

From the Salem People's Press.
REMINISCENCES OF A FORSYTH
RIFLEMAN.—No. 2.

My last number closed with an account of our company's return to Sackett's Harbor, after having, to the great joy and satisfaction of the whole American force in that quarter, succeeded in our attempt to "nip in the bud" the nefarious schemes of rapine and murder, then on the eve of being executed upon our defenceless women and children, by the old tory, his abettor John Bull, and their gold-paid blood-thirsty Indian accomplices.

Our stay at the Harbor was brief, as we were ordered into winter quarters at Ogdensburg. The winter of 1812-13 will, by myself and fellow survivors of that inclement period, be remembered as one of the greatest severity, particularly in Canada and on the Northern frontiers of New York. The snow there averaged full three feet in depth all winter, and by the latter part of December, the ice in the St. Lawrence had attained the thickness of four feet, constituting a mass that united the British and our shore together, for the time being, as firmly as if the river had been a vein of solid granite.

Our sufferings from the intense cold at that time and place are indelibly impressed upon my memory by the deplorable fact that two of our ill-fated Riflemen, while on duty as sentinels, were frozen to death. As a military post, Ogdensburg may be said to have been utterly destitute of anything worthy the name of a fortification.

The old French Fortification, where we were quartered, was nothing more than a range of dilapidated barracks, erected during the old French War. Our Rifle Corps, consisting of 104 men, and a company of militia numbering about 90, under command of Col. Benedict, of the New York Militia, whose rank made him commanding officer of the station, constituted all our force at that point. Opposite to us on the British side of the river, distant only one mile, at Prescot, were about one thousand English Regulars. Thus stood matters, till on about the first of January, when our company under the guidance of its intrepid Captain, and covered by the darkness of a winter's night, made a successful expedition to Elizabethtown, since called Brockville, in consequence of General Brock and two of his Aid-de-camps having been killed there during the war of 1812 by our troops, commanded by that bravest of brave spirits, Gen. Van Rensselaer.

Elizabethtown, situated on the Canada side of the river about 12 miles distant from Ogdensburg, was reached by us without being molested or even discovered. On arriving there, we found, as expected, 15 of our patriotic citizens, closely confined in the jail of that place, waiting to be transported the following day towards Halifax, Nova Scotia, where it had been decided by the British authorities in Canada, they should be hanged, or imprisoned during the war, for the unpardonable crime of indignantly refusing to bear arms for King George, against their own beloved country. We rescued them from the insatiable jaws of English tyranny, and took as prisoners the guard, composed of 58 well armed English Lak eprivateers and a lieutenant of Dragoons; we brought off all without the loss of a man, to Ogdensburg, where we arrived early the following morning. The 58 privateersmen and the dragoon officer, were soon exchanged for 61 of our own soldiers—the officers being estimated in exchange equal to three of our privates.

From this time onward, no incident of note transpired, until about noon of Sunday, the 8th of February, when in the midst of a blinding snow storm, to our surprise, Adjutant Ridgeway, belonging to the enemy's force stationed at Prescot, came dashing with his foaming steed into our fort, exclaimed, at the top of his voice, "Didn't you hear the d—d rascals firing at me as I made my escape past their lines? Where is your Commanding Officer? I have come to join you as a deserter from the d—d English!" Whereupon, Captain Forsyth, with his accustomed blandness, invited the poor deserter into his private quarters; who, as he accepted our Captain's invitation, concluded his tirade of pretended abuse towards his countrymen by saying, "Thank God, I am now clear of the d—d English rascals." So admirably did he play the part of a genuine deserter, that he completely deceived every one of us, and most especially our frank, open hearted, unsuspecting commander, by whom, after being escorted throughout the town and our slender fortifications, he was suffered to roam about at his pleasure, and take lodging as was supposed for the night, at the house of one of our townsmen, who, with good reason, was ever after suspected of the rankest torism and treachery.

Snow continued to fall in huge flakes that filled the air throughout the day and night, ceasing about day break, when we were aroused from our gloomy reveries by the unceremonious visit of 800 English soldiers, armed to the teeth, and headed by the aforesaid Ridgeway; he having in the course of the preceding night made his escape back to his companions in Prescot, reported to them the extent of our force and means of defence, the insignificance of which tempted or rather compelled them to attack us, and they did so instantly, with an overwhelming force of 800 British troops, all of whom considered themselves as a select portion of the "flower of his Britannic Majesty's Army." This, in comparison to our force, large body of the enemy, approached almost within gun-shot of our ramparts, where they halted, and Adjutant Ridgeway, the double deserter of the previous day and night, mounted on the same trusty charger that had borne him into our fort the day before, advanced with a flag of truce within speaking distance, and there, with indescribable audacity, after calling for our commanding officer, ordered us to surrender forthwith as prisoners of war, on pain of being shot down to a man.

Capt. Forsyth's reply, although taddy laconic, breathed volumes of defiance. It was as follows: "Rose comrades of a spy, you and your minions will have some hard fighting to do, before you can make prisoners of me or my brave men!"

These words were spoken "about a quarter of the lip, or blanch upon the cheek of our apparently inspired commander, whose dauntless mien and bearing under such trying circumstances, as quick as thought, made every one of us feel as if he were a host within himself.

And here let me remark, that, solely through the undeserved magnanimity of our Captain, (although to the everlasting regret of all his men,) the wretch, Ridgeway, was permitted to return unharmed to the rear of the British lines, notwithstanding more than fifty of our death dealing rifles were levelled with fatal aim, and would have been fired at him, but for the all-potent order of our commander, who in a voice of thunder cried out, "Men! don't fire at the bearer of a flag of truce, it is against the rules of war!"

Our flag was raised, and an alarm gun fired the moment we discovered the British Col. Benedict being absent on a visit to his family, the chief command devolved upon Capt. Forsyth.

As soon as Ridgeway had gotten safely behind the ranks of his friends, they opened to the right and left, arraying themselves in two formidable divisions, the principal one, being intended to attack us in the fort, and the other to take our militia who were stationed in the heart of the town distant about one-fourth of a mile. Unfortunately, nearly all of them abandoned their post, leaving our Magazine and other public stores entirely at the mercy of the enemy.

A few of Col. Benedict's men rallied under our standard and fought like tigers. For two hours our little band, not exceeding in all 120, by pouring forth a constant stream of balls from our breastwork, kept at bay full 500 British Infantry; and but for our ammunition becoming exhausted, we should not have surrendered the fort without resisting to the death.

As soon as our last round was fired, our commander, biting his lips and stamping his feet with rage, summoned us around him, and with the air and look of a true hero depicted in every feature of his countenance said: "Men! it is our misfortune at this time to be completely overpowered, but the day may come when we can avenge ourselves! Our ammunition being exhausted, we must retreat; therefore let every man take care of himself." Capt. Benjamin Forsyth was the last man to leave the fort; and miraculous as it may appear, we retreated almost in solid column through the deep snow-drifts beyond the reach of our enemy's numerous guns, without losing a single one of the Forsyth Riflemen.

WM. EATON, SEN.

From the London Punch.

LAST HOURS OF A SINGLE GENTLEMAN.

This morning, November 11th, at half past eleven o'clock precisely, an unfortunate young man, Mr. Edward Pinckney, underwent the extreme penalty of infatuation, by explaining his attachment to Mary Ann Gale, in front of the altar railings of Saint Mary's Church, Islington.

It will be in the recollection of all those friends of the party who were at Jones's party at Brixton two years ago, that Mr. Pinckney was there, and then first introduced to Mary Ann Gale, to whom he instantly began to direct particular attentions—dancing with her no less than six sets that evening, and handing her things at supper in the most devoted manner. From that period commenced the intimacy between them, which terminated in this morning's catastrophe.

Poor Pinckney had barely attained his 28th year; and there is no belief that but for reasons of a pecuniary nature, his single life would have come earlier to an untimely end. A change for the better, however, having occurred in his circumstances, the young lady's friends were induced to sanction his addresses, and thus become accessories to the course for which he has just suffered.

The unhappy young man passed the last night of his bachelor existence in his solitary chamber. From half past eight to ten he was engaged in writing letters. Shortly after, his young brother, Henry, knocked at the door, when the doomed youth told him to come in. On being asked when he meant to go to bed, he replied, "not yet." The question was then put to him how he thought he would sleep to which he answered, "I don't know."

He then expressed a desire for a cigar and a glass of grog. His brother, who sat down and partook of the like refreshments, now demanded if he would take anything more that night. He said "nothing," in a firm voice. His affectionate brother then took his leave, when the devoted one considerably advised him to take care of himself.

Precisely at a quarter of a minute to seven, the next morning, the victim of Cupid having been called, according to his desire, arose and promptly dressed himself. He had the self-control to shave himself, without the slightest injury; for not even a scratch upon his upia appeared after the operation. It would seem he devoted a longer time than usual at his toilet.

The wretched man was attired in a light blue dress coat, with frosted buttons, a white vest and nankeen trousers, with patent boots. He wore round his neck a variegated saffron scarf, which partly concealed the Corrazzo of the bosom. In front of the scarf was inserted a breast-pin of conspicuous dimensions.

Having descended the staircase with a quick step, he entered the apartment where his brother and a few friends awaited him. He then shook hands cordially with all present; and on being asked how he slept, answered "Very well;" and to the further demand as to the state of his mind, he said he "felt happy."

One of the party hereupon suggested that it would be as well to take something before the melancholy ceremony was gone through; he exclaimed, with some emphasis, "decidedly." Breakfast was accordingly served, when he ate a French roll, a large round toast, two sausages, and three large laid eggs, which he washed down with three great breakfast cups of tea. In reply to an expression of astonishment on the part of persons present, he declared that he never felt heartier in his life.

That it was ten minutes of eleven, he remarked that it would soon be over. His brother then inquired if he could do anything for him; when he said he would take a glass of ale. Having drunk this, he appeared to be satisfied.

The fatal moment now approaching, he devoted the remaining portion of his time to distribute those little articles he would no longer want. To one he gave his cigar case; to another his tobacco stopper; and charged his brother Harry with his latch-key, with instructions to deliver it, after all was over, with due solemnity, to the landlady.

The clock at length struck eleven, and at the same moment he was informed that a cab was at the door. He merely said, "I am ready," and allowed himself to be conducted to the vehicle, into which he got with his brother, his friends following on behind in others.

Arrived at the tragical spot, a short but anxious delay of some seconds took place; after which they were joined by the lady and her friends. Little was said upon either side. Miss Gale at first smiled upon her victim; and then with customary decorum shed tears. Pinckney endeavored to maintain his tranquility, but a slight twitching in his mouth and eyebrows proclaimed his inward agitation.

All necessary preliminaries having now been settled, and the prescribed melancholy formalities gone through, the usual question was put—

"Willt thou have this woman to be thy wife?"

"I will."

He then put the fatal ring on Miss Gale's finger, the hymenial noose was adjusted, and the poor fellow was launched into matrimony.

OUR MECHANICS.

There is no doubt that Raleigh can boast as skilful mechanics, as any Town in North Carolina. They can turn out as good work, and as cheap, (all things considered) as those of Northern cities. We were particularly struck, last week, in passing the Coach Manufacturing Establishments of Mr. Willis D. Williams, situated about 100 yards east of the Baptist Church, and Mr. P. P. Williams, 100 yards west of the Presbyterian Church, to observe, not only the large number, but the beauty, elegance and style of finish, of their stock of Carriages, Buggies, &c. Every variety of vehicle is manufactured by them in a finished yet substantial manner. Purchasers need not trouble themselves to go to Jersey, when such fine carriages may be obtained at their own doors.

The extensive Machine Factories of Mr. Jos. Woltering and Mr. Silas Burns, are also a credit to the Town, and have turned out a variety of Machinery and other work in their lines, just as good as those obtained further North.

Almost every other branch of Mechanical business is carried on in the best styles in this City.

If our people generally would study their own permanent interests, as well as the prosperity of Raleigh, they would manifest their appreciation of this worthy class of the community, by patronizing them and building up the Town, instead of spending their money in some distant market, to the neglect and disparagement of the section in which they live. Let us learn to encourage home industry, and in this way build up a home market for our productions.

[Spirit of the Age.]

THE EVERY-DAY MARRIED LADY.

The every-day Married Lady is the inventor of a thing which few foreign nations have as yet adopted either in their houses or in their languages. This thing "comfort." The word cannot well be defined; the items that enter into its composition being so numerous that a description would read like a catalogue. We all understand, however, what it means, although few of us are sensible of the source of the enjoyment. A widower has very little comfort, and a bachelor none at all; whilst a married man—provided his wife be an every-day married lady—enjoys it in perfection. But he enjoys it unconsciously, and therefore ungratefully; it is a thing of course—a necessary, a right of the want of which he complains without being distinctly sensible of its presence. Even when it acquires sufficient intensity to arrest his attention—when his features and heart soften, and he looks around with a half smile on his face, and says, "This is comfort!" it never occurs to him to inquire where it all comes from. His every-day wife is sitting quietly in the corner; it was not she who lighted the fire, or dressed the dinner, or drew the curtains; and it never occurs to him to think that all these, and a hundred other circumstances of a moment, owe their virtue to her inspiring; and that the comfort which enriches the atmosphere, which sparkles in the embers, which broods in shadowy parts of the room, which glows in his own full heart, emanates from her and encircles her like an aureola.

THE MOCK AUCTIONS.—Notwithstanding the efforts of the Mayor to put a stop to the operations of these establishments, several strangers in our city have been swindled out of large sums of money by them within the past two or three weeks.

On Saturday last, a gentleman named J. O. Wilbur, from Greensborough, Guilford county, N. C., went into a notorious mock auction shop, on the corner of Wall and Pearl streets, to make purchases. Several articles were knocked down to him at what he considered a reasonable price, but when he came to look over his bill he found that he had been charged \$225, more than ten times the price demanded, and which he was foolish enough to pay.

At the advice of some of his friends, Mr. Wilbur presented his case before Justice Lothrop, of the city police, who has issued a warrant for the arrest of the swindlers.

N. Y. Ev. Post.

LARGE HAUL OF SINNERS.—The Boston police made a descent on Wednesday night upon the haunts of vice in Ann street and vicinity, and captured 153 men, women and children. Some were fined, some sent to the House of Correction, and others were indicted for violation of the law.

REFORM MEETING IN YANCY.

In another column will be found the proceedings of a meeting of the citizens of Yancy County, which took place on the week of Court, in the Court House in Burnsville. We have nothing much to do at home, and thinking that we might get something to do in this county, left home on Sunday morning previous and winding our way over to Burnsville, we arrived there on the evening of the same day, had the pleasure of seeing how things are done up on the Democratic principle, and of witnessing the spirit of the people in this public meeting. This County is Democratic in the right way, their democracy does not lead them to bind themselves up in the shackles of party, so that they go for their party right or wrong; but they go for right, and in this they fully see the right and feel oppressions that have been brought on them by this Constitution, that they are joining with the other western counties to reform. It was significantly called by Mr. Fleming in his address, a magnificent humbug. It has been truly styled by him, for in our opinion it is the most splendid humbug that a free and enlightened people have ever lived under.

The people we are satisfied throughout the whole of the county of Yancy understood this matter, and we are equally certain they are determined to act on it. The meeting at this place proposes that there should be a State Convention with a view to organizing a reform party, on the questions of the proposed reform of the constitution by a convention, and to nominate a candidate to be run by that party for the office of Governor of the State. We are pleased with this movement for several reasons. In the first place, we think that a convention is the only proper Republican mode of altering the constitution, and being satisfied the people desire amendments in their organic law, and that amendments are needed to develop the resources of the State that are now lying dormant, we think the best and speediest and most certain mode should be adopted to reform the whole legislation of the State, and to fully provide for a fundamental system of internal improvements, and give employment to much capital and labor that is now unemployed. We regard the amendment of the constitution by a convention as the only mode practicable; we are certain at least that no amendment can be made to that instrument, that will be of any important service to the State generally, by Legislative enactment. Until the western people can obtain their due and just weight in the counsels of the State, she never can improve, but will and must, for all time to come, pursue that non-acting policy that has kept her behind all her sister States. Will the people of this State consent to remain in their present condition? Look around you but for a moment and what do you see? you see the most energetic of your population leaving the state, you see the money of the state leaving it—the capital that could be profitably invested in business within her borders is changed to other places, for the reason that it cannot find employment here. Fellow citizens, are you willing to submit to this policy longer? We hope not, we think not.

We are gratified at the action of the meeting of Yancy for another reason, and that is, it shows clearly that it is no party movement, that it is not being brought about to effect party ends and party purposes, but that it is the movement of an independent and indignant people, a people that by the present organization of our fundamental law have suffered much and enormous injury. They have determined in their sovereign will, that they will bear it no longer, but will appeal to justice and the laws of nature to vindicate their cause at the ballot-box.—Isabelle News.

SOUTH CAROLINA MILITARY PREPARATIONS.

The South Carolina chivalry, it is known, have recently appropriated \$30,000 for bloody weapons, and some Massachusetts Yankees have got the job to make them—or a part of them, at least. A friends informs the editor of the Woonsocket Patriot that "Messrs. Waters, of Milbury, Mass., have obtained the contract for the small arms, viz: 6,000 muskets, 3,000 rifles, and 2,000 pistols. The field artillery are to be made in South Carolina, and the authorities were very anxious that Messrs. Waters should manufacture the small arms there also; but this could not be, and get the arms completed within the time allotted by the contract."

Messrs. Waters, however, have contracted to establish the armory in south Carolina, after the completion of this order.

So the valiant souls who are going to dissolve the Union, whip Uncle Sam and "the rest of mankind," can't even manufacture their own guns, but have to travel all the way to old Massachusetts.

ENORMOUS MASS OF PURE COPPER.

We stated a day or two since that the Cliff mine on Lake Superior has more copper uncovered than could be got out by the present force in three years. We have since ascertained the dimensions of one single sheet which they are at present working on, which presents the following almost incredible dimensions: Forty feet long, eighteen feet high, and from six inches to three feet thick. It probably weighs three hundred tons, and the miners have not yet reached either the end or the top of the sheet. It may possibly be two or three times as large as has yet been developed. The public are entirely in the dark in regard to the riches of the Lake Superior mineral districts.

N. Y. Tribune.

YET ANOTHER LETTER FROM MR. WEBSTER.

The Boston Transcript informs us that Ald. Rogers, chairman of the joint committee of the Boston Aldermen and Council, has received a reply from Mr. Webster, in answer to the request that he would address the citizens in Faneuil Hall. On dit, that the said reply is short, in more senses than one, and a severe rebuke to certain cliques and persons in high authority. This letter will be read at the meeting of the board of day. In the letter to the council in rebuke of the Aldermen's previous refusal to grant them Faneuil Hall, the quotation from Milton's description of the gates of hell, and its application to the "Cradle of Liberty," under the abolition control, is about as hard as we have seen for a long time. The words are—

"Not with impetuous recoil, grating harsh thunder."

The Patent for Paine's Light taken out in England, June 12, 1850, is published in the Scientific American.

THE CONTEMPLATED CUBAN INVASION.

Movements at Washington.—The following items relative to information and movements at Washington, in connection with the contemplated Cuban invasion, are of interest. The steam frigate Susquehanna, Capt. Aulick, is ordered to be in readiness to frustrate the expedition.

The Spanish Minister has had a long interview with the president on Friday, in relation to the meditated attack upon Cuba. The Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy were sent for, and remained during the interview. In addition to instructions to the Marshal and other officers, the vessels of the Home Squadron have been ordered to cruise in such a way, as to render an attempt to reach Cuba almost, if not wholly impossible. The Saranac is at Pensacola, and the Germantown at Havana.—The Albany will reach there by the first of May.

A despatch from Washington, dated at 1 o'clock on Saturday says:—

"Authentic information has been received by the Government authorities here, that large numbers of men have assembled at Mobile, Apalachicola, Savannah, and other cities South, for the purpose of embarking in the expedition against the island of Cuba. Among these persons, it is ascertained there are considerable numbers of Hungarian refugees, recently arrived in the United States,—men who have had an extensive experience in war of late, and who are therefore expected to make first rate soldiers.

"This information has created no little stir, here, but the general opinion is that if Cuba is invaded, the invaders should not rendezvous upon the soil of the United States, if the Administration at Washington can prevent it.

"Orders have been forwarded to New York for the immediate despatch of a Revenue Cutter, to cruise along the Southern coast."

THE CUBA HUNT.—The Washington correspondent of the "Journal of Commerce" says that some of the Georgia adventurers in the Cuba enterprise, arrived there on Friday, on their way North.—They stated that the expedition was on foot, and would not be easily frustrated; that it would probably proceed from different ports, &c. The writer adds:—

"They may have probably been kept in the dark as to the true state of the case, and there is reason to believe that the resources of the adventurers are very slender, and their numbers small.

The Home Squadron has been so disposed as to be effective for the frustration of any expedition against Cuba."

The Rome (Ga.) Courier says that an expedition was to sail from Savannah for Cuba, last week. The same paper says that men of influence in Georgia had encouraged the expedition.

LATE AND IMPORTANT FROM HAVANA.

CHARLESTON, Friday, April 25.—The steamer Isabel has arrived from Havana. Much excitement continued to exist on account of the invasion which was expected to have landed on the 19th inst. The Captain General had received a dispatch stating that an expedition had sailed from New Orleans.

The troops were sleeping on their arms, horses were saddled for expresses, and one steamer keeps her steam up continually, but, when the Isabel left, nothing had occurred. One Spaniard had been condemned to death, having been detected in bribing a pilot to assist Lopez. The people are said to desire the invasion, and are ready to join when a respectable force lands on the island.

NEW ORLEANS, April 25.—The barque Charles Loden has arrived from Vera Cruz with Mexican papers to the 9th inst., from which we learn that Congress was in session, and that a proposition had been made in the lower House, which would probably be assented to in the Senate, to continue the session till the 15th.

Mexico appears to be in a desperate condition, and none of her public men seem disposed to hazard their reputation in an attempt to restore her prosperity. Gen. Arista, who had the management of the treasury for a short time, gave it up as a hopeless task.

Addresses had been issued to the commissioners of the different wards in the capital, to ascertain the number of foreigners in the city, together with an account of their nationality, character, employment, &c.

A bill has also been introduced to abolish the tobacco monopoly.

The Indians in Chihuahua were suing for peace.

The working of the Mexican mines was attracting the attention of capitalists.

THE COTTON CROP.

Letters from the South, state that the plant is up and in a flourishing condition, and though the nights have been cool, there has been no frost to injure the young plants, as there was in the spring of last year, and of the year before that. The high price, and great profit obtained by the planters, has no doubt stimulated the cultivation of a great quantity of land, and with a fair season, we may look for a crop much exceeding that of any previous year, and fully up to the ability of the whole force of the plantations to gather and prepare for market. The present downward tendency of prices bids fair to continue some time.

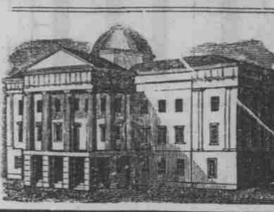
WASHINGTON, April 27.—Charles F. Stansbury, Esq., of Washington, now in London, has been appointed by the Secretary of the Interior to make a report of all matters connected with the London Industrial Exhibition which may be useful to science, or tend to promote the mechanic arts. The report will be embellished with suitable engravings, and published as a patent office document.

General R. Weightman has been appointed chief clerk in the Patent Office, in the place of Mr. Lawrence.

Henry Baldwin, Esq., of Tennessee, and T. H. Dewitt, of New York, have been appointed assistant examiners.

General Winfield Scott is still suffering, it is said from disease contracted in his Mexican campaign. The Louisville Journal says he would have protracted his stay in that city had not the feeble state of his health made it advisable for him to hasten southward.

RALEIGH TIMES.



RALEIGH, N. C.

FRIDAY MAY 2, 1851.

DEMOCRACY AND ABOLITION.

It is well known that the election of Charles Sumner as United States Senator from Massachusetts, was effected by a disgraceful coalition and bargain for offices between the Democratic and Abolition members of the Legislature. For this result (says the Boston Journal,) the Democratic party of Massachusetts is directly responsible, and to that party will attach whatever of honor or opprobrium is gained by Mr. Sumner, during his six years of public service. The Whigs wash their hands of his election; they have had no lot or part in the matter. They have seen their Democratic opponents fraternising time and again with the Free Soilers and have stood firm; they have maintained their distinctive organization, and kept themselves aloof from degrading coalitions, even when they were convinced that defeat would result from their unwavering devotion to principle.

The Democrats have chosen a different line of conduct. They have united with the Free Soilers to defeat the Whigs, thereby galvanising into the semblance of life the decaying elements of the northern sectional party. They have identified themselves with the abolition movement, and have elected one of its most earnest champions to a position where he can for a period of six years fan the elements of discord, and keep alive the agitation which the earnest efforts of the friends of the Union are now directed to allay. The Democratic party of Massachusetts is no longer national. As in New York and Ohio, so in Massachusetts, it has sought the company of the Free Soilers, and the taint of abolitionism will adhere to its skirts. The Democrats can hardly boast of their nationality hereafter.

SOUTH CAROLINA CONVENTION.—Next Monday is the day fixed for the convention of delegates from the State Rights Associations of the several districts in South Carolina, at Charleston. The question is to be agitated and decided on whether it is expedient for South Carolina to secede immediately from the Union, or await the co-operation of other Southern States. The party in favor of separate State action and immediate secession, seems to be very active and decided. This Convention will, through its recommendation, decide the course of the State Convention which is to meet next winter, and determine the future action of the State. We learn that Reporters from the North and South are already on the spot, and the Charleston papers will also doubtless give full reports of the proceedings. They will be looked for with great interest, now that political anti-slavery, with its Locofoco aid, has achieved such signal triumphs by the election of its pledged representatives to the United States Senate from several States. There is no telling how far South Carolina may go. We incline to the opinion that she will try secession. If her presses properly reflect the ruling public sentiment, we see not how her people can avoid it.

THE CONVENTION QUESTION.

The popular movements upon this question continue. Our readers may find on our first page the proceedings of a primary meeting in the county of Yancy, where resolutions of a strong and determined character were adopted, and such as cannot fail to arrest the attention of those who have a look with interest on the struggle for popular rights now commencing in the State. We must take ground either for or against this movement, in the position in which we are placed. It has pleased one of the parties of the State (the Democratic party) to set up the principle of amendments to the constitution by Legislative enactment; and they propose to put them through one at the time. We are opposed to this principle and mode of amendments—we are and always have been opposed to Free Suffrage—it is a mere half-way abandonment of property qualifications; confers no substantial right and benefit upon the people; and will be unsatisfactory, as the entering wedge merely to the entire breaking up of the safeguards upon property in our present constitution. The wisdom—the voice of the people, would never call for such an alteration as that. It is a deceptive trick of politicians, and, as a trick, may be successful, for what we know—but never can it satisfy the call for Constitutional Reform which has been raised, and which is now exhibiting its importance and power in the action of the people. The charlatans who throw out this blind concession, by way of stopping the popular demand, and who adopt it as a platform for their party, are

most woefully deceived. We grant them temporary success by the false position of their opponents—but a Convention must come, to end this struggle for shadows, and to gain substantial rights; and place and power will they never know afterwards in the Old North State.

So that, if we were disposed to be governed by party in this matter, and should consent to act in it only from motives connected with future whig success, our counsel to our party should be, to suffer this Convention to be held as quick as possible—have it over and done with—give the people free swing—they are sure to do right, and the interests of all sections will be safe in their hands. Does any one doubt it? It is said the East has the power of the State, when Federal population is counted. Very well, it is proposed to call the Convention upon the Federal basis; and what has the East to fear? In like manner, it is said that the whig party have the majority in the State; then the Whig party, by proper exertions, can control the convention; and what have they to fear? Now is the time to move in this matter, take it either way—if the East wishes to secure and maintain its power; or if the Whig party wishes to regain power and secure themselves against future defeat; nay, establish their ascendancy forever.

Several of the Editors—our friends—agree with us in our positions, that a Convention is the only true Republican mode of amending the constitution; and that the question of Convention or No Convention ought to be submitted to the people—but they dissent from any separate organization having in view the making this issue distinctly before the people at the next election. We exceedingly dislike to differ with our brethren, and we shall avoid controversy with them as far as possible. Our assertion last week was (and it is the truth) that the Whigs defeated a bill to submit the question to the people in the last Legislature, and passed the Free Suffrage bill in preference. Yet, in the last Register it is asked, "who would be afraid to trust the people? Who wishes to stifle their voice?"

We are afraid that the course proposed by the Register, is not one which can or ought to satisfy the true friends of popular reform, who cannot and will not be tied down and controlled by party in this matter; namely, for the Whig party to run a candidate for Governor who is in favor of submitting the question of Convention or No Convention to the people. How does that differ from the platform upon which Gov. Manly run last year, as laid down in the Resolutions of the Convention which nominated him? They declare that the Legislature ought to adopt some mode, in accordance with the provisions of the constitution, for taking the sense of the people upon certain amendments. The platform of the Register now is, that the candidate of the Whig party should be in favor of taking the sense of the people upon Convention or No Convention; and it is asked "what could there be in the way of success?" Why, the Democratic party and Free Suffrage, to say nothing of those Whigs in the last Legislature, some of whom acted so strangely on this very issue, while others broke solemn pledges to defeat the submission of this very question to the people.

If there be division, it is not the fault of the Western Whigs, and the appeal for unanimity must be made in another quarter. The county of Yancy is Democratic, having cast at the last election, 632 votes for Reid and 456 for Manly—but there party is discarded, to go for reform. We are much mistaken if it do not soon appear that the strength and importance of this movement is vastly beyond the calculations of politicians, and little likely to yield to party calculations and party tactics.

Extract from a letter to the Editor from a gentleman up West, dated 29th April, 1851.

"I rejoice to learn that you are about to enlarge and improve The Times; as you seem to be the only Editor in Raleigh who, in heart, has any sympathy with the people in the movement that they are now making to secure an unrestricted Convention to amend the Constitution of the State. You will please to set me down as a subscriber. If the Register, Observer, and other Whig papers think they can take any other ground and succeed in electing their candidate for Governor, they will be mistaken. The Democrats are bound to succeed at the next election, take what ground we may. The Whigs may run a candidate either for or against an open convention, and he will, I admit, in all probability, be defeated; but, should our candidate be defeated when run in favor of an open Convention, it will ultimately add a thousand fold to his strength, as did Free Suffrage to David S. Reid. How invulnerable has he become by making an issue and suffering himself to be defeated. The Register was once in favor of letting Gov. Manly walk over the track the second time, and, if I recollect aright, promised, or rather half-way pledged the Whig party to show a similar respect to the Democrats the ensuing campaign. Let this be done by galloping our candidate over the Republican track, who is pledged in favor of an open and unrestricted Convention, and let the Democrats make all they can out of their triumph. They may make the welkin ring for a short time with their shouts of triumph; but we will rejoice also in the hope of a speedy and permanent