

to prescribe the means of enabling the people to call a Convention? Upon what principle is this, except that they may, as the people's representatives, make recommendations for the sanction of the people? If they are limited and sanctioned, then by what process can it be demonstrated, that recommendations bestow unlimited power, when in their terms they are specific only? Say that the Legislature has recommended to the people, a Convention without limit, and they refused to sanction it, that immediately after it, they recommend a Convention with power only, to abolish the 22nd Article of the Constitution, and this recommendation is confirmed by the people, and a convention accordingly assembled? Can there be a doubt, that the Convention is strictly limited, and that they will not—cannot exceed their bounds? Say that those who penned this recommendation, timid and jealous of power, superadded that upon the questions submitted to the Convention, their vote shall be final, but if they shall attempt to do more, then no act of theirs shall be valid and binding without the subsequent ratification of a majority of three fourths of the people, "or even the unanimous assent of the polls." duly taken by a vote at the poles within 30 days after the adjournment of the Convention. Where, and what is the danger of such a Convention. But we are not left without the light of experience to guide us on this interesting subject. Since these governments were formed and the means of conveniently providing a limit were thus furnished, it has not been unusual with the States to impose it in some form. When the Federal Constitution was proposed to the people of the States for their acceptance, each State called a limited Convention; these Conventions had no power to do more than to accept or reject the whole plan, as it was proposed; unless it was in cases where the Legislatures recommended that they might exercise certain other limited powers, and the people ratified it.

New York, whose constitution was like ours silent as to the mode of reforming it, and experienced the same inconveniences from her representation that are now felt in North Carolina as well as other inconveniences, from doubts entertained on another article of her Constitution. The Legislature recommended and the people approved the calling of a convention in 1601 to remedy these evils, but the convention was limited to these powers and duties only. When the people of Virginia called a convention to revise their constitution, it was limited to the duty of framing the amendments they deemed expedient or preparing a new constitution, and submitting their work to be approved or rejected by these People at the polls; so the convention regarded it and so they acted. The constitution of New Hampshire provides that a convention may be called every seven years to amend it; but the powers of this convention are expressly limited by a proviso that no alterations shall be valid until they are laid before the people and ratified by them. The People of Georgia have elected delegates to a convention, which is limited to specific duties and is ordered to be organized by administering an oath to the members, that they will not attempt to violate the boundaries prescribed for them. In our own State we have had two limited conventions since 1776, the one to consider of the Federal Constitution and permanently to locate the Seat of Government—the other to reconsider the Federal Constitution and to give Fayetteville the right of electing a member to the Assembly. But we will not pursue it further. No fair mind will demand further proof that it is consistent with both the theory and practice of our government that the People may limit a convention to specific subjects of consideration, and whether they will do so or not is a question not of right but of expediency.

The mode of altering the Constitution that is recommended by the report of a Committee in our last Legislature may be properly adopted. Why may not the General Assembly submit to the People certain specific amendments for their adoption? If the Legislature may recommend a Convention to make amendments—or to accept or reject specific amendments, and the people by ratifying such a recommendation can cause the convention to be assembled for the purposes that are designated, it is difficult to conceive why the people may not vote directly upon amendments proposed to them by the Legislature. It is impossible to maintain a contrary position until it can be shown that the People derive power and do not confer it on Conventions—until it can be proved "that the creature is greater than its creator" or that "the servant is above his master." The path of truth is here also pointed out by experience and practice. It is a mistake if we suppose that the principle of this recommendation is without precedent. The constitution of Connecticut prescribes this very mode of making alterations in that instrument. The State of Alabama in effect, though not in words, confirms it by her own charter, whilst the States of South Carolina, Maryland, and Delaware recognize the same right in substance by allowing changes to be made in their Constitution by the votes of two successive legislatures, the amendments being published and an election by the people having intervened.

Thus it is demonstrated that this plan for amending the Constitution is not liable to any objection on principle. Since our Constitution is silent as to the mode of proposing amendments to it, the people are free to adopt any course which is consistent with the principles of a popular government and the practice of the American States. If this mode of reform is proper in itself, there are some views of its expediency which give it peculiar claims on our consideration. Much difficulty will be experienced in determining after what manner and upon what basis the People should be represented in a Convention called for the reform of an existing constitution, and it is not unworthy of our notice that whilst this would cost nothing, a Convention will create some charge upon the Publick Treasury. Those who entertain any real fears of a Convention ought not to subject to this plan; upon the ground of expediency as they will be thus shielded against all dangers except "the will of a

majority" and even that will be restricted to an eye or no; upon whatever the ruling minority shall consent to put forth for public sanction. The rights of the minority, will be protected against encroachment by the over-balancing power they have in the Legislature, that prepares the amendments to be submitted and the rights of a majority are safe in their own hands, because they will not approve of amendments by which they will be made worse off than they are now. What then are the objections urged against it? It is said to be novel in practice and principle and far too easy in its execution. We have shown already that it is not novel in principle nor is it without precedent in practice; the experience of 50 years might convince us that it is not so easy of execution; for our Constitution was ratified in 1776 and has not been amended since 1789. Besides, it is proposed to quiet all such fears by the article which prescribes a mode for future amendments. It is said however that the right of the People contended for by this recommendation "is founded on the assumption that all were born with equal political powers" and that it "leads to the monstrous conclusion that a majority may impose upon the minority what government they please; that they may abolish the representative republican institutions of this country and rear upon its ruins the most intolerable despotism." But these objections pass a sentence of condemnation upon the Declaration of Independence and the principles of the American Revolution; and when we deny this right of the majority of the people to remodel their government, it leads to the much more "monstrous conclusion" that a minority, "that one man may perpetuate the "most intolerable system of tyranny" over the rights of the majority, may usurp all the powers of the government and leave the majority with no rights but to practice the virtues of tame and quiet subjects. The people cannot fail to reprobate a principle of opposition that leads us to such conclusions. Sovereignty, a power which binds all others, yet is restricted by no other, and bound by no forms, must reside somewhere. In this country it is lodged with a majority of the People. No objections can be fairly urged against the time at which it was proposed to take the vote of the people, for it is in the power of the Assembly to prescribe the most quiet and convenient season of the year.

Fellow Citizens of North Carolina! In the fair exercise of a right that is common to all free-men in a free State, and in the execution of a trust, which was confided to us by a respectable body of the people and their representatives; we have laid before you, the complaints which are made against the Constitution of the State, with the grounds of them, and as far as the limits of an address like this would permit, we have also, considered of those plain and practicable remedies, which are sanctioned by the principles of our government, and have been confirmed by the practice of the people in other States. We have endeavored to do this, not only with manly plainness of speech, but with a strict regard for the feelings and pride of others. We have drawn no sectional lines, none such ought to exist, and we do not mean to be responsible for the consequences of any attempt to create or preserve them. The People of North Carolina, ought to be one in feeling, as they are in interest. We put it to the consideration of the people, whether this subject does not authorize an appeal to the justice of the minority, the right of a majority, and the interest of both?—Whether those who desire reform will not now demand it, and whether those who think their demands fair, will not now concede it! We sincerely believe that the speedy settlement of these questions, involves the destinies of the State; that it will restore harmony where there is discord; that it will be the means of developing the internal resources of the State, without any recourse to additional taxation; that it will economize the government, so as to bring its expenses below the regular ordinary revenues, that it will destroy the division of East and West, and disengage our Representatives from the strifes of sectional party; that it will stimulate them to higher and more promising exertions, for reviving the hopes and advancing the prosperity and honor of the State.

WILLIAM H. HAYWOOD, JR. }
RICHMOND M. PEARSON, }
ROMULUS M. SAUNDERS, }
THOMAS DEWS, JR. }
June, 1st, 1833. }
Committee.

From the correspondent of the Portland Daily Advertiser.

THINGS ON THE MISSISSIPPI AND OHIO.

Louisville, Ky. May 8, 1833.—Go back with me to New Orleans full of mosquitos, haunting you day by day and assaulting you with their poisonous sting by night so that you are glad to escape at early evening to your bed under your mosquito net, where you can read and think in peace,—to New Orleans now in full summer, teeming with the rich fruits of earth,—and follow me yet longer, if you have patience, on this long voyage to another region, another people, another climate where I again meet spring, and the strong bracing air of New England.

I have said nothing of the rich plantations on both banks of the Mississippi above New Orleans,—nothing of the fine rich looking houses of all models and all colors, as erected by the taste of a Spaniard, a Frenchman, or an American,—but, nevertheless, such houses and plantations are on the levee of the Mississippi for miles above New Orleans, adorning the river, and variegating the prospect,—sometimes seeming like whole villages as they neatly painted negro huts cluster around the palace of the master,—and sometimes like delapidated towns, which negligence have left to ruin. These are chiefly rich sugar plantations on the finest lands in the world, extending into the interior but a short distance, where is almost an interminable swamp—but rich where it is good at all, formed from deposits of Mississippi, which like the Nile, fertilizes its banks. But there is soon an end to this display of a rich country and fine houses. Houses soon appear further and further off, and look poorer and poorer. At last the embankment ceases,

or nearly ceases,—and then is seen a swamp with its cypresses, spotted only here and there by the hut of a daring wood-cutter who supplies the steam boats with fuel,—or bluffs appear, bluffs or hills of all shapes, from the curved to the ragged or rent parallelgram. We passed Donaldsonville in the night. Baton Rouge was seen at advantage by day light, with the neatly built Arsenal just above the town. We stopt at Natchez awhile, which time I improved in ascending a high bluff through deep mud, expecting to see nothing sufficient to compensate for my trouble, when at once a beautiful little city broke in upon the view, Natchez itself with elegant houses, handsome streets, and well bordered with the China tree. I looked into the squares and gardens, which were then flourishing in all their glory. As elegantly clad ladies were in the principal street as one will see in Broadway. I regretted that I could not tarry longer to see this city of Mississippi, a state which I skirt in my travels, but of which one can see but little in a steam boat.

That part of Natchez under the hill, a small part, the port as it were, is filthy and uninviting. There was loud conversation on the subject of the Cholera. It seems that Natchez is a port where slaves are brought and sold so as to avoid the law of Louisiana, and from thence are introduced into Louisiana. A slave trader brought a hundred slaves there for sale, many of whom had after their arrival died of the cholera, and these the driver had carelessly thrown into a ditch, half covering their bodies with dirt, so that the first rain brought them forth to the horror of the inhabitants. The excitement was great, and I hopesufficient to drive these vendors of souls and bodies further off to pursue elsewhere their accursed traffic.

Of Arkansas on the left bank of the Mississippi, we saw nothing but its forests, its cane brakes so thick as to be almost impervious to light, and the cabins of its wood cutters, who were "squattling" on the lands of the government, and selling wood at 2.50 cts. per cord, disdaining to cultivate the soil, when by levelling the huge trees on the banks, they could thus easily put money into their pockets. Somewhere in Arkansas while our steambot was "wooding," I strayed off a little and found near a log cabin two Indians hideously painted as in their days of war and glory, now beastly drunk with whiskey, and revelling in all the extravagances of intoxication.

Our voyage from Vicksburg where we stopped in the night, to Memphis, in Tennessee, was uninviting and unvaried but by the passing of the flat boats and steam boats for New Orleans and Red River,—or the occasional soundings which we made in crossing a sand bar. "A quarter less twain," "no bottom" "mark above water twain," or the like, were the chief sounds that saluted our ears,—while forest, forest, forest, with the huts of the wood cutters, were all we could see on the shores.

Memphis is on a bluff or hill. It is a small neat looking place, with a few brick buildings. We drifted on the current as our small boat, or yawl put off to take in boat stores. Memphis seems to the voyager on the Mississippi, like a refreshing port, when he has once more come in sight of land after being long upon the waters. We left there at evening. After a copious shower of rain with the thunder of the South, not of New England, the bright moon looked forth in its full radiance, and we journeyed up the strongly opposing current in high spirits and good fellowship,—passing in our steamer the Senator, the Farmer and the Red Rover, all full of Cholera as I was informed.

It was on Saturday evening that we left New Orleans. The next Saturday morning early, we were near the mouth of the Ohio, in the light silver waters of the river on the right bank of the Mississippi long before we approached its mouth; for as the two streams meet, it is long before they unite, the Ohio keeping its peculiar tinge and the Mississippi its turbid yellow color for ten or twelve miles. About this time our mosquitos had nearly left us. The climate was different; the season less advanced; the scenery on the banks of the river more undulating, and more varying. On entering the mouth of the beautiful river "la belle riviere" well called by the French, I felt like the sailor who on a long voyage has caught a glimpse of shore, yet we were 450 miles from Louisville. The country was however, becoming more inviting. We were out of the low country. We were free from mosquitos, from swamps and morasses—but yet we had indeed a voyage to make, before we reached Pittsburg or Cincinnati.

An indefinable sensation of satisfaction, delight and beauty, comes over one, as he sails up this river, and notices its graceful curves, and sloping banks now alive with vegetation, and covered with the ash, the oak, cotton wood and cypress. There is a calmness, quietude, and unobtrusive simple grandeur, that lulls the senses into contentment, and even draws the eye and opens the applauding mouth of him who has no soul for nature. The current is calm and unruffled. All is as quiet as when the first adventurous party first sailed from the upper waters on their adventurous voyage—they hardly knew whither. Occasionally the banks are broken by rocks. At times, but seldom, a precipice is to be seen, but generally speaking, there is a sloping woodland of mighty trees, beautiful but yet awing, alluring but impressive.

We passed by many villages on the banks of the Ohio—villages or towns in Kentucky, in Illinois and Indiana. We landed at a few and passed others in the night. Paducah in Ky. is a rapidly growing village, Shawnesetown in Illinois, on the spot of an old Shawnee settlement is a place of some importance. But I am not writing a geography, nor a book of travels. Amid clouds of dust which a high wind was blowing in all directions, our steamer, the Chancellor, left New Orleans on Saturday, 6 P. M. April 27,—for what almost equals a sea voyage—Louisville, Ky. distant by the river 1445 miles. But what is distance here! little or nothing, as steam is realizing the dream of the lover in "annihilating time and space.

First, I will give you an idea of our steamer, and thus show you the comforts of travelling on the Western waters. The Chancellor is a boat of about 450 tons, a splendid boat, far better than any I have seen on the Atlantic waters, though not the best as I am informed on the river. Our cabin is above the deck, in the second story,—open, airy and spacious.—This cabin is elegantly furnished, as elegantly as a saloon,—with a rich carpet,—in short with all the comforts, and conveniences of a parlor in the best of hotels. This cabin when all open, "extends almost the whole length of the steam boat. But there are doors dividing it in the after part, so as to give the ladies a separate apartment. On the right and left of this cabin, are state rooms, with two births in each, a writing table covering a bowl and pitcher, and thus giving one an opportunity to wash, as well as to write,—or there are open births, as in all cabins, protected by Venetian blinds, alternating one with the other. Thus the passenger can be alone all day, if he wishes, or he can enjoy a semi-society and an open birth,—with a freer circulation of air.

Our table is well provided with all the luxuries as well as the solids of the season. We took in a quantity of ice at New Orleans, which stood by us till we reached Memphis, (Tenn.) when we recruited. Thus we have the muddy water of the Mississippi, not filtered as at New Orleans, for here that would be difficult,—but well-iced and therefore very cool and very good. Our meals are at the usual hours,—but in addition we have a good luncheon at 12 o'clock. There is a bar on board with fruits and liquors in abundance. Now even the Epicure need not hesitate to travel here,—nor the lover of ease, for the life if there is error, is too luxurious and easy.

Our captain is a polite, and apparently an accomplished man,—one of the best on the river, I suspect. He is provided with a clerk, pilots and engineers, who are paid well, and has comparatively little else to do than to oversee the manner in which things are managed.—Neatness and order prevail in all his arrangements. His waiters are attentive and obliging.

Our company is not very large. There are but few ladies in this boat, though the boats, this spring are generally crowded. We passed the Farmer the fourth day out, which started two days, before, full of ladies, and with about 200 deck passengers, boatmen principally, among whom the Cholera had broken out. When we passed her she had buried four persons, and three more were on the point of death. The Farmer is a rapid but not a neat boat,—and this is perhaps the reason, that the passengers there were so unfortunate, while not a case had occurred in our boat. The dead on board of the Farmer were buried without a coffin, or the common ceremonies of sepulture. It is horrid thus to be left in the wilderness, far from home and friends,—the victim of such a disease!

The cabin passengers, of whom there are forty or fifty, amuse themselves in reading, or in writing a little, which you will see from my hand-writing, is not so easy an employment from the jostling of the machinery,—or in conversation, promenading, playing backgammon,—or in conversation, promenading, playing backgammon, chess, or cards. I have seen in the Chancellor but a very little that gambling, and that lasted only a few hours. By the regulations of the Boat, all card playing ceases at 10 P. M.

Our deck passengers have various amusements. Some see a little over the cat-gut of a fiddle. Some play a Jew's harp. Some sing. Some sleep. Some tell stories,—and a few read a little. They are the boatmen who go hundreds of miles down to New Orleans in their flat boats, or "broad horus" as they call them, and after discharging their cargoes, break them up, sell the materials, and then take passage back in a Steam Boat, at a very cheap rate, working in part for the wood, which is consumed by the Steam boat,—and which by the way costs about 60 or 70 dollars, a day, the wood being on an average about two dollars a cord.

The company I have met with on board of the Steam Boats here, is better than report would lead one to expect. It is varied enough to be sure. There are men of all occupations,—from the professed gambler to the venturesome pioneer and hunter of the far-off wilderness. These men in general have great spirit, great volubility, a great love of telling great stories,—of electioneering,—of brisk fighting,—and tomahawking and Indian hunting,—but they are such men as one can sit hours with, and then enjoy their company. There is an originality, spice and vivacity in their conversation that interest one. They swear without much ceremony, and intersperse in their eloquence an oath, not between every sentence but every two or three words. Indeed common as profanity is at the north, and the south, the Steam boat men of the west far out do even the most gifted of our sailors. At home we exaggerate the roughness of western manners,—and of western boatmen of whom as yet I am only prepared to speak. Some few wear knives, but such are nearly all from the low country. An equal fight is enjoyed; but an unequal contest is not tolerated. This propensity, however, is not one tenth part as strong as the Irish exhibit,—this pugnacious propensity I mean. Gouging in Kentucky, I suspect, is quite all moonshine. Western boatmen are a brave, hardy, and rugged body of men,—the bone and sinew of a working population.—They sail off in their flat boats, on a journey often, of nearly 2000 miles with a bold heart and a jovial front. You see them every mile and a half of a mile, spotting the yellow waters of the Mississippi, and the calm silver current of the Ohio. They are paraded often at morning and evening on shore, or are rowing carelessly along on the whirling, eddying stream of the great river. Every little tributary river that we pass throws them out on their distant adventurous voyage;—from the bayou or outlet, to the far reaching Tennessee, or more distant Illinois. Such a population must be bold, vigorous,—and the more so as they are the founders or the sons of the founders of new empires in this magnificent West.

NEWBERN PRICES CURRENT.

Table listing various commodities and their prices, including BEE SWAX, BUTTER, CANDLES, COFFEE, CORDAGE, COTTON, COTTON BAGGING, FLAX, FLOUR, GRAIN, IRON, LARD, LEATHER, LUMBER, MOLASSES, NAILS, NAVAL STORES, OILS, PAINTS, PEASE, FROVISIONS, SALT, SHOT, SPIRITS, STEEL, SUGARS, and TEAS.

J. M. GRANADE & CO.

HAVE just received per schr. Trent, from New York, the following articles, viz: 7 ps. splendid Painted Muslins, 4 " embossed colored Furniture Dimity, a new and elegant article, 4 " plain white do. do. 1 " pink Florence do. do. 50 " Moscheto Netting, 3 hhd. light brown Muscovado Sugar, 10 bbls. " do. do. 10 bags St. Domingo Coffee, 5 " prime Cuba do. 5 " Laguira do. 10 boxes Patent Mould Candles, 30 bbls. New York Canal Flour, (Beach's red brand,) 7 doz. bottles London Brown Stout Porter, 5 " " Lemon Syrup, 1 cask superior Claret Wine, now finishing and will be ready for use in 20 days, 5 bags Allspice, 5 " Pepper, 10 bales Cassia, 30 " Nutmegs, 20 " Cloves, 25 " best quality Indigo, 10 boxes Poland Starch, 20 " Soap, 15 doz. Nos. 0 and 1 Weeding Hocs, 10 casks Lime, 10 kegs fresh Goshen Butter. They have also on hand, 65 bbls. Mess Pork, 83 " Prime do. 2,000 bushels Turks Island Salt, 5,000 lbs. assorted Bacon, 50 kegs Lard, 10 tierces prime Charleston Rice; All of which, in addition to their extensive assortment of Dry Goods, Groceries, &c. &c. they offer at a moderate advance on the cost. Newbern, 30th May, 1833.

JOSEPH M. GRANADE & Co.

Have just received by the schr. Geo. Pollock, 25 bbls. N. Y. Canal Flour, (Beach's brand,) 30 half do. do. do. do. 1 bag soft shelled Almonds, 2 bbls. double refined Loaf Sugar, 2 hhd. N. E. Rum, 1 ton square Iron, assorted sizes, 2 " bolt and spike Rod, do. do. 6 Willow Cradles, 7th June, 1833.

Richard B. Berry, TAILOR.

HAS on hand, Shirt Bosoms, Stocks, Shirt Collars, and a variety of Trimmings, which he will sell at the lowest prices. He continues to execute with dispatch, and he trusts, to the satisfaction of his customers, all orders in his line of business. He has received the latest impressions of the New York and Philadelphia FASHIONS, and has made arrangements for receiving others as they shall be published. Wanted, one or two APPRENTICES from the country, of from 14 to 16 years of age. Newbern, May 31, 1833. Osborn's Syrup, PREPARED and for sale by CHARLES S. WARD, Druggist and Apothecary, next door to B. Hotel. Newbern, Feb. 15, 1833.