

Weekly Raleigh Register.

VOLUME LV.

CITY OF RALEIGH, WEDNESDAY MORNING, APRIL 5, 1854.

NO. 24.

THE RALEIGH REGISTER.

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SEATON GALE,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.
AT \$2.50 IN ADVANCE, OR \$3 AT THE END
OF THE YEAR.

"Ours are the plans of fair, delightful peace;
Unscarred by party rage, to live like brothers."

RALEIGH, N. C.

SATURDAY MORNING, APRIL 1, 1854.

Republican Whig Ticket.

FOR GOVERNOR.

ALFRED DUCKERY, OF RICHMOND.
ELECTION ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 3d.

Mr. HENRY M. LEWIS, Montgomery, Alabama, is one of our General Traveling Agents for the States of Alabama and Tennessee, assisted by C. F. Lewis, James O. Lewis, and Samuel D. Lewis.

Mr. C. W. JAMES, No. 1 Harrison Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, is our General Traveling Agent for the Western States and Texas, assisted by H. J. Thomas, J. T. Dent, P. D. Venter, C. L. Venter, A. L. Childs, and Dr. Wm. Irwin. Receipts of orders will be paid.

Mr. ISRAEL E. JAMES, No. 122 South Tenth Street, Philadelphia, is our General Traveling Agent, assisted by Wm. H. Wood, John Collins, James Deering, E. A. Evans, Thomas D. New, Joseph Hamlin, Joseph Burton, Robert W. Morrison, Edward W. Wiley, William L. Waterman, H. A. Riddick, P. W. Macken, Thomas A. Told, and D. S. Evans.

GEN. DUCKERY IN JOHNSTON.

Our Whig friends will be pleased to learn that Gen. Duckery makes the most favorable impression upon the people, wherever he goes. His unaffected Republican manners and sympathies are irresistible. The subject of the letter from a friend in Johnston, conveys the most gratifying information as to the result of his visit to that county.

SMITHFIELD, March 28th, 1854.

DEAR SIR:—General Duckery spoke here today to a very large audience, and I am assured by Whigs and Democrats, that his speech made a strong impression on all who heard it. He discussed the main issues between the two parties with ability, and his candor made him friends, and elicited the admiration even of his enemies. He referred to the abuse and misrepresentation of the Democratic press in such way as to exert admiration from all. He has evidently made an impression here, which cannot be removed, and the Whigs of Old Johnston promise to roll up a glorious vote for him. Keep the ball in motion, and tell our friends in other sections to be of good cheer. If every Whig will do his duty, we shall beat them!

Yours,

A WHIG OF JOHNSTON.

JOHNSTON SUPERIOR COURT.

We learn that this tribunal has had much business before it this week. Judge CALDWELL, presiding with his well known urbanity and ability. The case of *The State v. Cone*, for Rape, (which was tried at the last term of the Superior Court, Cone convicted, and, on appeal to the Supreme Court, granted a new trial) took up the whole of Wednesday, and after argument of Counsel and an able charge from his Honor, the Jury returned a verdict of *NOT GUILTY*.—Attorney General Ransom for the State, and Messrs. J. W. Evans, E. G. Haywood, and H. W. Miller for the Prisoner.

There is but one opinion as to the zeal and ability with which Mr. Ransom performs the duties of his office. He is winning golden opinions from all.

THE "WESTERN RESERVE."

It will be seen, by the proceedings of the meeting published in another column, that the Whigs of Macon have responded gallantly to the action of the recent Convention. All's well!

STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY.

The next meeting of the State Medical Society of N. C. will be held in this city, on the second Tuesday in May next.

MR. BADGER ON THE NEBRASKA BILL.

It is rarely the case that the "Charleston Mercury" has a commendatory or good word to say with regard to any body or anything in North Carolina. The following just compliment to Mr. BADGER, however, in connection with his position on the Nebraska Bill, forms an agreeable exception to its general course of conduct:

"We referred briefly the other day to the speech of Senator Badger, of North Carolina, on the 20th inst. in vindication of certain changes which were made in the Nebraska bill in its progress through the Senate, and we had hoped, before this, to have presented to our readers at least a portion of his very clear and striking argument. Mr. Badger is one of the most learned and able lawyers, and one of the most agreeable and instructive speakers, in the Senate, and it is one of our sins of omission ever to pass over a speech of his on any subject. On the occasion we refer to, he addressed himself to two points that had been raised against the bill, viz: the proviso moved by himself, that the bill should not be construed to revive any former law either for or against slavery, and the amendment of Mr. Douglas, relieving the Territorial laws from the revision of Congress.

Mr. Badger maintained, and we think conclusively proved, that it was apparent on the face of the Nebraska bill, that his proviso was not intended to revive any preceding law, and consequently it made no real change in the bill."

A meeting of a portion of the Whigs of Orange was held at Durham's Store, in that county, on the 8th ult. Delegates were appointed to meet Delegates from other portions of the county in Convention, at Hillsboro', on Tuesday of May Court, for the purpose of nominating candidates for the Legislature.—The meeting recommended the Hon. WILLIAM A. GRAHAM for the Senate, and Messrs. JOSHUA TURNER, JR., and S. F. PHILLIPS, for the House of Commons.

Frost. We were visited, last week, by a series of destructive frosts, which, we are sorry to learn, have done considerable damage to the fruit and to garden vegetation.

MR. FILLMORE'S SPEECH AT LOUISVILLE.

We take from the Louisville Journal a summary of Mr. Fillmore's great speech at Louisville, in which he gives a brief history of his administration. This speech of Mr. Fillmore will be read with deep interest at this particular time by men of all parties. The Journal says it has a full report of the speech, but in conformity with what was understood to be Mr. Fillmore's wish, it confines itself to the publication of a mere sketch of what he said.

"Mr. Fillmore said, on rising, that he felt exceedingly embarrassed in being called on, for the first time in his life, to address an audience like the one before him, and that he sincerely hoped there was no 'chief' present 'taking' notes, but that what he should utter might be forgotten with the occasion. He was at a loss to understand what motive could have prompted such a great and unexpected expression of regard on the part of the citizens of Kentucky. If he were the actual possessor of the power which it was once his fortune to wield, or even again seeking that position, he might see an object for such a manifestation; but here I am, said he, neither holding nor seeking office, with nothing as a private or public man, which, in my own estimation, should call for such a testimonial as this. To nothing, said he, can I attribute it but real Kentucky hospitality, which seeks an object whether worthy or not, and lavishes upon that object its own generosity. Mr. Fillmore said that it was his misfortune to have been a victim of the popular passion against his wishes, called to the administration of the government.

He had not even sought the nomination for the Vice Presidency, and none could be more surprised than he when he learned that he was nominated. It was only ten hours before Gen. Taylor's death that he had any thought that his illustrious friend was in danger. The knowledge came upon him like a peal of thunder from a clear sky. He felt wholly unprepared for the great responsibilities about to devolve upon him. Though he had been for many years a politician, the only sleepless night he ever passed, on account of political anxiety, was that on which Gen. Taylor died. His sleeplessness arose from his deep feeling of the weight of the duties unexpectedly devolved upon him. He reviewed during the hours of that night his own opinions and his own life. He was sensible that he had drunk in with his mother's milk and cherished from his youth up a feeling, even a prejudice, against slavery. He endeavored to look upon this whole country, from the farthest corner of Maine to the utmost limits of Texas, as but one country, the country that had given him birth, and he saw in the gathering clouds in the North and in the South a storm which was likely to overwhelm him, and he feared his country also, and he took the constitution and the laws as his only guide.

He well knew, that by so doing, he must lose the friendship of many prominent men of the country, especially in our State, but he counted their reproaches, but to him this was nothing. The man who can look upon a crisis without being willing to offer himself upon the altar of his country, is not fit for a public trust. On the night of Gen. Taylor's death, the members of his cabinet were assembled to make their resignations. I declined to look at them, first, because I deemed it respectful to the honored dead that I should not consider by what means I should carry on the government until he was decently interred; and secondly, because this assembly of responsibility fell upon their shoulders, and I desired at least a few hours to reflect on what it was my duty to do. Here was a cabinet selected by General Taylor, several of them my personal friends, whom I would do anything in my power to serve, short of endangering the peace of my country. I knew, however, that their policy was not sound, and could approve. I saw that the executive power of the government, and the legislative, were in opposition to each other, and that while this state of things continued, peace could never be restored.

The question therefore presented itself to me, shall I retain this cabinet or select a new one? The latter course was adopted; but you can scarcely conceive the difficulties of the position in which this decision placed me. When our Presidents are elected, they have three or four months before taking their offices, to select a suitable act as heads of departments, but this duty came upon me in half a day. I requested the members of the Taylor cabinet to stay thirty days and to give me an opportunity to look around and select their successors; but they respectfully declined. Thus, while the members of the cabinet of which and myself always agreed in opinion; and in all acts, we acted together. In that cabinet your own honored Kentucky was honorably represented.—Still, said Mr. Fillmore, the great difficulty remained. The question arose, what was to be done.

In Texas and New Mexico, a civil war was threatened. Texas made preparations to take possession of a portion of New Mexico. He felt it his duty to maintain the laws of the country. One of the laws required that the people of the Territory of New Mexico should be protected by a militia of protection, and immediately ordered a portion of the army and munitions of war to the frontier of Texas to do duty there. The army was put in motion, and then, and not till then, did Congress act upon the subject. Texas and New Mexico acquiesced in the action of Congress. Mr. Fillmore spoke of the adoption of the compromise measures of 1850, and especially of the fugitive slave law. This law, he said, had some provisions in it to which he had objections. He regretted the necessity of having passed at all, but the Constitution required the giving up of fugitive slaves, and it was not for him to decide whether this was a compact; he had sworn to maintain it, and he would do so to his last hour.

When the bill came to him from the two Houses, he examined it, and he had no doubt came up in his mind whether it was not unconstitutional, as denying the right of habeas corpus to the fugitive slave. He referred the question to our accomplished Kentucky lawyer, his Attorney General, who gave him his opinion, and the law was not a violation of the Constitution; and thereupon, said Mr. Fillmore, I gave my signature to the bill, but in doing so, I drew down upon my devoted head, as I knew I should, the vials of wrath from abolitionism and free-soilism. Mr. Fillmore regretted that the law was not a violation of the Constitution, and went on to speak of those who stood by him in the great struggle of 1850. He said that he would gladly name in that connection many living persons, not Whigs merely, but democrats, as true patriots as ever lived. This work of pacification, said he, was by no means the work of one man, or five men, or ten men—the crisis was one in which the true patriots of the nation, no matter what they had been called, Whigs or democrats, or any other name, rose above all personal and partisan considerations,

and looked only to the good of the country. He referred beautifully to the noble parts taken by the illustrious dead, Mr. Clay, Mr. Webster, and the late Vice President King.

The speaker said that though he had, by his efforts in behalf of the compromise, lost for a time the confidence of a portion of his fellow-citizens, and especially in his own State, he loved that State as a dear mother, and was unwilling to believe that he had proved a recreant son. He trusted that the excitement of the moment would pass away, and that she would at last see that he had acted with honest intentions, if he had not acted the better part. But, fellow-citizens, said he, let me refer to your own State. When the gathering tempest of fanaticism, abolition fanaticism, was rolling up from the North, and an equally violent tempest of fanaticism, secession fanaticism, was rolling up from the South, where did Kentucky stand? She stood like a rock amid the surges of the ocean—she stood firm and unshaken, the pillar of the Constitution. His eulogy of Kentucky was exceedingly handsome, and this portion of his speech, like all the other portions, was received with the most enthusiastic applause. Few public speakers ever made so fine an impression upon a Louisville audience as he."

In 1848, when the Conventions of the two Parties met and nominated their respective Candidates for Governor, not a murmur of complaint against our present State Constitution was heard. Neither Convention, by resolution or otherwise, declared opposition to any of its provisions or expressed any desire to have it amended. But no sooner had the canvass opened, than the locofoco Candidate began an agitation for its amendment. Thus, for the first time, did the People of the State witness their Constitution dragged into the arena of partisan politics, and converted into a hobby, upon which a heated partisan leader expected to ride into power. During the Session of the Legislature of '48-49, the agitation was renewed in that body, and much time and money were spent in the discussion of a bill to carry out the proposed amendment. Again, in 1850, the same hobby was mounted by the locofoco Candidate for Governor, and from one end of the State to the other, the cry was "agitation! agitation! until an odious distinction is broken down!"

In the Legislature of 1850-51, the agitation was resumed with redoubled bitterness. Day after day was spent in heated discussion, during which there were exhibitions well calculated to induce every patriot to tremble for that Constitution, the amendment of which he would desire to be left to wiser heads and such as are free from partisan excitement. The bill to amend the Constitution passed the Legislature. It was published according to the requirements of the Constitution. Had the Legislature passed it by the Constitutional vote, it would have been submitted to the People, and agitation would again have been aroused. The Legislature failed to pass it, however, through the casting vote of a democratic Speaker, and the upshot is, that Free Suffrage has cost the State more than the Convention of 1850, and the People are as far from having it, by legislative enactment, as they were when the proposition was first mooted.

If the locofoco party had declared their determination to stop at Free Suffrage, by legislative enactment, with their agitation of the Constitution, we might have hoped that no further danger to the prosperity of the State would arise from such tampering with that instrument. But the leaders of the locofoco party resolved not to stop at this point. They so declared. The Convention which nominated Gov. Reid in 1850 declared that there were other amendments which should be made to the Constitution. When they should be made, they did not condescend to inform the People, but how to be made was clearly shadowed forth by the belated Free Suffrage bill. The "when" will come so soon as another locofoco Candidate wants a political hobby, upon which to ride out a gubernatorial race! Had Free Suffrage been taken off the turf, by the Legislature, a new rider for the spoils would have come forward, backed by a *carte blanche* from a locofoco Convention. The election of Judges, or Justices, or State Officers, by the People, or the alteration of the basis, or some other political *BOYERHALLS*, would have sprung forward, fully caparisoned for the race. Who desires to live under a Constitution which is thus made the prey of political rascals—thus, periodically, dragged into the arena of partisan wrangling?

In view of these facts, and the condition of things to which we are tending, the late Whig Convention, holding on to that great principle announced in our Bill of Rights, "that all political power is vested in and derived from the People," has declared, that the important matter of amending their fundamental law should be carried out by the People themselves, through their Delegates, specially selected for the purpose, and not by a year after year, forced upon them, with all the pertinacity of conceited and wrangling demagogues, who look to agitation and discord for their advancement!

MADAME SIMKINS.—This accomplished lady was compelled to postpone her Concert announced for Thursday evening, on account of the inclemency of the weather. It will take place to-night, (Friday), whether in the YARBROUGH Saloon, (the weather favoring,) and our citizens should not lose the opportunity of attending. See advertisement in another column.

The Rev. Tiberius Gracchus Jones, of Norfolk, Va., is to deliver the Annual Address before the Literary Societies of Wake Forest College, on the 7th of June next, and the Rev. H. H. Tucker, of Alexandria, is to preach the Valedictory Sermon before the Graduating Class, on the same day.

ACCIDENT TO BISHOP BROWNELL.—HARTFORD, Ct., March 26.—Bishop Brownell, to-day, in ascending the stairway, fell and broke his leg in three places near the ankle.

GREEN PEAS.—By the steamer Knoxville, from Savannah, on Saturday, the thermometer here being 25 degrees above zero, we have green peas laid on our table. Think of it! We hope soon to have a dish of strawberries. N. Y. Express, March 27.

WHERE IS PIERCE ON THE NEBRASKA BILL?

Mr. Ex-Senator Clemens, of Alabama, as we have heretofore said, is among the few men of the South, who are opposed to the Nebraska bill. His course, provoked, of course, as well it might, the censure of his democratic friends of the South, and so he felt himself called upon to explain the reason for that opposition. The last attempt of this kind was made in a letter written to N. Davis, Jr., of Huntsville, Alabama, which was published in the Huntsville Advocate. In that letter, not content with trying to excuse his own opposition to the bill, he assumed to speak for President Pierce, and said:

"But a few days since, in conversation with a Northern Senator and myself, he (President Pierce) gave it as his decided opinion that Douglas's bill was a proposition in favor of freedom, and added, 'if it should pass, I agreed with him fully, and could not help rejoicing in the stratagem by which the Greeks effected the destruction of Troy.'"

This seemed to be very decisive as to what were President Pierce's views as to the effect of the bill. The published letter, from which we make the above extract, had been in Washington several days and passed without remark from the Union. The conclusion to be drawn from this silence seemed, only to be either that what Mr. Clemens said was all true, or any thing he said was not worthy of notice from President Pierce or his organ. We were about to draw that conclusion, but the Washington Union now publishes a letter from Mr. Clemens, addressed to President Pierce, in which the former backs out from all that he alleged the latter had said. In this letter Mr. Clemens says:

"In my letter to Mr. Davis, I did not pretend to give your language, except where quotation marks are used; and, from subsequent conversation with you, I think it very probable that I misunderstood the purport of your remarks upon this particular point. Your surprise may have been expressed that the true men of the North should hesitate to vote for Douglas's bill, when the South were willing to take it; and, if I had paid attention to the whole conversation, I do not now think I should have been so much surprised. I have never sought a conversation with you upon the subject of the Nebraska bill; but every time I have heard you mention the subject, you have uniformly expressed yourself warmly in favor of the principle of the bill, viz: the principle of the right of the people of the Territories to regulate the question of slavery for themselves—a doctrine from which I dissent; and as I knew we were not at all likely to agree, I sought no discussion of the question."

He has assured me always that you thought it best for the whole country, and insisted that patriotic men in both sections ought to take it. I thought the South must be the loser. I think so now. I understood you to place it upon the ground that the principle is right in itself, and if it works for or against a particular section, no one has a right to complain; that you were for the rights of both sections, and willing to take any consequences that might follow the practical carrying out of those rights as you understood them."

So the amount of this is, that Mr. Clemens writes to Alabama, in words that exclude all doubt that he means what he says, that the President is surprised that the South should support the bill; and then, when brought to the witness stand, offers to excuse himself, for saying so, by alleging that he did not "pretend" to give the President's language, when he wrote to Alabama, though he put words into his mouth, and made him appear as an enemy of the bill, for reasons which he now admits the President never gave!

This is a queer world. Mr. Clemens is a prominent Democrat and has been in the Senate of the United States. He, therefore, knows something of Washington, and is in that city now. It would gratify a very natural curiosity for the public to learn what explanations he will not say what influences—were brought to bear upon the case, which could thus make an Ex-Senator admit, before the world, that when he wrote to Alabama, about President Pierce's views on the Nebraska bill, (Mr. C.) did not mean what the words he used could only mean! And he now eats his own words!—Very well, nobody may complain of this but himself, and he should not complain that he is fed with the food he prepared for others—and, especially, if the *Brigadier dressed it*, and people may well suspect he did, with some of the spices his official position supplies him with!

WASHINGTON AFFAIRS.

WASHINGTON, March 27.—The friends of Breckinridge and Fremont, who were expected to be the severest personal altercation in the House to-day may lead to an unpleasant difficulty.—Considerable excitement exists.

THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, commenced its session at Stockton, California, on the 22d of February, Bishop Soule presiding. The Rev. Dr. J. Boring and the Rev. A. M. Wyman were elected delegates to the general conference, to be held at Louisville in May next.

THE U. S. EAST INDIA SQUADRON.—The Navy Department have advised from Commodore Perry, dated Hong Kong, Jan. 24, 1854. All well. The U. S. storeship Lexington, Lieut. Glasson commanding, had arrived after a passage of more than six months.

Now for Cheap Goods.

MURRAY & O'NEAL
HAVE taken the store lately occupied by W. & A. Stirling, and are receiving their stock of Fancy and Staple Dry Goods, Groceries, Crockery and Glassware, &c. Being new beginners, they have to build up a trade: to do this, they are determined to be undersold by none in the city. They will sell goods cheap and no mistake; to be convinced of this fact, call and price your goods before purchasing elsewhere. All they ask is a showing, and if the goods suit, they guarantee to make the prices right. Don't purchase before examining their stock. If you want cheap Goods, call at
No. 25, White Front,
Fayetteville street,
Raleigh, N. C.
March 31, 1854.

OUR NEW YORK CORRESPONDENCE.

A Sketch of Columbia College in this City.—Professor Rainey of North Carolina—Return of the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Commissioners from Texas—Colleges and number of Students in the United States—Street Cleaning—Weather.

NEW YORK, March 27, 1854.
Few persons have visited New York without observing the *vue en arde* location of Columbia College, as, in passing along Broadway, the shady retreat and ancient buildings of that celebrated Institution have been visible from the lower end of Park Place. It ranks among the distinguished seminaries of learning in the country, and its historical vicissitudes, so far as real estate is concerned, have been remarkable. It was originally called the King's College, and received its new baptism when republican principles were established in the land. It was founded by Royal Charter, under George II., in 1754, just a century ago.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, and the Earl of Halifax, were included in the list of its first board of trustees, but acted of course by proxy. In 1775, the Earl of Sterling was appointed trustee with others, and he was the last of the titled officials, who held that appointment. In the eventful year of 1776, the College was converted into a military hospital, and the students were dispersed, but they were few in number. In 1784, John Jay graduated in a class of only three. In 1785, Robt. R. Livingston, in a class of five; and, in 1788, Governor Morris, in a class of seven. In 1784, at the close of the war, the college again went into operation, by the act of the Legislature, under the direction of the Regents of the University. De Witt Clinton entered as a student that year. The first public commencement after the reorganization was in 1786. The corporation of Trinity Church having come into possession, by royal grant of the King of a farm, a tract of ground extending from Fulton street to Carmine street, on the 13th of May, 1755, the church conveyed to the college a portion of said farm, which was then called Trinity Church Farm. The tract granted the college composed a front of 400 feet on Church street, between Barclay and Murray streets, and ran down to the river. In 1767, February 26, Sir Henry Moore being Governor of the Province, a grant of land of 24,000 acres was obtained for the college. After twenty-six years litigation between the States of New York and New Hampshire, the above tract of land was decided to be within the limits of Vermont, and it was accordingly ceded to that State, upon condition that the State of New York should receive as an indemnity the sum of \$20,000. As this amount was paid into the treasury of the State, the State assumed the subject the first opportunity to indemnify the college, and in 1810, the Botanic Garden established by Dr. Hossack, and located on what is now known as Fifth Avenue and Forty Seventh street, was purchased for the benefit of the college. It contained twenty acres, and was bought at \$2,000 per acre, a price then considered exorbitant, although four or five single lots in that neighborhood have been lately sold for as much as the whole twenty acres cost then. A condition was imposed upon the purchase, that it should be removed to this new locality within twelve years, but it was subsequently rescinded. The twenty acres of ground are now worth more than a million of dollars.

When Trinity Church granted the tract of land to the college, Barclay and Murray streets, as above specified, and where the college is actually located, nearly all of it was composed of water lots. Since then, the North River has been repelled and this portion of the city reclaimed. Washington and Greenwich streets, which did not then exist, now intersect this portion of the city. But, about fifty years ago, or rather more, the college being straitened for funds, nearly all this landed estate was sold on lease to the Rhineland family for the annual sum of \$300 per annum. The Rhinelanders claim a lease of 999 years; but it is thought that the college was limited to three times the term of twenty-one years, or sixty-three years. As this limit is now fast approaching, it would be an important litigation, should it ever ensue. The Rhinelanders lease out sixty-three lots, which, at present rates, should yield a revenue of about \$120,000 per annum ground rent. The College derives an income of \$12,000 a year from that portion of the property which it has retained.

When the Old City Hall Buildings in the Park were burned down a few months since, the destruction of the U. S. Court room made it necessary that other accommodations should be procured. A rental of \$40,000 per annum was offered for the buildings of Columbia College. The Clergy and Professors who negotiated, having their ideas elevated, demanded \$70,000 a year. Finally, the Government leased the dwelling house of Commodore Stevens for ten years at \$16,000 per annum. It is on leased ground belonging to the Institution, and fronts College Place. Mr. Stevens is Commodore of the Yacht Club, and has made a good bargain. Columbia College had a corps of thirty-nine Professors. The Greek, Latin, German, Hebrew, Italian, and French languages are professed to be taught, but the three first named only actually. Professor Renwick, professor of Natural Philosophy and Chemistry, one of the ablest men of the establishment, resigned a few months since. In former days, many distinguished men emanated from Columbia College. Reference is made to Jay, Morris, Rutgers, De Witt Clinton, and Alexander Hamilton, all "claws of venerability." But Hamilton was only a student a little while in 1774. He never graduated. In recent times, the University of North Carolina has sent forth many more distinguished men than Columbia College.

In May, the centennial celebration of the College will take place, and a great demonstration will be made. In spite of its ups and downs, the College is still enormously rich, and can afford to give a grand Centennial Dinner with Hoek and Champagne. Charles King, son of Rufus, and former Editor of the American, is President.

Professor Rainey, of North Carolina, of whom I made mention in a previous letter, and stated that he had been appointed Consul to Bolivia, is now about embarking for his destination. It is expected that he will explore the Country, and add considerably to what is already imperfectly known of the fertile regions of the Amazon and La Plata.

The Commissioners of the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad, who were appointed by the Board here, to proceed to Texas, with a view to look after the interests of the undertaking, have returned. They are Gen. Green, formerly of Warren County, N. C., Mr. Butler King, of Ga. Mr. Tod, of Ky., and T. Chatfield, the President of the Company.

When Columbia College was chartered, there were but two other colleges in the country, Yale and Harvard. About a month since, a religious anniversary was kept at the North in behalf of American colleges, and prayers offered up for the conversion of students in general. On that occasion, the Rev. W. Tarbox, of Boston, stated there were 119 colleges in America, and 12,000 students. The young men of the country are less inclined to be devout now than formerly. The literary colleges are well filled, but there is a great and increasing decline in the Theological Seminaries. In 1840, there were 152 theological students at Andover, and in 1852, only 91. The same declension is noticeable in the Old School Presbyterians, and among the Baptists.

They have begun to clean our streets in earnest. Thirteen hundred men were set to work during the last week. They removed 53,347 loads of dirt, at an expense of \$16,146.

In the last few days the weather has been uncomfortably cold. It is bleak and chilly, and many people are suffering from it. There are two abominable months of the year that might be dispensed with,—August, the last of the hot months, and March, the last of the cold ones.

POSTSCRIPT!

BY LAST NIGHT'S MAIL!

ARRIVAL OF THE FRANKLIN.

FOUR DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE.

NEW YORK, March 29.
The Steamer Franklin arrived at her wharf to-day with four days later advices from Europe. Her political news is unimportant. She left Liverpool on the 15th. She reports no change whatever in Eastern affairs.

The Canada arrived at Liverpool on the 12th. The Hermann arrived at Cowes on the same day.

It is rumored that the Czar has ordered his troops to pass the Danube immediately. The first division of the British fleet, under command of Admiral Sir Charles Napier, had sailed for Winge Sound, and will not at present enter Russian waters.

Prussia has sent a confidential mission to Napoleon.

GREAT EARTHQUAKE.

A great earthquake occurred at Calabria. Two thousand persons were killed.

MARKETS.

LIVERPOOL, March 14, 1854.
Cotton was unchanged, and notes small. Flour has declined 3s. to 4s. Wheat has declined 1s. Corn unchanged—so are Consols.

TREMENDOUS EXCITEMENT AT WASHINGTON.—DUEL BETWEEN CUTTING AND BRECKENRIDGE.—BRECKENRIDGE SAID TO BE SHOT IN THE NECK.

WASHINGTON, March 29.
Immense excitement has prevailed here during the day, in consequence of the rumors abroad to the effect that a duel had taken place between the Hon. Francis B. Cutting, of New York, and the Hon. John C. Breckinridge, of Kentucky. The reliable, however, is as follows:

Cutting challenged Breckinridge; the latter accepted and the duel was fought at 6 o'clock this morning near Bladensburg. Some say neither party was hurt, and another meeting is expected.

Other accounts state that Mr. Breckinridge was shot in the neck.

The excitement to lay in the House of Representatives was intense.

The New York Herald says the matter shall be fought out by Mr. Cutting or some one else.

Neither belligerents or particular friends can be found any where in Washington.

The matter is much regretted by some, while others seem to exult at the prospect of blood shed.

The Book of the 19th Century.

THIRTY YEARS VIEW;

Or, The History of the Working

OF THE

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT

FOURTH EDITION.

BY THOMAS J. BENTON.

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