

28th Congress—1st Session. IN SENATE.

Tuesday, Jan. 9.—Mr Evans from the Finance Committee said he had been instructed by a majority of the Committee to ask that the Committee be discharged from the further consideration of the bill to revive the Compromise Act. He said that the Committee had come to the conclusion that the Senate could not, under the Constitution, consider such a bill, it being a bill to raise revenue, in the opinion of the Committee; and he offered a resolution to that effect, and one that the bill be indefinitely postponed; and the consideration of these resolutions was postponed till Thursday.

Considerable debate occurred on a resolution to give notice to Great Britain that the U. States desire that the Treaty for the joint occupation of Oregon territory should cease, and England draw off her Hudson Bay Company. The resolution was postponed.

The bill from the House to refund Genl. Jackson's fine was read twice and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Wednesday, January 10.—The principal topic of discussion to-day was the bill in relation to the Pea Patch Island. The bill refers the subject to Mr Horace Blandy, of Philadelphia, as umpire, but some of the Senators were for having the question decided by the Courts—during the discussion of which the Senate adjourned.

Thursday, Jan. 11.—Nothing of importance transpired in the Senate to-day. After sitting in secret session, the Senate adjourned till Monday.

Monday, Jan. 15.—After the disposal of several unimportant matters, the Senate, at half past twelve, went into Executive Session on the Cabinet nominations.

Tuesday, Jan. 16.—Mr Berrien from the Judiciary Committee, among other bills, reported one to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to compromise with the societies of St. S. Swartout.

The Senate then went into executive session on the remaining cabinet nominations. IN THE HOUSE.

Tuesday, Jan. 9.—Mr Deau introduced a bill reducing the pay of members of Congress, &c.

The order of the day was then called for, which was the consideration of the report of the Committee on Rules. That Committee had reported the old rules of the last House, with the exception of the 21st or Abolition Rule, which rejected abolition petitions. Mr Wise asked leave to present a minority report, which was granted. It was then moved that the whole matter be laid on the table, which motion was lost.

The House then resolved itself into Committee of the Whole for the purpose of referring the different parts of the President's Message to appropriate Committees. The debate then took a sectional cast, every man putting in the claims of his section to improvement of its rivers, and the Committee rose without accomplishing any thing, and the House adjourned.

Tuesday, Jan. 10.—Genl. McKay, with the consent of the House, reported a bill making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Indian Department, and for fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes, for the fiscal year, commencing the 1st July, 1844, ending the 30th June, 1845.

The bill was read twice, and committed to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union.

Mr McK. next reported a bill making appropriations for the support of the Military Academy for the fiscal year ending the 30th June, 1845.

It was read twice, and committed to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union.

Mr McK. likewise reported a bill making appropriations for the support of the army for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1845; which was read twice, and committed to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union.

Mr McKay further reported a bill making appropriations for the civil and diplomatic expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending the 30th June 1845; which was read twice and committed to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union.

GENERAL RETRENCHMENT. Mr McKay, submitted a series of resolutions, as follows, which were agreed to:

Resolved, That the Committee on Foreign Affairs be instructed to inquire, and report to this House, whether, with a view to the diminution of public expenditures, and without any injury to the public service, the grade of some of the representatives of our Government abroad may not be reduced; and if so, what reduction of this description may, in the opinion of the Committee, be safely made. Also, whether representatives now existing of any character, may not be safely dispensed with at any and what place now so represented. And, also, whether some alteration in the law in relation to the compensation of our diplomatic agents abroad, and especially in relation to their outfits and allowances, may not safely be made, which will have a tendency to check the too frequent changes taking place in the appointments of those public officers.

Resolved, That the Committee on Territories be instructed to inquire and report to this House what have been the expenses annually paid out of the Treasury of the United States for the courts of the United States within the several Territories, including the salaries of the judges, and all other expenses growing out of the organization and the holding of such courts for each of the three terri-

ories for the last four years; also, into the expediency of restricting the jurisdiction of the federal courts within the Territories within the limits prescribed for the same courts within the States, and for the reduction of the number of circuits and districts, and the number of judges and marshals, and all other officers of those courts, to conform to the business so limited; and further, for the establishment of territorial courts within territorial jurisdiction, to be organized and paid as the Legislative Councils of the respective Territories may prescribe and direct; and that they report by bill or otherwise.

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary be instructed to make the following inquiries in relation to the expenditures from the public treasury for the incidental and contingent expenditures of the judiciary, namely:

1st. Whether the per diem compensation allowed to district attorneys, marshals, and clerks, may not be wholly withheld without any injury to the public service; and if not, whether such compensation may not be wholly withheld in some circuits and districts, and materially reduced in all, without such injury.

2d. What sums are annually paid in the various circuits and districts of the United States for rents or otherwise, as compensation for the use of courthouses or other buildings by the various courts of the U. States during the respective sittings or terms; and the terms or sittings held annually, and their average duration for the years for which the payments for rent have been made; and whether some restrictions and regulations in reference to those payments, as well to produce uniformity as to promote economy, should not be made by law.

3d. What have been the reasons for the great and rapid increase of those expenditures within the last few years; generally, how the moneys appropriated for those objects have been expended; for what services the principal payments have been made; upon what vouchers and testimonials the accounts for those expenditures are passed at the treasury; what reduction of expenditure may be made in this branch of the public service with safety and propriety; and whether any, and what, alterations should be made in the laws regulating the accounting for those appropriations.

Resolved, That the Committee on Public Lands be instructed to inquire—

1st. Whether the office of Secretary, created by the act of 4th July, 1836, to sign, in the name of the President of the U. States, patents for lands, may not be abolished; and, if necessary, the duty of signing said patents be performed by some officer in the office of the Commissioner of the General Land office.

2d. Whether the two keepers of the public archives in Florida, authorized by the act of 3d March, 1825, may not be dispensed with, and the said archives transferred either to the office of the Commissioner of the General Land office, or to some public office in the Territory aforesaid.

3d. Whether the provisions of the act of the 12th June, 1840, may not be so modified as to allow the consolidation of two or more surveying districts whenever the remaining surveys therein could, in the opinion of the Secretary of the Treasury, be completed under the surveyor general of one of them; and also, of allowing the discontinuance of said offices whenever the expenses exceed 20 per cent. of the annual amount of sales, and annexing the lands unsold to some other offices; and

4th. Whether, in consequence of the diminished sales of the public lands and other causes, the number of clerks and other officers attached to the office of the Commissioner of the General Land Office may not be greatly reduced.

Resolved, That the Committee on Public Buildings be instructed to inquire into the expediency of authorizing the collection of reasonable tolls from travellers over the Potomac bridge, for the purpose of providing for the necessary repairs and maintenance of said bridge, including the compensation of draw-keepers and other attendants; that said committee also inquire into the management of the penitentiary of this District, and the causes why it has not heretofore supported itself, and whether any changes in the laws provided for its government are necessary to insure greater economy in its administration, consistently with the object for which it was established.

Resolved, That the Committee on Commerce be instructed to inquire into the causes of the recent increase in the number of desertions and discharges of American seamen in foreign countries; whether the laws passed for their relief have been executed or not; and especially whether the act of the 28th February, 1803, which requires the payment of three months' extra wages in certain cases, has been complied with; and, if not, then to inquire into the expediency of imposing a penalty on the master of the vessel for his refusal or neglect to pay said wages to the consul; and also of imposing a penalty on the consul for his refusal or neglect to account for the same, or of requiring said wages to be paid in the first instance to collectors, and by them accounted for to the treasury, to constitute a fund for the relief and protection of American seamen.

Resolved, further, That said committee inquire into the expediency of amending the act of 1790, so that the forfeiture of a seaman's wages and effects for desertion shall accrue to the United States, and not to the owner of the vessel, to be applied in aid of the fund aforesaid.

The Report of the Committee on Rules again came up and was debated some time. The House then went into Committee of the Whole on referring to appropriate Committees certain portions of the President's Message, but after some debate the Committee rose and the House adjourned without taking any action.

Wednesday, Jan. 11.—A petition from certain citizens of Lockport had been presented, and referred to the Committee on the District of Columbia, but it was afterwards found that the petition contained a preamble asking

for a revision of the laws of the District of Columbia in regard to slavery, and Mr Campbell of S. Carolina, from that Committee, introduced a resolution that the petition be returned to the gentleman who presented it, (Mr Giddings.) After squabbling, the resolution was passed, 116 yeas 60 nays, Mr Clingman of North Carolina, voting against returning it to the person who presented it.

The Report of the Committee on Rules again came before the House, and Messrs Rhett and Bidlack took the floor, and spoke on the right of petition; after which the House went into Committee of the Whole on referring certain portions of the President's Message in relation to the improvement of the western rivers, to an appropriate Committee. The debate was of a sectional character altogether.

Friday, Jan. 12.—The Report of the Committee on Rules was again before the House to-day, and the whole debate was upon the reception or rejection of the 21st or Abolition rule; some contending that the rule done more harm than good to the South, and others that it is the only safe-guard, &c., &c.

The subject of the reference of the President's Message was also debated in Committee.

Saturday, Jan. 13. Mr Payne's resolution was adopted, directing the Committee on Elections to consider the expediency of amending the Constitution, so as to have all the votes for the election of President and Vice President, cast on the same day.

Mr Wilkins, from the select committee appointed to consider the petition of Wm Jones, a colored man now in our jail on the assumption that he is a fugitive slave, made a report accompanied by a bill. The bill was read twice and committed. It is understood to provide that hereafter it shall be required of the person claiming an alleged fugitive slave, to prove his property.

A report on the same subject was also made from the minority of the committee.

After the disposal of several other matters, the House resumed the consideration of the motion to postpone the consideration of the report of Mr Adams from the select committee on the rules.

After the reception of some executive communications, the House went into committee, and resumed the consideration of the resolutions referring the President's Message.

Mr Jameison spoke until the time for adjournment, without any question being taken.

Monday, Jan. 15.—Mr Black gave notice of a bill to amend the Oregon bill so as to include the annexation of Texas.

Mr Cave Johnson introduced a bill to repeal the duty on salt. It was twice read and referred.

A resolution was adopted, instructing the committee on Ways and Means to consider the expediency of repealing a bill to reduce the salaries of all Government officers.

Tuesday, Jan. 16.—Mr McKay from the committee on ways and means, reported the following bills, which were twice read, and referred to a committee of the whole: A bill making appropriation for the naval service of the present year. A bill making appropriation for certain fortifications. A bill making appropriation for the payment of Revolutionary aid and other pensions.

Mr Davis, from the committee on public lands, reported a bill to repeal the Distribution Act.

From the N. Y. American. Extract of a letter received by the last steamer from England, written by one who is a close observer of "the fashions of the day."

After the battle of Waterloo, it was quite a common thing for many of the 'spoils' and 'bloods' of London, to tie up an arm or a leg, and turn out for an airing in the Park, as a wounded officer from that battle field; but who, during that fight, had not been out of hearing of 'Bow-bells.' The thing took for a time, and many a fair lady 'oh'd' and 'ah'd' in sympathy and admiration, as one of these un-hurt, but bandaged tricksters went limping by. 'There goes a poor fellow who bled at Waterloo,' says one. 'Where,' says another, 'do let me get a sight at him.' And men, too, raised their hats, and bowed in thankful recognition to the unknown but wounded officer of Waterloo.

It was not an uncommon thing, too, for many families to close their doors and windows, and hang out habiliments of woe, in imitation of those who really had lost husband, father, or brother, at that great fight. 'To be in the fashion, is a great thing in England; and whether it was this propensity, or something a kin to it, it may be remembered that when the beloved Princess Charlotte met her sad end—there never was known before or since so many mishaps in the family way, as on that occasion in England.

One thousand single women, and three thousand married, (according to report) had all miscarried. The present Queen, God bless her, I am happy to say, is most fortunate in setting a more agreeable fashion; and while she satly presents to her people a prince or a princess annually, they in turn, and as safely, furnish her new subjects by thousands.

As before said, not to be in the fashion here, is to be almost nothing. So, of late, it has become the fashion to have lost large sums of money in 'American States Bonds; and thousands that never owned one, announce or hint that the cause of their downfall, and the sale of their carriages and plate is wholly arising from the 'devaluations of States.'

'Mrs Simpkins, have you heard that poor Mrs Snooks has gone to country lodgings, and quit town?' 'Is it possible?' 'Yes, my dear—all's gone—the States of the Yankees have all failed; but she is not the only sufferer. Lord and Lady Frump, and nearly all the Frumps, have lost most dreadfully—so that is some consolation to poor Mrs Snooks. It would otherwise have broken her heart. Some folks do say that young Snooks got rid of his mother's money at Lord John Shuffie's whist parties; but this is scandal, my dear,

real scandal, I assure you. It is all owing to those wretched democrats over the water.' And so it goes the rounds, and has become the fashion.

There is no doubt that many, many families here, as in the United States, have been and are seriously injured by the unhappy inability of the States to meet their engagements. And so, no doubt, hundreds and thousands were sadly wounded at Waterloo—and so also, no doubt, many good women did suffer a similar misfortune to that which deprived the nation of an adored princess. But all I mean to say is—there is a very strong suspicion that fashion puts in for a large share, and that many go about in these days, deploring their misfortunes—which, if traced to their real origin, would be found to have arisen from very different causes, than that of investments in State Bonds, which they announce as the only reason of their downfall. But this is the fashion of the day; and until Brother Jonathan pays up faithfully, he must submit to the odium, real and feigned.



NORTH-CAROLINIAN.

Wm. H. Bayne, Editor and Proprietor.

FAYETTEVILLE.

Saturday Morning, January 20, 1844

DEMOCRATIC TICKET.

FOR GOVERNOR—

MICHAEL HOKE,

Of Lincoln County.

MARKET.—The Cotton fever has slightly abated in this market, and we now give 92 cts. per lb. as the highest point, but it is the going rate. It is a fact which deserves notice, that Cotton has commanded better prices in Fayetteville than in most of the inland towns in the Southern country, and has in some instances approached very nearly the Charleston, Savannah and Augusta prices. The latest news from New York shows that our merchants have been paying more than New York prices for a long time, although the article continues to advance in New York, and was at 10 cts. by the latest intelligence. The sales had been very large for the week ending on Saturday 13th.

Pork goes at 4 cts. But not much coming in. Other articles about the same as last week.

RUMOR.—The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun says:

'I understand that the Calhoun members have in type a manifesto, in which they set forth their grievances, and secede from all further connexion with the Van Buren members.'

THE PROSPECT BRIGHTENS.—We find in the Pennsylvania, a letter from Col. Seth Salisbury, (said to be an intimate bosom friend of Col. R. M. Johnson,) addressed to the democrats of Pennsylvania, from which we make the following extract:

'It has been intimated that Col. Johnson would not permit his name to be used for the Vice Presidency. The "Kentucky Yeoman," a paper lavishing the confidence of Col. Johnson, contradicts this suggestion, and we know that Col. Johnson will not decline any honor or trust assigned him by the people of the U. States. On this subject we speak authoritatively, nor can we doubt that the entire democracy of the "Keystone State" would hail with pride and pleasure the nomination of Van Buren and Johnson.'

BRIGHTER STILL!—In the Lincoln County Courier, we find an article commenting on the remarks of a writer in the Rutherford paper, which writer it appears has made the candid confession that "THE MOUNTAIN WHIGS ARE BLINDLY AND RECKLESSLY PREPARING TO GIVE MR HOKE THEIR HEARTY SUPPORT."

Is that not good news from the West? Furnished, too, by a writer in a whig paper.

RETRENCHMENT.—It will be seen by Genl. McKay's resolutions, (under the Congressional head) that the Committee of Ways and Means appear to be going to work in earnest, at the business of retrenchment. God speed them!

NOTICE.—Those gentlemen in favor of wearing Mustachios, will please meet at Barber Nelson's this evening at early candle-rise.

N. B.—Gentlemen who can't raise whiskers are earnestly requested to attend.

P. S.—Those in favor of a goatee are also solicited to attend.

CONFIRMATIONS AND REJECTIONS.—The Washington papers of Friday state that the Senate spent some time on Thursday in executive session, and confirmed the nominations of Mr Carr, Charge d'Affaires at Constantinople, Mr Rencher, Charge d'Affaires at Portugal, and Mr Green, (son of General Duff Green,) as Secretary of Legation at Mexico; and rejected Mr Profit as Minister to Brazil. Mr Profit, the reader will recollect, is now at Rio Janeiro, but had not yet, at the last accounts, been presented to the Emperor as the successor of Mr Hunter, who had long been the Minister of the U. States at that Court.

The late rains have so swollen that time-honored stream, Cross Creek, that all the mills have been stopped. We are informed that at the Cool Spring Mill, the water was 12 feet higher than usual.

The Globe says that Mr Henshaw's nomination as Secretary of the Navy has been rejected by the Senate by a heavy vote.

The Postmaster at Natchez writes to the Department at Washington, under date of the 6th December, that it had been raining there incessantly for six weeks.

Some three weeks ago, the Observer charged that a "locofoco Legislature" of Massachusetts, passed the resolution (which was presented to Congress recently by Mr Adams) for the abrogation of the clause in the Constitution of the United States, containing the slave basis of representation. We denied the charge, stating that we would prove the Observer wrong or make a proper recantation. We have not yet been able to get as full information as we expect to get, but here follows such as we have obtained. The following letter is from a member of Congress of Massachusetts, and as far as it goes, is probably correct; but it will be seen by this letter, and also by the article from the Albany Argus, that the transactions in regard to the passage of the resolution have yet to be obtained by us, and until then we cannot judge further of the matter:

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9, 1844.

Dear Sir: I have received yours of the 4th inst., making some inquiries as to the political character of the last Legislature of Massachusetts, and in relation to the passage of a resolution on the subject of the slave basis of representation. The House of Representatives, consisting of about 350 members, was balanced between the two parties. A whig Speaker was chosen by one majority after several trials. Subsequently, after the contested elections were decided, there was a majority on the democratic side of two or three members. The Senate was democratic by a large majority, the vacancies having been filled by democrats chosen in Convention of the two branches of the Legislature. I do not know the exact particulars of the passage of the resolution referred to. I believe, however, it passed by general acquiescence, with little or no debate. As the subject has recently attracted much attention, the particulars with regard to it will undoubtedly appear in the Boston papers. I regret that I cannot be more definite in giving the information you wish. Respectfully, your obt. servt.

WM. PARMENTER.

From the Albany Argus.

THE MASSACHUSETTS RESOLUTIONS.

Great stress has been laid by the whig presses upon the fact that the Massachusetts resolutions, which were the subject of the latest abolition flurry in the House of Representatives, were passed by the same Legislature which elected Marcus Morton Governor—as if their coming from such a source must needs step the mouths of the democratic press in reference to the course of Mr Adams and the abolition agitators in Congress at this and preceding sessions. But the history of these resolutions, it seems, is yet to be written; and when all the facts come out, we suspect it will come out also that they were of whig origin exclusively, got up for political effect at the heel of the late session, and spirited through, as such doings sometimes are, to the surprise of many of those under whose supposed sanction they purport to have been passed. Que, at least, of the members of the Massachusetts Legislature, it appears, was ignorant of the existence of any such resolutions, until Mr Adams drew them out of his magazine of combustibles, fired the fuse, and threw them into the House of Representatives. The New York Evening Post of Tuesday says:

'The history of these resolutions is singular enough. A member of the Massachusetts Legislature informs me that he was not aware that any such resolutions existed, until Mr Adams sent them to the chair. He accounts for their production, by supposing that, at one close of the last session of the State Legislature, some whig, full of zeal for the cause of obtaining the votes of the abolition party for Mr Biggs, brought in these resolutions, by way of a coup de main. The opposite party could only elude the unexpected trick by passively allowing the resolutions to pass.'

The Augusta Constitutionalist publishes an extract from a Boston paper of 1820, containing certain resolutions passed by a "General Meeting" held in that town, at which Daniel Webster was present and addressed the meeting in favor of the resolutions. The following are two of the resolutions out of eight:

Resolved, That we have regarded with pleasure the establishment and success of manufactures among us—and consider their growth, when natural and spontaneous, and not the effect of a system of bounties and protection, as an evidence of wealth and prosperity.

Resolved, That no objection ought ever to be made to any amount of taxes equally proportioned and imposed for the purpose of raising revenue necessary for the support of government—but that taxes imposed on people for the sole benefit of any one class of men are equally inconsistent with the principles of our constitution and with sound policy.

That's democratic doctrine. Where's Daniel Webster now?

MAINE.—The Legislature of this State met on the 4th inst. Gov. Fairfield having been elected to the Senate of the U. States, Hon. Hugh J. Anderson was elected to fill his place.

It would, perhaps, not be amiss to mention that Gen. Alfred Dockery has been selected by the District Convention of the whigs of the 4th Congressional District, as a delegate to the whig National Convention; and Mr Julian E. Leach, alternate.

NEW.—Mr John Wise asks Congress to appropriate money to make him a balloon, 100 feet in diameter, of cotton drilling, in which he pledges himself to circumnavigate the world, aerially, in the space of 30 or 40 days. Congress will hardly do it.

A POSITION DEFINED.

Wm. C. Rives, a U. S. Senator from Va., has written a long letter, ostensibly to a Mr Somebody in "Hanover," but really to the public in general, containing what no doubt his self conceit leads him to believe is very important information, that he intends to support Mr Clay for the Presidency.

This same Mr Rives went might and main for "Tip and Ty," but finding at last that he had only been working for Mr Clay, and that none of the spoils "entured to his (Rives) benefit," he quit the whig party, and threw himself in the market; since which no one has bid for him; and finding another Presidential campaign coming on, he has again volunteered on the whig side. This is the same Wm. C. Rives that the Richmond Whig once proclaimed ought to be "whipped with a lash of scorpions"!!

The Richmond Enquirer says, and we believe, with much truth, that Mr Rives cannot influence a dozen men. His letter contains many falshoods and misrepresentations, which were it worth the trouble, we could prove to be such, but really, himself and his letter are of too little consequence to require such notice. He was not with us in 1840, and therefore we lose nothing; and it is a matter of some doubt if his loss is not a gain to any party. We happened to have some railroad conversation with him not many years since, which in a manner disposed of us with the man, and we could not like the politician, if he were on our own side; and this confirms us in the opinion expressed by the Richmond Enquirer, that his weight "is that of a feather in point of influence." The Richmond Enquirer further says:

'But Mr Rives will win no honor by his shameful abandonment of all his old principles, and his adhesion to Mr Clay. The Richmond Whig may affect to praise his positions. It may be impudent enough to declare, that "Mr Rives has been brought to his conclusions by the clearest convictions of right, and the strongest personal attachments." The Whig forgets the declaration of the whig orator, who declared but four rights (200, in reference to this expected letter, that it it were left to him, he would stand with a broadsword in his hand, and keep such men from the whig camp, and how them in pieces. We tell, too, to the declarations of some of the whigs upon the streets, that they held the Captain and Wm. C. Rives alike in character and conduct—as traitors.

Some of his present allies know, and estimate his motives more correctly than the R. Whig affect to do. Witness the following extract of a letter from the Washington correspondent of the New Orleans Bee, on the 24th December:

'I learn this evening, that Mr Rives of Virginia, speaks decidedly in favor of Mr Clay's election. He probably sees the movements in Virginia, and thinks it prudent to take the wave upon the comb. A decided movement of the fence men is always the strongest evidence of the preponderance of the scale into which they jump. No men watch the signs of the times with a closer observation and cautious scrutiny than they, and no men more perceive from what quarter the wind is about to set.'

How well this whig scribbler knows Mr Rives, the public will judge.

The whigs of the 4th District go it for a National Bank, Distribution, Clay, &c. Well, that is right; give us your principles, and if you can't us, we submit.

From the Raleigh Standard.

CAPE FEAR AGENCY AT SALEM.

Mr Holden: No notice, it appears, has been taken of the charge made by me, through your paper, some weeks since, against the Agent of the Cape Fear Bank at Salem. This silence may, I suppose, be taken as a confession of the allegations made. I certainly did think, however, that the President and Directors of the Mother Bank, who have control of the Agent at Salem, would have ordered a full and thorough investigation.

I now, sir, distinctly and clearly reiterate the charge. I state, and it can be proved, that a democrat, who applied to be Agent of the Cape Fear Bank at Salem for a loan, was told by that Agent that democrats must not come there for money, and that there was not money enough to loan to the friends of the Bank. I await the action of the controlling power.

A SUBSCRIBER.

Stokes County, Jan. 6, 1844.

For the Charleston.

Capt. BAYNE: I have just returned from the River, where I have been to join many of our citizens, consisting of Merchants, Farmers, Mechanics, Lawyers, and Doctors, by the special invitation of our enterprising & industrious fellow citizen, Capt. Boyce O'Hanlon, in a glass of fine, rich, and sparkling wine on board the new steambot WILLIAM B. MEARES, which was launched partly by floating off the dock in a freshet now in the River, about 3 o'clock A. M. on Friday. She is a splendid boat. She could not be otherwise, being built by Mr. Joshua H. Thomas, the builder of the steamer Fayetteville. The William B. Meares is 127 feet long on deck, 23 feet beam, clear of guards, and 7 1/2 feet hull, three very large boilers under deck; a splendid engine set to be put in by Capt. Rothwell, (who stands unrivalled as an Engineer.) She is well timbered of the best and strongest quality, her model is calculated in point of strength for sea. Accommodation for freight and low water—drawing only 2 feet when light—and is yet to be finished in the best style for the comfort of passengers. This is the fourth Steamboat built by Capt. O'Hanlon, and speaks volumes for his enterprising industry and enterprise. The following were their names: the John Walker, Duncaen McRae, Cotton Plant, (now plying on the River,) and the William B. Meares, which is intended, when finished, for the Charleston market.