

## COMMUNICATIONS.

## Cumberland County Democratic Meetings.

At a meeting of a large portion of the democratic party of Cumberland county, held at the Court House in Fayetteville on Monday the 6th instant, on motion of J. G. Shepherd, Esq., Hon. L. Bethune was called to the Chair, and on motion of Maj. J. H. Cook, Saml. E. Johnson and Wm. J. Yates were requested to act as Secretaries.

After a brief explanation of the object of the meeting by the Chairman, a committee of five, consisting of Warren Winslow, Saml. E. Johnson, John H. Cook, R. K. Bryan, and J. G. Shepherd, Esqs., were appointed to prepare resolutions for the action of the meeting.

The committee, after a short absence, returned and reported through their chairman, W. Winslow, Esq., the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

1. Resolved, That we cherish with unabated confidence the principles of the democratic party, and we pledge our best efforts to preserve them pure and uncontaminated.

2. Resolved, That a strict construction of the Constitution of the United States is essential to the preservation of the reserved rights of the States, and that we deem a rigid adherence thereto essential for the maintenance of our liberties.

3. Resolved, That the public lands should be held and managed by the General Government for the benefit of all the States, and that we are opposed to the distribution of them or of their proceeds among the States; nor will we sanction any disposition of the public domain, or any part of it, by Congress, other than such as might and ought to be adopted by a prudent proprietor thereof.

4. Resolved, That we are in favor of a tariff for revenue, and opposed to a tariff for protection, whereby manufacturing capitalists are benefited at the expense of the farmers of the country, and that we are in favor of making the tariff laws of the people as light as the wants of the General Government prudently and economically administered will admit.

5. Resolved, That we approve the bill now before Congress for the establishment of the territories of Nebraska and Kansas, and especially that portion of it which declares void and inoperative the legislation of 1820, restricting slavery from the territory of the U. States.

6. Resolved, That President Pierce, in his administration of the Government thus far, has justified the confidence reposed in him by the American people, and that we regard the position taken by him in favor of the bill for the organization of Nebraska and Kansas, as furnishing renewed evidence of his devotion to the Constitution and to the equal rights of all the States.

7. Resolved, That we are in favor of amending the Constitution of North Carolina so as to allow all citizens who may be qualified voters for members of the House of Commons, to vote also for members of the Senate, and that the best method of effecting this change is, in our judgment, by Legislative action, and that we urge by the popular vote in the mode pointed out by the Constitution.

8. Resolved, That Governor David S. Reid is entitled to our lasting gratitude for his able and patriotic administration of our State Government, as well as for his untiring advocacy of the great principle of Free Suffrage, and that in his retirement from the office of Governor he will have our best wishes for his future prosperity.

9. Resolved, That we approve the proposition to hold a State Convention in the City of Raleigh on the 19th of April next, for the purpose of nominating a Democratic candidate for Governor of the State, and that the Chairman of this meeting appoint fifty delegates to represent Cumberland County in said Convention.

10. Resolved, That whilst recognizing the claims of other distinguished democrats to consideration, we would respectfully recommend to the State Convention the Hon. John W. Ellis of Rowan, as a gentleman eminently qualified for the office of Governor. We pledge ourselves nevertheless, to abide by the decision of the Convention and to give to its nominee a zealous and hearty support.

Eloquent and interesting remarks were then made by Neil McKay, Bartholomew Fuller, M. J. McDuffie, and C. G. Wright, Esqs.

In accordance with the 9th resolution, the Chairman appointed the following gentlemen as delegates to the State Convention:

Col. A. Murchison, Saml. E. Johnson, David McDuffie, C. H. Condit, Jno. L. Bethune, Archibald Cameron, Col. Nathan King, Dr. John C. Williams, M. J. McDuffie, Capt. J. D. Lander, Bartholomew Fuller, A. J. Dewar, James A. Johnson, James Williams, Lovet Ryals, Geo. W. Pegg, Joseph Ayer, James McKetton, Arthur Horne, Kelly Sessoms, S. H. Holly, J. G. Shepherd, Arthur Melvin, Wm. Cade, Warren Winslow, R. K. Bryan, R. K. Bryan, Wm. Cade, Neil McKay, David Murphy, Duncan Shaw, Jas. Byrne, John H. Cook, Col. David Gillis, Edw. Spearman, Col. R. D. Hicks, Neil Graham, John McKetton, David Geo. C. G. Wright, John Condit, Alex. McDonald, D. J. C. G. Wright, Henry R. King, Neil McKay, Col. Stewart, G. W. Lawrence, Wm. J. Kelly, Archd. McKetton, C. S. Barbee, Archd. McCollins, B. F. Shaw.

R. K. Bryan, Esq., offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That in the death of Hon. Robert Strange, late our fellow citizen and neighbor, society has lost one of its most useful members, the country one of its most patriotic citizens, and the democratic party one of its most devoted and efficient members.

The following resolution was submitted by Saml. E. Johnson, and adopted without a dissenting voice:

Resolved, That this meeting recommend to the democrats of the different Captains' Districts in the county, to hold meetings in their respective districts and to appoint delegates to a Convention to be held at Fayetteville on the Monday of next Superior Court (being the 15th day of May,) for the purpose of nominating candidates to represent Cumberland County in the Senate and House of Commons of the next General Assembly.

On motion of Maj. Cook,

Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be published in the North Carolinian, and that the Raleigh Standard and Wilmington Journal be requested to copy.

Thanks were then tendered to the Chairman and Secretaries, and the meeting adjourned.

L. BETHUNE, Chm.

S. E. JOHNSON, Secretaries.

WM. J. YATES, )

For the Carolinian.

A Tribute of Respect.

At a meeting of the Bar, held in the Court House in Fayetteville on Thursday the 9th of March, on motion of Wm. B. Wright, Esq., was called to the Chair, and C. G. Wright, Esq., requested to act as Secretary.

On motion, the following gentlemen were appointed to draft resolutions: John Winslow, David Reid, and J. W. Evans, Esqs., who reported through their chairman, Mr. Winslow, the following resolutions:

Whereas it has pleased Almighty God, in his inscrutable providence, to remove from our midst the Hon. Robert Strange, who, for the

last thirty-nine years, has been a distinguished member and ornament of this Bar,

Resolved, That we deeply deplore his death as a loss to his country, in whose councils he has often borne a prominent and patriotic part; to his State, which he has often served with eminent and marked ability; and to this Bar, the scene of his first and last intellectual efforts.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to convey to the family of our deceased brother, the condolence of the Bar, and to assure them of our sincere sympathy with them in their affliction, and that the committee be requested to furnish them a copy of these proceedings.

Resolved, That J. G. Shepherd, Esq., be appointed to lay before the Justices of the County Court the proceedings of this meeting; and that James Banks, Esq., be appointed to make known the same to the next Superior Court of Cumberland; with a request that they be spread upon the minutes of those Courts respectively.

Resolved, That a copy of these proceedings be furnished to the editors of our different town papers, with a request that the same be published.

W. B. WRIGHT, Chm.

C. G. WRIGHT, Sec'y.

## LATER FROM EUROPE.

The steamship Nashville arrived at New York on the 5th, bringing two days later news from Europe.

The news by the Nashville is of a highly important character.

It details the enormous military and naval preparations going on under the auspices of both England and France for attacking Russia as well in the Baltic as in the Black Sea. A British contingent of ten thousand men were to sail (on Lord's steamship, especially hired for the purpose,) on the 18th, for Malta, there to rendezvous and to be held in readiness for military operations for the protection of Constantinople. Thirty-six British ships of the line and frigates, with ten or twelve French men-of-war of the largest class, were to assemble in the Downs on the 6th March for service in the Baltic.

In all the dockyards and arsenals of England and France the greatest activity prevailed.

The French ocean squadron under Admiral Brat had reached Algiers, and was embarking a division of the African army, amounting to 12,000 men; after which it was to sail for Tunis, where an English squadron and transports was to meet it, and take on board 30,000 French troops. Both squadrons, with an army of 42,000 men, would then proceed to the Levant, enter the Dardanelles, and disembark the troops at Silivri, near Rodosto, on the Sea of Marmora—a spot fixed upon as the best for the protection of the Bosphorus and Dardanelles.

It appears, however, that notwithstanding these extensive and tremendous preparations for war, fresh negotiations for peace were actually in progress, and that an autograph letter had been written by the Emperor Louis Napoleon, (with the consent of the British cabinet,) to the Emperor of Russia, proposing a fresh basis of negotiations. A reply to this proposition was expected to reach Paris by the 22d of February, and some persons professed themselves sanguine that these new efforts to preserve the tranquility of the world would not be unsuccessful. Others, (and these the majority of the English people,) thought that the Emperor would be glad at any price to gain time so as to strike his meditated blow at the Turks on the Danube, before any assistance could reach that point from the Western Powers. Generally great disgust at the prospect of any further negotiations was expressed, and a wish was generally entertained that war should be at once declared, and such measures taken as should speedily bring the Emperor of Russia to his senses, by means of a succession of vigorous operations against Sebastopol, Odessa, Cronstadt, and St. Petersburg.

According to the latest accounts, the British and French fleets were still at anchor in Beycos Bay. A telegraphic despatch from Constantinople affirms that the moment it was known that the English and French squadrons had returned to the Bosphorus, a division of the Russian fleet darted out, as before reported, and proceeded to attack Fort St. Nicholas, which had been taken by the Turks, and that after bombarding for four hours they were forced to retire. This news caused the greatest sensation at Constantinople, and a conference of the Ambassadors was held, at which it was determined that cruisers should be permanently kept in the Black Sea to prevent the repetition of a similar event. A fresh convoy of troops and stores for Batoum was to leave Constantinople, escorted by detachments from the French and British fleets, on the 2d February.

MARKETS.—At the Corn Market in Mark Lane on the 13th, there was a small show of English wheat, and the quantity was indifferent. The market was very flat, and the best qualities hung on hard, though offered at a decline of 2s. per quarter. Foreign wheat was very depressed at 1s. per quarter lower. The flour trade was very heavy, and sales of American made at 1s. 10d. per barrel lower. Barley, oats, and other grain flat and lower.

At Liverpool on the 14th, wheat was sold at about late rates, but flour was difficult to move at 1s. per barrel lower. Indian corn was freely offered at a reduction of 2s.

At the Liverpool cotton market, on the 13th, a large amount of business was transacted, and the sales reached 10,000 bales, for which 4,000 were for speculation and export. Prices well supported. Sales on the 14th, 8,000 bales, without change in prices.

LATER.—The steamer Alps has arrived, bringing news four days later than the above. Extensive preparations for war continue in all parts of England and France. Both people and soldiers are enthusiastic. Austria is thought to favor Russia.

The czar was crowding immense bodies of troops to the frontiers and in other respects augmenting his military strength, as if for a long and formidable struggle with the enemy.

A British steamer, the Haidee, with some Turkish troops on board, went ashore near Sebastopol, and has been seized by the Russians. Immense losses had been sustained in France by the fall of stocks produced by a false report of a warlike answer from the czar to the Emperor of France. No answer has been received. Cotton was firm, and in some instances with an advance of 1-16 of a penny. Sales of the week amounted to 41s. 9d. to 42s. 6d. Naval stores unchanged. Money market slightly stringent. Consols 91 1/2 to 91 3/4.

In these times of "Women's Rights" discussions, the following proposition of a waggoner writer in a London Magazine, will excite attention. It looks like "revolution and rebellion."

Let us widowers and bachelors form an association to declare, for the next hundred years, that we will make love no longer. Let the young women come and make love to us; let them write us verses; let them ask us to dance; get us ice and cups of tea, and if they are eligible, cloaks at the hall-door, and if they are eligible, we may perhaps be induced to yield and say: "La! Miss Hopkins!—I really never—, I am so agitated!—ask papa!"

## From the Washington Sentinel, March 4. Conviction of Dr. Gardner.—His Sentence and Death.

Dr. George A. Gardner, it will be recollected, was arrested between two and three years ago, charged with having obtained by fraud \$120,000 from the Mexican government, under an award of the Mexican board of commissioners, established in pursuance of the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, he presenting a claim to be reimbursed for alleged losses in Mexico, connected with the working of certain silver mines.

Last spring he was tried on the charge of "false swearing," but after the jury had been confined for about a week, they were unable to agree upon a verdict, and were discharged, nine being in favor of his acquittal, and three for conviction.

On the 12th of December last he was again arraigned on the same indictment, at the bar of the criminal court. The trial continued until Thursday afternoon, when the case was given to the jury, who yesterday morning, after an absence of twenty-two hours, returned to the court-room.

Their names were called, as follows: Albert P. Waugh, William Van Renswick, Alfred Ray, Charles I. Queen, John Howser, David Fauble, William Cammack, John Davidson, John E. Evans, Joseph Lyon, Thomas A. Talson, and John Murphy.

In response to the usual question of the clerk, the foreman replied that they had reached upon a verdict.

Many spectators were present, exhibiting intense anxiety to hear it, but a most awful pause in the proceedings until the arrival of Mr. Bradley, one of the counsel of the accused. When this gentleman came into court, he, together with his associate in the case, took a position near Dr. Gardner, who, it appeared to us from his manner and appearance, had a fearful apprehension of what the verdict was. But when he was directed to stand up and heard "Guilty" distinctly pronounced, his strength almost forsook him, and his countenance underwent a change, and a death-like paleness. All hope now had deserted him! The dreadful word had fallen like the doom of death upon his ear, shattered his heart, but late so hopeful. The spectators were far from being indifferent; their temporary stern and pallid faces afforded an index to the feeling which possessed them on that most painful occasion.

Mr. Bradley stated that the counsel had prepared to file a bill of exceptions and preferred to have judgment pronounced at once. Accordingly, Dr. Gardner being required to stand up and receive the sentence of the law, Judge Crawford addressed him as follows:

"You have been convicted by a jury of your country of the crime of false swearing, touching the expenditure of public money, and in support of a claim against the United States. Perjury, in its nature and general sense, strikes at the root of all the securities which society is bound to extend to and maintain around the citizen. The particular offense charged upon you and upon which the jury have passed, whether considered in reference to the complicated plot by which its objects were consummated, or to the amount of money obtained from the treasury on the award of the commissioners appointed to decide upon the claims under the treaty with Mexico of February, 1848, is one of unusual enormity.

"To address such observations, as must seem to every man who knows the circumstances that surrounded you, to a person of your conceded ability, would be useless or vain; useless, if they have arisen in your own mind; vain, if they have not. From your fate others should learn that no plan, however remote its origin, with whatever forecast laid, however stealthily or adroitly pursued for years, and at length executed, or with whatsoever success for a time attended, can be so cunningly devised as to escape detection. The unexampled ingenuity, or the network spread out on this trial, and the fact that it has been exposed at the last stage, ought not to fail of a beneficial effect in convincing all men that if they will trample on laws, human and divine, they shall suffer for it.

"The sentence of the court is, that you suffer in the penitentiary for the District of Columbia, imprisonment and labor for the period of ten years."

The judge then requested the marshal to take the prisoner into custody, and he was subsequently conveyed to the jail, but not until after Mr. Bradley had asked that the execution of the sentence be postponed until two days after the rising of the circuit court, to which the case would be carried on a bill of exceptions. The court assented, and a minute was ordered to be made on the record accordingly.

The intelligence of the finding of the jury immediately spread throughout the city and occasioned not a little surprise, the community being unprepared for the verdict, well remembering the history of the past in this case.

The public had secretly recovered from their surprise before it became known that a short time only after his arrival at the jail the prisoner was seized with violent convulsions, which continued several hours, and ended in death.

It is suspected that he swallowed poison, but of this there is no proof. Before venturing an opinion on this subject, we prefer to wait the post mortem examination of the body, which will take place to-day, by Dr. Semmes, the physician of the jail, together with Dr. Miller and Steiner.

The deceased was thirty-six years of age, of good appearance, and high intelligence; his manners were courteous, and, apart from the crime with which he was charged, he would probably have been considered a gentleman in any circle of society.

The sad occurrence has excited much commiseration in his behalf and affords a sad topic of comment among all classes of society.

A coroner's jury were summoned, and they examined several witnesses yesterday evening at the jail, their verdict will necessarily be deferred until after the contemplated post mortem examination.

The inquest has led to the opinion that he poisoned himself.

A better pistol than Colt's says the Boston Daily Courier, is now in the market, which is manufactured by, and the property of the Robbins & Lawrence Company, of Windsor, Vt. The pistol is entirely different from any ever before offered to the attention of the public. It is simple in the construction, has a revolving hammer instead of a revolutionary cylinder, which exposes the chambers and is not at all liable to become inoperative by corrosion or rust, as all the working parts are contained within the stock or breech, free from any contact with the exploding gas.

"THE WOMAN SOLDIER."—We have already mentioned that a petition was before Congress from Mrs. Elizabeth G. Smith of Missouri, for pay and bounty land, in reward for service rendered during the Mexican War. She performed a soldier's duty for ten months, before her sex was discovered, and was known in her company by the name of "Bill Newman." The Senate has awarded her 10 months wages, three months extra pay, and 160 acres of land.

## Terrible Explosion and Frightful Loss of Life.

Hartford, March 2.—At two o'clock to day the new steam boiler in False and Gray's car factory exploded, destroying the blacksmith-shop and engine room, and badly shattering the main building. Over 100 persons were in that part of the building.

The explosion was terrific, wrenching the powerful machinery, breaking down the walls and roof, and prostrating the workmen. The workmen were quickly on the spot to rescue the sufferers, nine of whom were instantly killed, and seven have since died. Many others are badly injured, some of whom will die. The boiler was one of 50 horse power, and built in the best manner. Over 300 persons were employed in the whole building, and those killed were chiefly employed in the blacksmith shop.

The scene was heart-rending. Hundreds of the wives and children of the workmen rushed to the spot, venting their grief in tears and piteous cries. The excitement spread to the school in the South District, attended by the children of the workmen, who were at once dismissed in consequence of their distress.—The victims were horribly mutilated, and in some instances scarcely recognizable.

At 5 o'clock every one had been extricated from the ruins, and it is supposed that the wounded will exceed 50.

A coroner's jury was immediately summoned and proceeded to investigate the disaster. The estimated loss of the building and machinery, is \$30,000.

HIGH PRICES.—Seven negroes were sold in this town by Charles E. Leete, Auctioneer, last Monday which brought the following prices: Boy, ten years old, \$670; Boy 12 years old, \$715; Girl seventeen years old \$857; Girl, twenty years old, \$965; Boy twenty-three years old, \$1270; man thirty-four years old (blacksmith) \$1930; and a woman thirty years of age, \$650.—*Pay. Argus.*

AWFUL DEATH.—A most tragical tale is told of the sufferings of three soldiers of a detachment of the 69th regiment, now stationed at Toronto, and a black man, who got into a boat, the soldiers with the intention of deserting, and getting over to Crab Island, and from thence, as opportunity offered, to America. After awhile, the wind arising, they were driven out of their course, and so remained in the open boat for several days without food or water. At length one of the soldiers proposed to draw lots that one should be killed to furnish food for the others. They did so, and the lot fell upon Thomas Buckley, one of the soldiers, who forthwith bound up his arm, and opened a vein to bleed himself to death; one of the others and the black man, sucked his blood, and afterwards went raving mad, and jumped into the sea. Buckley also died; and there remained only one soldier out of the party in the boat, Wm. Lennon, who threw the dead body into the sea, lashed the helm, and left himself to his fate. He had not tasted any of Buckley's blood, because, according to his own statement, he had had a severe cold, and he had been his comrade. After 14 days drifting, the boat was driven on the coast of St. Domingo, and the coast-guard found the survivor, and after giving him some refreshments, carried him to Jaenel to the British Consul, before whom he made relation of the facts as above, and he was sent back to Toronto in the steamer.—*Barbados Paper.*

Southern and Northern Slavery. The New York Herald, in an editorial under the above caption, remarks:

"Turning to the statistics of Mr. Kenedy, as published in the Herald, of December 7, 1852, we find that the number of paupers in the six New England States of Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Vermont and Connecticut, who in 1850 were subject to charitable support, was 33,431, while for the same year, the same class of persons in the six Southern States of Maryland, Virginia, North and South Carolina, Georgia and Alabama, numbered only 15,500. Of these, the native paupers of the New England States numbered, in round numbers, 19,000, while those of the six Southern States amounted to but 12,000.

RECAPITULATION. Population. Native Pop. Six New England States, 2,768,896 19,000 Six Southern States, 5,219,976 12,000

This is to say, the six New England States, boasting the highest elements of Northern perfection, in free schools, free labor, free speech and free men, have an average of more than three to one native born paupers, as compared with Mr. Kennedy's official returns of that class in the six Southern States of Maryland, Virginia, North and South Carolina, Georgia and Alabama. We select the native paupers because the foreign are an extraneous element, affording no basis for a just comparison. And the same advantage will appear to the South in the comparative returns of the idiotic, the deaf and dumb, the blind and the insane.

Why is this? What are the causes of these differences in the melancholy returns of wretchedness in favor of the South. They may be readily explained. The population of the South is mainly agricultural—that of the New England States is chiefly occupied in manufactures. The black slaves of the South, and the poorest of the whites have generally enough to eat, and air enough for health and wholesome ventilation. The hired laborers of the North are to a great extent crowded into close and unwholesome tenements, and on leaving their work they return to still more crowded and unwholesome cellars and garrets, in towns and cities; reeking with unwholesome vapors. The plain, but substantial fair, and wholesome cabins of the negro quarters of a Southern tobacco or cotton plantation, are, in truth, more favorable to health and longevity, than the houses of many of our Northern working men in towns and cities, comparatively well to do in the world.

HIGH PRICES OF PROVISION IN NEW YORK.—We have been favored by one of the most respectable houses in San Francisco with a list of the wholesale prices of the following articles, which, for the sake of comparison, we place in juxtaposition with the quotations of our own markets:—

	New York, Feb. 25.	San Francisco, Feb. 1.
Hams, per lb	5 1/2c to 8 1/2c	5c
Shoulders, per lb	6 1/2c to 7 1/2c	5c
Butter, per lb	12c to 19c	8c to 12c
Lard, per lb	10c to 10 1/2c	10c
Coffee, per lb	11 1/2c to 12c	10c
Crushed sugar, per lb	12c to 14c	10c

California is not only the land of gold, but it is becoming the land of cheap living. Whilst the facilities of making money continue as great as ever, the prices of the necessities of life seem to have been brought down to a point that will enable the people to economize it. With us, between the exactions of grasping landlords and the starvation prices at which things are arrayed, it will not only be impossible for the laborer to save anything from his earnings, but even to keep body and soul together.—*N. Y. Herald.*

It is said that North Carolina produces within its boundaries the staple of every State in the Union, and is the only one that does it.

## The Bowie knife.

The late celebrated Henry Clay was a man of great resolution and considerable daring. He once told the following anecdote to a friend of ours:

Traveling, in early manhood, in a public conveyance in a South-eastern State, he found himself in the company of three other persons, consisting of a young lady and gentleman, her husband, and of an individual muffled up in a cloak, whose countenance was concealed, and who appeared to be indulging in a tete-a-tete with Morpheus.

Suddenly a big, brawny Kentuckian got into the coach, smoking a cigar, and frowned fiercely around, as much as to say: "I'm half horse, half alligator; the yellow flower of the forest, all brimstone but the head and ears, and that's aquaforte." In fact, he looked as savage as a snake, without reference to the company within, especially of the lady, who manifested certain timid symptoms of annoyance. Presently, after some whispering, the gentleman with her, in the politest accents, requested the stranger not to smoke, as it annoyed his companion. The fellow answered: "I reckon I've paid my place. I'll smoke as much as I darn please; and all hell shan't stop me no how."—With that he looked dangerous, and rolled his eyes round as a rattlesnake. It was evident he had no objection to a quarrel, and that, if it occurred, it was likely to lead to a deadly struggle. The young man who had spoken to him shrunk back and was silent.

Clay felt his gallantry aroused. He considered for a moment whether he should interfere, but experienced a natural reluctance to draw upon himself the brutal violence of the gigantic adversary. In that lawless country he knew his life might be sacrificed unavenged. He knew himself physically unequal to the contest, and he thought, after all, it was not his business, quixotically to take up another man's quarrel. Feeling pity for the insulted, and disgust toward the insulter, he determined to take no notice; when, very quietly indeed, the cloaked figure in the corner assumed an upright position, and the mantle was suffered to fall from it without effort or excitement. The small but sinewy form of a man, plainly dressed in a tightly-buttoned frock-coat, with nothing remarkable about his appearance, was seen, and a pair of bright gray eyes, sought the fierce optics of the ferocious Kentuckian. Without a word this "lay figure" passed his hand beneath his collar at the back of his neck, and deliberately pulled forth a long, extremely long and glittering knife from its sheath in that singular place. "Straw, &c," he said, "my name is Colonel James Bowie, well known in Arkansas and Louisiana; and if you don't put that cigar out of the window in a quarter of a minute, I'll put this knife through your bowels sure as death."

Clay said he never forgot in after life the expression of the Colonel's eye at that moment. The predominant impression made upon him was the certainty of the threat being fulfilled; and apparently the same conviction impressed itself ere long upon the offender during the two or three seconds his eyes met those of Bowie. He was the weaker, and he quailed. With a curse he tore the cigar from between his teeth, and flung it, scowling, but downcast, out of the coach window.

Upon this, Colonel James Bowie as deliberately replaced his long knife in its eccentric hiding-place, and, without saying a word to any one, or even vouchsafing a glance at any one, refolded his cloak around him, and did not utter another syllable to the end of the journey.

THE CATHOLICS IN THE UNITED STATES.—From the "Metropolitan Catholic Almanac and Directory, for 1854," published in Baltimore, we derive some important facts relative to the progress of Catholicism in the United States. The entire Catholic population of the United States is said to be 1,632,600, in the jurisdiction of various arch-dioceses, as follows:—Baltimore, 75,500; New York, 425,000; New Orleans, 222,500; Cincinnati, 332,500; Oregon, 5,000; San Francisco, 75,000; Nebraska, &c., (Apostolic Vicar) 5,300. In these arch-dioceses, there are 41 dioceses, 1,712 churches, 746 other stations, 1422 clergymen in ministry, 182 clergymen otherwise employed, 34 ecclesiastical institutions, 45 literary institutions for young men, 171 female religious institutions, 112 female academies, 131 charitable institutions. The total of the Catholic population is supposed to be understated, as the returns of many dioceses were incomplete. During 1853, there was an increase of 9 dioceses, 1 archbishop, 5 bishops, 13 priests, and 167 churches. The number of colleges in the United States, under Catholic direction, is 24, and the theological seminaries number 29, with 4 preparatory seminaries. There are also 24 periodicals published in the United States, devoted to the spread of Catholicism, 20 of which are weekly issues.

Apocryphs of the growth of Catholicism, we find in the last number of the London Times, an article devoted to the increase of "Papacy," in which that paper makes it appear by official report, that the whole number of Catholics in England and Wales, is less than 200,000. It says:

It appears that shortly after the expulsion of the Stuarts, the number of Papists in England and Wales was computed at 27,696. In 1767 another return was procured, and here the calculation gave 67,912, which figures, thirteen years later, were increased to 69,376. These seem to have been all the data brought before the compilers of the report for past years. At present, the actual number of sittings in Popish places of worship, (after adding an estimate for those making no returns) is 186,111. Now, if we take into consideration the essentially un-English character of these communities in general, and the extent to which the congregations are filled either with Irishmen or with foreigners from the various continental States, we may very safely put 150,000 as the sum total of the sittings required for bona fide English Papists; nor should we, indeed, have much hesitation in reducing even this amount by fully one-third.

INTERMARRIAGE OF BLOOD RELATIONS.—The Fredericksburg News says:—In the county in which we were raised, for twenty generations back, a certain family of wealth and respectability have intermarried until there cannot be found in three or four of them a sound man or woman. One has sore eyes, another scrofula, a third is idiotic, a fourth blind, a fifth bandy-legged, a sixth with a head about the size of a turnip, with not one out of the number exempt from physical or mental defects of some kind. Yet this family perseveres to intermarry with each other, with these living monuments constantly before them.

Some recent clerical voyager says he was one day lying in his berth, and holding himself from falling out, when he heard a brother clergyman in an adjoining berth pitch out upon the floor, tipped out by a sudden roll of the ship.

"What kind of a cure Brother—did the ship describe then?" he asked—"a parabolic curve?"

"No," answered his groaning friend, as he clambered into his berth again, "that was a diabolic curve!"

## Negro Sermons.

"While residing, a few years ago, in the Monumental City," writes "N. S. S.," in a pleasant gossiping letter, "I used sometimes to go on Sunday, to a small church negro preacher.

The church had been built by a few benevolent gentlemen as a place of worship for their slaves. The preacher, himself a slave, was an old negro, famed throughout the city as a perfect original specimen of imagination and humor; and more especially, for his very unique construction of various portions of the divine word. He frequently numbered among his hearers the *dile* of the city, drawn thither in the hope of hearing some new thing; and truth to say they were seldom disappointed. To give some idea of his style—necessarily imperfect to an outsider, for his gesticulation was peculiar and forcible—I will narrate two *morceaux*. In describing Christ's entrance into Jerusalem, he said: "Well, my brudden, when de people in 'Kusalum heard de Lord was coming, dey 'banded der ockerpashon, and cut for the subub; crowding true de gates, I use no doubt, like a