

MESSAGE

Of Governor MOREHEAD in relation to the History of the State.

To the Honorable

The General Assembly of North Carolina: GENTLEMEN:—In my Message, at the beginning of the Session, I called your attention to various subjects in connection with the history of the State, and suggested the propriety of sending an agent to London, to procure from the proper offices there, copies of Documents, without which, it is impossible that our Colonial History can ever be correctly written.

Subsequent reflection and examination into the condition of the records and papers belonging to the Executive and Legislative Departments of the Government, has satisfied me, that we have a work to perform at home, of deeper interest, and of more immediate necessity, than that contemplated by the foreign agency which has been commended to your consideration.

The Act of Assembly, requiring that letter books should be kept in this Department, was passed in 1784, shortly previous to the close of Gov. Martin's administration. On the retirement of that gentleman from office, he placed in the hands of his successor, three well arranged manuscript volumes, containing his official correspondence, during the years 1782, 1783 and 1784—His example has been faithfully followed; and we have, consequently, an unbroken series of Letter Books, from 1782 to the present time.

From the close of the revolution, so far as the Executive Department is concerned, we possess ample materials for history. To what extent the files of the two Houses, the State Department, and other offices, can contribute memorials of that great struggle, is an exceedingly interesting enquiry, which no one at present is prepared to answer.

Governor Caswell's first administration commenced with the adoption of the State Constitution December, 1776, and extended through the years 1777, 1778 and 1779. A memorandum, in his handwriting, found among his private papers, shows that, at the expiration of his term of service, he deposited the papers which had accumulated in his office, in a chest, for preservation. The chest is not to be found in this Department. The interesting papers it must have contained, are probably preserved in scattered files in various offices.

Gov. Nash presided in the Executive Department during the year 1780, and until the summer of 1781, when he resigned his office. Of this brief but most interesting period, memorials probably exist; but none, it is believed, are to be found in any Department of the Government. His correspondence, if it can be traced and secured, will doubtless afford interesting information in relation to both the expeditions undertaken by Lord Cornwallis for the subjugation of this State; his advance to Charlotte, the gallant defence of that village, the defeat of Ferguson at King's Mountain, and the consequent retreat of his Lordship to South Carolina, are events which crowd themselves into the history of a few weeks, in the autumn of 1780. The battle of the Cowpens, the fall of General Davidson at Cowan's Ford, the apparent conquest of the State, consummated by the erection of the Royal Standard at the seat of Government on the 23d February, 1781, the defeat of Pyles, the battle of Guilford, and the retreat of Cornwallis to Wilmington, following in quick succession, are among the most prominent events which give character to American history. The course of our patriotic State, from the earliest period, is imperfectly known and lightly appreciated; Cornwallis and Tarleton had better opportunities to ascertain the true character of our people, than any American historian; and they have borne bitter, but faithful testimony, of our rebellious nature.

Governor Nash was succeeded by Governor Burke, in June, 1781. The true character of this able, energetic, but most unfortunate Chief Magistrate, seems to have excited but slightly the attention of those most familiar with our history. Nothing in relation to him has been preserved in any of the public offices; but his entire correspondence, preserved by his only child, an intelligent and amiable daughter who still survives him, may be obtained, and will shed light on the few dark but eventful days, during which he held the reins of Government.

Few incidents of the revolution are calculated to excite deeper interest, than the circumstances connected with the descent upon Hillsboro', the seat of Government, by the Tories on the 12th September, 1781; the seizure of the Governor in the midst of his friends; his delivery in eleven days thereafter to Major Craig at Wilmington; his close confinement at Wilmington and Charles-town as a prisoner of State; his escape from St. James Island, and return to his office in the spring of 1782; the duties of which in the interim, had been discharged by the Speaker of the Senate, Alexander Martin.

One of the modes, which has occurred to me as best calculated to effect the object of this communication, is to authorize my successor in this department, to collect, if possible, such papers as may be necessary to complete the series of Letter Books, and have them copied and arranged under his supervision. In addition to this, he might, with obvious propriety, be authorized to obtain, as far as practicable, either the original papers, or copies of the proceedings of various town, county and district committees, organized in the province, in compliance with the recommendation of the Continental Congress of 1774, for the purpose of carrying into effect the Articles of American Association, and of the proceedings of the various Committees and Councils of Safety subsequently convened under the authority of the Provincial Legislature. Whatever may be the plan, which may secure your favor, I cannot suppose that the subject will fail to excite a proper degree of interest.

Justice to ourselves and to our illustrious revolutionary patriots, requires that we should preserve the materials of our revolutionary history. Already have we redeemed our obligation our glorious Declaration of Independence, and established its truth and certainty, beyond all question, notwithstanding the insinuation of an illustrious American citizen, that it was a hoax and a fabrication.

Papers and letters now in the office of your Secretary of State, in the handwriting of William Hooper, one of the delegates of North Carolina in the Continental Congress, and whom the same illustrious citizen chose to pronounce a Tory, prove beyond all question, the assertion to be wholly unauthorized, notwithstanding its high origin. It is due to ourselves that our revolutionary history should be placed fairly before the world. No State has more to be proud of than North Carolina.

The British troops in no part of America met with such stubborn and unrelenting resistance, in proportion to the means and numbers, as they encountered among the inhabitants of North Carolina.

Cornwallis pronounced the country between the Yadkin and Catawba, the most rebellious district in America; and he found his reception at Charlotte, in 1780, so warm and his stay so much embarrassed by the unmerciful manner in which the surrounding inhabitants were in the habit of paying their respects to his Lordship, and those under his command, that he had to retire into South Carolina to avoid such annoying calls; and the recollection of their sojourn in that place induced the British soldiers to entitle it "The Harrier's Nest."

An extract from Tarleton's History of the Southern Campaigns, of 1780 and 81, herewith

communicated marked A. will show the manner in which the enemies of America were received by the inhabitants of North Carolina.

Indeed, our whole history of the Revolutionary struggle, shows that no body of enemies to American Liberty, whether foreign or domestic, British or Tories, could find rest for the soles of their feet upon our soil; and it is our solemn and patriotic duty to preserve, by all means in our power, every memorial of that noble struggle. These memorials are now scattered over the State, and gradually disappearing; and like the leaves of the Sybil, they rise in value as their number decrease.

Very respectfully,  
Your obedient servant,  
J. M. MOREHEAD.

Executive Office,  
Dec. 21, 1844.  
Extract from Tarleton's History of the Southern Campaigns of 1780 and 1781. Pages 160-161.

"It was evident, and it had been frequently mentioned to the King's Officers, that the counties of Mecklenburg and Rowan (Rowan was more hostile to England than any others in America). The vigilance and animosity of these surrounding districts checked the exertions of the well affected, and totally destroyed all communication between the King's troops and loyalists in the other parts of the province. No British commander could obtain any information in that position, which would facilitate his designs, or guide his future conduct. Every report concerning the measures of the Governor and Assembly would undoubtedly be ambiguous; accounts of the preparations of the Militia could only be vague and uncertain; and all intelligence of the real force and movements of the Continentals must be totally unobtainable.

The foraging parties were every day harassed by the inhabitants, who did not remain at home, to receive payment for the produce of their plantations, but generally fired from covert places, to annoy the British detachments. Ineffectual attempts were made upon convoys coming from Camden, and the intermediate post at Blair's Mill; but individuals with expresses were frequently murdered. An attack was directed against the picket at Polk's Mill, two Miles from the town; the Americans were gallantly received by Lieutenant Guyon, of the 23d regiment; and the fire of his party from a loop-hole building adjoining the mill, repulsed the assailants. Notwithstanding the different checks and losses sustained by the militia of the district, they continued their hostilities with unwearied perseverance; and the British troops were so effectually blockaded in their present position, that very few, out of a great number of messengers, could reach Charlotte-town in the beginning of October, to give intelligence of Ferguson's situation."

THE LATE LEGISLATURE.

The Captions of the Acts passed at the recent Session of the General Assembly are copied into this paper for the reader's inspection. We refer to them with a satisfaction never before experienced on contemplation of the enactments of our "assembled wisdom." No Session, since we have been observers of public affairs, has ever worked harder, or done more good for the people of the State. Their acts, in the present straitened condition of the finances, have been prudent and sagacious, and governed by the strictest regard to the honor of the State. The laws passed touching the relation of debtor and creditor evince a moral courage never manifested in any preceding Assembly, and will, we doubt not, have a good effect upon the general business of the country, and conduce to the comfort of wives and children, who have hitherto endured too wretched extent the penalty attached to the crime or misfortune of the head of the family.

So far as politics was mixed up with the Legislative proceedings—especially in the Senate—we must express our entire and cordial approbation of Whig action. Particularly in regard to the organization of the Senate; and the action upon the case of Ennett in that body, did they nobly sustain themselves—paying scrupulous regard to the old republican maxim that majorities shall rule, in the one case, and in the other holding sacred to the last the honor and purity of the Senate.—Greensboro' Patriot.

RANDOLPH MANUFACTURING COMPANY.

This establishment is situated in the handsome village of Franklinville, on Deep river, in Randolph county. It has done a flourishing business the past year. We are informed that the Company divided 15 per cent. and left 6 per cent. for contingencies. They use 700 pounds of raw cotton per day, and make, in the weaving department, 700 yard of cloth per day. The operatives are all white, and sustain a moral character equal to that of any portion of the surrounding population. The capital of the Company is \$35,000.

Cedar Falls Factory, on the river two or three miles above Franklinville, under the immediate superintendence of its proprietor, H. B. Elliott, Esq., is likewise doing a good business.

Greensboro' Patriot.

THE HEAD AND THE HEART.—It is an unwelcome truth to the young and the aspiring, that a character for moral worth, no matter how humble the individual may be in the scale of intellect, is preferable to the most shining talents, where integrity of soul is wanting. It is but an evidence of the depravity of poor human nature, to see so universal a disposition to cultivate the head and neglect the heart. How it stings us to the quick to find our understandings disparaged! But how carefully do we hear of imputations against the susceptibilities of our hearts! And yet, if we would cultivate the esteem of the good; command the ultimate respect of all; and be prepared for the trial of eternity before the Judge of the world—the Searcher of hearts—nothing but moral integrity of soul will avail us.—Ibid.

MESMERISM AND SURGERY.

A surgical operation was performed by Dr. Dugas, on the 12th instant, which satisfied the most skeptical as to the influence of the mesmeric sleep. The subject was Mrs. Clark, the wife of Mr. Jesse Clark, of Columbia county, who had been for some time afflicted with cancer of the breast. After having been, for several days previously, thrown into the mesmeric sleep by Mr. B. F. Kenrick, in order to arrive at a state of insensibility in the patient, which was satisfactorily tested by the usual tests, such as pinching, sticking pins in different parts of the body, and finally by the knife, on the leg, the Doctor proceeded on the 12th instant to remove the entire breast, which was accomplished without the slightest exhibition of pain by the patient. Indeed, so complete was the triumph, that the patient, who was not aware when she was put to sleep, that the operation was to be performed, could not be persuaded that the breast had been removed, after she had been relieved of the mesmeric influence, until she had satisfied herself by an examination of the part, which had itself been carefully covered and concealed from her view. We presume the case will be fully reported in the Medical Journals.

Georgia Chronicle.

Mr. Hale, of N. H. it seems, has written, a Circular, in which he avows himself "an out and out opponent against the Annexation of Texas." Mr. Hale is forthwith denounced, in the Richmond Enquirer, in effect, as a political renegade and traitor, and as playing into the hands of the Whigs.

House of Commons.

REMARKS

Of Mr. WASHINGTON, on the bill to authorize the Wilmington and Raleigh Rail Road Company to issue Bonds to the amount of \$100,000, to redeem a like amount of Bonds issued under the Act, entitled "An Act for the relief of the Wilmington and Raleigh Rail Road Company."

Mr. SPEAKER: I have not risen to inflict a speech upon the House at this stage of the debate, but simply to correct some erroneous impressions which gentlemen seem to entertain, as to the means of the Company, and their ability to meet their engagements.

It is urged, Sir, that the means of this Company have been greatly diminished lately, by the loss of the contract for carrying the mail. Now Mr. W. took it upon himself to say, as well from his own personal knowledge of the matter, as from information derived from the President and some of the Directors, that the Company had sustained but little if any loss, in yielding up that contract. Owing to the shortness of the time allowed them for running it, and the rigid rule adopted by the Department in enforcing forfeitures, they had frequently found the contract inconvenient and embarrassing to their operations, and would, he verily believed, do better without it than with it. But even if the contract were desirable to them, no fears need be entertained on account of its temporary loss. It was perfectly certain, that the Raleigh and Gaston Rail Road Company cannot long retain that contract, and it must eventually be given back to the Wilmington and Roanoke Rail Road Company; for he had been assured by gentlemen well acquainted with such matters, that the passengers on the latter line will always be from twenty-four to thirty-six hours in advance of the mail. Now could it be imagined for a moment, that the people interested in this matter would not submit to such a grievance. He did not believe they would.

It had been also said, that there was a mortgage on the property of this Company, by money borrowed in England. Mr. W. was authorized by the President and several of the Directors and Stockholders, to say that there was no such mortgage. And it was perfectly certain, he said, that if such a mortgage had been given, it would have had no force or effect until it was registered in the Counties through which the Road runs; and no such instrument was to be found in the Register's books in any of those Counties.

The gentleman from Rowan, (Mr. Ellis,) had insisted that if there was no such mortgage given to secure that debt, then the State of North Carolina was bound to pay it. Mr. W. did not intend, he said, to argue this proposition at length, but he must be allowed while up, to express his dissent from it. Every lawyer in this House knew that the State held her stock in that Company, precisely in the same way that the individual Stockholders did; and she was not bound as a State, either in law or in morals, to pay the debt contracted by the Company in England.

Gentlemen, said Mr. W., seem to overlook the fact that this bill has not come before upon the shape of an application from the Rail Road Company, for assistance or relief, but has been reported by the Committee on Finance as the best means of enabling the State to meet engagements, that are pressing upon her. The facts are simply these: The State of North Carolina has endorsed certain Bonds for the Wilmington and Raleigh Rail Road Company, some of which will fall due on the first day of January, and others on the first day of July next. The Company have promptly paid the interest on said bonds up to this time, and are now prepared to pay the interest due on the same. They are not, however, prepared to meet the principal. Now the holders of those bonds have expressed a willingness, upon having the interest paid, to wait longer for the principal, provided new bonds shall be given in lieu of those now outstanding, with the guaranty of the State. This bill is willing to adopt that course, and this bill authorizes the execution of that agreement upon certain conditions. What are those conditions? First, that no lien or security, which the State now holds on the property of the Company, shall be in any respect impaired. Secondly, that the Company shall give a mortgage on other property, of the value of sixty or seventy thousand dollars, not included in the previous deed. And it provides, in the third place, in case the State should ever be compelled to pay said bonds, for a more speedy recoument of the mortgage and remuneration of the money. And, Sir, how any man who regards the interest of the State can vote against this bill, I am utterly at a loss to conceive. I hope, Sir, the bill will be passed, and passed immediately.

ARREST OF A MURDERER.—Our readers have seen an account of the murder, in Baltimore, of a man named PAUL ROUX, of Georgia, in Solan's Hotel, on Monday night, as was supposed, by a man named Henry McCurry, in whose room Mr. Roux, on his arrival, was put to sleep. After the murder, McCurry (who is an Irishman, aged twenty-six) locked the door of the room, took the key with him, went down to his breakfast, and left the city at eight o'clock in the evening in the Philadelphia train.

We were informed through Professor Muese's Telegraph yesterday evening that Officer Rogers, of Baltimore, who went in pursuit of McCurry, succeeded in overtaking him at New York, where he was arrested on Thursday morning and duly committed to prison to await the requisition of the Governor of Maryland. McCurry had shipped on board a vessel which was prepared to sail for England on the day of discovery. In his possession was found the gold watch of Mr. Roux, as well as his purse and other articles, which were identified by a personal friend of the deceased.—National Intelligencer.

MORTALITY AMONG THE FISH.—Mr. B. Strobel accounts in the Charleston (S. C.) Courier, for the extraordinary mortality among the fish on the sea coast, this season, by the sudden cold in the early part of December. He supposes that they were suddenly exposed to unusually cold water, which made them torpid. We never heard of such an event before, but as it is known that sudden heat is equally unpleasant, as witness the following true and graphic statement:

"The sun's perpendicular heat,  
Blinded the depths of the sea;  
The fishes, beginning to sweat,  
Cried, bang it how hot we shall be."

And we think it would be well for some one piscatorially affected, to provide means of comfort for the fishes near the Jersey shore, against these sudden changes of temperature to which they are exposed—a sort of "fuel-savings" for codfish and bass, would meet the object.

There is an episode in the Texas epic, which creates some interest. The history is thus given in the New York Courier and Enquirer. "Our readers are not likely to have forgotten the sharp and interesting controversy between John Quincy Adams and Gen. Jackson, which has grown out of the recent agitation of the question of the annexation of Texas. The latter, in one of the many letters which he has been induced to write upon the subject, took occasion to charge the administration of Mr. Monroe, or rather his Secretary of State, Mr. Adams, which having surrendered to Spain, by the provisions of the treaty of 1819) the territory of Texas, when it was at his option to retain it. This charge was reiterated by all the echoes of General Jackson, and among them by Messrs. A. V. Brown and C. J. Ingersoll. It was very fully examined by Mr. Adams in two long addresses which he delivered in Massachusetts, previous to the Presidential election, and very thoroughly disproved, by reference to the diplomatic correspondence which ended in the negotiation of the treaty. But he went further, and said that the adoption of the boundary line in that treaty received the explicit sanction of General Jackson himself, previous to its adoption; and quoted from his diary a conversation with Gen. Jackson, in which he expressly commended it. Gen. Jackson denied, pointedly, the truth of the assertion, and Messrs. A. V. Brown, C. J. Ingersoll, and the Globe, joined in an assault upon Mr. Adams, charging, with a bitterness of personality seldom equalled, that he had forged the pretended extract from his diary, for the purpose of sustaining his assertion."

Mr. Adams, of course, remained silent as to this charge upon his personal veracity, leaving time and his own character, to sustain his assertion. But the matter is not suffered, by others, to rest here—and Mr. Adams is already sustained and vindicated by those who have determined that truth and justice shall prevail.

Those who take an interest in this subject have probably not failed to notice this passage in a speech made by Hon. J. P. Kennedy, of Md, in the House, a few days since:

"Mr. K. stated distinctly, and called the particular attention of all, to the fact, that the treaty of 1819 received the express sanction of General Jackson, that he was consulted as to the question of boundaries during the progress of the negotiation, that it was submitted to him after it had been drawn up, and that his letters opening of the treaty were in existence and could and would be produced if the fact was denied on the floor of the House."

This statement of Mr. Kennedy undoubtedly refers to a publication made some time since, through the National Intelligencer, written by a "personal representative," of the late President Monroe, in which occurs the following explicit and important paragraph, which we quoted at the time—on the 25th of December:

"It is eminently due to the memory of Mr. Monroe explicitly to state that, in the execution of the high duties involved in this measure, he did not fail to avail himself of all the lights which patriotism and experience could shed upon it. Its provisions were the subject of friendly consultation with Jefferson and Madison, names identified with no concession unworthy of their country, and the policy dictated, especially as to boundary, by the written approbation of Jackson, well versed in the localities of a territory to which they refer, then lately the scene of military services distinguished by high personal responsibility, which gave him new claims to the grateful recollections of his country."

MARRIAGE SCENE IN THE WEST.—The N. O. Picayune gives the following description of a wedding among emigrants:

"A few Sunday mornings since, as a large number of emigrants, with their wagons, cattle, &c., were journeying through Mississippi, on their way to Arkansas, and shortly after passing through a small town, it suddenly occurred to two of the party, a young man and woman, who had been for a while greatly troubled with the wily snares of Master Cupid, that they could go no further unless they were converted into one! A halt was therefore called, the difficulty made known, and a message despatched back for a 'Squire. In a short time the officer appeared, and in the presence of a large company, in the open road, he pronounced William A. Moles and Nancy Plant, husband and wife.

After the "knot was tied," says the Yazoo Banner, the father of the bride invited all who had voted for Clay to come forward and "salute" her; and all who had voted for Polk to "take a buss at his old woman." The scene closed by a general distribution among the company of numerous slices of gingerbread, in lieu of the bride's cake, and the happy pair, accompanied by their friends resumed their journey. May William find the climate of his new home congenial to his young and tender Plant.

BEAUTIFUL ANECDOTE.

A happier illustration of the wonderful character of the Bible, and the facility with which even a child may answer by it the greatest questions, and solve the sublimest of mysteries, was perhaps never given than at an examination of a deaf and dumb institution, some years ago in London. A little boy was asked in writing, "who made the world?" He took the chalk and wrote under the question, "In the beginning God created the Heavens and the earth." The clergyman then inquired in a similar manner, "Why did Jesus Christ come into the world?" A smile of delight and gratitude rested on the countenance of the little fellow as he wrote:

"This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners."

From the New York Observer.

BEAUTIFUL INCIDENT.

The following incident occurred a few weeks since in a village of one of the southern counties of our State. It was a warm Sabbath afternoon, and the doors of the village church were thrown open to let in the balmy air from the fields without. The congregation had assembled, and whilst the minister was reading the first hymn, a beautiful dove entered the door and came walking up the aisle. Such a visitor drew of course universal attention. But the choir arose to sing, he seemed startled, and lifted himself on his wings, alighted on the stove pipe above him, where he sat bending his glossy neck and turning his head as to catch the harmony as it swelled through the temple of God. Whether it was the chorusses of voices, or the full toned notes of the organ that captivated him, I cannot tell; but he sat the perfect picture of earnest attention till the music ceased. Waiting a moment as if to hear the strain commence again, he started from his perch and sailed to the top of the organ, where he furled his pinions and sat and looked down on the audience. The young clergyman arose to pray. He is distinguished for the earnestness and fervor of his invocation, and as he stood with his hands around the Bible which lay clasped before him, humbly beseeching the Father of all good to send His Holy Spirit down, that beautiful bird pitched from its resting place on the organ, and sailing down on level wings the whole length of the church, perched on the Bible directly between the hands of the clergyman. It was merely a natural occurrence, but how beautiful the picture! There stood the messenger of God, with face toward Heaven—the Bible before him, around which his hands were reverently clasped, while on it stood that innocent and beautiful dove. The three together formed a group full of interest, symbolizing all that is dear to man. 'The word of God was before the people, with God's chosen emblem upon it, and God's herald clasping them as he prayed. What wonder is it, if a superstitious feeling ran through the house as the people watched the dove—the emblem of innocence and purity and the divine spirit itself—standing on the Bible and looking down on them. Beautiful bird! it centered for a time the affections of all on it; and he who could have injured it would have injured hundreds of hearts at the same time. The pressure of its tiny feet was no sacrilege there, for the expression of its soft eye was innocence and love.

FATHER SMITH AND MA'AM JONES.

Widower Smith's wagon stopped one morning before widow Jones' door, and he gave the usual country signal, that he wanted somebody in the house, by dropping the reins and setting dooble with his elbows on his knees. Out tripped the widow, lively as a cricket, with a tremendous black ribbon on her snow-white cap. Good morning was soon said on both sides, and the widow waited for what was farther to be said.

"Well, Ma'am Jones, perhaps you don't want to sell one of your cows, no how, for nothing, any way, do you?"

"Well, then, Mr. Smith, you couldn't have spoke my mind better. A poor, poor lone widdler like me, does not know what to do with so many critters, and should be glad to trade if we can fix it."

So they adjourned to the meadow. Father Smith looked at Roan—then at the widow—then at the Downing cow—and then at the widow again—and so on through the whole forty. The same call was made every day for a week, but Farmer Smith could not decide which cow he wanted. At length on Saturday, when widow Jones was in a hurry to get through with her baking for Sunday—and had "ever so much" to do in the house, as all farmers' wives and widows have on Saturday, she was a little impatient—Farmer Smith was as irresolute as ever.

"That 'ere Downing cow is a pitty fair creature—but he stopped to glance at the widow's face, and then walked round her—not the widow but the cow."

"That 'ere short horn Durham is not a bad looking beast, but I dont now"—another look at the widow.

"The Downing cow I knew before the late Mr. Jones bought her. Here he sighed at the allusion to the late Mr. Jones, she sighed, and both looked at each other. It was a highly interesting moment.

"Old Roan is a faithful old milch, and so is Bridle—but I have known better." A long stare followed this speech—the pause was getting awkward, and at last Mrs. Jones broke out—

"Lord! Mr. Smith, if I'm the one you want, do say so!"

The intention of the widower Smith and the widow Jones were duly published the next day as is the law and the custom in Massachusetts; and as soon as they were "outpublished," they were married.

MEXICO—FLIGHT OF SANTA ANNA.

The recent news from Mexico is of the retreat of Santa Anna, the desertion of many of his troops, a battle with Gen. Parades' army, the defeat of Santa Anna, and his flight in disguise. The revolution was progressing throughout the Republic.

LATER.—An arrival at Charleston from Vera Cruz, with news to the second inst., appears to discredit the above. It is stated that Santa Anna was still at the head of 6,000 men, and that Parades, with 9,000 men, avoided a battle, as his forces were constantly increasing, whilst Santa Anna's were deserting. The Mexican Congress had declared Santa Anna a traitor and outlaw, and authorized any one to take his life. Means had also been adopted to prevent his escape. Mr. Tripler (a passenger), states that the whole country is in a state of the utmost confusion—robberies of travellers were committed daily, and he himself was twice stripped of whatever was valuable about him, in his progress through Mexico, but without any indignity being offered to his person. It is the opinion of Mr. T. from what he could learn, that the new government would be as much if not more virulently opposed to the annexation of Texas as the former, and states that Americans are held in great abhorrence, and receive frequent insults at the hands of the Mexicans.

Proceedings in Congress.

In the House of Representatives, Friday, by its order, C. J. McNulty, the Clerk, was brought to the bar in the custody of the Sergeant at Arms, to answer for a defalcation amounting to \$44,000 reported against him.

Mr. McNulty being informed by the Speaker that the House was ready to hear any defence, avowed that he had never used for his own purposes, or loaned to individuals for their private use, any of the public funds entrusted with him. He asked the House to suspend its judgment until next day, at 2 P. M., when he would be able to settle up to the last dollar.

After much discussion the House decided to suspend him from his duties until after the investigation, and he was, by its order, discharged from the custody of the Sergeant-at-Arms.

The Senate did not sit on Saturday, having on Thursday adjourned over until Monday.

The House proceeded to consider the report of the Committee on Accounts, in relation to McNulty's defalcation. Mr. TAYLOR, of Va., from the Committee, rose and stated that in consequence of the proceedings yesterday, in relation to McNulty's case, the Committee on Accounts had met this morning, for the purpose of receiving the Clerk's explanation.

They had met at 10 o'clock and continued in session until 12 o'clock, and that McNulty did not appear, but sent his accounting clerk, Mr. Kershaw, at half past 11, with papers and books.

The Committee had not time to go into a full examination of them, and asked Mr. KERSHAW where the money was that was deficient? To this enquiry he said he could not tell, and that McNulty would have to answer the question himself.

The committee, said Mr. TAYLOR, were indignant at this, inasmuch as Mr. McNulty had informed the House yesterday that Mr. KERSHAW, his clerk, would be able to make a satisfactory explanation as to the disposition of the funds.

The committee had received a letter from Mr. McNulty this morning, in which it was stated that he (McNULTY) had on deposit in the Bank of America, in New York, the sum of 29,000.—Whether this was true or not, the committee could not determine, but it did not, in any event, materially alter the aspect of the case.

The Committee considered him deserving of dismissal and punishment. He had disregarded the authority of the Committee in not appearing before them, &c.

Mr. Weller, of Ohio, rose and stated that he hoped there was not a person present who believed that the opinion, he expressed yesterday, that McNulty could satisfactorily explain his accounts was not honestly, at that time, entertained by him (Mr. Weller). He still thought the Clerk would not in the end prove a defaulter, and that the Government would not lose a dollar by him, but circumstances it appeared, would prevent McNulty from clearing up the difficulty at present, but in a week or two that would probably be done.

He (Mr. W.) had himself been grossly deceived by the representations of the Clerk yesterday, and he felt the deepest mortification on account of it.

The question was then put on the adoption of the first resolution reported by the Committee, dismissing McNulty from his office as Clerk to the House.

The votes were taken by Yeas and Nays and the resolution was unanimously adopted; Yeas 196, Nays 0.

The second resolution was then taken up, which directs the Secretary of the Treasury to institute legal proceedings, to ascertain and secure the balance of public money due by McNulty.

It was unanimously adopted.

The third resolution requires the President to cause criminal proceedings to be commenced against McNulty, for an embezzlement of the public money, and all persons participating in such embezzlement.

Mr. Duncan, of Ohio, and McDowell, of Ohio, opposed the adoption of the resolution, on the ground that sufficient evidence was not furnished that an embezzlement had taken place.

The vote was then taken on the adoption of the resolution and it was adopted—Yeas 170, Nays 4.

Mr. Hopkins, of Va., offered a resolution appointing Benjamin B. French Clerk of the House, and moved a suspension of the rules for its introduction.

The rules were suspended and the resolution was adopted, so that Mr. French, the Chief Assistant Clerk, was appointed in the place of McNulty.

The Speaker then administered the oath of office to the new Clerk, when the House adjourned at 3 o'clock.

On Monday, in the Senate, Mr. Benton presented his instructions from the Legislature of Missouri, which, he says, are all exactly right and confirm his views.

The House of Representatives, had the Texas question up again for discussion.

FIRE.—A fire was discovered, about 5 o'clock on Friday morning last, in a wooden building on Hay street, in this town, and was not arrested until that and three other buildings, all occupied as Grocery Stores, had been destroyed. The house in which it originated belonged to D. Baker, Esq., and was occupied by Mr. Thos. J. Anderson.

Two adjoining frame houses, on the East, were owned by D. Carver, Sen. and D. Carver, Jun.—The loss of these three sufferers is very severe, as they saved nothing and were not insured.

On the West, the three story double brick building of Mr. Zadock Burroughs, occupied by the owner and by Mr. David McDuffie, was on fire soon after the alarm, and before the engines were brought to bear. Mr. Burroughs had \$1000 insurance on the building, and saved a considerable portion of his stock, but his loss is still heavy.

On the West of that Building, and in actual contact with it, was the large two story wooden store house, owned and occupied by Mr. Thos. S. Lutterloh, the preservation of which the untiring efforts of the Firemen and Citizens were devoted for perhaps two hours, during which it was several times on fire. It is high praise to all concerned to report the fact, that a building so exposed, and of such combustible materials, was yet preserved. It should animate our exertions in any future emergency. Mr. L. suffered some damage by removing his goods and by water, but is insured.

In blowing up one of the wooden buildings, Mr. E. Laeta was considerably injured by the falling timbers; but we are happy to say that he is recovering.

We understand that the inquiries instituted by the Magistrate of Police showed that the fire was doubtless accidental.