

From the Western Carolinian.

In last week's paper, we briefly mentioned that a very tragic affair had taken place in Mecklenburg county; the last Charlotte paper contains the particulars attending it, which are even more shocking than report had represented them. It is with shame and confusion we perform our task as public journalists, in promulgating to the world, that unpopular opinion contained in its bosom a MONSTER, bearing the externals of humanity, of impulses so savage, so demoniacal. We have had, indeed, a counterpart to the "Kentucky Tragedy" enacted in our state.

The Catawba Journal of the 28th ult. says, that "On the 18th inst. Robert Yandle went to his brother-in-law's, John Hartis, against whom he had some spite, and as soon as he entered the house, told him he had come on purpose to kill him. He immediately presented his rifle, which flashed; when Hartis sprang up and seized the rifle, and a considerable scuffle ensued; but Yandle overpowered him, and beat his brains out with the butt of the rifle. He then went to the house of James Morris, whither Hartis's wife had fled, and attempted to kill her; but she fortunately escaped, a ter being severely wounded by a blow from his rifle, by getting under a small building. Yandle then left the house, and after going about half a mile, met a young man by the name of Fisher, whom he had previously threatened to kill, fired at him, and wounded him in the shoulder: Fisher ran, and Yandle pursued, in order to complete his murderous design; but before he could overtake him, Fisher reached a neighbor's house, and almost exhausted from the loss of blood, and Yandle desisted from the pursuit. He then went to the house of Mrs. Hooks, a widow woman and attempted to lay violent hands on a young lady, who, he suspected, was about to be married to Fisher, whom he had previously attempted to kill; but she broke from his grasp, and fortunately succeeded in effecting her escape.

By this time the alarm had been given, and Philmon Morris, Esq. and Capt. Zebulon Morris came on to Charlotte, and made application to Judge Ruffin, who was then here, for authority to apprehend Yandle. He immediately issued a bench warrant, and directed the sheriff to take him, dead or alive. The sheriff started the same night, reached the neighborhood by sun-rise next morning, summoned a guard of about 20 men, surrounded the house of Yandle, where he had shut himself up and armed himself with a rifle and shot gun, and summoned him to surrender. This he positively refused to do, and attempted to fire at a part of the guard out of the garret window; several shots from them, however, but which did not take effect, caused him to retreat from that position. In a short time he made a second attempt, but was again driven back by a fire from the guard.

The guard remained secreted behind the spring house, until the latter part of the day, without being able to effect their object; when the sheriff and the guard agreed to rush upon the house, which was instantly done. He was again summoned to surrender; but he replied, that he knew he would have to die if he gave himself up, and he would rather die than surrender. He then made several attempts to fire, both at the sheriff and guard, at length put his gun through a crack and snatched it at one of the guard, only a few paces distant; at that instant, several of the guard fired at him, through the crack, but unfortunately missed him, and killed a little daughter of his, who was lying in bed. This was the first knowledge which either the sheriff or the guard had, that any other person was in the house besides Yandle—they had supposed he had either murdered his family, or sent them off. But it seems, as they were subsequently informed by his wife,

that when his house was surrounded, he put her and his children in bed, covered them up, and declared, if they made the least noise, he would instantly put them to death. In the unfortunate death, therefore, of the little girl, not the least blame can be attached to any one but the wretched father.

Immediately on the firing of the guard, Yandle dropped his rifle, snatched up the shot gun, rushed out of a door on the opposite side of the house, and fired on the guard within four paces of the muzzle of his gun. At the moment he rushed out, however, two of the guard fired and shot him through; and to this circumstance it is doubtless owing that his fire did not take effect, as the wounds he received caused him to elevate his gun so that the shot passed over the heads of the guard. The remainder of the guard fired instantly, and he fell dead several paces from the door.

We have purposely gone into the details of this melancholy transaction, in order to remove misapprehensions and prevent false reports from getting into circulation.

[In our view, the editor of the Journal needed no excuse for "purposely going into the details of this melancholy transaction;" indeed, we don't know how he could have excused himself, had he neglected giving them. We are at a loss to know what harm false reports on the subject can do: "rumor, with her thousand tongues," could not have exaggerated the enormity, or increased the horror of the "transaction."]

GREENSBOROUGH: WEDNESDAY, DEC. 12.

While Virtue reigns, let her sons rejoice.

The Congress of the United States met at the City of Washington, on Monday, the 4th inst. On Tuesday the President of the United States, transmitted to both houses a very able and voluminous Message; from its great length we are unable to give it all, but give below such extracts as we think will be read with interest by our readers.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

To the Second Session of the Nineteenth Congress.

Fellow-Citizens of the Senate and of the House of Representatives.

The assemblage of the Representatives of our Union in both Houses of Congress at this time occurs under circumstances calling for the rendered homage of our grateful acknowledgments to the Giver of all Good. With the exceptions incidental to the most felicitous condition of human existence, we continue to be highly favored in all the elements which contribute to individual comfort and to national prosperity. If the survey of our extensive country, we have generally to observe abodes of health and regions of plenty. In our civil and political relations, we have peace without, and tranquility within our borders. We are, as a people, increasing with unabated rapidity in population, wealth, and national resources; and, whatever differences of opinion exist among us, with regard to the mode and the means by which we shall turn the beneficence of Heaven to the improvement of our own condition, there is yet a spirit animating us all, which will not suffer the bounties of Providence to be showered upon us in vain, but will receive them with grateful hearts, and apply them with unwearied hands, to the advancement of the general good.

Of the subjects recommended to the consideration of Congress at their last Session, some were then definitively acted upon. Others left unfinished, but partly matured, will recur to your attention, without needing a renewal of notice from me. The purpose of this communication will be, to present to your view the general aspect of our public affairs at this moment, and the measures which have

been taken to carry into effect the intentions of the Legislature as signified by the laws then and heretofore enacted.

In our intercourse with the other nations of the earth, we have still the happiness of enjoying peace and a general good understanding—qualified, however, in several important instances, by collisions of interest, and by unsatisfied claims of justice, to the settlement of which, the constitutional exposition of the legislative authority may become ultimately indispensable.

With the American Governments of this hemisphere, we continue to maintain an intercourse altogether friendly, and between their nations and ours that commercial interchange of which mutual benefit is the source, and mutual comfort and harmony the result, is in a continual state of improvement. The war between Spain and them, since the total expulsion of the Spanish military force from their continental territories; has been little more than nominal; and their internal tranquillity, though occasionally menaced by the agitations which civil wars never fail to leave behind them, has not been affected by any serious calamity.

The Congress of Ministers from several of those nations which assembled at Panama, after a short session there, adjourned to meet again, at a more favorable season, in the neighborhood of Mexico. The decease of one of our Ministers on his way to the Isthmus, and the impediments of the season, which delayed the departure of the other, deprived us of the advantage of being represented at the first meeting of the Congress. There is, however, no reason to believe that any of the transactions of the Congress were of a nature to affect injuriously the interests of the United States, or to require the interposition of our Ministers, had they been present. Their absence has indeed deprived us of the opportunity of possessing precise and authentic information of the treaties which were concluded at Panama; and the whole result has confirmed me in the conviction of the expediency to the United States of being represented at the Congress. The surviving member of the Mission, appointed during your last session, has accordingly proceeded to his destination, and a successor to his distinguished and lamented associate will be nominated to the Senate. A Treaty of Amity, Navigation, and Commerce, has in the course of the last summer, been concluded by our Minister Plenipotentiary at Mexico, with the United States of that Confederacy, which will also be laid before the Senate; for their advice with regard to its ratification.

In advertent to the present condition of our fiscal concerns, and to the prospects of our Revenue, the first remark that calls our attention, is that they are less exuberantly prosperous than they were at the corresponding period of the last year. The severe shock so extensively sustained by the commercial and manufacturing interest in Great Britain, has not been without a perceptible recoil upon ourselves. A reduced importation from abroad is necessarily succeeded by a reduced return to the Treasury at home. The net revenue of the present year will not equal that of the last. And the receipts of that which is to come will fall short of those in the current year. The diminution, however, is in part attributable to the flourishing condition of some of our domestic manufactures, and so far is compensated by an equivalent more profitable to the nation. It is also highly gratifying to perceive, that the deficiency in the revenue, while it scarcely exceeds the anticipations of the last year's estimates from the Treasury, has not interrupted the application of more than eleven millions during the present year, to discharge of the principal and interest of the debt, nor the reduction of upwards of seven millions of the capital debt itself. The balance in the Treasury on the first of January last, was five millions two

hundred and one thousand six hundred and fifty dollars and four-tenths cents. The receipts from that time to the 30th of September last, were nineteen millions five hundred and eighty-five thousand nine hundred and thirty-two dollars and fifty cents. The receipts of the current quarter, estimated at six millions of dollars, yield, with the sums already received, a revenue of about twenty-five millions and a half for the year. The expenditures for the three first quarters of the year have amounted to eighteen millions seven hundred and fourteen thousand two hundred and twenty-six dollars and sixty-six cents. The expenditures of the current quarter are expected, including the two millions of the principal debt to be paid, to balance the receipts. So that the expenses of the year, amounting to upwards of a million less than its income, will leave a proportionally increased balance in the Treasury on the first of January, 1827, over that of the first of January last. Instead of five millions two hundred thousand, there will be six millions four hundred thousand dollars.

The amount of duties secured on merchandise imported from the commencement of the year until the 30th of September is estimated at twenty-one millions two hundred and fifty thousand dollars and the amount that will probably accrue during the present quarter, is estimated at four millions two hundred and fifty thousand, making for the whole year twenty-five millions and a half, from which the drawbacks being deducted, will leave a clear revenue from the customs, received in the year 1827, about twenty millions four thousand dollars, which, with the sums to be received from the proceeds of Public Lands, the Bank Dividends, and other incidental receipts, will form an aggregate of about twenty-three millions—a sum falling short of the whole expenses of the present year, little more than the portion of those expenditures applied to the discharge of the public debt, beyond the annual appropriation of ten millions, by the act of 3d March, 1817. At the passage of that act the public debt amounted to one hundred and twenty-three millions and a half. On the first of January next, it will be short of seventy-four millions. In the lapse of these ten years fifty millions of public debt, with the annual charge of upwards of three millions of interest upon them, have been extinguished. At the passage of that act, of the annual appropriation of the ten millions, seven were absorbed in the payment of interest, and not more than three millions went to reduce the capital of the debt. Of the same ten millions, at this time scarcely four are applicable to the interest, and upwards of six are effective in melting down the capital. Yet our experience has proved that a revenue consisting so largely of imposts and tonnage, ebbs and flows to an extraordinary extent, with all the fluctuations incident to the general commerce of the world. It is within our recollection that even in the compass of the same last ten years, the receipts of the Treasury were not adequate to the expenditures of the year; and that in two successive years it was found necessary to resort to loans to meet the engagements of the nation. The returning tides of the succeeding years replenished the public coffers, until they have again begun to feel the vicissitude of a decline. To produce these alternations of fulness and exhaustion, the relative operation of abundant or of unfruitful seasons, the regulations of foreign Governments, political revolutions, the prosperous or decaying condition of manufactures, commercial speculations and many other causes, not always to be traced, variously combine. We have found the alternations swift and diminutions embracing periods of from two to three years. The last period of depression to us from 1819 to 1822. The corresponding revival was from 1823 to the commencement of the present year. Still we have no cause to apprehend a depression comparable