

ditions, and I cannot refuse to meet it on their own ground without a tacit admission of my inability to do so.

It is stated by Mr. —, in the debates referred to— "This is a struggle between the East and the West for political power."

"The West say they have right on their side, but here again we are at issue."—"Let us examine the claim of the West on principle." The speaker then correctly maintains, that property or taxes ought to be regarded in the apportionment of representation, as well as population—when he proceeds thus: "The difference in white population is upwards of 60,000 in favor of the West?"

But then it is alleged, that our Constitution is "the work of our fathers and we owe it too much veneration to justify us in altering it." This has furnished a theme for declamation, I believe, to every variety of Orator who has lifted his voice against Reform.

But the fact is, that our Constitution is not the work of our fathers, but the work of the people. An honest search after truth must satisfy the mind of the most incredulous among us, that all these things are true.

By the new system of representation, the principal slave owning counties will be transferred from a minority to a majority. There is, it seems to me, some infatuation about this subject. A proposition is made to reform the Constitution in such way as to give the Government into the hands of a majority of the People—but many of those counties whose people are most deeply concerned to advance it, are prevailed on to withhold their consent.

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delegates representing a people excited by party spirit. Much allowance is to be made likewise, for the indiscretion of some of our Western brethren, who have hastily introduced the demands for reform as demands of 'the West,' and very naturally it excites this party opposition.

The debate on the West Indian question has commenced in the House of Commons, and was still pending at the latest London dates.

FOREIGN

We copy the following foreign news from the New York Courier & Enquirer: "The dates from London are of the 31st May, and from Liverpool of the 1st June."

A preliminary treaty has been entered into by Holland for the settlement of the long protracted Belgian question. The King of Holland however, concedes nothing, unless it be the free navigation of the Scheldt and Meuse; the other points in dispute are, it would seem, to be settled under the supervision of Austria and Prussia.

That a treaty of peace has been concluded between the Grand Seigneur and the Pasha of Egypt is now placed beyond a doubt, but a Russian force is still at Constantinople, and excites great uneasiness, particularly in France.

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tempt. These measures will probably lead more to excite popular feeling against the government than to suppress it, & it seems likely that the King will either be compelled to change his present cabinet for a high Tory one, which will attempt to stifle the public voice by high handed measures, or else to give way still further to the Radical party.

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clean down to his knee. Well says I this beats all nature; it will cost more than 50 cents to mend them. Never mind, Massey, says the General,—if you can't get them are pantaloons mended—the State'll give you a new pair—and then we all snored and snored it, I tell you.

I suppose it won't amount to nothing to tell you what he did in York; it seems to me every living critter was there. I never see such a crowd in all creation; and it has been just so all the while up to this hour.

I've got the rumatiz now all over me—I ha'n't had my hat on for nearly three weeks. As soon as we go out, I take one side and the general t'other, and yuce in a while we change sides, and bowing right and left—I like that better than shakin hands, for I can stand it now,—and with one swing bow over 5000 folks at once, and we cast shake off that number before breakfast.

Mr. Van Buren gets along pretty well here among the Yankees, considering that he has got his hands full tell you. They don't hurra quite as they do down South, but kinder like to talk over things, you know, and we've got plaguy little time for that—"Major," says Mr. Van Buren, one day, "4 wish you would do all the talkin with these folks—you have a neck that way"—well says I, I don't know but I have—but says I, Mr. Van Buren, I guess you can talk as glib as most folks."

We start to-morrow morning down East, and I sha'n't be able to write another word till arter we have been to Downingville—I'm going on ahead to lead, sergeant Joel a hand to get things to rights there, and if you don't hear of cracking work down there, that will make 'em all stare, I'm mistaken. The general is amazingly tickled with the Yankees, and the more he sees on 'em, the better he likes 'em.

J. DOWNING, Major, Downingville, Militia—2d Brigade.

THOUGHTS ON THE GOVERNMENT OF THE TONGUE.

Few persons have failed to remark how much of evil is caused in society by the neglect of the Scriptural commands in the subject of caution in the use of the tongue. The tongue is, indeed, "a world of iniquity" when under the influence of the various passions which agitate the human breast; it sends forth those streams of evil, of which it may be the source.

There are persons in the world who do not at all speak from having any thing to say, as every sentence shows, but only from their inclination to be talking. Their conversation is a mere exercise of the tongue; no other faculty has any share in it. It is indeed a very unhappy way these people are in; they in a manner cut themselves off from all advantages of conversation, except that of being entertained by their own talk—their business in coming into company not being to get information, but to display themselves; or rather to exert their faculty and talk without design.

It were needless to say anything further, to teach them a lesson of silence—one might get such in mind, how insignificant they render themselves by this excessive talkativeness.

The occasion of silence are obvious, namely—when a man has nothing to say, or nothing but is better unsaid; better in regard to himself, to others, to the subject in discussion, or to conversation already begun.

Conversation on different subjects is not perhaps criminal, unless carried to too great extent; still, while it is not exactly necessary that a man should attempt to be weighty and important in every sentence he utters, yet since useful subjects of some kind are so interesting and entertaining as any others, a wise man when desiring to amend his mind from business, will choose that the conversation turn upon some what instructive.

without offending, people should learn to decline it. Since, however, these topics cannot be entirely excluded from conversation, we should be religiously cautious to say nothing but what is strictly and exactly true.

It is astonishing, to what an extent even correct and well meaning persons, allow themselves to swerve from the truth. Some of whom we have confidently hoped that they were Christians, are so careless in their words, that no faith is to be reposed in their statements.

BAXTER'S INDUSTRY.

Every one must be struck with the multitude of Baxter's labours as a writer. The ago in which he lived was an age of voluminous authorship, and Baxter was beyond comparison the most voluminous of all his contemporaries. Those who have been acquainted only with what are called his practical or spiritual writings, form no correct estimate of the extent of his works. These form twenty two volumes octavo, in the present edition; and yet they are but a small portion of what he wrote. The number of his books has been variously estimated; as some of the volumes which he published contain distinct treatises, they have sometimes been counted as one, and sometimes reckoned four or five. The best method of forming a correct opinion of Baxter's labours from the press, is by comparing them with those of the brethren, who wrote a great deal. The works of British Hall amount to ten volumes octavo; Lightfoot's extend to thirteen; Jeremy Taylor's to fifteen; Dr. Goodwin's would make about twenty; Dr. Owen's extend to twenty eight; Richard Baxter's, if printed in a uniform edition, could not be comprised in less than sixty volumes, making more than from thirty to forty thousand closely printed octavo pages!

On this mass of writing he was employed from the year 1649, when his first work appeared, till near the time of his death, in 1691, a period of forty four years. He had been chiefly engaged in writing, this space was amply sufficient to have enabled him to produce all his works with ease. But it must be recollected, that writing was but a small portion of his occupation. His labours as a minister, and his engagements in the public business of his times, formed his chief employment for many years, so that he speaks of writing but as a kind of recreation from more severe duties. Nor is this all; his state of health must be taken into consideration, in every estimate of his work. A man more diseased, or who had more to contend with in the frame of his body, probably never existed in the same circumstances. He was a constant martyr to sickness and pain, that how he found it practicable to write with the composure which he generally did, is one of the greatest mysteries in his history. The energy of his mind was superior to any discouragement; for though it often felt the burden and clog of the flesh, it never gave way to its desire of ease, or succumbed under the pressure of its infirmities. He furnishes an illustrious instance of what may be done by principle, energy, and perseverance, in the most untoward and discouraging circumstances.

Communication.

FOR THE WESTERN CAROLINIAN.

A large majority of the people of the State are satisfied, that our Constitution is unequal in its operations; and that a proper regard for the principles of political justice, and the interest of the whole community, requires "a Reform."—Such being the fact, it seems strange that in a republican community, the will of the majority has so long been unattended to, and failed to accomplish the end proposed: this failure has originated not from a want of unanimity as to the end, but from objections to the mode by which it was to be arrived at.

The mode, to which the attention of the Legislature has been directed, was a "Convention"—to this many objections were urged. By reference to the debates, it will be seen, that the opponents of "Reform" were enabled to prevail, not by a denial of existing evils; but by exciting apprehensions as to the danger of calling a Convention, and by ringing through all changes the old saying "it is better to bear the ills we have, than fly to others that we know not of."

This apprehension of imaginary danger—a prejudice for old institutions, which forms in politics what in physics is called inertia, by which a body at rest remains at rest until put in motion,—a very natural desire on the part of the several counties to hold on to power, regardless of right—and the difficulty of agreeing on a basis of representation, upon which a convention should be formed; (for it was urged, that as counties now from the basis of representation, each county must be equally represented in convention; were called which have combined to defeat the will of a majority and to continue the existence of evils, and a state of political inequality, too glaring for hardihood itself to deny.)

At the last session of the Legislature, a joint Committee reported a mode of effecting amendments, not obnoxious to any of the objections urged against a convention, and hailed by our intelligent community as the means of accomplishing the long wished for "Reform" without exciting apprehensions even in the most timid.

Believing that there are many in favor of reform, who are opposed to a convention, and that all such will readily unite upon the mode suggested by the Committee, if it is clearly understood; I propose to make some remarks upon the validity of amendments made in this mode;—and in the second place as to its expediency.