

Intelligence.

- At a meeting of the Board of Superintendents... 1. Allen Adams, James Penny, Aug Turner... 2. Thos. G. Whitaker, Jno. J. L. McCullers...

RAIL ROAD CONVENTION.

At an Internal Improvement Convention held at Wilmington, on Saturday, the 5th day of January, 1850, the Intendant of Police, Col. James T. Miller, was called to the Chair temporarily, when, on motion of Geo. Davis, Esq., the Chairman was authorized to appoint a Committee of five to report officers for the permanent organization of the Convention: Messrs. Geo. Davis, A. J. DeRosset, Jr., P. K. Dickinson, Miles Costin, and M. London, were appointed said Committee.

After brief consultation, Mr. Geo. Davis, on behalf of the Committee, reported the following officers: For President, Dr. F. J. Hill, of Brunswick; for Vice Presidents, Messrs. Geo. S. Stevenson, of Craven, and T. H. Williams, of New Hanover; for Secretaries, W. F. S. Alston, of Wayne, and W. B. Gulick, of Craven. This report was adopted unanimously.

The President, on taking the Chair, returned thanks to the Convention for the honor conferred upon him, in a few neat and appropriate remarks, with respect to the great benefits of Internal Improvements, applying his remarks particularly to the improvements in the navigation of the Cape Fear.

CONGRESSIONAL.

SENATE, Jan. 7, 1850. Mr. Douglas moved, and it was ordered, that the prior orders be suspended, and that the several resolutions heretofore offered might be taken up; they were simple resolutions of inquiry, and could not lead to debate.

The resolution submitted on the 24th ultimo, by Mr. Bradbury, calling upon the President for copies of charges preferred against persons removed from office, &c., was first in order, and was laid over for the present.

The next in order was the resolution offered on the 27th ultimo, by Mr. Clemens, calling upon the President to communicate to the Senate copies of all correspondence between the Government and its agents in California, touching the holding of a convention in that place to frame a constitution; whether any person had been appointed civil or military governor of the territory, and his compensation, and the date of appointment; whether any person had been sent there by the President or any of the departments, with instructions or authority to organize a State government; and further, that he state his reason for stating in his message that the people of New Mexico will "at no distant period present themselves for admission into the Union."

Mr. Dawson moved to amend by inserting—and the acts of the late administration in the same matter; which amendment was accepted. Mr. Miller hoped the resolution would be allowed to lay over for a few days. He was opposed to the last clause, calling upon the President to give his reasons for the statement in his message.

Mr. Foote hoped the request would be acceded to. Mr. Clemens would like action upon the resolution now. He had no objection to strike out the last clause.

Mr. Rusk saw no reason why the clause should be struck out. The information asked for was important. There were great questions involved in the matter. From reports in the papers and otherwise, it had been learned that the people of New Mexico and California had by express direction of the President moved for admission to the Union. The questions of boundary between Texas and those territories were unsettled, and the great question whether one branch of the Government can by its direction urge the people to rise against the authority of a sovereign State was involved in the issue.

Mr. Douglas expressed a desire that the resolution, leading to debate, might be allowed to lay over. Mr. Clemens said the resolution was now before the Senate, and he intended to have a vote upon it if possible. The subject was one in which his constituents felt an interest; it had been specially called to his attention by the Governor of Alabama.

THE BROTHERS MONTESQUIEU.

The case of these young Frenchmen, now in prison at St. Louis, awaiting their trial for murder, has excited much interest in France, as well as in this country. Two influential French gentlemen have arrived in this country to make representations in behalf of the prisoners, establishing the fact that they are afflicted with hereditary insanity. The circumstances under which the outrage for which they are under arrest was committed, fully justify this belief.

From a statement made verbally by Raymond de Montesquieu, the younger of the brothers, it appears they left Ottawa last October, in two buggies, and amused themselves occasionally by shooting game as they passed the woods, among which they several times got lost, having mistaken the well-worn branch roads, by which wood was hauled, for the direct road.

This frequently occurring, threw the elder one, Gonzalve, into a state of extreme nervous excitement, which was increased by the idea that had seized upon his disordered mind, that two persons, who had started from Ottawa on the same day, and who happened by some traveling chance, to rest wherever they stopped at night, were following in their trail for the purpose of robbing and, perhaps, murdering them. This became so firmly impressed upon his mind, that during the whole of the time spent between Ottawa a d'Alton, about six days, he scarcely ever slept. The country down from the lakes, and especially those parts heavily wooded, presented itself to his eyes as akin to the Black Forest of Germany, thronged with villains, hiding secretly on all sides, and dogging his steps for the purpose of murder and plunder. Such was the opinion he had formed of the western country that his constant expression was, that he should never feel secure until he arrived in New Orleans.

On reaching the hotel at Alton, the first persons they saw were the strange travellers who had followed them. At this Gonzalve's excitement became intense, and in the night, waking, and believing he had been robbed, he roused his brother, and they both went down stairs to wake up the steward and the landlord, Gonzalve having a gun in his hand at the time. They found their trunks and bags all safe; and Gonzalve undertook to explain his alarm, but in such confused English, that the landlord, suspicious of their intentions, ordered them to leave the house, refusing Raymond's request to let them remain during the night.

Being thus driven forth, the unfortunate brothers remained in the streets till three o'clock in the morning, and then drove into the woods; Gonzalve being more than ever impressed with the idea that their ejection from the hotel was a preconcerted plot. They arrived finally, excessively fatigued, at St. Louis, on the afternoon of October 27th, 1849. Up to the 29th of that month, nothing occurred to affect the monomania under which Gonzalve was laboring. But that evening he gave signs of the return of it by opening his window, and shouting, in loud tones, "God save the King." From this he was induced to return to bed, and shortly after Raymond fell asleep, and only awoke at the discharge of two guns, which killed Albert Jones and mortally wounded Kirby Barnum. Raymond immediately missed his brother, and putting on hastily his pantaloons and overcoat, went into the passage, where he met Gonzalve with the gun in his hand, and the following conversation ensued: Raymond—"What have you done?" Gonzalve—"I have killed two men."

Raymond—"It is not possible; you cannot mean what you say." Gonzalve—"Yes, I have had a revelation from God to kill two men, and I have done it." The brothers were shortly after arrested. Soon after the arrest, the conduct of Gonzalve became rational, and his chief concern seemed to be on his brother's account, whom he averred to be entirely guiltless. He seemed to be aware of the enormity of his crime, and expressed great contrition for it and great concern for the men whom he had mortally wounded.

THE MODEL MESSAGE.

From the National Intelligencer. MESSRS. EDITORS: The most striking characteristics of the President's Message are its brevity, its straight-forwardness, and its abstinence from argument on the points and statements made. I think the more it is considered, the more it will be regarded as a model.

If brevity is the soul of wit, it is not less so of a document of this kind. The long annual messages of late years have been a bore to the public, a tax to the press, and to the patience of readers. One has been obliged, as it were, to go to sea in them, and to be a long time out of sight of land, ill provided with instruments of observation and skill in steering, grateful to be ashore at last, and with no very pleasant impressions of the voyage. All the world has felt the incongruity of such an enterprise, on such an occasion, and wondered as much if there would ever be an end of the practice as of the message. Thanks for the return of the reign of good sense in this matter at last. Grumblers may say it is a Queen's speech, but the gallantry of the people will respond. It is all the better for that, so far as its brevity is concerned. All they want to know from such a source is, what has been done, and what has taken place of interest to the nation, and what is proposed to be done.

This want which characterizes the occasion and extends no further than the above specifications, leads us directly to a consideration of the straight-forwardness of the message in gratifying this demand precisely, and in attempting no more. All else would be inappropriate. It is, perhaps, no wonder that a seeming necessity, in certain quarters, of vindicating these excesses in former messages should lead to criticism and censure of the present, simply because it has kept within the line of its duty. In the message of President Taylor our conduct is straight on from one point and one statement to another, without a word of expletive, till the story of the past is finished, and the project of the future developed, and there is the end. What more would you have?

But argument has been the custom heretofore. That we all know to our sorrow. We have had special pleading, and all sorts of pleadings in Presidential messages, for this, that, and the other purpose, and the same arguments have been followed up and spun out by heads of Departments till the whole nation has groaned as under a nightmare. The secret of this gross impropriety, of this national calamity it may be called, is perhaps found in the habit of the Executive, for the last twenty years, in assuming the prerogatives of legislation, and dictating measures. Every such assumption required a plea in justification. Hence these long Executive arguments for the measures proposed, and the argument, as I need not say, committed the President to his vote—that is, to the veto—if his plea were not regarded by Congress. The very fact that an argument in such a place involves such a commitment, demonstrates its impropriety. It is nothing short of a magisterial dictation.

But when the Executive, acting from principle, declines any such control of the legislative body, his duty is simple and his messages brief. Gentlemen, the facts are so and so, and I recommend so and so. He is seen at a glance the harmony of the constitution, when each branch of the Government keeps within its own sphere, and attends to its own duty. The Legislature is assumed by the constitution, to be competent to make its own arguments in support of its own enactments, and the floor of that body is the only proper arena of such debate. It is not simply incongruous, but things get fast and sadly out of joint in such

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Marshall moved, that a resolution that the Speaker should be sworn to act pro tempore as Clerk of this House, and that he be sworn accordingly. Mr. Marshall moved, that a resolution be passed, that the Speaker should be sworn to act pro tempore as Clerk of this House, and that he be sworn accordingly.

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Table with 5 columns: Name, 107, 106, 106, 107. Rows include Mr. Forney, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Phelps, Mr. Prindle, Mr. French, Mr. Mudd, Mr. Sargent, Mr. Foot, Mr. Clarke, Mr. Gouverneur.

There was no election for a Clerk of the House, viz: Mr. Forney, 107; Mr. Campbell, 94; Mr. Phelps, 6; Mr. Prindle, 1; Mr. French, 2; Mr. Mudd, 2; Mr. Sargent, 3; Mr. Foot, 3; Mr. Clarke, 2; Mr. Gouverneur, 0.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8, 1850. SENATE. Memorials were presented. Mr. Upham presented anti-slavery resolutions of the Legislature of Vermont, on the motion to print, Mr. Mason spoke against the motion.

Mr. Hale said the resolutions were perfectly powerless. They were made for home consumption. They were intended for Vermont. There was a small band of fanatics in Vermont, whose votes were counted by both parties. Both parties voted for strong resolutions, to be appealed to about election time—when each party accused the other of pro-slavery.

Mr. Phelps said the Senator was correct. He himself disclaimed all right to interfere with concerns of the States. There was no intention on the part of the Northern States to interfere with the domestic concerns of any of the States. That there was folly and fanaticism in his State he had no doubt; and he did not believe the South was free from it. But he claimed Congress had the right to prohibit slavery in the territories of the United States. The regulation of these territories, he said, should rest on the unbiased judgment of Congress.

Mr. Rusk moved to lay the motion to print on the table. Mr. Yulee did not wish to discuss the question of slavery; but he did not agree, as Senator from Florida, to print language of ill-breeding and insult, out of courtesy to Vermont.

The motion to lay the motion to print on the table was negatived—Yeas 11, Nays 46. Mr. Hale explained that he had intended to say that there was great and growing dissatisfaction on the part of the North, at the overshadowing influence of the South upon the legislation of this country.

Table with 2 columns: Name, Amount. Rows include Forney, Foot, Campbell, French, Philio, Gouverneur, Clarke, Prindle, M. St. Clair Clark.

Necessary to a choice, 111 110 110 111. There was no election for a Clerk of the House, viz: Mr. Forney, 107; Mr. Campbell, 94; Mr. Phelps, 6; Mr. Prindle, 1; Mr. French, 2; Mr. Mudd, 2; Mr. Sargent, 3; Mr. Foot, 3; Mr. Clarke, 2; Mr. Gouverneur, 0.

THE fourth anniversary of the death of the late President Andrew Jackson, will be celebrated on Monday evening next, at the residence of Mr. Bussard, Esq., will deliver an Address on the occasion, on the subject of the late President's life and services.

CONSTABLES ELECTION. HINTON FRANKLIN, Clerk of the Court, has the honor to announce that the election of Constables for the year 1850, will be held on Monday evening next, at the residence of Mr. Bussard, Esq., will deliver an Address on the occasion, on the subject of the late President's life and services.

SALES OF NEGROES. EXECUTORS OF JOHN McLEOD. On Friday the 11th inst., and on the 12th, (if necessary) will be sold at public auction, at Buena Vista, a large number of valuable Farming utensils, including a large number of Farming implements, including a large number of Farming implements, including a large number of Farming implements.

FOR SALE. A FAMILY CARRIAGE and a new pair of Horses, both of which may be had by applying to A. B. SMITH & CO. January 7, 1850.

THE PEOPLE'S TICKET. We are requested to announce to the Electors of the County of Raleigh, the names of the Candidates for Commissioners in the Eastern District of North Carolina, at the ensuing Municipal Election. Raleigh, Jan. 8th, 1850.

LIVERY STABLES. The Subscriber, having purchased a new and elegant Livery Stable, and a new pair of Horses, both of which may be had by applying to A. B. SMITH & CO. January 7, 1850.

HORSES FOR SALE. And persons wishing to put out their Horses for hire, or to purchase a new pair of Horses, both of which may be had by applying to A. B. SMITH & CO. January 7, 1850.

State of North Carolina. In the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for the County of Raleigh, held on the 1st day of January, 1850. Abraham D. Moxe, Adm. of William L. Moxe, deceased, vs. The Estate of William L. Moxe, deceased. Will D. Moxe, Adm. of John Leslie and others, vs. The Estate of William L. Moxe, deceased.

CITY ELECTION. An election will be held at the Court House of the City of Raleigh, on Monday, the 1st day of February, 1850, for the purpose of electing an Intendant and two Commissioners for the ensuing year. CALVIN J. ROGERS, Sheriff. J. J. CHRISTOPHERS, Clerk. Raleigh, Jan. 2nd, 1850.

VALUABLE LAND FOR SALE. By virtue of a decree of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for the County of Wake, I offer for sale the following tract, containing about 275 Acres, more or less, situated in Moore and Johnston Counties, North Carolina, and lying in Moore and Johnston Counties, North Carolina, and lying in Moore and Johnston Counties, North Carolina.