

The News. Congressional proceedings of Thursday possess but little interest. The force bill was up in the House and debated, but finally laid over to Monday.

Advices from Liverpool to the 7th report cotton 10 1/2 lower, with sales for the week of 49,000 bales. The Richmond Dispatch of yesterday says: A series of resolutions on the National day, given prominence to the proceedings yesterday.

All Hail, King Abraham! In the old country Kings and rulers travel with long trains of soldiers and attendants to insure their personal safety, but in this democratic country it has ever been our boast that the ruler could mix with the people with perfect safety and that the loyalty of our people rendered standing armies and body guards useless and unnecessary.

The meeting was addressed in a patriotic strain by J. W. Bryan, Esq. His speech would have been a capital one before the Union was dissolved, but with every confidence in his patriotism, we cannot see any good it can produce now. J. H. Haughton, Esq., followed in a lengthy speech in which he complimented the North much for its "returning sense of justice" and dealt in ridicule and sarcasm towards the seven seceded States.

Messrs. Green and Whitford. As we stated at the meeting on Wednesday night, these gentlemen are both in favor of a reconstruction of all the states if it can be done upon terms honorable to the South and on a basis that will secure our section its rights; and if not then they favor the withdrawal of North Carolina from the Union and a common destiny with the other States of the South.

Biographical Extracts. The address of Hon. Jno. S. Preston, Commissioner from South Carolina, before the Virginia Convention on Wednesday last was high among the best specimens of modern oratory. We make the following extracts: THE MARCH OF SECESSION ELOQUENTLY TRACED.

But he comes to Washington to be inaugurated as President of the United States of America. What United States? Not the States over which Jackson, Polk, Pierce, Fillmore and Buchanan presided, for seven of these have thrown off their allegiance to the general government and have formed a government of their own.

Remember. Remember freemen of Craven, that Jno. D. Whitford and Geo. Green are in favor of a reconstruction of all the States and the perpetuation of the Union, as it is, with a consummation possible; and falling in this and a permanent separation between the North and the South, being unavoidable, they will favor North Carolina going out and connecting her destiny with the South.

Which was Yankee Doodle the biggest fool over the "Prince of Wales" or "Old Abe" when he was "Old Abe's" war water sold as high as the price of the paper?

but with the South divided as it is we see perpetual ruin. People of North Carolina you are called on to decide this question next Thursday, and while we know you are all patriotic and that you all desire to do what is best for yourselves and for posterity we beg of you to remember that the Union is already dissolved. Reconstruct it we may, but save it never; for it is already broken up.

The Meeting Last Night. In pursuance of the call for a Union meeting a respectable number of citizens met at the Theatre last night. On motion Alex. Justice, Esq., was called to the chair and T. A. Mitchell and Allen G. Eubank appointed secretaries.

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FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS.

Mr. Green's Acceptance. NEWBURN, N. C., Feb. 21, 1861. GENTLEMEN:—Your letter informing me that I had been unanimously nominated as a candidate to represent the people of Craven county in the State Convention called by the present General Assembly and requesting my acceptance of the nomination has been received.

To be entrusted by my fellow citizens with the protection of their dearest rights at an important crisis like the present is an honor of which I feel justly proud, and for which I return to them my sincere thanks. I accept the nomination, and should I be elected I will endeavor to discharge the trust reposed in me in such a manner as to merit the approbation of my fellow citizens.

Annual Statement. NEWBURN, FEB. 18, 1861. The regular annual meeting of the Stockholders of the "Newburn Mutual Insurance Company," was held this day at the office of the Secretary and Treasurer.

Losses cancelled and exposed. Am't of prem. notes on hand Feb. 15, '61, \$92,332 27 Am't of prem. Feb. 15, '60, \$7,406 96

Am't of notes expired previous to Feb. 15, '60, and entered in the ending Feb. 15, '61, \$9,440 12 which amount properly belongs to increase of notes for the present year \$14,470 43

Stockholders Meeting. At a meeting of the Directors of the "Newburn Mutual Insurance Company," held at the office of the Secretary and Treasurer, on Tuesday, February 19, 1861, the following gentlemen were elected officers of the company for the ensuing year, viz:

Mr. Whitford's Acceptance. RALEIGH, FEB. 22ND, 1861. Gentlemen:—I have received your note informing me of my unanymous nomination as a candidate, by a large and respectable meeting held in the town of Newburn on the 20th inst., to represent Craven county in the Convention called by the present General Assembly of North Carolina.

THE PEACE CONGRESS. WASHINGTON, FEB. 21.—The Commissioners from Illinois, Pennsylvania, Ohio, New Jersey, Rhode Island, and all the free States of the States, with the exception, perhaps, of one or two from Virginia, will vote to-morrow for the Border States proposition.

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North Carolina. Declined.—The Union candidates in Mecklenburg county, being now satisfied that there is no hope for a compromise or honorable adjustment, positively decline to run for the Convention and go for the other ticket.

Miscellaneous. Col. Braxton Bragg, of a "little more grape" celebrity, and Capt. J. K. Duncan and J. M. Taylor, have been selected by the Governor of Louisiana as his aids-de-camp.

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MONDAY MORNING, FEB. 20, 1861.

A Friendly Word. We regret very much that some of our Union friends should have taken offence at the following sentence which appeared in the Progress on Thursday morning:

All good men were for the Union as long as there was a Union, but any man who attempts to make the masses believe that there is a Union now is guilty of presentism, what he knows to be, or ordinarily intelligent, a false issue. Show us a way to reconstruct the Union upon an equitable, sure and firm basis and we will labor for it with our whole heart, but this cannot be done with Southern men and Southern States give aid and comfort to the Black Republican.

It is known we have been a strong Union man, and even now we cherish a hope that the States may be brought together again. We are for Union as long as there was a Union; we opposed secession because we believed that if the proper demand had been made by a united South it would have probably been accepted; but the Union is dissolved and without our agency, and as we honestly believe that the time has arrived when the border slave States have to take sides we declare ourself with the South.

On account of the above extract an effort was made at the meeting Friday night by the gentleman who last addressed it, to show that he had cast a stigma on all who sympathized with that meeting. We meant to do no such thing. If the American Union, as it existed before the election of Lincoln, is whole and perfect, all who profess to call themselves Union men have a right to be offended at the above extract, but if, as we contend it is, the Union is dissolved, we spoke but truth in the extract above and no one has a right to complain. Is the Union dissolved then, or not? We say it is, and why? Because the sovereign people of seven States have declared themselves absolved from it, and in a state of rebellion. They hold the forts, arsenals, dock yards, etc. in defiance of the Government, and no successful effort has been made to coerce them. More, their representatives have assembled and organized a Provisional Government and elected officers.—This Government will send accredited agents to Washington in a few days to treat for a settlement of public property, a division of the national debt, &c., and if they be not received and their mission acknowledged, such refusal will be a declaration of war on the seceded States and the conflict will commence, and when it commences North Carolina will have to take part for or against the seven seceded States.

As a further proof of the disruption of the Union, foreign governments, who are friendly to us, are deploring the dissolution of the American States. We say again, then, and we mean no disrespect to any one by the assertion, that whoever attempts to present the issue of Union or disunion in North Carolina, if the attempt is made to induce the masses to believe that the Union is not dissolved, is guilty of promoting a false issue.

These columns will bear us out that we have endeavored to prevent division and bad feeling in this country. During our absence, supposing the nominations would be made before we reached home, we even wrote appeals to some of our personal friends to try to get up a ticket that would be acceptable to the whole county so as to avoid contest or division among ourselves; and I was now most solemnly declared that, had Messrs. Wadsworth and Clark been nominated by the Convention on Wednesday night instead of Messrs. Whitford and Green we would have supported them, with the views which we believe them to entertain. We never thought of Mr. Clark for the post, because we do not think any member of the Legislature should receive or accept a nomination for the Convention, inasmuch as it is possible, if not probable, that the Legislature and Convention may both have to be in session at the same time; and as to Mr. Wadsworth it is well known that we presented his name at the meeting in which we took part, and even after the committee had reported other names urged his nomination.

As to the meeting called for Friday night we positively disclaim any intention of casting any reflection on any one who took part in it.—Many of them are our personal friends for whose opinions we have the greatest respect, and all of them we doubt not are equally as patriotic as other citizens.

Some allusion was made to giving "aid and comfort" to the Black Republicans.—What is giving "aid and comfort" to the Black Republicans? We consider that any one who gets up in an assemblage in North Carolina and ridicules the citizens of the seceded States and eulogizes the people of the North for their patriotism and "returning sense of justice" is guilty of giving "aid and comfort" to the Black Republicans. This, others as well as ourselves think was done by the gentleman who last addressed the meeting on Friday night, and we say here that had that speech been made on either floor of Congress at this time it would have elicited marked applause from the Black Republicans on the floor and in the galleries, and, most probably, hisses from Southern men. The gentleman is one for whom we entertain unqualified respect and in whose patriotism and loyalty to the South we have confidence, but like many others he is an extremist in political matters.

These remarks have been made with the best feeling and only for the purpose of setting ourself right in this matter.

Large and Enthusiastic Union Meeting in Craven.

In pursuance to a call issued on the 21st February one of the largest and most enthusiastic Union meetings assembled at the Theatre on the evening of Friday the 22nd inst., being called by Alex. Justice, Esq., to the chair. On motion of J. H. Haughton, Esq., a committee of five to recommend suitable candidates for the Convention was appointed by the chair, consisting of the following gentlemen: Messrs. J. H. Haughton, Dr. O. Hooker, J. D. Planner, Thos. W. Hinton and J. Eubank, who having retired, in a few moments returned and reported through their Chairman, J. H. Haughton, Esq., that the committee unanimously suggested the names of G. C. Clark and W. B. Wadsworth, which nomination was confirmed by the meeting by acclamation.

James W. Bryan, Esq., being called upon, in a special and somewhat lengthy discourse the consequences involved in the action of our people in this crisis, during which he elicited frequent and loud applause. J. H. Haughton, Esq., being next called upon responded in an able and dignified manner, denouncing the Black Republican mirage and aggression, and explaining of the timely abandonment of the Union by our sister States of the South. The following gentlemen were appointed by the chair as a committee: Messrs. J. D. Planner, Dr. J. D. Toll, Thos. G. Peeling, John A. Simpson, Alex. Mitchell, W. W. Fife and John A. Wilson.

On motion of J. D. Planner, the "Daily Progress" was requested to publish the proceedings of this meeting, and the Kinaton Advocate and all other papers favorable to the preservation of the Union were requested to do so. The meeting then thinking the Chairman and Secretaries for the manner in which they had discharged their duties, gave three loud and prolonged cheers for the Chairman, J. H. Haughton, and three more for Messrs. Bryan and Haughton, and adjourned to meet on the 29th inst. at the ballot box to fight for the Union.

Public Meeting in Jones. At a public meeting of the citizens of Jones County, held at the Court House in Trenton on Wednesday the 22nd inst., the following resolutions were adopted for the purpose of expressing the sentiments of the people relative to the crisis that impends over the fate of the country, and to select some one to represent Jones county in the approaching State Convention.—On motion of E. H. E. Perry, Franklin B. Harrison, Esq., was called to the chair, and on motion Richard S. Boston was requested to act as Secretary.

The chairman in a few brief and appropriate remarks explained the object of the meeting. He said that the object of the meeting was to express the sentiments of the people of Jones County, and to select some one to represent Jones county in the approaching State Convention. He then read the following resolutions: 1. Resolved, That we approve of the calling of a Convention of the people by the present Legislature.

2. Resolved, That North Carolina in Convention assembled should claim all her rights under the federal Constitution, and fail to obtain from the non-seceding States sufficient guarantees for the protection of her rights and interests, and should refuse to be the judge of the infraction of the Constitution and the mode and cause of redress.

3. Resolved, That any attempt on the part of the federal government to deprive the seceded States of their rights and interests, and to violate the constitutional rights and interests of any of the States is repugnant to the principles of justice, human rights and liberty, and that we will resist to our utmost ability any attempt to force a State to yield obedience and obedience to a broken and violated Constitution.

On motion the foregoing resolutions were unanimously adopted. The committee recommended to the meeting as a suitable person to represent Jones county in the State Convention the name of William Fyfe, Esq., and was unanimously agreed to.

On motion of E. H. E. Perry, a committee of three was appointed by the chair, consisting of E. Perry, Thos. E. Pittchett and E. M. Foscutt to inform Mr. Fyfe of his nomination and request his acceptance of the same.