

COMMUNICATIONS.

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE.

At a partial meeting of the citizens of Mecklenburg, held in Charlotte, on Wednesday the 9th of February last, (being Court Week,) for the purpose of adopting some plan to ascertain the sense of the people relating to the Presidential question, the following resolutions were passed:

1st. Resolved, that a general meeting of the citizens of Mecklenburg and citizens of the district, be requested to attend in Charlotte, on the first Wednesday of April next, to express their opinions relative to who ought to be our next President, and to adopt some measures in relation thereto, as the common good may, in their estimation, require.

2d. Resolved, that the foregoing be published in the Western Carolinian.

JAMES PORTER, Chairman. THOMAS J. POLK, Sec'y.

March 6th, 1824.

[Notwithstanding the above meeting is called a partial one, we learn that a large collection of people attended it, and that the friends of Gen. Jackson were decidedly the most numerous at the meeting.]

Washington City, Feb. 28, 1824.

To the Editor of the Western Carolinian:

SIR: In looking over your paper of the 17th inst. which some gentleman, unknown to me, has been kind enough to favor me with, I am sorry to see that some person who writes over the signature of "a voter," has evidenced a disposition to misrepresent me, and consequently, to deprive me of the idea of my having attempted something in Congress, by which they were to be seriously affected. If this was the first attempt that had been made on the same principle, I should perhaps not think it necessary to notice it; but with a view of preventing improper impressions being made on the minds of honest men, who would not wish to be misled, nor take undue exceptions, and for their satisfaction exclusively, I state, that since I left home there has been from a respectable source, committed to my charge the memorial that this voter must have allusion to, in his sarcastic publication, accompanied with a request to submit it to Congress. In conformity with my duty as the representative and organ of a free people, I complied with the request, without any apprehension of infringing upon the constitution, (as the honorable voter seems to think.)

Therefore, having done nothing more than every candid man will at once see and readily acknowledge was my bounden duty, I hope this honorable voter will not be seriously alarmed, and I could wish that he would cease to unnecessarily alarm his neighbours; for I can assure him, that if the wishes of the memorialists should ever be met by Congress, that neither the constitution, himself, nor his Southern negroes, will be affected thereby.

JOHN LONG, Jr.

FOR THE WESTERN CAROLINIANS.

Mr. White: It appears that a very serious misunderstanding has taken place among the Trustees of the Western College. It was the uncontradicted opinion of the board, at their last September meeting, that the last annual meeting would be merely nominal, with a view of keeping up the charter, till some fortunate occurrence should justify them in proceeding. We are not informed that either Congress, or our own General Assembly, have, on any condition, promised to give us assistance; or that any wealthy individuals have proposed to endow the college, or even a professorship. How, then, have things changed? The 30th of March will happen on the week immediately preceding the meeting of Presbytery, which will render it very inconvenient for those who might be expected to attend both those meetings; and, indeed, very few of the rest can spare time from their other duties, to spend a week at Lincolnton, on business which they have found cannot be done.

If these notices and appointments which have appeared, have not originated in a want of recollection, they must have for their object the baptism of some petty grammar school, or some mushroom academy, with the dignified name of College. Change the site where you please, and nothing greater can be produced by the funds which the Trustees command.

Those who subscribed to the funds of the Western College, understood that their subscriptions were a trial of their strength; and as it is universally confessed that they are insufficient, many of the subscribers consider themselves released from obligation to pay their subscriptions. Any attempt, therefore, to compel payment, will be viewed as an act of outrage against those laws which ought to bind the community together.

I have always found that the most effectual way of accomplishing any public business, is to attempt it with the approbation of those who have to bear the burden of it; and the most effectual way to defeat any project, is to attempt to force freemen to do what they are determined they will not do. I therefore most sin-

cerely regret that any portion of the Trustees should be willing to adopt such measures as will, most probably, render it impossible to have a respectable college, when our population and resources may be a little increased.

A TRUSTEE.

CONGRESS.

The limits of a weekly paper are insufficient to give any thing like a detailed Journal of the proceedings of Congress, and, at the same time, to do justice to other subjects that urgently claim our attention. Indeed, the daily papers at the seat of government, are constantly complaining of the want of room for the insertion of their congressional reports. In a weekly journal, like ours, therefore, we are compelled to epitomise the proceedings; and it is with much difficulty we are enabled, by this course to give a connected idea of what our representative servants are doing; but there is no other alternative,—we must either cull the best fruit, or reject the whole tree.

In the following retrospective view of the proceedings of the national legislature, we have endeavored to collect whatever appeared of most immediate interest to our readers.

Editor Western Carolinian.

IN SENATE.

Feb. 16.—A petition was presented from a company of volunteer artificers, in Pennsylvania, praying they might be received into the service of the U. States, for the purpose of improving themselves in military tactics. Feb. 17: most of the business of this day, was of a private nature. Feb. 18; the president communicated a report of the Secretary of the Navy, relative to the expenditures of the naval service. The military committee reported a bill to provide for the improvement and discipline of the militia of the United States. A bill was reported, to provide for the extinguishment of the debt due to the U. States, by the purchasers of public lands. Feb. 19; the bill for the final settlement of land claims in the territory of Florida, came from the other house, and was agreed to by the Senate. Feb. 20: the Senate was engaged nearly the whole of this day, on the bill establishing a road through the territory of Florida, from St. Augustine to Pensacola; the bill was finally ordered to a third reading; adjourned to Monday. Feb. 23; a communication from the Secretary of War, relative to expenditures in the Indian department, was received and read; and a communication from the Post-office department, relative to the number of clerks employed therein, was also received and read. Feb. 24; a message, of considerable length, was received from the President of the U. S. relative to the payment of the Massachusetts militia, for services during the late war; which was read, and ordered to be printed. Feb. 25; a bill was reported for the better security of public moneys in the hands of marshals, clerks, and attorneys. The bill to repeal, in part, a former act to lessen the compensation of marshals, clerks and attorneys, in certain cases, was read the third time, and passed. Feb. 26; a resolution was agreed to, instituting an inquiry into the expediency of attending the judiciary law; the remainder of the day the Senate was engaged in private petitions, claims, &c. Feb. 27; the Senate was occupied nearly half this day, on the military appropriation bill—more particularly on the item relative to the military Academy at West Point; it was finally postponed for 3 or 4 weeks. March 1; a preamble and resolutions of the legislature of Indiana, expressing their approbation of the remarks of the President of the U. S. in his message to Congress, relative to the struggle of the Greeks for liberty, and relative to the interference of the Holy Alliance in the concerns of South America. The Senate adjourned at an early hour on this day, to attend the funeral of Mr. Ball, of the House of Representatives, who died, on Sunday the 29th ult.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Feb. 16; the house did but little this day, except receiving and referring petitions, remonstrances, &c. The tariff bill was taken up, and discussed, but no decision had thereon. Feb. 17; one memorial from Virginia, against the tariff bill, and two from New-York, in favor of it, were presented this day; the house again went into a committee of the whole on the bill, but came to no decision on it. Feb. 18, a bill was reported for the relief of certain distillers in the U. States. The Speaker laid before the house a letter from the Secretary of the Navy, transmitting a statement of the appropriations and expenditures for the naval service of the U. S. for the year 1823, &c. One petition in favor of the tariff, was this day presented, from Vermont; and the said bill was taken up by the house, and some discussion had thereon, when the house adjourned. Feb. 19; the committee of ways and means were instructed to inquire whether the passage of the Tariff bill would diminish the revenue of the United States; and if so, what course it would be expedient to pursue, to supply the deficiency. The house then took up the military appropriation bill; the sum appropriated for the use of the military academy at West Point, was \$994,307 05 cts.;

for subsistence of the army, \$69,847; forage for officers, 39,126; for the recruiting service, 15,800; for the purchasing department, 141,127 59; [It was stated here, that, in purchasing clothing for the army, a preference was always given to American manufactures, unless the public would materially suffer thereby;] for woollens, 2,000; for the medical and hospital department, 10,000; for the quarter-master-general's department, 249,000; for additional expenses at West Point, for out-house, offices, plate for diplomas, &c. 23,408—and for the purchase of a farm attached to the academy, 10,000. Having gone thus far in the bill, the house adjourned. Feb. 20; a statement of the affairs of the Bank of the U. States, was received from the Secretary of the Treasury; a list of the unproductive post-offices, for the year 1823, was received from the Post-Master General; the committee of elections reported un favorably to Mr. Baily's retaining his seat as a member of the house of representatives—the resolution was ordered to lie on the table; a desultory and spirited debate arose among members, on a resolution relative to the tariff, which lasted till the Speaker called the house to take up the military appropriation bill—the bill was further filled up, as follows: for contingencies in the army, 820,000; armories, 360,000; ordnance service, 42,000; for revolutionary pensions, 1,291,716 39; for invalids, widows and orphans of soldiers, 313,174 42; and arrears in war department, 26,000 60. The house refused to take up the tariff bill this day, but adjourned over to Monday. Feb. 23; a bill was reported, to secure the accountability of public officers; and a bill authorizing the laying out of certain roads in the territory of Florida, were both passed and sent to the Senate for concurrence. The house took up the tariff bill—Mr. Martindale, of N. York, moved to strike out the enacting clause of it, and made a speech of 2 or 3 hours in length against his own motion, which created a good deal of excitement among members; Mr. M. finally sat down, before finishing his speech—and the house received four messages from the President of the U. S. one relative to the rules and regulations of the army, compiled by Gen. Scott, another relative to the boundary line of the territory of Arkansas, another relative to the expense of transporting 200 troops to the mouth of the Columbia river on the Pacific ocean, and the other relative to the Massachusetts militia claims. Feb. 24; two memorials were this day presented, on the subject of the tariff, and after a long, desultory, and somewhat unanimous debate, the house adjourned to Feb. 25; this day, the judiciary committee were instructed to inquire what other provisions are necessary for securing the payment in the Treasury of fines and forfeitures, which accrue to the U. S. and remain in the hands of the clerks, marshals, &c. The tariff bill was again taken up; and after considerable debate, the house adjourned to Monday. March 1; the house adjourned this day, immediately after the members had assembled, in order to prepare for the funeral of Mr. Wm. Lee Ball, a representative from Virginia, who died on Sunday.

STUBBORN "FACTS."

- 1. Of the 261 members of Congress, Mr. Crawford's votes amounted to no more than sixty two in Caucus.
2. With the addition of two votes by proxy, his whole number of votes appeared to be but sixty-four.
3. This leaves against him 197 votes, and a MAJORITY against him of one hundred and thirty-three votes.
4. From TEN states he had no vote.
5. From FIVE states, he had but one vote each.
6. From two states, he had but two votes each.
7. From THREE states, he had but three votes each.
8. From the remaining four states, he had a majority in three only.
9. Three states cannot elect a President.
10. No man of "sound mind" in the country can now believe Mr. Crawford will be President,
11. Unless the National Intelligencer can make it appear that three forms a majority of twenty four.

Lithotomy.—We have witnessed with much pleasure the return of a little boy, aged 4 years and 9 months, (the son of Mr. Samuel Clark, of Beaufort county, in this State,) from Philadelphia, who lately submitted to this most important surgical operation. The operation was performed by Dr. Physic in 2 1-2 minutes; and the child confined but five weeks, and is now in perfect health. We have had the curiosity to examine the Stone extracted from the bladder. It is a round oblong, of a hard texture, with several sharp knots on the body, measuring in length 3 1-4 inches, in circumference 4 1-4, and weighed 12 penny weights 18 grains. Edenton Gaz.

Mr. L. White, of Philadelphia, has just published, from Walker's great Dictionary, a selection of two or three thousand words, which are liable to be mispronounced.—Nat. Journal.

SALISBURY:

TUESDAY MORNING, MARCH 16, 1824.

We invite the attention of our readers to the debate, in the House of Commons of our last Legislature, on Mr. Fisher's anti-caucus resolutions, which we have this week commenced, on the first page of the paper.

THE PRESIDENCY.

Our readers have already been informed, that been held, in the various counties, for delegates, who were to meet in Harrisburg, the seat of government of that State, on the 4th inst. for the purpose of nominating candidates for Electors, to vote for President and Vice President, at the ensuing Presidential election. In most of the counties, at the elections, pretty sharp contests took place between the friends of the two Presidential candidates (and the only ones) who had any chance of success in that state, Gen. Jackson and Mr. Calhoun. That acrimony of temper which a warm strife at the polls always creates, was engendered between the friends of these two candidates, who had before so happily harmonized in political sentiment, and whose undivided exertions had, the last season, gained so signal a Republican ascendancy in that commonwealth. It was at this juncture, when the election for delegates was going on, and the issue hanging in doubt, that the meeting took place in Philadelphia, an account of which we published last week, and at which the friends of Mr. Calhoun most nobly and magnanimously came forward, and proposed to waive their personal choice, and unite with their republican brethren in favor of Gen. Jackson, on whom, it was found, the republican party could most harmoniously concentrate their support.

We have omitted, till now, making any remarks on the proceedings of the Philadelphia meeting, for the purpose of ascertaining whether the movement was the effect of sober judgment, guided by principle, or whether it was caused by that effervescence of popular will, so characteristic of a city populace. The last information from Pennsylvania, confirms our first impression, and must satisfy every unprejudiced mind, that the step Mr. Calhoun's friends have taken in that State, was prompted by that disinterestedness which has uniformly characterized their conduct throughout the whole discussion of the Presidential question. They saw that a schism would be created among the republicans, if they persisted, with a blind zeal, to push the claims of their favorite; they saw that the caucus were unwearied in their efforts to produce this schism, thinking that if they could divide the friends of Jackson and Calhoun, and excite embittered feelings between them, they might turn a current in favor of the caucus candidate: they saw all these movements of the enemies of the people, and nobly determined to sacrifice personal feelings on the altar of principle, and thereby defeat the schemes and intrigues of the agents of the radical caucus at Washington.

Many persons, especially among the caucusites, appeared to think it dubious what effect the proceedings in Philadelphia would have in the interior of the state; but the last information dissipates all doubts—the friends of Mr. Calhoun, in all the counties, have responded to the sentiments of their brethren in the city, (or will speedily do so,) and have cordially united in favor of Gen. Jackson; so that the 28 electoral votes of Pennsylvania are safe for Jackson, and no human effort can gain one of them for the caucus candidate. The people of Pennsylvania, however, still cherish all that respect and admiration for Mr. Calhoun, which his brilliant talents, his decision of character, and his spotless integrity, at first inspired them with. As an evidence of their regard for him, it appears probable they will support him for Vice President; he has already been recommended, in different parts of the state, for that office.

We believe ours was the first paper in this State, which came out openly and undisguisedly in favor of the claims of Mr. Calhoun to the Presidency. From the moment the question was started, "Who ought to succeed Mr. Monroe as chief magistrate of the United States," we turned our eyes to John C. Calhoun; we thought we saw in him a man whose primitive and consistent republicanism, whose vigorous intellect and highly cultivated mind, and whose enlightened views of national policy, eminently qualified him to guide the destinies of this mighty and increasing Republic—and we still think so. But our attachment to an individual, in a political sense, is not of that bigoted stamp which marks the character of the subject or vassal of KINGS; authority: we were raised and educated "after the strictest rule of" republicanism, and were always taught that principles were paramount to every thing else, in a republican government—that they formed the pedestal, upon which our inimitable representative system of government rests. Could we still sustain our favorite candidate, consistently with the harmony and union of the people, we would invoke divine aid in doing so; but it has now become evident he cannot get the vote of Pennsylvania, which so much diminishes his prospects, that we should be foolhardy, indeed, still to urge his friends to support him, at this time. We now feel bound to yield his claims, and co-operate with the friends of Gen. JACKSON, in supporting Electors who will vote for him, in opposition to the caucus ticket. The People's Ticket is now nearly formed in this

State—a few more names will complete it; in support of this ticket, let us all harmoniously unite—let us defeat the projects of the dictatorial caucus, by voting for the people's ticket, and elevating the Hero of Orleans to the Presidential chair of our country—that country which he so valiantly and successfully fought to defend, as well against the merciless savages of the wilderness, as the ruthless invaders of our country on the plains of Orleans.

In declaring our determination to advocate the election of Gen. Jackson in preference to the other two distinguished candidates who are opposed in the dictation of a caucus, Mr. Calhoun's readers that we mean not to disparage the claims of either of these gentlemen; but, on the contrary, we have a high regard and respect for their talents, and especially for the distinguished services and unblemished character of the former.....we should not repine to see either of them advanced to the highest office under our government; but we ask their friends to answer us, in the language of candor, whether they believe that either Mr. Adams or Mr. Clay can succeed, in this State, against the caucus ticket? We believe they cannot.....and we think the reflecting portion of their friends are well assured of it. And, taking it for granted that they are, we will again ask them, whether they do not believe that Jackson is now the only man who can beat the caucus ticket, in North-Carolina? And, if so, whether they would not rather vote for Jackson, than see the Electoral vote of the State given up to a despicable caucus?

ALBERT GALLATIN.

In the caucus which the members of the Virginia Legislature held to nominate candidates for President, a considerable degree of warmth was created among the members, when Albert Gallatin was proposed as a candidate for Vice President. Mr. Braxton said, "he was not prepared to vote for Mr. Gallatin. He was sorry he had lived long enough to see a foreigner nominated for so important an office!" But it was contended by those who supported Mr. Gallatin's nomination, that they ought not to incur the risk of losing the vote of Pennsylvania to Mr. Crawford, by turning their backs on her most distinguished citizen, (Mr. Gallatin) as Vice President; that upon Pennsylvania mainly depended the election of the next President—and that, therefore, that State ought to be reconciled, and induced to support Mr. Crawford. Now if the Virginia politicians flatter themselves with the idea of cajoling the respectable State of Pennsylvania, into a support of the radical candidate, by such artifices, they will, in the sequel, find themselves most egregiously cheated in their hopes. Since the meeting in Philadelphia, numerous expressions of the public voice have been heard of, from various parts of the State; all of which harmonize with the sentiments of the Philadelphia meeting—indeed, there cannot be a doubt but the Harrisburg convention will nominate Jackson by a unanimous vote. At a meeting in one of the counties in that State, where Gen. Jackson was recommended for President, John C. Calhoun was unanimously recommended as Vice President.

WEBSTER'S SPELLING BOOK.

We notice in the Saratoga (N. Y.) Sentinel, an article marked, as an indication for us to copy it, we suppose; in which there is the following paragraph:

"An attempt has recently been made by the proprietors of Webster's Spelling Book, to obtain an injunction against F. F. Marshall, the effects of which would be to prohibit him from publishing and vending his newly invented, and, we may add, vastly improved Spelling Book. This application, we understand, has been refused by Judge Skinner, and, we believe, very justly too."

Of E. F. Marshall's newly invented Spelling book, we know but little, never having seen but one copy; and we doubt whether a fiftieth part of the citizens of North-Carolina have been even as lucky as we have, in this respect. Our northern brethren may therefore quiet their fears, which an imagined monopoly on the part of the proprietors of Webster's Spelling-book seems to have excited. Our ancestors, to the third and fourth generation, were taught their rudiments from Webster; and, although other elementary books are worming themselves into use, we don't know that Marshall's Spelling book is used at all in this section of the Union.

BACHELORS IN CONGRESS.

Considerable pleasantry took place in Congress hall, during a debate, on the 19th ultimo, relative to an appropriation for the United States Military Academy at West Point. Mr. Warfield, of Maryland, having observed, "that he spoke in favor of the school from no personal or partial feelings, as, he thanked Heaven, he still enjoyed a state of single blessedness;" Mr. Floyd, in reply, remarked that "he was happy to observe the gentleman was very thankful even for the smallest blessing."

The Legislature of Alabama has appointed Commissioners, who are authorized to employ a competent person and assistants, to examine and take an accurate survey of the Muscle Shoals and Colbert's Shoals, and ascertain the practicability and best mode of improving the navigation of the Tennessee river. Alabama paper.