

bill to authorize a survey of a route for a Canal across the Peninsula of Florida, which will also be found in another column. A great number of resolutions were introduced among the most important of which were two offered by Mr. Talliferro, one proposing a change in two of the Committees of the House, and the other having reference to the organization of the army. A resolution was laid on the table, by Mr. Clark, of Kentucky, on the subject of the number of Supreme Judges necessary to be present on final judgments of the Court in particular cases. A resolution was adopted, on motion of Mr. Newton, of Virginia, ordering 1000 copies of Ingersoll's Address for the use of the House. A resolution was laid on the table, by Mr. F. Johnson, of Kentucky, instructing the Committee on the Judiciary to report a bill repealing any law of the United States calculated to confer on the Courts of the United States Legislative powers. Several resolutions were also introduced on the subject of public lands.

February 9.—The following resolution, offered yesterday by Mr. Macon, of N. Carolina, was taken up and agreed to:

Resolved, That the Committee to whom have been referred the several resolutions to amend the Constitution of the United States, be instructed to inquire into the expediency of diminishing or regulating the patronage of the executive of the United States; with leave to report by bill or otherwise.

On motion of Mr. Holmes, of N. C. it was

Resolved, That the Committee on Commerce be instructed to inquire into the expediency and practicability of rendering the channel of Cape Fear River navigable from the bar of said river, to the town of Wilmington, for vessels that can cross the said bar at low ebb tide; and the probable sum of money that will be required to carry into effect this desirable object.

### MEXICO.

The Message of President Victoria to the General Congress of Mexico at the opening of the Session of the 1st of January, gives a gratifying view of the state of the country, which is represented as prospering under its present constitution beyond expectation. The execution of the laws had produced the happiest effects in the interior—the finances were fully adequate to the wants of the government, and the commerce of the country was in a flourishing state. In alluding to our country, the President remarks in substance as follows:

"On turning our eyes to the nations who inhabit this happy hemisphere, justice and gratitude oblige us to mention first of all the most ancient of Mexico, and the first of the civilized world that acknowledged our rights, and the first of the American states that solemnly proclaimed and succeeded in establishing her independence. The United States of America, models of political virtue and moral rectitude, prosper under the system of a Federal Republic, which has been adopted here with enthusiasm by the spontaneous voice of the country. This form of government naturally allies us to and binds firmer our union with the country of Washington. The Minister of that nation is commissioned to form treaties, and no time will be lost in submitting such arrangements as shall be agreed upon to the deliberations of Congress."

The Paris *Courier Francais* calculates that the reign of Constantine will be a benefit to Europe. The secondary States of Germany will be able to breathe; their yoke will be lightened. Austria is now confined to her own resources; she can no longer make Russia second her views; she cannot arm against the Continent the influence she had acquired over Alexander.

### MR. JEFFERSON.

Although we knew, that Mr. Jefferson had expended both his time and fortune in promotion every measure calculated to advance the interest or honor of his country—yet, we were not aware, that his disinterested patriotism had brought him to the verge of insolvency. From the proceedings, however, of the Virginia Legislature, this appears to be the case. A bill has been introduced into that body, to allow this political Patriarch the privilege of disposing of his estate by lottery, at a fair valuation, that an equivalent may be procured for that which, if sold by the ordinary process, would be sacrificed. We presume no objection will be urged against this application, but the establishment of a precedent. But this can be no serious obstacle surely, for as in the case of *Lafayette*, the character and services of Mr. Jefferson, preclude the operation of the precedent. We sincerely hope, that the Legislature of our sister State will concede this poor boon, to one of whom, with truth, it may be said, "he has lived but few years for himself—his life has been devoted to his country."

Ral. Reg.

The Duke of Saxe Weimar, returned to Mobile on the 17th ult. from Pensacola, and sailed next day for New Orleans,

## Salisbury:

FEBRUARY 25, 1826.

### RAIL ROADS.

It is but a few years since Rail Roads came into use; yet in England they are superseding Canals. There are, in the kingdom of Great Britain, 107 canals, while there are already about two hundred rail-roads. The aggregate length of railroads in that country, is estimated at 1500 miles; and in twelve months more, it is calculated they will reach 2000 miles.

A very able pamphlet, lately published on this subject, makes an estimate, that "To transport 100 tons of goods 100 miles on canals, (paying toll,) will cost \$32—accomplished by horses in five days; to transport 100 tons 100 miles by locomotive steam-engine, on rail roads, will cost \$20 25—accomplished in 264 hours.

This subject has excited great interest among the civil engineers of England; and every estimate and demonstration, seems to result in favor of rail-roads. We are particularly desirous to bring this subject to the notice of our readers, because we view rail-ways as well calculated to suit the local circumstances of North-Carolina. The rivers of our state are, generally, not very susceptible of being rendered navigable, to any great extent, for steam-boats. And another consideration which naturally represses the enterprise of our citizens in removing the obstructions to the navigation of our rivers, is, that many of them lead out of the state, and carry their tributes to enrich our neighbors. But were the rail-road system adopted, our commerce and trade would be concentrated at particular points within our own limits, and the profits retained at home. For example: A rail-road from Wilkesborough, by Salisbury, to Fayetteville, with one falling in from Lincolnton and Charlotte, and another from Greensborough, would concentrate the whole trade of the Western Counties at Fayetteville; and soon create, in the bosom of our state, a large commercial town. What a mighty change from the state of things as now existing, would be brought about: Our funds would be doubled, and trebled, in their value. Agriculture would flourish, emigration would stop, and North-Carolina would be raised to a standing as respectable as that of any of the Atlantic states. In our humble opinion, a well devised system of rail-roads, would contribute more than any thing else to brighten the prospects of North-Carolina. When we consider the mighty progress the system of Rail Roads is making elsewhere, we are irresistibly led to believe that, in a few years more, North-Carolina will realize some of its benefits.

### NATIONAL ROAD.

It appears from the reports of the Secretary of War, and of Gen. McComb, that the reconnaissance of the routes for a National Road from Washington City to New-Orleans, will be completed in time to submit the result to Congress at its present session. The route through the seats of government, and that immediately east of, and parallel with, the mountains, were, it will be remembered, examined during the last summer; and two officers of the corps of Engineers, have just completed a view of the Western route. Great solicitude is felt in Tennessee on the subject of this last mentioned route: the legislature of that state being in session when the engineers passed along, appointed a person to travel through the state with them, and point out all the conveniences for a road in that section of country—a very unnecessary commission, we are inclined to think, on the part of Tennessee.

The report from the engineer department, plainly intimates, that, in coming to a decision on the location of the road, the advantages of the several routes will be considered, 1st, in a commercial point of view; 2d, for military purposes; 3d, for the transportation of the public mail. It will appear from this, that the principles assumed in the memorial from this place, are precisely the same as those on which the important decision will be made. And we will here remark, which we are much gratified in being able to do with truth, that Gen. Bernard, Col. Shriver, and their associates, spoke of the memorial forwarded to Washington by the citizens of Salisbury, in the most flattering terms. Commendations from such a source are not only flattering to our feelings, but plainly evince that the memorialists have rested their claims on principles that will govern in the decision of this important subject.

As it appears to be settled that a great National Road will be made from Washington City to New-Orleans, we trust that the members of Congress from North-Carolina will for once unite, and endeavor to give some of the benefits of this national work to their own state.

### CONVENTION IN VIRGINIA.

The Virginia House of Delegates, on the 8th inst. refused, by a vote of 101 to 97, to reconsider their vote rejecting the bill to permit the people of that state to vote, at the next election, on the propriety of calling a Convention. Thus have the wisest of the friends of reform in Virginia, as in North-Carolina, been thwarted by an aristocratic Legislature. How those members who voted against the bill, can satisfy their constituents that they have acted like republican representatives, when a large majority of their constituents are for a Convention, is to us, totally inexplicable. In fact, we cannot conceive how they can reconcile their faithlessness to the people, to a sense of moral integrity. In the common concerns of life, if a man accepts

in fidelity at the hands of another, and fails to fulfill what he undertakes to do, or in any way is faithless to his employer, he is deemed and taken to be a dishonest man! And what is the difference between the trust imposed upon him, and that which an agent of the people undertakes when he accepts from them the situation of representative? Is not the latter under as strong an obligation to act in good faith towards those who employ him, as the former? And is not the guilt of faithlessness as great, and as deserving of punishment, in one case as in the other? It is for the republican freemen of Virginia, and of North-Carolina, to answer.

### WASHINGTON'S BIRTH DAY.

In pursuance of previous arrangements, the 22d of February (last Wednesday,) was noticed, in a very honorable manner, by the citizens of this place, and those attending on court from the adjoining country. Capt. Lemley's company of Salisbury Light Infantry Blues, paraded about one o'clock, and fired some very handsome salutes. They then marched into the court-house, where a large collection of citizens and strangers had assembled; the services there were opened by a fervent and solemn prayer, by the Rev. Dr. Freeman; after which, E. W. Maxwell, Esq. delivered a short, but eloquent and patriotic address. In the evening, a military Ball was given at Capt. Fulton's; which was the most numerously attended of any that has taken place in Salisbury for a number of years,—where all classes, and all ages commingled, in a truly republican spirit, with buoyant and grateful feelings, to honor the name, and perpetuate the memory, of him who was "first in War, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen."

As a *foetus* to the amusements of the week, the young Gentlemen of Salisbury had gotten up a *Play*, composed of the Comedy of the "Hair at Law," and the Farce of "The Way of Windsor," which were performed on Friday Evening, the 24th inst. A very large audience attended—more numerous, perhaps, than on any similar occasion in this town. and it is due to those gentlemen who took part in the performance, to say, that the audience were agreeably disappointed—the public expectation was more than realized. It was not expected that those who were inexperienced and undisciplined in the histrionic art, could have sustained their parts with any thing like justice to the authors, or credit to themselves; but such was the merit of the performance, that the audience were involuntarily induced to pronounce it among the best acting that ever took place in Salisbury. Where all did well, it would be invidious to say that particular characters were better sustained than others; but we can do justice to no one, by expressing a belief, that some of the characters were sustained in a manner that would not have derogated from the reputation of the most fashionable boards of the northern cities.

*Large Hog*.—A friend of ours, in the north part of this county, desires us to mention the fact, that a few weeks since, he slaughtered a pig, eighteen months old, which weighed, when dressed, 558 pounds.

And we will take this occasion to remark, that Pork has been very abundant, and of an excellent quality, this season; while corn is scarce and high, and sells in this town, readily, at from 62 1/2 to 75 cents per bushel. It is the opinion, however, of those who may be allowed to judge in such matters, that there is not as great a scarcity of that grain as the present high price would seem to indicate. If such be the fact, it behooves those of our farmers who have corn to sell, to visit our market, while it offers them such inducements to do so.

### READING ROOM IN SALISBURY.

The advantages of "reading rooms," are so generally understood, that there are but few places in the United States, of the size of Salisbury, which have them not. Some of these advantages are, 1st. That each subscriber for a small sum, can have the free use of many Newspapers and periodical works. For example: Suppose there are 50 subscribers, at \$5 each, the whole amount will be \$250; each subscriber, then, for \$5, will have the use of as many papers and other works, as can be procured for \$250. 2d. In reading rooms, the papers are all carefully filed and preserved, and at the end of the year are worth nearly the original cost; they can be bound up, and preserved the same as books. 3d. The reading room becomes the central resort for the reading part of the community; and in this way, will not only be a means of mental improvement, but will promote social feelings and friendly intercourse.

There are still other advantages, which, under proper regulations, always follow the establishment of reading rooms. The object of these remarks is to call, in a more particular manner, the attention of the citizens of Salisbury to the subject. In the town of Salisbury, there are a number of Lawyers, several Physicians, three Divines, students of law and medicine, and a number of respectable mechanics, who read papers and books; besides a still larger number of merchants, and yet, in the place, there is no reading room!

It is confidently believed, that it is only necessary for some person to move in the business, in order to accomplish the establishment of a very respectable reading-room in our town. Besides the advantages already mentioned, it may be added, that the character of the place requires that we should have such an establishment. Let it, therefore, be hoped, that in a short time, we will have in our town a respectable reading-room, of newspapers from every section of the Union, and of the best periodical works in the country.

A Citizen of Salisbury.

### FAYETTEVILLE PRICES, &c.

Cotton, 11 a 1 1/2; Rice, 20 a 25; Sugar, 24 a 26; Hops, 20 a 25; Tobacco, 20 a 25; Flour, 40 a 45; Corn, 20 a 25; Beans, 7 1/2 a 8; Pork, 10 a 11; Coffee, prime green, 20 a 21; do and 3d quality, 17 a 18; Tea, hyson, 21 a 22; do, 1st and 2d, 18 a 19; do, 3d, 15 a 16; do, 4th, 12 a 13; do, 5th, 10 a 11; do, 6th, 8 a 9; do, 7th, 6 a 7; do, 8th, 4 a 5; do, 9th, 3 a 4; do, 10th, 2 a 3; do, 11th, 1 a 2; do, 12th, 1/2 a 1; do, 13th, 1/4 a 1/2; do, 14th, 1/8 a 1/4; do, 15th, 1/16 a 1/8; do, 16th, 1/32 a 1/16; do, 17th, 1/64 a 1/32; do, 18th, 1/128 a 1/64; do, 19th, 1/256 a 1/128; do, 20th, 1/512 a 1/256; do, 21st, 1/1024 a 1/512; do, 22nd, 1/2048 a 1/1024; do, 23rd, 1/4096 a 1/2048; do, 24th, 1/8192 a 1/4096; do, 25th, 1/16384 a 1/8192; do, 26th, 1/32768 a 1/16384; do, 27th, 1/65536 a 1/32768; do, 28th, 1/131072 a 1/65536; do, 29th, 1/262144 a 1/131072; do, 30th, 1/524288 a 1/262144; do, 31st, 1/1048576 a 1/524288; do, 32nd, 1/2097152 a 1/1048576; do, 33rd, 1/4194304 a 1/2097152; do, 34th, 1/8388608 a 1/4194304; 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