

POLITICAL.

LETTER FROM MR. WEBSTER.

Manchester, April 15, 1851. To Messrs. George C. Smith, Caleb Eddy, Am. Swallow, Uriel Crocker, and others, of Boston.

Gentlemen—I duly received your letter of the 11th of this month, and had full made up my mind to comply with your invitation; for, although I have entertained no purpose of discussing further, at present, the political questions which have so much agitated the country, yet I could not deny myself the pleasure of meeting you and your fellow citizens, for mutual congratulation upon an escape, so far, from dangers which, one year ago, so seriously threatened the very existence of our national institutions; and upon the prospect of an early return, in all parts of the country, of feelings of good will and reciprocal regard.

But the newspapers of this afternoon inform me that the Board of Aldermen have refused your request for the use of Faneuil Hall. I care nothing for this personally, except that it deprives me of the gratification of seeing you; although if I supposed that the general voice of the people of Boston approved this proceeding, it would I confess, cause me the deepest regret.

The resolution denying you the Hall has been adopted, if I mistake not, by the same Board which has practically refused to join with the other branch of the City Government by offering the hospitalities of the city to President Fillmore.

Gentlemen, for nearly thirty years I have been in the service of the country, by the choice of the people of Boston and the appointment of the Legislature of Massachusetts. My public conduct through the whole of that long period, is not unknown, and I cheerfully leave it to the judgment of the country, now and hereafter.

Since the commencement of March of last year, I have done something and hazarded much, to uphold the Constitution of the United States, and to maintain interests of the most vital importance to the citizens of Boston. And I shall do more and hazard more, whenever, in my judgment, it becomes necessary that more be done, or more be hazarded. I shall perform, with unflinching perseverance, and to the end, my duty to my whole country; nor do I, in the slightest degree, fear the result. Folly and fanaticism may have their hour. They may not only affect the minds of individuals, but they may also seize on public bodies, of greater or less dignity. But their reign is destined to be short, even where, for the moment, it seems most triumphant. We, of Massachusetts, are not doomed to a course of political conduct, such as would reproach our ancestors, destroy our own prosperity, and expose us to the derision of the civilized world. No such future is before us.

Far otherwise. Patriotism, the union of good men, fidelity to the Constitution in all its provisions, and the intelligence which has hitherto enabled the people of this State to discern and to appreciate their own political blessings, as well as what is due to their own history and character, will bring them back to their accustomed feelings of love of country, and of respect and veneration for its institutions.

I am, gentlemen, with the most sincere regard, your obliged friend, and very obedient servant, DANL. WEBSTER.

MR. FILLMORE'S ADMINISTRATION.

The test to which the present Administration has been subjected was one of the most trying in our political history. Had the administration faltered in its good purposes, or had it for one moment listened to the voice of faction, or had it condescended to do only what it fancied would be of value to the party which sustains it, then it would not have received, half as much of the united approbation of the people. But, with an eye single to the public good, it has pursued an onward upward course, and without being intent on pleasing any particular class of men, it has succeeded in winning the admiration of a vast majority of the people of all sections. It has proved itself to be fully equal to the occasion in the most perilous crisis through which our country has been compelled to pass.

That the conduct of the Administration should be a source of just pride to the Whigs was what was naturally to be expected. The Whigs of the United States generally, we think, regard Mr. Fillmore and his Cabinet Ministers as eminently worthy of the high trusts which have been confided to them. Further than this, the Whigs point admiringly to the Administration in illustration of Whig principles, and as affording the best practical commentary on the spirit and doctrines of the Whig party. They think, very properly, that the selection of Mr. Fillmore, by the National Convention in 1848 for Vice-President was a blessing. He is a thorough Whig in feeling and principle, and yet he has not been so warped by political prejudice as to be incapable of entertaining those broad national views in which partisan bitterness is swallowed up in all engrossing patriotism. He is able, honest, inflexibly just, a patriot without sectionalism, and a statesman without any narrow partyism. And his coadjutors in the Cabinet are worthy to be associated with him. Each one of them in his separate sphere of duties has proved himself to be entirely adequate to the station he occupies. There has been very little complaint made by Democratic members of Congress or by Democratic editors of the manner in which the business of the Departments of the Government has been conducted during the presidency of Mr. Fillmore.—Louisville Jour.

A SINGULAR CALL.—A lady in Cambridge died on Wednesday last, so the physicians said, and was laid for burial in her winding sheets, but from the fact that the body still retained an apparent warmth, though there was not the slightest appearance of respiration, interment was suspended. Yesterday, (Sunday) the lady opened her eyes and called on her husband, "Albert, give me some water."

Mr. Buchanan.—The Richmond Whig finely touches off this ancient Federalist but modern Democrat, who has lately tried to come the game of flattery over the Virginians. It seems that the ex-Secretary lately received, from that very loyal body who call themselves "the Central Southern Rights Association of Virginia," an invitation to visit Richmond; where he replied in judicious terms of prostration to the old local gods, whom he so little believed in when they were new, and whom he supposes still the idols of Virginia. Mr. Buchanan is one of those who, if they have to travel to Ephesus, begin crying "Great is Diana!" before they have drawn on their boots.

He is consulted "in regard to the best means to be adopted in the present alarming crisis;" and, as he is consulted from Virginia, it very naturally occurs to him that there can be no remedy which so exactly hits the case as the old Virginia physic of the doctrines of '98—the King-cure-all of every ill that flesh, political has had in this State, for the last fifty years. A few drops of '98 or perhaps a pill or a powder or two of the grand universal social specific will, he is sure, make a cure, radical, rapid and everlasting, of "the present alarming crisis."

Alas, rather simple that meant it to be, Mr. Buchanan! You thought this a fine stroke of policy, did you? You said to yourself "I'll tickle that queer old curiosity, Virginia, the 'mother of Statesmen' and widow of Strict Concessionist" and widow of Strict Concessionist, until her susceptible old heart shall fairly dance a jig in her. She has, for half a century, been fasted, dined, supped, steeped, awaked, upon Madison's Report and Taylor's Resolutions. They have been meat, drink, clothes, and money to her. They have filled her head and emptied her pockets. She has had them for her food; she has had them for her physic. I'll prescribe them: they are the stuff for her, sick or well. If she's fond of anything, she must be of them; and they'll make her fond of me!"

Alas, sweet insinuator! somewhat antiquated gay deceiver! thou swain of sixty! thou tempting spark to this ultra-sexagenary dames! thou hast mistaken a drug for a dainty. There's such a thing as surfeit. Other practitioners about as honest and as cunning as thyself have been before thee, and plied the poor fantastic patient's infirmity with an endless quantum suff of the same elixir of folly, until she loathes it, and sweats and trembles at the very name!

Were the resolutions of '98 actual cakes and custard, thinkest thou, oh most arch of political purveyors! that folks forever crammed with them by cook Ritchie and all the one-dish scullions would never get cloyed?

Besides, sapient man! we are not such eternal simpletons as we have seemed to be: not so senseless but that we can see that the more we have taken of this State patent medicine, the sicker we have gotten. It is like that physician mentioned by Boileau, at the mere sight of whom every cold turned to consumption, and what was merely blue devils became a fixed frenzy.—Could it cure any thing, how should we ever be cured? For we have been dosed with it ever since we were born.

Yet again, thou asculapitus of governments! consider! The disease, the "alarming crisis," to prescribe for which this large and "Southern Rights Association" has called thee in, is Disunionism, Secession. And surely the oldest of all remedies for that is Madison's Report. Every body knows that what originally gave us the malady. Wouldst thou heal, like Hahnemann, with nothing but what, if we were whole, would give us the precise disease? We have a cracked skull; and thou wouldst knock us on the head for it; we have a creak in the neck; and thou wouldst hang us for it!

De-Grace Greenwood, otherwise known as Miss Sarah J. Clarke, a young lady of somewhat piquant style, but who in default of being able to procure a husband, is somewhat prone to Abolitionism, communicates her impression of the poet Tupper in the following extract of a letter addressed to the National Era:

"I have had a slight acquaintance with Mr. Tupper, the poet and proverbial philosopher. From his personal appearance, you would scarcely pick him out of a crowd as one likely to distinguish himself in Solomon's particular line. He is more genial than grave, and a stranger might expect from him more wit than wisdom. He is a small, neatly-dressed gentleman, with the frankest and easiest of manners, and the rosiest and smilingest of faces—bright-eyed and curly-headed—quick in movement, and not slow in speech. He has none of the stiff-crawled and haughty grandeur, and arrogance of an ordinary John Bull—not he—but comes to us as to his kindred or at least as a gracious noble might meet his foster brothers and sisters, more affectionately than proudly.—He greets America with the warmest feelings apparently; and if he has ever had any illiberal prejudices against us, they now seem downed in a tide of more generous sentiment. A short time since while looking over some prints with a young friend, I came upon one of the Iron Duke. Said I to myself, 'I once had a great prejudice against Wellington, as the conqueror of my favorite hero; but I have a particular friend who quite adores him.' Of course I could do nothing less than express to the lady my hope that F. M. the Duke would reciprocate her affection."

But there will be no question of reciprocity in this case, if Mr. Tupper's friendliness be genuine, as we have no reason to doubt that it is. He has many hearty admirers in this country—many to whom the benevolent spirit of his genius has long ago commended him. In social circles he will doubtless be a favorite, he is an agreeable and a handsome man. The portrait in Butler's illustrated edition of "Proverbial Philosophy" is quite like; but I have it from the poet himself that in the picture of Albany, his residence, there are one or two chimney-pieces wanting, or one too many if unfortunately forged which.

The Pensacola Gazette says that reports are current there of the revival of the project for the invasion of Cuba under Lopez. He will be a prominent actor in the expedition, no doubt; but, if we are correctly informed, he is not to be the leader of it.

WHIG MEETING IN LENOIR.

At a meeting of a respectable portion of the Whigs of Lenoir county, held at the Court House in Kinston, the following Preamble and Resolutions were adopted, viz:

WHEREAS, The period is approaching when the choice of a representative for this Congressional District must be made; And whereas, our late able and distinguished representative, the Hon. Edward Stanly, has made known his determination to withdraw from public life; Therefore,

Resolved, That we concur in the opinion expressed by other counties of this District, that a Whig Convention should be held at Washington, at such time as may be deemed most advisable, by a majority of the Whigs of the District, for the purpose of nominating a gentleman to represent this, the 8th Congressional District, in the next Congress of the United States, and that delegates from this county should be sent to said Convention.

Resolved, That the Hon. Edward Stanly has merited the approbation of his constituents, for the patriotic and conservative course pursued by him, in the late Congress of the United States.

Resolved, That the series of measures passed by the recent Congress of the United States, known as the "Compromise," are Constitutional in their nature, beneficial in their operation, and absolutely necessary to the South, to secure the free exercise of her rights.

Resolved, That the repeal of the Fugitive Slave Law, or the modification thereof, in any of its essential provisions, would be an act of gross injustice to the South, and would be well calculated to disturb the tranquility which that Law was intended to effect.

Resolved, That no gentleman opposed to the spirit and operation of said "Compromise," will truly represent the feelings and wishes of the Whigs of Lenoir County.

Resolved, That in President Fillmore, we have an Executive Officer, who has been prompt and efficient in the discharge of his duties, and it is gratifying to know, that for this, he has received, as he has merited, the cordial approbation of the great body of the people of the South, and of the whole country.

Resolved, That we will use all honorable exertions to elect the nominee of the Convention.

HISTORICAL DISCOVERIES.—A correspondent of the New York Herald, writing from the city of Rome, on the 4th of March, announces, that very recently there have been discovered a number of manuscripts, connected with the early history of our country, which will throw much light upon what has heretofore been buried in obscurity. These manuscripts, so far, comprise twenty-five packages or volumes.

Mr. Cass, our Minister, accidentally discovered one of these volumes, and has followed up the examination, which has resulted in the above discovery. The principal collection belongs to the manuscript library of the Dominican Monks, and is contained in well-arranged packets, sewed up in vellum covers, (probably about the time they were written), each containing materials for a large volume.

The result, thus far, has induced Mr. Cass to extend the examination to the archives of the Vatican, with hopes of making important additions. Each volume has not been thoroughly examined; but enough has been ascertained to say that they comprehend the early reports made by the missionaries of the Spanish, French and Italian nations, and have reference to the Canadas, the Valley of the Mississippi, and Florida—indeed to the whole territory which surrounded the thirteen original States of our Union. The author of one of these volumes, or manuscripts, accompanied De Soto for two years in his expedition through Florida and along the banks of the Mississippi, and will no doubt furnish us, in the simple language of an eye-witness, with a correct detail of the discoveries, and adventures of one in relation to whom so much of the strange and marvellous has been written. In other volumes there is a series of letters by Padre Viellis, a priest attached to the band of La Salle, that child of chivalry, as he was called, who traversed the Canadas throughout their entire extent, and a portion of our Northwest country. In the researches and investigations which have been made in European libraries by Irving, Prescott, Sparks, and others, no such important acquisitions have been made for the elucidation of our history, as these manuscripts.

It is hoped that these manuscripts will be thoroughly examined and brought to light. They will no doubt elucidate fully the long period of sixty-five years, during which time the French held possession of Mobile, and the interior of Alabama and Mississippi—a period that is now involved in almost total darkness.—Mobile Register.

The President of the United States, after a careful examination of the evidence taken by the Commissioner in the matter of the charges preferred against Mr. Collector Lewis, and Mr. Surveyor Norris, of the Port of Philadelphia, has found that those charges are not sustained by the proof against either officer, and has dismissed them accordingly. It is known that the Secretary of the Treasury had previously given all the papers a full and satisfactory examination, and that he concurs entirely in the decision of the President.

THE NEW YORK LEGISLATURE.—This body adjourned on the 17th instant, in pursuance of a resolution passed on the inability of the Senate to obtain a quorum in consequence of the resignation of twelve of the Senators. These Senators, as we have already noticed, resigned for the purpose of defeating the Erie Enlargement bill, and in doing so defeated also the Appropriation bill. The resolution referred to authorizes the Governor to call an extra session of the Legislature at such time and place as he may deem expedient for the interest of the State.—Governor Hunt has issued a proclamation convening the Legislature at the capitol on the 10th of June. The election to fill vacancies by the resignation of the twelve Senators will take place about the 20th of May.

COTTON FACTORY BURNED.—The Cotton Factory at Franklinsville owned by the Randolph Manufacturing Company, on Saturday evening last, was consumed by fire. The fire was first discovered about nine o'clock at night, in the dressing room, which room was in the upper story of the building. In a short time the flames were communicated to the roof whereupon it became evident that no effort could arrest their progress. Money and goods belonging to the company were saved, but the machinery, being fastened to the building, was destroyed with it. No other buildings were burnt.

We have not heard that any one pretends to know, or even conjecture, the origin of the fire. The loss of the Company is very heavy, the original cost of the establishment being upwards of thirty thousand dollars. The walls of the building were brick, but the falling in of heavy burning timbers left them in a ruined state. No part of the establishment was insured.

Since writing the above, we learn that only a part of the yarns were saved.

THE WHEAT CROP.—We receive favorable reports from the wheat crop in the eastern portion of North Carolina. It is presented to be very promising, and unless abundant before harvest, we may expect an abundant yield. The farmers have also finished planting corn, and much of it is already up and growing finely. Thus far the seasons have been favorable for agricultural purposes.

The accounts from different parts of Pennsylvania say that the growing wheat never presented a more promising appearance than at the present time.

The Cleveland (Ohio) Herald says that the wheat crop through the counties of Wayne, Stark, Holmes, Tuscarawas and Mahoning never looked better at this season of the year than now. It has occasionally been a little more rank, but without exception of a single field, it is looking strong and beautifully.

A GREAT PASSAGE.—"HURRAH FOR THE COLLINS LINE!" burst spontaneously from a thousand voices this morning, when it was known that the "Pacific," in nine days and twenty hours, had crossed the Atlantic. It gave full as much gratification to the public as if a great battle had been gained in Mexico, on the frontier, or on the ocean.

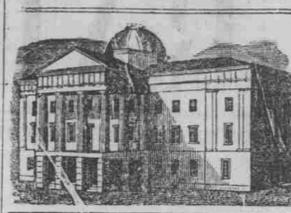
And why should it not? It is a great victory for our mechanics, our ship-yards, our iron and steam foundries, our engineers, our mechanics, in general for our common country. Such victories are bloodless, but far more important for our prosperity than if five thousand men had been killed, and ten or fifteen thousand wounded.

THE NEW DEMOCRACY.—It was old-fashioned Democratic doctrine that an absolute acquiescence in the will of the majority is the vital principle of republics.—This is good Whig doctrine. It will be seen, however, by reference to the proceedings of the New York Senate, that a new Democratic principle has been established. The received "Democratic" notion is that you are to pay no attention to the will of the majority, but that you are to defeat any unpopular legislative measure by reading it to death, as Mr. SOULE and Mr. CLEMENS did with the River and Harbor bill.—If that fail, the sovereign panacea is resignation. Turn every thing upside down—let chaos reign again—but defeat the majority at all hazards, and let the "minority" rule "to the last extremity." This is the new-light Democracy.—Republic.

MISPLACED CONFIDENCE. Jones is in general a good husband and a domestic man. Occasionally, however, his convivial tastes betray him into excesses which have subjected him more than once to the discipline of Mrs. Jones. A few nights since he was invited to "participate" with a few friends at Florence's by way of celebrating a piece of good luck which had befallen one of his neighbors. He did "participate" and to his utter astonishment when he rose to take his leave, at the "wee short hour ayont the twal," he found the largest brick in his hat he ever saw. Indeed, he was heard to remark so loudly. "I think, Mr. Jones, you were never quite so tight before."

He reached his home finally, but by a route which was anything but the shortest distance between two points, not, however, without experiencing very considerable anxiety about the reception which he waited him from Mrs. Jones. He was in luck that night, was Mr. Jones, barring always his primal transgression; he got into his house, found his way into his chamber without "waking a creature, not even a mouse." After closing his door, he cautiously paused to give thanks for the "cons. Jones the sound and refreshing sleep which had prevented her taking notice of his arrival. Being satisfied that all was right, he proceeded to remove his integuments with as much despatch and quiet as circumstances would permit, and in the course of time sought the vacant place beside his slumbering consort. After resting a moment, and congratulating himself that he was in bed, and that his wife did not know how long he had been there, it occurred to him that if he did not change his position Mrs. Jones might detect from his breath that he had been indulging. To prevent such a catastrophe, he resolved to turn over. He had about half accomplished his purpose—when he was now obliged to use the idiomatic language of Mr. Jones himself, from whom we receive this chapter of his domestic trials.—"When Mrs. Jones riz right up in the bed, and said she, in tones that scraped the marrow all out of my bones, said she, 'Jones you'ved'nt turn over, you've drunk clean through.'"

RALEIGH TIMES.



RALEIGH, N. C. FRIDAY APRIL 25, 1851.

OUR NEW DRESS.—We send out the Times this week in its enlarged form and new dress. We trust its friends will be pleased with its appearance. It has been delayed one day, in consequence of the additional labor required to put it in its present shape, but that will not occur again.

No new declaration of principles need be made by us. We love the Union and shall labor for its preservation—we glory in the title of an American citizen. North Carolina gave us birth, and for her honor and prosperity we shall always feel the deepest solicitude, and contribute our best exertions to promote a spirit of improvement and progress. It is believed that the Times is a Whig paper, and it is known that it supports the present Administration.

As to our State policy—we favor the call a Convention to amend our State Constitution, as the only true Republican mode, and shall endeavor to keep public attention interested in the subject until a decision is had. We desire that the People's voice shall be heard, respected and obeyed, and protest against any change projected and endeavored to be forced upon the people by party for party triumph. The people of the State are free—and should reject with scorn and contempt the men and the party who make truck and dicker of the People's rights, that they may ride into place and power. Such are our sentiments—we shall act accordingly.

We offer to the public an independent and a fearless Journal. We shall conduct it with such ability as we possess.—We own our party allegiance frankly—but we shall never be servile—and when we refuse fair and free discussion upon all subjects, we shall vacate the tripod. We trust the people of North Carolina will sustain us, so far as we may be thought to deserve it. We never expect to grow rich, but we should like to be a little more easy and comfortable. But we won't dan anybody.

RALEIGH AND GASTON ROAD.

PETERSBURG MEETING.—We learn from a private source that, at the meeting in Petersburg of those interested in the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad, on Tuesday, about \$100,000 were subscribed to the Stock of the new Company forming to become partner with the State. The meeting was addressed by Genl. R. M. Saunders, and very liberal feelings were exhibited. All honor to Petersburg—she has done nobly. The public spirit and enterprise of her citizens cannot be too much commended; and considering the heavy burdens they have heretofore assumed for works of improvement in Virginia, opening highways to their town; and, too, their losses in this same road; we confess we regard this subscription as very liberal and highly honorable.

Progress in subscriptions is made slowly, however, elsewhere. Perhaps they hardly yet reach \$200,000 in all; no positive information has reached us of even that amount. We are now to hear from Norfolk. Her interest is immense. Let her imitate Petersburg, and we shall consider the thing fixed. We have never believed that the interests of the people of the two States could suffer the Gaston Road to fail, and notwithstanding discouraging circumstances heretofore, there has been no cause for despair. It must be rebuilt; and we believe now that the offer of the State will be accepted, and the terms complied with.

Ought not our citizens upon the line of this Road to feel encouraged enough by the action above alluded to, to be stirring and active, and put forth their best energies? Petersburg has acted—we are doing well in Raleigh, and hope to do better. Franklin, Granville, Warren and Halifax! what say you! Come forward and help us to achieve this work of prime necessity and mutual benefit.

JOHN KERR, ESQ.—We are pleased to hear that this talented and accomplished gentleman designs to fix his residence in Wake county. The Editor of the Biblical Recorder, in an account of a trip to Wake Forest College, says:—"We learned that brother John Kerr, a lawyer of some distinction, has purchased an estate near the College. Should he open a Law School there, which we hope he will be persuaded to do, many more of the young men of our State will be induced to resort to Wake Forest. An industrious young man might make considerable progress in his law studies during his Senior year in the College classes."

IMPORTANT.—The Postmaster General has decided, that under the new Postage law, which takes effect on the 1st of July next, weekly papers only are entitled to circulate free of Postage in the county where published, and that the office of publication is the starting point and not county lines.

AN IMPORTANT MOVEMENT.—We publish on our first page the proceedings of meetings in Buncombe and Henderson, held for the purpose of favoring the call of a Convention to amend the Constitution, and looking to an organization upon this issue for the coming canvasses in the State. To our mind, it is getting time to push this matter of Reform to speedy completion.—The people are awaking upon the subject, and demanding action.—Never can they be made to submit to the dilatory means prescribed by Gov. Reid and his party for reforming their constitution. The majority of the last Legislature knew very well the feeling of the people upon this subject—a feeling which, reckless as that majority was, they were bound to respect—yet they stopped half-way in the only measure they proposed by Legislative enactment. If the abolition of the property qualification for voters is conceded, the abolition of all property qualifications should follow—a radical, and not a partial change is required to satisfy the people in this respect. The principle of property qualification being given up by the "Free Suffrage," why should property qualifications be required for the members, when it is no longer required for the voters? If it is wrong in one case, it is wrong in all, and all should be abandoned together.

But where is to be the end of these partial and piece-meal amendments by Legislative enactment? If this mode of reform obtains, will any of us live to see a thorough remodelling of the organic law? Not unless length of days like that of Methusalem should be vouchsafed. This generation surely will have passed away, before the reasonable desires of the people for all their rights and privileges shall have been gratified. We hardly believe, if the vote of the people of the State could be taken, that a thousand men in it would vote against the election of Magistrates by the people—yet in the mode proposed, it will take us eight or ten years to get the convention so amended as to give their election to the people. What a rank humbug, then, is this mode of Legislative enactment!—especially when we come to reflect that at least six or seven salutary amendments have been already proposed, and favored, more or less, by the people; some of which will be strongly demanded, whenever a proper discussion of them shall be had, and a proper understanding of them entertained by the public mind.

It would appear—we always so regarded it—that this matter of amending and reforming the constitution of the State should be kept distinct from, and above, the party strifes of antagonistic politicians. But let it never be forgotten the Democratic party of the State have refused to allow the people the poor privilege of speaking for themselves, and have assumed to dole out to them, in broken doses, and in their own mode, only such amendments as may suit their schemes of obtaining and holding power. They guard the constitution of the State, as so much political capital to be traded out, and partial reforms only to be granted, upon condition that the offices are to be bestowed upon their men. At the last gubernatorial election, they said to the people, in effect, if you will elect us, you may have Free Suffrage. At the next, they will say, probably, "Elect us, and you may have the election of Judges or Magistrates," or some other single amendment. How long will the people of the State submit to this? What free people, (to whom a free constitution belongs as a matter of absolute control, to be modelled and remodelled at their pleasure,) can bear such dilatory tampering—such mockery of reform—such desertion of the solemn instrument which guards and secures their rights and liberties? It must not be. The Republican mode of amending the constitution, as practised upon by the States all around us, is by the People themselves in Convention assembled. Let them be heard; and let the majority rule. And this is the true Democratic doctrine, though now repudiated by those who call themselves Democrats in North Carolina, to suit their own purposes. It has become with them a struggle for power—by the agitation of one question of Reform, they claimed to have gained it—with great professions of love for popular rights they came in—then, reflecting upon the means of keeping office, they kept "the word of promise to the ear, but broke it to the hope;" they kicked away every plank of their platform of Reform but Free Suffrage—and for that they propose to make the people wait six years, dependant at last upon the caprice of a Legislature elected without reference to the matter, because 'tis not of sufficient importance to influence a general election!—Such is Democratic love for the people!

Had the Whig party been united last winter upon this subject of Reform, they could have forced through a bill to take the sense of the people upon convention or no convention; and they would thus have provided for a speedy and complete settlement of this matter—by that means disposing of all the hobbies which the other party are holding back to let sit one at a time into every canvass for the next twenty years. But no—they could not trust the people, those whigs of the East. Rather than go with their Western brethren (with honorable exceptions,) they voted with the Locofoicos;—and that, when they were not required to sacrifice any dear principle, but rather to act upon a Republican principle, and carry out what we always thought was a sound whig doctrine, namely, to consult and defer to the popular will. A Whig afraid to trust the people! Because a man is an Eastern whig, should he rather aid his political foes than his Western brethren? Then may he bid good-bye to all hope of establishing whig ascendancy, unmistakably whig though the Old North State may be! The last election went by default of Western whigs, perhaps—if the next be lost, it will most likely be by Eastern whigs, unless they are willing to see a settlement of the amendments to the constitution which are agitating the State, that we may get rid of these issues in the State canvass. Do they not now see, that they cannot elect a whig Governor, when the great west, where mainly the strength of the State lies, is moving for an organization which will throw down the party lines, and urge for-

ward the ball of Reform? And who shall stop them? Look at the names of those who participated in this movement. Prominent among them are as noble and gallant whigs as breathe in the State. All over the West, others, as stout and true-hearted, are ready to spring to action, and soon their voices will be heard in unison with those who have already spoken.—They appealed to their brethren last winter, to suffer this matter to be tested by a vote of the people. It was refused, perhaps under the hope that they would slumber. Not so; they are awake and active—they will be vigilant and unflinching, until success shall crown their efforts by a Convention of the people, as the best means of defeating the political tricksters who aim to peddle upon the organic law for the next quarter of a century.

The Raleigh papers comment upon the recent meetings in Buncombe and Henderson. We designed to offer some comments upon the articles in the Register and Standard; but our time will not permit this week. The Standard, of course, opposes a Convention, and all amendments to the Constitution save the patent of the Democratic party, in the Democratic mode, "Free Suffrage"—and nothing else note: that's the "good enough Morgan" for the next campaign.

The Register very faithfully and heartily advocates the policy of taking the sense of the people on the question of calling a convention, and favors the call; but regrets the determination of the gentlemen who put forth the resolutions "to vote for no man for the office of Governor, or any other State office, who will not pledge himself to advocate the call of a free and unrestricted Convention—and, indeed, to run, irrespective of former party distinctions, a candidate for Governor, placing his election on that issue."

If the friends of Reform in the State deem it necessary to organize upon that issue, (and if they are really in earnest, of which we have no doubt, it is their best course,) the reasons are very weighty which demand a canvass of the State. It is a very sure way of kindling the proper spirit, and bringing about a settlement of the Reform question. Suppose the Whig party, standing aloof from this movement, or opposing it, put up their candidate for Governor—can they elect him, and regain the control of the State? It were idle to think so—nor are they likely again to succeed, until the call of the people for reform shall have been heard and respected.

We do not, like the Register, regard this as a sectional matter. Some of the amendments proposed to the constitution are popular everywhere—and there are friends of a convention in every part of the State. Those who move in the matter in this way adopt it as the best method of pushing forward to consummation that which they regard as above party allegiance. It is not the fault of these Western gentlemen that unanimity and fraternal feeling does not prevail upon this subject. Long and zealous did they labor last session of the Legislature, to produce union and harmony and a fair concert of action. Their efforts were defeated—and now they appeal to the fountain of all power, and enlist for the war. Parties may retard the call of a convention—they cannot totally defeat it, and crush the spirit which is abroad. The East should yield something now,—or perhaps the day may come when she will be compelled to yield all.

We append the greater part of the Register's article; and design to discuss this matter more fully in our next:

"While heartily endorsing the doctrine proclaimed in the Henderson and Buncombe resolutions, that it is the right, the privilege of the People to be consulted as to whether they desire a Convention to amend their organic law, we regret the determination they express, on the part of the Western gentlemen who put them forth, to vote for no man for the office of Governor, or any other State office, who will not pledge himself to advocate the call of a free and unrestricted Convention—and, indeed, to run, irrespective of former party distinctions, a Candidate for Governor, placing his election on that issue. We can not but appreciate the feeling which prompts this resolution, and can readily and fully understand the deep anxiety felt by the West that the people should be allowed to pass upon the sectional issue which has been raised, and in the result of which they are so vitally interested. It is impossible for us, however, to close our eyes to the fact, that, come what may, the Locofo party of the State will not allow themselves to be split up by any sectional or local dispute. Cohesion, for the sake of plunder, is their motto—it is the motto under which they have always fought—it is the banner under which they will continue to array themselves—and nothing short of an internal collision as violent as that which, in the physical world, sometimes uproots the very foundations of nature, can tear them asunder. The Eastern and Western Democracy will not split upon the issue upon which the Western gentlemen in the meetings allude to propose to run a gubernatorial candidate. This we consider as very certain. What good, then, can any portion of our Whig friends, who respectfully submit, who may be in favor of such a movement, expect to effect? It cannot, we think, under the circumstances, be productive of any decisive expression of the popular will. Local county elections may, and doubtless will, be made to turn upon the issue proposed to be presented. And thus, after all, the Legislature will reflect the popular mind and wish as to the propriety of leaving this question of Convention or no Convention to the decision of the sovereign arbiters of the land."

"We have thrown out these suggestions hastily and at much random. We can be accused of nothing improper in the premises. Our position, that we, in our earnest desire that equal justice shall be done in this matter of constitutional Reform, to each and every section of the State—that good feeling and fraternity shall prevail in our midst, and, so far as party organization as Whigs is concerned, whatever may be the course of the opposite party, that we may hold fast to that union, and preserve that concert of action, by which we have hitherto conformed, and without which we cannot rescue our glorious Old State from the hands of the Gouth and Vandals who have gained a temporary foothold in its citadel, or retrieve the reputation of North Carolina for consistency and political honesty."

Upon this same subject, that sound and reliable Whig Journal, the Greensboro' Patriot, remarks as follows:—"It is gratifying to see this action of our Western brethren. After witnessing the success of the last General Assembly, when incipient steps were made for legislative amendments, founded on party issues,—it is gratifying to witness this movement of the people, without regard to party, on the question of constitutional reform."