

MISCELLANEOUS.

We publish the following, from the "Richmond Times," by request: THE RAIL ROAD CONTRACT WITH MR. F. E. RIVES. BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS.

We noticed a few days since, that a special meeting of the Stockholders of the Petersburg Railroad Company had ratified a contract entered into by the Directors of the Company with Mr. Francis E. Rives, by which a certain sum of money is to be paid Mr. R. as long as his portion of the Portsmouth and Roanoke Railroad shall not be used for travel.

But to show that the inconsistency complained of is not justly charged upon the Board, it is proper that their course on the subject should be understood. In their report to the Legislature of December, 1843, that Board called attention to the rivalry between the Petersburg and the Portsmouth Railroad, and to the condition and prospects of the two improvements.

Acting upon these general views, the Board cannot consent to subject the Portsmouth and Roanoke Railroad Company, in which the State, in addition to many and weighty objects of public policy, has a money interest of more than four hundred thousand dollars, to the operation of a contract which, in the present condition of that company, cannot be otherwise than seriously, and perhaps fatally, felt.

THE LATE EARL GREY.

The death of this distinguished English nobleman, announced by the last arrivals from Europe, has rendered the court of George the Third, so celebrated. Descended from an ancient family, educated at Eaton and Cambridge, and elected to the House of Commons before his majority, he early commenced a career which proved as brilliant as it was protracted.

The House of Lords assembled on the 7th of May, and proceeded the same afternoon to commit the reform bill. In committee, the Ministers were defeated on a motion, made by Lord Lyndhurst, to postpone the disfranchising to the enfranchising portion of a bill; and thereupon, under all the circumstances of the case, they judged it expedient to acquiesce in the measure.

There remained, however, but a choice of evils. Lord Eldon, and the anti-reformers in general, resolved, therefore, to abstain from further resistance, and the bill went rapidly through the committee. On the 4th of June it was read a third time, after a division, in which 106 supporters of it recorded their votes against only 22 of its opponents.

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Buying votes with liquor. In copying the following presentation of the Grand Jury of Rowan county, at the late August Term of the Court, the Editor of the "Hillsboro Recorder" says that "Rowan county is not the only county in the State where the evil exists, and where there are signs of its increase to a frightful extent."

August Sessions, 1845. We, the Grand Jurors of Rowan, Present.—That the most of the business brought before us during this Term, has been in consequence of Drunkenness, and that a great deal of it has been occasioned by and through the public treating of candidates for public offices at different times and places, consequently we cannot help but view the practice as an evil, and it is growing evil, for it is manifest to every one that it is annually becoming worse, and we cannot help but feel alarmed for the good order and morality of the community at large, if not for liberty itself.

The Spartan, published at Spartanburg, contains a strong appeal to the "Laboring Classes of the Upper Country," to leave the State to save themselves from starvation. "We say to you," says the writer, "in all sincerity and kindness, fly while it is possible for you to do so. What hope is there for you if you stay? Alas! there is scarce a shadow of one. If the whole of the balance of the old crop with the whole of the new, was equally divided but amongst the people, according to the numbers they have to feed, it would not last until the middle of March next."

YOUTHFUL CRIMINAL.—A youth named Arnold, suspected of the murder of a Mr. Tanehill, an overseer, in the parish of Concordia, last September, was arrested a short time since in Catahoula parish, and lodged in jail. This boy, Arnold, who is only fourteen years of age, if he be the murderer of Tanehill, (as it is reported he has confessed himself,) says the Baton Rouge Gazette must be no trifier in the business of crime, young as he is. Tanehill was killed by the charge of a double-barrelled shot gun—twenty seven buck-shot were lodged in his body.

RESPECT FOR THE DEAD IN PARIS.—In Paris when a corpse is carried through the streets, every person who meets it, from the King to the scavenger, takes off his hat, and keeps it off till the mournful hearse has passed. Indeed, many persons not only uncover themselves, but instantly drop on their knees on these occasions.

MANUFACTURE OF CLOCKS IN CONNECTICUT.

The New Haven Courier contains an interesting account of the clock factory of Mr. Jozon, in that city. This establishment is one of the most extensive of the kind in the United States. On entering, our ears were greeted with the mingled sound of saws, the thunder of two or three powerful steam engines, and the clatter of machinery.

The movements are all cut in proper forms and sizes by dies, with great precision and rapidity, even to the pivot holes in the plates, which have been pre-drilled. The cogs in the wheels are grooved out by the same rapid and skillful process. The posts, pins, and smaller pieces of the inside work are turned from the more rough material, polished and finished at the same time, while the plates and wheels are cleaned and polished by rising first in a strong solution of aquafortis, and then in pure water.

We learn from him that the greatest bulk of clocks which he anticipates making this year are designed for European markets, and that he has already received orders from houses in London and Birmingham, England, a large house in Scotland, and also some quite extensive dealers in Canada. In fact, the Yankee clock is becoming a general favorite in England, almost entirely superseding the old Dutch clock, which has been long used there as a time piece.

AMERICAN RAILROADS. The following list of Railroads completed and in progress in the United States, with their length and original cost, we find in a late number of the "American Journal," and republish as a matter of general interest. There are now in the United States, in operation and nearly completed, over 2,000 miles of Canal, and if we add to these the Railroads recently projected, we shall have an aggregate of more than eight thousand miles of Internal Improvements.

Table with columns: Railroad Name, Length in miles, Cost. Lists various railroads such as Portland, Saco and Portsmouth, Boston and Maine, etc., with their respective lengths and costs.

THE SINCERITY OF PRESIDENT POLK.

The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Patriot narrates the following facts. If they be correctly stated, no one will accuse the writer of too much harshness towards the prominent actors in the discreditable scenes described.

"I once thought that John Tyler was the very meanest and poorest apology for a President that ever did, or could, arrive at so exalted an appointment. But I am of that opinion no longer. (He was bad enough, 'goodness knows.') I learn that a gentleman is now in this city, who was the editor of a leading Tyler paper some two or three years ago, in one of the Atlantic cities, and afterwards received a handsome appointment through the Secretary of the Treasury—that, while holding this appointment, last year, he went through the West, with Gov. Cass, Mr. Rantoul, and others, on an extensive electioneering tour, making speeches for Polk and Dallas, and spending his salary freely—that he visited Mr. Polk in Tennessee, by whom he was distinctly and positively assured that Mr. Tyler's friends who supported the 'Democratic' nominations, were his friends, and should be elected, he would most assuredly consider them, and in regard to the filling of offices, would know no distinction between them and the other members of the 'Democratic' party—that, satisfied with and gratified at these assurances, the locomotive Tyler office holder foresaw that on his way rejoicing and electioneering—that last winter he came on here and he was, by Mr. Tyler, nominated as Charge des Affaires to Naples—that Mr. Tyler, after having a talk with William H. Polk, who desired a mission to Naples, prevailed upon him to let him withdraw his nomination and substitute that of Mr. Polk as a matter of policy, by which he, on account of the magnanimity in waiving his nomination, would profit, as well as Mr. Tyler's friends in general—that after this, and after the new Administration was installed, Wm. H. Polk was his friend and partook of his hospitality, and Jas. K. Polk and Robert J. Walker, assured him that he might return to his home and retain the office he still held until a better one abroad would be conferred on him—that he went home with a joyous heart, congratulating himself and his family upon the brilliant prospects in the future, but had scarcely arrived when the dismissal from the office he then held, by Mr. Secretary Walker, overtook him, and that, from that time to this, he has laid upon his oars, to see how, in what manner, and when, Mr. President Polk will require the very clever act which he did in behalf of the functionary's brother, the present Charge des Affaires to Naples! The gentleman has already seen it is presumed, how Mr. President Polk is fulfilling the promises which he earnestly made to the Tyler men and Conservatives while he was Mr. Candidate Polk!"

ANNECOTE OF MR. PROFIT. The following anecdote of Mr. Profit is furnished to the Providence Journal by a correspondent: In the early political life of Mr. Profit, when a member of the Legislature of Indiana, he exhibited the same modest assurance and self-esteem that has since made him so conspicuous in more elevated stations.

Referring to our onward progress, he makes this pithy remark: "Had Spain colonized this region, how different would have been her career of civilization! Had the puritan fathers landed on the banks of the Plata, how many hundreds of large steamers would be here, how many playing the Parana and Uruguay—how many railway trains flying over the Pampas—how many large schools and universities flourishing in Paraguay!"

He arrived at Charleston on the 28th of December, and he gives this brief note: "We arrived here after a journey of one hundred and sixty miles through the forest of North Carolina, between Weldon and Wilmington, and a voyage of about 17 hours in a steamship, chiefly in the night, between Wilmington and this place. Here we find ourselves in a genial climate, where the snow is rarely seen, and several times above an hour or two upon the ground. The rose, the narcissus, and other flowers, are still lingering in the garden, but now woods still verdant with the magnolia, live oak and long leaved pine, while the dwarf fan palm or palmetto, frequent among the underwood, marks a more southern region. In less than four weeks we left Boston, we have passed from the 43d to the 33d degree of latitude, carried often by the power of steam for several hundred miles together through thinly peopled wilderness, yet sleeping every night at good inns, and crossing the facilities of locomotion in this country with the difficulties which we had encountered by the year before when travelling in Europe, through popular parts of Touraine, Brittany and other provinces of France."

Turning to Profit to ask him if he could aid him in securing the reward, he discovered the member, with hat in hand, making long strides for the door, amid a general roar of laughter from all sides of the House. Private and local legislation was wonderfully facilitated, by this occurrence, during the session.

NOTICE. THE Creditors of STEVEN M. DICKEY, a Bankrupt in Person County, N. C. are hereby notified, that the undersigned will make a final distribution of the assets of said Bankrupt's Estate, on the third Monday in September next, and that an application will be made to the Judge of the District Court of the United States, at Chambers in Fayetteville, for an order to that effect, on that day. E. G. READE, Assignee, &c. of S. M. Dickey.

NOTICE. PURSUANT to an Order of the Court of Equity for Northampton County, I shall attend in the Clerk and Master's Office of said County, on the first day of October, for the purpose of stating an account of the Trust funds of SAMUEL B. BRYANT, in the hands of H. J. GARROW, Trustee. All persons interested in the distribution of said funds, are requested to come forward and present their claims on that day. WM. BARROW, C. M. E. Jackson, July 30, 1845.