

Supreme Court.

On Saturday last the Court was engaged in the trial of a charge of arson brought against a man named Smith. The jury brought in a verdict of "not guilty."

Jesse Holley, the free mulatto convicted of murder and arson, was brought up for sentence about 9 o'clock at night. His counsel moved an arrest of judgment on account of some exceptions taken to the bill of indictment.

The Whig State Convention, which assembled at Raleigh on Monday last, nominated John Kerr, Esq., of Caswell, as the Whig candidate for Governor.

This last resolution, although at variance with the views and feelings of the great majority of the Whigs of this county, does not surprise us at all.

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We copy an article under the above heading from Bombay paper, as showing the annexation game which England is playing in the east.

Our friend of the Wilmington Journal speaks of Judge Douglas as a "very clever, talented, and worthy gentleman." We go several degrees beyond that.

We regard Judge Douglas as one of the ablest men of this or any other country; but it does not follow because we say this, that we prefer him for the Presidency.

There need be no difference of opinion about Judge Douglas—he is certainly one of the ablest—one of the very ablest men in the country, and we should be most happy to do battle under his leadership.

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Sampson Superior Court.

The Superior Court of Law for Sampson county is in session this week. His Honor Judge Ellis presiding. On Wednesday the 28th, a free mulatto named Wm. Boone alias Wm. Hussey, was on trial upon a charge of Burglary with intent to commit a rape.

The case of Bebee, a member of Johnson & Co.'s Circus Company, indicted for the murder of Milton Matthis in the neighborhood of Taylor's Bridge last winter, was to have come on yesterday.

The Steamship Franklin arrived at N. York on the 27th from Havre and Southampton, bringing London dates up to the 15th, being five days later than those brought by previous arrivals.

The steamship Northern Light arrived at New York on the night of the 29th, with 500 passengers, a small amount of specie, and 15 days later from California.

There is little news of any kind. Business, both commercial and mining, appears to be prosperous. Gold is coming down into San Francisco in large quantities.

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North Carolina Whig State Convention.

RALEIGH, N. C., April 27.—The Whig State Convention adjourned sine die to-day. John Kerr of Caswell county, was nominated for Governor.

1. Declares strongly in favor of Fillmore for President.

2. Declares for Graham for Vice-President.

3. Pledges their support to the nominee of the Whig National Convention, if unequivocally in favor of the Compromise.

4. Opposes the doctrine of intervention.

5. Disapproves of the public lands being given for the benefit of the new States.

6. Declares their attachment to the Constitution and the Union, and that they will resist all efforts to enfeeble them.

Other resolutions upon State matters were also passed.

The Sectional Caucus for Gen. Scott.

We copy below the view taken by the Baltimore American of the arrangements lately made by the Whig Congressional caucus to surrender the absolute control of the Whig National Convention to the anti-slavery agitators.

The Congressional Whig caucus, presided over by a Southern Senator, finds it expedient, it would seem, to do the compromise.

The country will hardly allow itself to be deceived upon this point. Men of the South of all parties cannot but ask themselves, Shall we allow our political opinions to be suppressed by a fanatical body of sectionalists at the North, hostile to us in the extreme, and who will avail themselves of the concession thus yielded to advance more exorbitant demands?

The country, we doubt not, will take note of this virtual announcement.

GENERAL LOPEZ STILL ALIVE.—The New Orleans Crescent says: One of the returned Cuban prisoners states that he is credibly informed, and has reason to believe, that General Lopez was not garoted.

The claims upon the company for compensation, which have been made and adjusted during the past half-year, consist of eight fatal cases, and eighty five cases of personal injury.

FLORIDA DEMOCRATIC STATE CONVENTION.

CHARLESTON, April 26.—On the 19th instant the Democratic State Convention of Florida assembled and nominated James E. Brown, Esq., as their candidate for Governor.

A series of resolutions were adopted, the first of which reaffirms the resolutions of the Virginia convention of 1848, and the second endorses the resolutions adopted by the Baltimore Democratic Convention of 1844.

THE COST OF A PATENT RIGHT, in England, is about £100, or \$500. This high fee operates as a restriction upon the number of inventions seeking protection in this way.

From the Commercial.

WHITEVILLE, N. C., April 23, 1852. Sir—James Blackman, who lived in the lower part of this county, was shot night before last in his own door, and died last night.

Should a mold, who murdered Byron in cool blood, and is sentenced to be hung the 21st May, be pardoned, which he has been made to expect, there will be no guessing when or where this waylaying and shooting will stop.

The Senate did not sit.

The House of Representatives.—The session of the House was devoted to the further consideration of the homestead bill, in Committee of the Whole, on the state of the Union.

As it seems now to us to be pretty well settled that the Presidential Electors will be chosen according to the apportionment under the Census of 1850—which will give this State ten instead of eleven Electoral votes—and as the Whig Convention is to assemble in this city next week, and the Democratic Convention in less than a month thereafter, we deem it not improper to bring the subject to the notice of the Whig Convention, and to express the opinion of any reasonable plan that might be suggested, with the view of facilitating the election.

How would it do to assume that the present Congressional Districts should be, for this election, the Electoral Districts, with one Elector for the State at large? This plan, if adopted, would put it in the power, at once, of the two parties to nominate their Electors and begin the campaign as we have heretofore done, during the Summer—the discussion could go on, the people could know the Electors and their Districts, and the voters voting, the Assembly could, and no doubt would, legalize by a special act for the time being the plan thus adopted.

Our idea is, that it will be necessary, under any view of the matter, to convene the Assembly some five or six weeks in advance of the regular period.

We trust these suggestions will be received in the spirit in which they are made. This is a question which can have no legitimate connexion with party. What we all seek is, to clear away the difficulties which surround the subject, and to give effect to the public will.

SLAUGHTER AT BUENOS AYRES.—A letter dated Buenos Ayres, Feb. 18, describing the defeat of Rosas by Urquiza, says:—

Urquiza is scarcely less of the tyrant and tiger than Rosas. He shoots without mercy. Eighty men and women were shot at once at the Quinta, on Thursday last, and yesterday he issued a proclamation which compromises five or six thousand, requiring all magistrates to arrest them, wherever found, and every man will be shot.

There has been a discovery made at the Quinta, which has produced some excitement even here, viz: some barrels of pickled human heads. I believe they were carefully put each in a cask, fifteen or twenty, by themselves.

A company has been in existence for a short period in London, under the title of the "Railway Passengers' Assurance Company," whose business is confined to the insurance against casualty upon the various railways of Great Britain.

The claims upon the company for compensation, which have been made and adjusted during the past half-year, consist of eight fatal cases, and eighty five cases of personal injury.

REPUBLICS NOT ALWAYS UNGRATEFUL.—It is stated that Governor Thomas H. Seymour will probably be elected U. S. Senator in Connecticut.

A REMARKABLE MAN.—The German town (Ohio) Emigration Office has just notified Mr. John Snelton, 62 years, who died in that vicinity on the 24th March, aged 62 years. The notice concludes with these surprising statements:—

"The deceased was the largest man that ever was seen. The coffin was sufficiently large to contain the men of ordinary size; measuring in width three feet four inches in the clear, and three feet in height. Three men could have worked in it. It required six men to take him from the bed on which he expired. This was done by raising a platform—removing the bed-board of the bedstead, and taking him out sideways. They could not get the coffin into the house, but by taking off the door-facing of an old vacant house that stood in the yard, they got it into that house, and carried the corpse thither on three empty bays. A wooden coffin and four horses stood prepared, and ten men placed on the coffin and its contents upon it. In letting down the coffin into the grave, they had two ropes in the middle—one at each end and one large wheel in the middle; and seventeen men to let down this great specimen of mortality into its last home on earth. Its weight was not known."

BRITISH SHIPPING.—British ships have increased fifty per cent. since 1844. Last year, the British registered tonnage was the largest on record, exceeding that of any previous year.

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FIRE IN RALEIGH.—A fire took place in Raleigh, on the morning of the 25th, at about half-past one o'clock, which destroyed the beautiful residence of the Hon. John E. Cameron, on Hillsboro' Street, with all the furniture in the house. Loss between 6 and \$7,000. No insurance.—Commercial, 29th.

From the Fayetteville Carolinian.

In reply to the inquiry of the Wilmington Journal, made a short time since in relation to the above interesting communication from a gentleman who is thoroughly conversant with the subject:

My attention has been called to the following article which recently appeared in the Wilmington Journal:—

"Deep River Improvement."—Will our contemporaries in Fayetteville Carolinian and Observer be kind enough to inform this reader what progress the Deep River Improvement is making? and why it is that a large body of timber, accumulated above the locks, cannot find a passage through them? We have had some thoughts about the matter, but would like to have a little more information on the subject. The people down this way feel a deep interest in the subject, towards which many of them have paid liberal sums of money.

Having it in my power to afford the information desired by the editor of the Journal, I take pleasure in doing so. In regard to "what progress the Deep River improvement is making," the Board of Directors at their last meeting, instructed Messrs. President and Engineer to place a sufficient force at each and every point from Fullin's Falls to the mouth of Cross Creek at Fayetteville, inclusive, to insure the completion of the work as early as possible.

This is being done as rapidly as the hands can be collected, and with the exception of the hand field dam, the Red-Rock dam, and the dam at the mouth of the Deep River, the work has been commenced at every other point. It will be commenced at the three above named dams during this and the next week.

The Board and the officers of the Company will leave nothing undone to ensure the completion of the work during the present year.

In reply to "why it is that a large body of timber, accumulated above the locks, cannot find a passage through them," the editor is informed that there is no accumulation of Timber or Lumber above any one of the Locks. All that reached the locks went through them in the late spring rise, and the few that have arrived since that time were passed through in the last three days.

In this connection it is proper to state for the information of those at a distance from the work, that in consequence of the Jones' Fall Dam not having been completed, the water runs in excess beyond the control of the Board, requiring very high water, and a large range of timber to raise it to its full height, and the water does not flow back upon the sill of the Silver Run Lock, and until the river rises at that point two feet, rafts cannot float over the mire sill.

Numbers of rafts, at various times, have been all the Locks and lodged upon the shoals below them. They only got that far on their way to market in consequence of the Locks and Dams, and were compelled to wait until the river rose sufficiently to float them down. From the unprecedented dryness of the winter they have often been detained for a long period on these shoals. With the usual winter water, even in the unfinished state of the Jones' Fall Dam, advantage might have been taken of the improvement for the purpose of floating lumber, timber, and naval stores from the head of Smiley's Fall down.

In conclusion, permit me to say that I am aware that the people of Wilmington "feel a deep interest in the success of the work," and that "many have paid liberal sums of money towards it, for which they must believe, as all do who take a proper view of this subject, that there is a rich reward in store for them."

N. C. Cadets of Temperance.

The Grand Section of the Cadets of Temperance met on Wednesday, April 21st, 1852, in this town, and adjourned on Friday the 23d, after a very spirited and harmonious session.

On Wednesday evening the Cadets, Sons of Temperance and Rechabites, made a procession at the Temperance Hall, and preceded by a band of music, proceeded to the Front Street Methodist Church, to hear an address by Rev. W. H. Jordan of Warrenton, which was very appropriate, chaste and impressive. He was followed by remarks by Rev. R. T. Heflin, in his usually forcible manner.

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