be built, it should pass through the centre of this county, and we feel it our duty to aid in this, the greatest of all enterprises of the kind ever offered to us; knowing that, if said Road be completed, it must greatly enhance the value of our real estate and afford a market, at home, for all agricultural products; and seeing the great advantage that must necessarily follow; therefore,

*Resolved*, That the thanks of the citizens of this county are due, and are hereby tendered to the members of the Legislature who aided in passing the charter.

*Resolved*, That we, the citizens of Cleaveland county, feel it our duty to aid this great enterprise to the fullest extent.

Having offered the resolutions, Dr. Miller declining to make a speech, expressed a wish to hear the views of his friends from the adjoining counties, but being urged to keep the floor by some remarks on the resolutions, from Mr. Cansler, the Doctor contended, delivered an admirable Rail Road speech, giving the highest pleasure to the meeting, and doing much credit to his head and heart. He paid a high compliment to the members of the late Legislature, closing with a powerful appeal to the citizens of the county, who, he said, stood generally upon an equality, to unite all their means to secure the great boon so liberally offered them. The hearty cheering that followed Dr. Miller's speech indicated the enthusiasm that had been awakened in the meeting.

Dr Miller's speech was followed by appropriate speeches from Messrs. Cansler, White and Lander, after which the preamble and resolutions were passed unanimously.

On motion, the proceedings of the meeting, having the signatures of the Chairman and Secretaries, to whom the thanks were expressed, were ordered to be published in the Carolina Intelligencer, the Hoke'ville Express, and the Charlotte Democrat and Whig, with a request that they be copied by all others in the State friendly to the enterprise.

C. C. HENDERSON, Chairman.
G. W. LOGAN, }
J. M. NEWSON, } Secretaries.

### IMPORTANT FROM HAVANA.

From private sources we have intelligence of a very important character from the Island of Cuba. Its nature, indeed, is such as in the first instance to have caused us to receive it with the strongest incredulity. Careful inquiries, however, convince us that the information is substantially correct. It is given to us, indeed, on such authority as leaves no room for us any longer to entertain the slightest doubt of that fact. The gentlemen who furnished us with it came passengers on the the Philadelphia, and are educated, intelligent and reliable citizens.

The intelligence is that a decree issued at Madrid, that is by the Queen of Spain and her Government, has reached Cuba and been published there, in which it is ordered that in the event of a fillibuster expedition landing, or attempting to land in Cuba, all Americans residing in the island, the United States consuls included, are to be immediately, and without distinction, placed under arrest!

So monstrous a proceeding as this, our readers will doubtless, as ourselves did, doubt that even Spanish presumption would enter on. We have the information, however, so circumstantially that we think that they cannot refuse to credit it, when we lay before them the particulars.

The gentlemen to whom we have referred as our informants, during their visit to Havana, naturally paid frequent visits to our acting consul, Col. Robertson. In the first instance, he cheerfully assured them that there was no danger whatever for them, if they conducted themselves with ordinary discretion on the Island. On their going to visit him, however, on the morning of the 10th instant, they found him considerably dispirited, and on mentioning that they contemplated leaving in the Philadelphia, he said he was glad of it, and wished that every American would do so, as they were no longer safe on the island, and as his reason, he translated the decree to them in the terms above given, informing them that he had just had it officially sent to him.

It is believed, however, that this decree is not new? Mr. Soule and our Government are said to have been in possession of it for sometime. If this be so, we apprehend that the preparations making to increase our naval force in the Gulf have a reference to the fact, and we really anticipate a collision with Spain before long. Surely, at least, such an indignity, as even the menace to carry out such a proceeding as this, will not be submitted to with indifference by our Government.

A NEW TERRITORY PROPOSED.—The territorial legislature of New Mexico, it is said, is about to memoralize Congress to erect a new territory out of its southern portion.

"The name suggested and recommended in the memorial is Pimeria, which was originally the name of the region now proposed to be erected into a new territory.

"The present territory is about eight hundred miles long by six hundred and fifty broad, with a superficial area of 520,000 square miles, inhabited by about 100,000 people. It is settled principally in its central portion, from the north to the south line, and has, besides, a large population in the territory lately acquired from Mexico, extending from the Rio Grande to near the California Gulf. Within this newly acquired territory there are several towns, formerly in the Mexican States of Chihuahua and Sonora. That portion now proposed to be erected into a new territorial organization is far removed from Santa Fe, the seat of government. The Jornado del Muerto intervenes. There is much difficulty in extending and executing the laws over that region of country, on account of its distance from Santa Fe and the officers.

The territory proposed is said to possess vast agricultural and mineral resources, and to be capable of supporting a large population, and is claimed to be the finest pastoral country in the world. The Climate is mild and salubrious."

"If Congress should endorse this measure and create the Territory as prayed for, it will contain a larger population at the time of its erection into a Territory than either Oregon, Washington, Minnesota, Kansas, or Nebraska Territories had at the time of their erection. Much the larger portion of the land in Pimeria is public domain."

INSURANCE LOSSES.—We have made it rather a matter of curiosity to look at the several returns made by the different insurance offices throughout the country, and we find that the correctness of the statement made by all the officers, that for some four or five years past there has been a large yearly increase in the amount of losses, with the same or nearly the same amount of property at risk, is fully sustained by well authenticated facts. We have before us a statistical table exhibiting the amount of marine and fire losses paid from 1850 to 1854 inclusive, by fourteen fire and marine offices of Boston, from which we learn that the losses paid by these companies during the five years included in the returns, reach the large sum of $9,066,635.31, of which sum $7,675,424.80 was paid on marine losses.

The largest amount ($1,817,219.76) paid during the five years by any one of these offices, fell upon the Neptune office.

The losses in the year 1850 by these offices were equal to 31 per cent on the capital, and in 1854, to 65 per cent on the capital.—*New Orleans Bulletin.*

AMERICAN OFFICERS GOING TO SEBASTOPOL.—We find the following in the Tribune of this morning:

We learn that the Administration at Washington have detached Col. Richard Delafield; of the engineers, Major Alfred Mordecai, of the ordnance, and Capt. Geo. B. McClelland, of the cavalry, on a special duty, to proceed to Sebastopol, to inspect the works there and view the operations of the war. They are ordered to depart as soon as possible. We dare say they will have opportunities of seeing much that is new in the business of arms, and of bringing home with them some additions to the knowledge of military practice. As a matter of course, they will occupy a strictly neutral position, and we advise them to leave all to their official credentials. By this means, we do not doubt that they will be received by all the commanders at Sebastopol, both within and without the city, and allowed on all proper occasions, to go unmolested from one side to the other.

ANOTHER GREYTOWN AFFAIR.—We are enabled to state, on reliable authority, that the most serious difficulties are apprehended in relation to a controversy between our resident minister and the Nicaraguan government and that active measures are in preparation to redress the grievances, an account of which has been received here in despatches from our minister. These despatches were addressed to Commodore Delany, and contained a request that some government vessel on this station should be immediately despatched to San Juan del Sud, Nicaragua, for the protection of American residents there, and the redress of various outrages on our national flag. These despatches were opened by Commander Farragut, who took the responsibility of doing so, as the senior officer on this station.

We understand that in consequence of the contents of these despatches, the U. States sloop of war St. Marys is to put to sea as soon as she can be got ready, under secret orders for San Juan del Sud. We may be in the possession of further particulars within a few days; but the intelligence which we give to the public this morning is perfectly reliable as far as it goes.—*Pic California.*

SINGULAR DEATH.—Mr. W. H. Whittaker, of Cincinnati, while at breakfast, on the 13th inst. eating a piece of bread, swallowed a hard substance, which lodged near the stomach. Soon after it created so much pain that he took an emetic, and on the next day threw the substance up. It proved to be a piece of shingle nail, about half an inch long, which had been broken, and was sharp and ragged at both ends. It appeared to have been part of a nail used in securing the hoops of a flour barrel, which had got into the flour, and thence into the bread. After the nail came up, Mr. W. was easy for two or three days, but afterwards died of inflammation.

THE TURPENTINE BUSINESS IN GEORGIA AND ALABAMA.—The old North State is likely to encounter formidable rivals in the production of her staple crop in some of her more Southern sisters. Thousands of acres in the Southern sections of Georgia and Alabama, and in Florida, which up to a few years ago were considered worthless, except for range, are now coming into market at an enhanced value, for the production of turpentine. Extensive "orchards" have already been opened, where convenient approach to market could be obtained, and the extension of the railroad lines which have been projected through the sections spoken of will open a trade of prime importance in that business.—*Soil of the South.*

PEA NUTS.—The Norfolk Herald states that within a year just closed, $20,000 worth of pea nuts have been shipped from that city to the North, through the agency of a single house.