

OUR STATE CONSTITUTION.

We find in the "Tarboro' Free Press" the subjoined communication, which we re-publish, as well on account of the lucid manner in which the writer treats his subject, as because of the strong evidence which it affords that the East are beginning to view this vexed question in its proper bearings.

"Every intelligent and candid man who watches the progress of public opinion will readily acknowledge, that the question, in relation to the amendment of our State Constitution, is no longer an original one. It is a question which has been decided by the people of the State, and the result rendered a verdict against the existing Constitution, and in favor of a Convention to amend it. It is, therefore, in the present temper of the public mind, to waste our time in discussing the abstract propriety of the contemplated change, or in indulging in panegyric eulogies upon the venerable instrument which it is proposed to dismember. In the present and succeeding numbers, it is my purpose to present for public consideration, some of the most interesting points connected with this great question, which has so long and so unappetizingly distracted our State."

And first—Can a Convention be limited? It is this preliminary question which I now propose to examine. In support of the position that the people can limit their own agents, I need only refer to the great cardinal principles upon which all popular governments are based. All power emanates from the people. This power they delegate wholly or in part, as suits their pleasure. A Convention is composed of delegates elected by the people, and responsible to the people. To do what? Precisely what the sovereign power—the people—will and is empowered to do. They—the Convention—possess no inherent power—they have none other, than such as has been delegated. To the Legislature, deriving its existence from the same source and acknowledging the same responsibility, certain powers have been delegated; and the extent of these powers has been accurately defined by the constituent body whom they represent. If these powers are transcended, the same ultimate tribunal has prescribed a mode by which the authorized acts of the legislative body shall be rendered inoperative. But in this constituting the legislative department of the government, for the purposes which have been thus accurately defined, the people, the sovereign power, have not divested themselves of the right to appoint other delegates—assign to them specific duties—and exact from them the same obedience. I hope I am understood. All the powers of every department of government in this country—both State and Federal—are delegated powers, and are only exercised by virtue of express grants from the people. The people then, being the sovereign power may create any other delegation they think proper, specify the subjects upon which such delegation shall act, and define the boundaries beyond which they cannot legitimately pass. To maintain a different opinion is in effect, to affirm that the sovereign power is limited—that the principal cannot bind his agent—that the people cannot control their servants.

It is true that early in the history of the country our Conventions were not limited. We were without any government at all—and the object in assembling Conventions was to organize a government, not to correct evils that had grown up in its progress. But it is not less true, that since that period, every State in the Union has called a limited Convention. Such were the Conventions that sat upon the Federal Constitution.—Their power extended no farther than the simple adoption or rejection of that instrument, except in those States, where the Legislatures recommended certain other limited or specific powers; and the people, by electing delegates under such recommendation, ratified it and made it their own. Thus in our own State, the Legislature recommended to the people, that in addition to the powers in regard to the Federal Constitution with which the Convention, about to be assembled, was to be entrusted, the farther duties should be imposed upon them of making Fayetteville a borough, and of permanently locating the seat of government. In New York, New Hampshire, and several other States, limited Conventions have been called, and no difficulty has occurred in enforcing the same solemn sanctions for their faithful conduct, that are observed with other political bodies.

With regard to the mode by which the limitations may be imposed, I can see no objections to that which has been practised in other States and our own. The Legislature embodying, as the theory of our government would imply, the popular will, recommends to the people a Convention for the correction of certain specific defects in the present Constitution. The people adopt the recommendation by electing delegates in accordance with it, reserving to themselves the ultimate right of confirming or rejecting the amendments proposed by the Convention.—With it be questioned, that a Convention thus constituted is not as clearly restricted by the terms of the legislative recommendation, sustained by the solemn sanction of the people, as is the Legislature itself, to its legitimate sphere of action. To deny this position, is in effect to deny that the sovereignty resides in the people—to affirm that the people are subordinate to their agents and ultimately to establish the monstrous principle that we have no remedy for any defect in our system short of actual revolution."

ARISIDES.

PHILADELPHIA POST-OFFICE.

The Postmaster of the city of Philadelphia has published an Address to the public, of some length, admitting the fact of the sale of packages sent to his office from Washington, during the last session of Congress, under the frank of Col. WATMOUGH, but denying any criminal intention or party purpose, on the part of himself or his Clerks, thus disposing of packages which, it appears, the Post Office does not consider as letters!

"It is important to bear in mind, (says the Postmaster,) that ALL the public documents forwarded by various members to this office during the session, with but few exceptions, (and these occurred during the first two weeks after the supply commenced,) were not sent or received as letters. Those under the frank of Col. W. put away among the dead matter, a part only of which were sold by Mr. Park, who was not received as letters; so that no letters could have been sold by him.—If they had been stamped, and received as letters, they would so have been treated, and instead of being passed until called for in the newspaper alphabet, they would have been put into the letter alphabet, and at the expiration of the proper period, sent on to Washington. The law does not require the return of any other than dead letters. This is for the purpose of preserving any articles of value that may be found in them."

This is a curious affair, altogether, and the explanation of the Postmaster, though it extenuates somewhat the enormity of the offence, is by no means satisfactory. We hope the admitted practices of the Philadelphia Post Office are not to stand as the rule for the government of the Post Offices generally. What would be thought of it, if the Postmaster-General were to issue an order to his ten thousand Deputies in these words:—"You will consider all letters or packages franked by members of Congress in the same light as old newspapers, and instead of delivering them, may let them accumulate in your office, until the end of the quarter, when they may be sold out by the weight for waste paper?" Would not the Postmaster-General, issuing such an order, be thought a fit subject for a strait-jacket?—Yet such an order would no more than cover, according to the Postmaster's own showing, the case which has actually occurred at the Philadelphia Office.—Nat. Int.

THE ELECTIONS.

MAINE.—The returns from Maine leave the result of the election for Governor very doubtful, though we incline to the opinion that Mr. Dunlap, the Jackson candidate, has succeeded. In the 47 towns heard from Mr. Sprague, the Opposition candidate, has a net gain of 7333 votes, compared with the Presidential election of 1832. The returns comprise Cumberland, 16 towns in York, and 8 towns in Lincoln county, which present the following result:

Table with 2 columns: Candidate, Votes. Dunlap's majority in Cumberland 586, Do do in 16 Towns in York 287, Sprague's majority in 8 towns in Lincoln 879, Dunlap's majority as far as heard from 804.

Gen. Jackson's majority in the above towns in 1832, was about 1300. The Opposition have also gained 13 members of the House of Representatives in the towns from which returns have been received. There is no doubt of the re-election of Mr. EVANS, the only Whig Representative in Congress from the State of Maine; and Judge BAILEY, the Whig candidate for Congress in Lincoln district, is elected over EDWARD KAVANAGH, the present incumbent.

F. O. J. SMITH, Jackson, is re-elected to Congress, from Cumberland district, but by a greatly diminished majority. VERMONT.—The returns, as far as received, render it probable that there has been no choice for Governor. But as the Anti-Masons and the National Republicans will have a large majority in the Legislature, there is no doubt that Governor PALMER, the present incumbent, will be re-appointed by that body. It requiring, in this State, a majority of the whole number of votes given in, to constitute an election, it is presumed from the returns that there has been no choice for Members of Congress, except probably, in two districts.

CHARLESTON, (S. C.)—The Mercury furnishes the following account of the election in that city for Charter-officers:

Result of the City Election.—It will be seen by the following, from the official return of the Votes, that the State Rights Ticket has decidedly triumphed, having been carried in by a greater majority than we had at the last contested City Election, viz: that of 1832, when our average majority was 160.

Table with 2 columns: Description, Votes. The highest State Rights Vote of a Candidate, not on the Union Ticket, is 933, The highest Union Vote is 693, Majority 240.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The politics, literature, and general course of Great Britain, are more interesting to American readers than those of any foreign kingdom or nation. As we speak the language Shakespeare spoke, we are enabled the more readily to gratify a reasonable and natural desire to know the ways of what is even now called the "mother country," for however estranged by time, distance and circumstance, we can never forget that we sprang from her loins, and drew our nature in infancy from her bosom. It must be gratifying to those across the Atlantic to see the general interest taken in, and knowledge of, Great Britain, by the peo-

ple of this country. An important measure, such as a change of administration, or any other event which excites the public mind in England, Scotland, or Ireland, is sure to have its effect and influence upon the public sentiment here. When talk of British affairs familiarly and earnestly and next to the doings of their own government think and speak of the acts of the British Government. And this happens without any community of interest or real national concern in what occurs there. It arises from the kindred ties of blood, and the consciousness that there, as well as here, there is a sacred depository of Liberty, from which the nations of the earth are to be supplied, and for the safety and preservation of which we cannot but be concerned. How powerful this state of feeling must be in strengthening the cords of peace and harmony which now unite the two nations, is evident. It would seem that, situated as we are, there could hardly arise a state of things which could induce an alteration in our present amicable relations.—Mutually benefiting each other, mutually interested in each other's welfare, mutually lighting the world in its onward march, to freedom, and mutually laying the broad and deep foundation of civil Liberty for posterity to build on—who would wish to see so much peace marred—so much harmony destroyed?

YANKEE ENTERPRISE.

The Boston Traveller says, "It will be remembered that Mr. Macomber was delegated last year by several enterprising associates, to proceed to South Africa to obtain, if possible, a collection of birds and beasts more numerous and rare than any yet exhibited in this country—and that, after some ten months' toil in exploring the interior, roaming the forests and traversing wastes where the foot of civilized man had never trod, he succeeded in his wishes, and returned here, laden with the spoils of Southern climates. After several months occupied here in fitting out the exhibition, which consisted of upwards of one hundred animals, drawn by 75 grey horses in about 30 carriages, and requiring the care of about fifty men, including a splendid band of music, the caravan set off only two or three weeks since, and has already passed through Bristol county, and several other towns in Rhode Island; attracting every where an immense number of people. It is undoubtedly much the most valuable zoological collection ever brought together in this country; and all classes and ages, in every town and city, seem fully to appreciate it. Three large pavilions, containing 12,000 feet of canvass, were provided for the travelling menagerie, on the supposition that space sufficient would be thus afforded. But the proprietors are disappointed; at New Bedford, last week, the crowd was so great that many were compelled to wait for admittance, and at Newport it was found utterly impossible to accommodate all, and a second exhibition was accordingly given. We rejoice at this result of honest, persevering labor—this reward of bold untrifling American enterprise."

BALLOONS.

We copy from the National Gazette the following description of a Balloon used in Philadelphia, by Mr. MILLS, which will give some idea of the cost of constructing them:

"The Balloon is made of 517 yards of white silk, carefully varnished. Over this is thrown a netting of white twine to give it strength, and to afford attachments for the cords of the car, which is sustained solely by it. The diameter is 28 feet; so that it is larger than an ordinary house; and the contents are over 11,000 cubic feet. At the top a valve is fixed, which closes by a spring. The valve opens like a door inwards, & is governed by a string, which extending through the centre of the balloon, passes out at the bottom and descends to the hand of the passenger in the car beneath. When this valve is open, the light hydrogen gas flows out, and the aeronaut is able to lower himself.—On the other hand, when he wishes to ascend again, he throws out some ballast, and thus makes the machine lighter.

Most persons suppose that a Balloon is closed at the bottom—that is not the case. A closed balloon, if full at starting, would burst before it reached an elevation of 500 feet. As the gas from its levity cannot fall out at the bottom, that is left open, for the escape of a part, when it is enlarged and forced out by the lessening pressure. This renders ballast indispensable—for when the balloon is made to descend by letting out gas, it falls back through the air with less hydrogen in it than when rising, and has much less buoyancy; hence to prevent a too abrupt descent, or to rise again for a choice of a good place to land, some ballast must be thrown out. The ballast consists of sand tied up in bags of about ten pounds each. Such bodies might by falling, do injury, and therefore each bag is in succession loosened, and the sand poured out.

Balloons have sometimes sailed to great distances. One sent up at Paris at the coronation of Napoleon fell near Rome. This contained no one. A French aeronaut travelled through the atmosphere from Paris to Bordeaux. That is perhaps the longest aerial voyage on record."

Nutmegs banged off!—We have in our office a specimen of Yankee Soap, the chief constituent of which is yellow clay; it looks well—smells well—but will not wash at all—at least it washes any other way than clean.—Salsbury's Watch.

LUCKY DREAM.

A correspondent of the United States Gazette gives the following curious account of the manner, by which the mode of making round shot was originally discovered. We believe it will be new to many of our readers:

"My Father was a Plumber in this city and for a long time could think of nothing but how to make round shot. Round shot was the bug-bear of the night as well as the day. One night he was awakened by a blow in the back from my Mother, who exclaimed, 'I have found out how to make round shot. I dreamt I was going into a shop to buy the child, (myself) a hat, when on hearing a hissing noise proceeding from an inner room, I was informed that they were making round shot; on going in I looked up, and saw a man pouring melted lead through a sieve at the top of the building, which fell into a tub of water on the floor, and on taking some of the shot in my hand, I found they were perfectly round! My father exclaimed in ecstasy, you have found it out—immediately he set the melting pot to work, and on pouring some of the lead from the top of the stairs he found the shot much rounder than any which he had before made, at daylight he poured some from the top of the leading tower in the city, succeeding much better; and on pouring some from the shaft of a mine, he found that he had obtained round shot."

Thus the discovery was made by Mrs. Wally, and in justice it ought always to have been known; as Mrs. Wally's patent shot.

Inoculating Cheese.—What will the ingenuity of man not contrive? A method has been discovered of inoculating cheese; or, in other words, of transplanting the character of an old cheese into a new one. This rather curious scheme is brought forward as a communication to the Agricultural Journal for March, by John Robinson, Esq. Secretary of the Royal Society of Edinburgh. "If it be required," says he, "to communicate to a new cheese the flavor and appearance of an old one, it may be done by the insertion in the new cheese of the portions of the old one containing blue mould. The little spoon which is used in taking samples of cheese is a ready made means of performing the operation, by interchanging ten or a dozen of the rolls which it extracts, and placing them so as to disseminate the germ of the blue mould all over the cheese. A new Stilton cheese, treated in this way, and well covered up from the air for a few weeks, became thoroughly impregnated with the mould, and generally with a flavour hardly to be distinguished from the old one. I have sometimes treated half a Lancashire cheese in this way, and have left the other half in its natural state, and have been much amused with the remarks of my friends on the striking superiority of the English over the Scotch one."

In a very learned notice on "Measurements and Money," by Col. Pasley, Royal Engineer, F. R. S. &c. just published in London, the author pays the following compliment to John Q. Adams:—"I cannot, however, pass over the labors of former writers, without acknowledging in particular the benefit which I have derived, whilst investigating the historical part of my subject, from a book printed at Washington, in 1821, as an official Report upon Weights and Measures, made by a distinguished American Statesman, Mr. John Quincy Adams, to the Senate of the United States, of which he was afterwards President. This author has thrown more light into the history of our old English Weights and Measures, than all former writers upon the same subject; and his views of historical facts, even when occasionally in opposition to the Reports of our own Parliamentary Committee, appear to me to be the most correct. For my own part, I confess that I do not think I could have seen my way into the history of English Weights and Measures, in the feudal ages, without his guidance."

Fay, in his letters from Europe published in the New York Mirror, says, that in walking through one of the splendid galleries of art in Genoa, "the vallet pointed out a bust of Washington, informing me that he was a celebrated American poet. Long may his works last in their present binding."

Just Published Gales & Son's NORTH-CAROLINA ALMANAC FOR 1835.

CONTAINING, besides the Astronomical Calculations, Miscellaneous Articles, useful Recipes, Anecdotes, a List of the Officers of Government of the United States and of North-Carolina, of the Members of A. S. M. S. of holding the different Courts in this State, &c. Which can be had, wholesale and retail, of the Publishers at Raleigh; also, of Mr. E. J. Hale, Fayetteville, and Mr. Salmon Hall, Newbern. Raleigh, Sept. 20, 1834.

BOARDING.

BENJAMIN S. KING will be prepared to accommodate a Board Twenty Members of the approaching Legislature. Raleigh, Sept. 19. 46

Refined Cotton Seed Oil. BECKWITH, BLAKE & CO. have just received from J. Smith's Manufactory, Petersburg, a supply of this superior article. For Lamps, it is preferable to the best sperm, affording a more brilliant light, and is perfectly free from any unpleasant smell, and will afford a saving of at least one-third. Raleigh, Sept. 15.

THE REGISTER.

RALEIGH, N. C. TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1834.

Politics of North-Carolina.

The "Newbern Sentinel," of the 12th inst. contains a reply to an article which recently appeared in this Paper, under the above head. The Editor says our Table is "inaccurate" and "deceptive," and "too absurd to gain credit with any one"—and yet he is particularly careful not to trust his readers with our figures. Facts are stubborn things, and there is no magic in Mathematics. These "inaccurate, deceptive, absurd, calculations," whatever effect they may have wrought upon the public mind, have extracted the following calculation from the Sentinel, which serves to show pretty clearly, the side on which he apprehends the "ascertained majority of twenty, exclusive of doubtfuls," will be ranged next winter. Hear him!

"In the late canvass for members of the Legislature, national politics had little or no influence in many of the counties—local considerations and the personal popularity of the candidates determined the choice of the voters. Hence in some counties, where a decided majority of the people are unquestionably in favor of the Administration, individuals have been elected who are avowedly opposed to it. The result, therefore, cannot be regarded as determining the relative strength of parties in North-Carolina. That will be tested at the next Presidential election."

The manner in which the Sentinel treats our challenge to designate a single county, out of the 65 in North-Carolina, in which Mr. VAN BUREN has gained an increase of strength, exhibits a degree of tact quite in keeping with the Political school to which he belongs. "The Register asks of the Sentinel, if there has been any change against Bankism in the county of Craven? We answer, no—there was no room for change." The good town of Newbern then—the Athens of the State—the home of the Sentinel—is no part of Craven! His fellow townsmen, his immediate Representatives, mere "village Politicians," do not deserve to be reckoned as constituting an integral part of "the people." Did they but belong to "the party," how soon their degradation would be forgotten. Will the Sentinel pardon us for suggesting that the estimable Representative from his town is not the only member who has been overlooked, in computing his ascertained majority of twenty.

We are somewhat surprised at the freedom which the Sentinel uses with the "CALHOUN deserters." Will the worthy Editor do us the favor to inform the public whence he derives the motto for his paper—"Liberty—the Constitution—Union?" We have no file of that paper to refer to, but are blessed with a pretty retentive memory, and hope to be corrected, if in error. It is to be found, we believe, in a celebrated Speech, that, in its day, was deemed worthy of a place beside the works of Mr. JEFFERSON, and which was re-published in the Sentinel, all its doctrines meeting with the hearty concurrence not only of its Editor, but of another distinguished Politician, who about that time declared on the floor of Congress, "that the whole South was on the eve of a rebellion." The Sentinel deserts Mr. CALHOUN, but *rara avis in terris*, clings to his principles, and with the motto of Nullification around his neck, shouts huzza, for General Jackson!

Well may the partizans of Mr. VAN BUREN sneer at the intelligence of the country, whether found in our villages, among Politicians, or the original friends of General Jackson, and in the genuine spirit of Jacobinism, appeal to the people. But will the Sentinel condescend to this game? Truly may it be said, that "the strength of the Administration is not among Politicians." Our two Senators and seven of our Representatives in Congress, supported Mr. CRAWFORD in 1824, three were the friends of Mr. CALHOUN, two of Mr. ADAMS, and one of Gen. Jackson. There is no Editor of a Newspaper, now laboring in his vocation in this State, who was an original Jackson man—not one. If this fact should ever be presented to the mind of the old Hero—that they who now bask in his favor and enjoy the *mana* of his patronage, were then his bitter revilers—that his friends, some of whom periled every thing, even life, in his support, are now denounced as "deserters," the reflection must awaken the deepest feelings of regret, or he is more or less than man.

Since the foregoing remarks were written, we have received the commentary of the "North-Carolina Journal" on the same article which elicited the reply of the Sentinel. The Editors of the Journal state no new facts and do not controvert ours, but labour to draw very different deductions from them. Their argument is couched in respectful terms, and but for its extreme length, and that the like civility was not ex-

tended to us, should be re-published in conclusion, the Journal remarks:—

"The Register further enquires of there has been any change adverse to Bank in Cumberland. We answer, the result of the vote in the recent test, and where it was made a question the election of members of Assembly for the county and town. The aggregate vote of the Jackson candidates in the towns from the county and town was while the Bank candidates received 25. The Register will remember that the is located here."

We have nothing to say in reply to statement, save that we asked no question about the Bank, and that the query we did submit, remains unanswered, accuracy of the opinion, in reply to the question assumed for us, will probably be required into nearer home.

While on the subject, we take the liberty of asking our brethren of the Journal upon what principle it is that they publish "A voice from the West" to be heard in their columns? With the writer of communication, we have nothing to do, we put it to the Editors, as gentlemen, to say whether the rules of party warfare justify a violation of the common code of life. Freedom of the Press, is a free to do right—not the liberty to do wrong. And a difference of political opinion, poor excuse for opening the columns of newspaper to indulge the personal or malevolence of any one, in scurrilous abuse of an individual for whom, we are content, the Editors must feel at least personal respect. We have been politically opposed for five or six years to "the able and patriotic Senator" referred to by the Editor and his correspondent, but we ourselves have never used, or permitted others to use towards him, language personally disrespectful. Nor will we while we have the control of a Press, unwittingly disregard the decent propriety of life, for the temporary gratification of yancing the objects of any party with whom we may be associated.

The next Presidency.—The suggestion thrown out recently in the REGISTER, as the propriety of the South taking an earnest stand on the subject of the next Presidential election to attract attention. The Salisbury Watchman recommends in the following title, the propriety of calling a Convention during the approaching Winter, in this State to fix on some candidate who may be generally acceptable to the South. We suggest the suggestion of the Watchman, and think it the best plan which can be devised for accomplishing the desired object. We have, however, to see, whether or not, it is generally approved:

Next President.—We accord most heartily with a suggestion thrown out in the Raleigh Register, on the propriety of taking up some candidate for the Chief Magistrate of the Union, who may be generally acceptable to the South. North-Carolina certainly not be content to go to the glory man of New-York. But as there sectional predilections in the different parts of the State, it seems to us the best plan to prevent a waste of strength, by calling a Convention from the different counties, meet early in December next, in Raleigh to fix on some candidate that may reconcile all these preferences. We would suggest the propriety of avoiding the appearance of causing by sending to such a meeting those who are not members of the Assembly; least a majority of the body should not long to the Legislature. The practicing making such nominations is perfectly consistent with the drift of our institutions, it is so well sanctioned by custom, that solid objection can be made to it. It is no one yet considered as a Southern candidate, and North-Carolina's prompt resolute action will be the more regarded by the other Southern States, because never has before attempted to make a leap for our part, we are tired of seeing her low implicitly in the wake of others; think it would advance her dignity to show at least this once in her history, that she has a choice of her own, and can do something to secure that choice. We throw this as a mere suggestion, consenting to no flag for ourself, until we hear how proposition is likely to take with the people of the State who think with us, that the election of Martin Van Buren would be a grievous calamity to this country. We hope we shall be excused for the seeming arrogance of so bold a move; we have not a little denounced for daring to speak we think of national politics, and we determined to show that we can do as well as speak.

After the preceding paragraph was type, we met with the following in the Danmore Chronicle. We publish it for the same reason that we copy the remarks of the Watchman, viz: that the merits of a suggestion may be weighed, and that it is either carried into effect or abandoned as expediency may dictate. It is proper to add, that our idea of a State nomination was broached, before the Editor of the National Gazette recommended a National Convention. We are the last individuals of a party who would do ought to "produce confusion" in its ranks, and therefore it that we have proceeded so cautiously in our movements. We shall continue to publish