SOUTHERN STANDARD.

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COLUMBUS:

Wednesday Morning, Dec. 3, 1851.

FOR PRESIDENT.

JOHN M. BERRIEN.

FOR VICE PRESIDENT.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

☞Dr. J. N. Swonzy, of Triune, Williamson Co., Tenn., has laid us under a personal obligation by forwarding to our address, a copy of the "English Speller: or, Child's First Book." We have casually glanced over the work, and do not doubt its great merit.

Reviewing school books is a matter falling not exactly in our way; but should the author contemplate introducing this, or any other work, into our schools, we would be bound to enter into a general examination of his system and the merit of his labor.

The author will please accept our thanks for his confidence and attention.

☞The Natchez *Free Trader* suggest James Buchanan of Penn. as President, and Gen. John A. Quitman of Miss. as Vice President.

The Yazoo Democrat puts up George M. Dallas of Penn., and Col. Jeff. Davis of Miss.

Thirty-nine more true bills have been found at Philadelphia against the Christiana rioters making 170 in all!

Railroad Convention.

In accordance with previous notice a Convention of delegates from those counties of Mississippi and Alabama interested in the construction of the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, was assembled in the Court House of this city, on the 24th inst., at 12 o'clock,

The Convention was organised by the appointment of the Hon. John Hardeman, of Noxubee, as President, and John F. Jack, Esq., of Columbus, Secretary.

On motion, the delegates present from the different counties of this State, had their names registered as the counties interested were called, as follows:

Chickasaw.—James W Wheeler, W H Wheeler, G H Shackelford.

Monroe.—Wm Eckford, S P Gates, Macon Murphy, John Abbott, Needham Whitfield, Wm A Blanchard, Reuben Davis, T Coopwood.

Oktibbeha.—David Montgomery, Charles R Jordan.

Noxubee.—D Buck, T H Dixon, James Jones, Daniel Dupree, Elijah Dupree, J M Beard, J D Brooks, John M Lowery, T J Spann, Maj. Gilmer, B Love, John Hardeman.

Kemper.—T S Tyson, J H Sims, J J Stockard.

Lauderdale.—Wm M Hancock, C E Rushing.

Choctaw.—S C Platner.

It was

Resolved, That all the citizens of Lowndes county who are present, be invited to take their seats as delegates in this Convention.

Resolved further, That any persons who might be present from Mobile, or from counties in Alabama and Tennessee contiguous to the route of the road, be invited to take seats in the Convention, as delegates.

Whereupon the following gentlemen appeared and took their seats:

Mobile.—C A Bradford, J C Rupert.

Sumpter.—Rev D P Bester, B B Thomas.

Tennessee.—William J. Sykes.

Mr. J. H. Sims then offered the following resolution, which on motion of Mr. Coopwood, was laid on the table:

Resolved, That on all questions, except those of order and adjournment, each county vote in proportion to the amount of stock taken by individual subscription and county assumption, and that one vote be allowed for every $10,000 worth of stock.

George R. Clayton then moved that a committee to consist of one delegate from each county represented, be appointed by the chair, to report a preamble and resolutions for the consideration of this Convention, whereupon the President appointed on the committee, G. R. Clayton, of Lowndes; C. E. Rushing, of Lauderdale; C. A. Bradford, of Mobile; Gen. R. Davis, of Monroe; James W. Wheeler, of Chickasaw; Dr. B. Love, of Noxubee; Wm. J. Sykes of Tenn., Rev. D. P. Bester, of Sumpter, Ala.; J. J. Stockard, of Kemper; David Montgomery, of Oktibbeha.

A letter was then read from Gov. A. V. Brown of Tennessee, by A. F. Young, Esq.

On motion, the Convention adjourned until 2 o'clock P. M.

EVENING SESSION.

The Convention met at 2 o'clock, when the following report and resolutions were read by Geo. R. Clayton, chairman of the committee, adopted by the Convention.

Report.

The committee who were appointed to prepare resolutions for the action of the convention beg leave to make the following report:

Your committee in viewing the rapid progress of Railway construction for the last twenty-five years in Great Britain and the United States, are astonished at the results effected by them, whether viewed in a social, commercial or political aspect. The first half of the nineteenth century has accomplished more for the advancement of civilization and human happiness, than the same period in the history of the world, and nothing has contributed more to produce this result than the introduction of the Railway system. Distant portions of country are brought into juxtaposition by means of this magnificent invention. Social and commercial relations have been instituted between distant sections which, otherwise would have remained forever separated. Facilities have been furnished for the speedy and economical transportation of armies to distant points requiring protection in times of invasion; to say nothing of the great increase to the national wealth. These legitimate and practical results render them political blessings.

We are not more astonished at the results of this system, than at the almost incredible rapidity of its extension.

Although a very inferior description of Railway, constructed of wood, was used at New Castle upon the River Tyne, in England as far back as the year 1676, for the purpose of conveying coal from the mines to the bank of the river, yet no distinct railway for the transportation of merchandize and passengers was ever successfully adopted in Great Britain, until the completion of the Stockton and Darlington Rail Road, in the year 1825. From that period a new era seems to have dawned upon the commercial world.

Such was the success of that road, and so great were the advantages derived from it, that about 5000 miles of Rail Road have since been constructed in the Kingdom of Great Britain, at the enormous outlay of twelve hundred millions of dollars.

The rapid progress of Railway construction has been no less astonishing in the United States than in Great Britain. The first work of the kind ever attempted in the United States was the Quincy Railroad in Massachusetts, only three miles in extent, and completed in the year 1827, for the sole purpose of transporting granite. Since that period 10,092 miles of Rail Road have been constructed, and in progress of construction, in the various States of the Union, at an expenditure of $306,607,954. Your committee have also been deeply impressed with the great increase of the value of property, as exhibited by the late census, caused by the construction of Rail Roads in States possessing, but few agricultural advantages, either as to soil or climate. We shall only mention a few out of the many facts, brought to light on this subject. The New York and Erie Railroad in the State of New York, measuring in length 467 miles, and running through a mountainous and sterile country, sparsely inhabited, was built at a cost of $23,000,000. "It is computed that the real estate of those counties contiguous to it, has been enhanced, within twelve months of its completion, $25,000,000, or two millions more than its entire cost."

The Railroad improvements of Massachusetts (perhaps more perfect than those of any of her sister States) have cost $51,884,572. The assessed value of property in that State, under the census of 1840, amounted to $299,878,000 and in the year 1850 the assessed value of the same had reached the sum of $590,532,000; thus showing the enormous increase, in the short period of ten years, of $290,653,000; upwards of five times the costs of all the Railroads in the State, and pre- [illegible] the people of the North are so willing to invest their means in the construction of Railroads. The facts we have already presented would seem to be enough to convince any reflecting mind of the practicability and utility of Railroads. But to bring the matter still nearer home. The State of Georgia, the only southern State which has, as yet, made much progress in the construction of Railways, commenced her system of internal improvements, about the year 1835. Her soil much exhausted by injudicious cultivation, and her resources diminishing by continued imigration, she resorted to this system to restore her declining prospects. Since then she has in progress and completed about 1000 miles of Railway at a cost of $14,000,000, which is now netting to the stockholders from 8 to 16 per cent, per annum, and has increased the value of taxable property in that State up to 1850, to the sum of $335,000,000, nearly double the valuation before she commenced her system of internal improvement. These facts selected from many others of a similar character, leave the question of Railroad construction not one of experiment only, but of actual experience, and fully prove their beneficial effects.

Your committee in their investigation of the history, extension and benefits of the Railroad system in the United States, regret the apathy which has hitherto existed upon that subject amongst the people of the South, and particularly in the State of Mississippi. The enterprising spirit of the north-eastern and north-western States, as manifested in their steadily progressing internal improvements, has not only enhanced individual wealth, but has advanced sectional interests, by increasing their commercial importance and influence. Not only this; it has developed national wealth, by drawing out resources; such as coal, marble, iron, granite, &c., &c., consequently diversifying capital into the varied business of agriculture commerce and manufactures, making one dependent upon the other and therefore all successful. The South has neglected all these advantages and has vested so much of its capital in the sole business of producing cotton, that the supply has exceed the demand and thereby reduced the price below a fair compensation for the labor necessary in its production. The nine north-eastern States, to wit: Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, have 196 Railroads—5977 miles in operation, and 2404 miles in course of construction; the seven north-western States, (many of them in their infancy,) to wit; Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, and Wisconsin, have 74 Railroads—1549 miles in operation, and 5000 miles in course of construction, whilst the thirteen south-eastern and south-western States, to wit: Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North and South Carolinas, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisian, Texas, Tennessee, and Kentucky, have only 65 Railroads—2761 miles in operation, and 2688 in course of construction, and these confined almost exclusively to a few of these last mentioned States.

Your committee conceive that the time has arrived when the South should take action upon this subject, and no longer slumber over its best interests; but, by united effort commence a system of internal improvement, which will enable them to reap their full share in this rich harvest. The contemplated Railroad now in course of construction reaching from Mobile to the mouth of the Ohio river, and passing through almost the entire length of the State of Mississippi, with the lateral branches which can, and will, no doubt, be connected with the main trunk, at once opens a door for the enterprise of the people of this State, which, in a few years, will place it upon an equality with the most prosperous State in the Union, so far as advantages can be derived from a system of railway improvements. No railway in the United States has been commenced under more favorable auspices than the Mobile and Ohio Railroad. When viewed in comparison with many of the Railways in the United States, the route may be said to be almost level; requiring no extensive excavations, and but little expenditure in bridging streams. This road, with few exceptions, passes through thickly inhabited sections abounding in resources and productions which must seek an outlet through it; thereby rendering it profitable as it advances, any making each finished mile aid in its progressive construction.

Independent of these natural advantages, the Congress of the United States has donated, for the construction of this road, to the Trusteeship of the State of Mississippi, 1,200,000 acres of the public lands. Much of this land is very valuable, and will all be rendered more valuable by its completion, as no portion of it will be at a greater distance than 15 miles from the track of the road.

Your committee hope and believe that the Representatives of the people in their next Legislative Assembly will feel sufficient interest in advancing Internal Improvements; as to pass such laws as will enable the Directors of the Mobile and Ohio Railroad to use said lands in such manner as they may deem subservient to its speedy completion.—They consider that good faith toward the company, as well as the future interest and prosperity of the State demand this course.

Your committee are aware that notwithstanding every effort has been made by the Directory and Engineers of the Mobile and Ohio Railroad company to push forward this magnificent enterprise, that it has, in some degree been retarded in its progress, by the failure of those most immediately interested, in lending their assistance. In those States where Railroads have been constructed with the greatest facility and rapidity, the work has elicited the combined assistance of all classes of society.

Your committee believe that the time has arrived when all interested in this great undertaking, will feel constrained to lend a helping-hand in forwarding it, to the full extent of their ability; that all may in a short time be participants of its blessings.

Your committee would therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

1. *Resoleed*, That we feel a deep and abiding interest and solicitude in the progress and speedy completion of the Mobile and Ohio Railroad; and recommend it to the favorable consideration of the people of those States through which it will pass.

2. *Resolved*, That we consider the completion of the same, in connecting us with the Gulf of Mexico on the South, and with that network of Railroad and river communication in the Northern States, as opening up for us advantages, national, commercial, and social which will be felt not only by the present, but by future generations.

3. *Resolved*, That in view of these advantages and blessings, we will lend our aid, to the extent of our ability, and use our influence in procuring immediate subscriptions for stock, sufficiently extensive to complete the work in the shortest possible space of time, so that we may at once begin to realize its benefits.

4. *Resolved*, That our Senators and Representatives in the next Legislature, be requested to use their influence to induce the State of Mississippi, to take active measures in promoting the enterprise; and to this end, they procure the enactment of such laws as will place the lands donated by Congress for this purpose, at the disposal of the Company, under such gurantees as will insure its use for that purpose, and that *alone;* and that the various donations heretofore made by Congress, to this State for Public improvements, be equally appropriated to various portions of the State, for establishing a system of Internal Improvements, by constructing railways and levees throughout the State; and that they induce the State to subscribe liberally, for stock in the same.

5. *Resolved*, That a Committee to consist of five be appointed to memoralise the next legislature on this subject; to ask the aid and co-operation of the State in advancing the construction of the Mobile and Ohio Railroad through the same, and in establishing a judicious system of railway improvement throughout the State generally.

6. *Resolved*, That we recommend that a Railroad Convention, composed of delegates from every county in the State, be held at Jackson on the 2nd Monday of January, 1852.

7. *Resolved*, That we recommend to the favorable consideration of the Directory of the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, that all lateral roads connecting with the main trunk shall be received as a portion of the main road, where stock be subscribed by those persons immediately interested, sufficient to build said lateral road.

Appropriate addresses were made by George R. Clayton, C. A. Bradford, D. P. Bester, W. J. Sykes, during the evening session, as also by Dr. Cunningham and D. Buck, agents of the road.

Under the 5th resolution the President appointed on the committee, Geo. R. Clayton, T. G. Blewett, Esq., Charles M'Laran, Jos. B. Cobb, Jas. W. Humphries.

On motion the newspapers published in the town of Columbus and all other papers friendly to the objects of this Convention were requested to publish these proceeding.

Mr. Rupert from the Mobile delegation, and on behalf of the Directory of the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, presented an invitation to the members of the Convention, the stockholders and all others interested, in the States of Mississippi and Alabama, to meet them in the city of Mobile at the annual election for Directors, in February next, and join them in an excursion upon the road to Citronnelle, which, on motion, was accepted, and ordered to be published as a part of the proceedings of this Convention.

Mr. Clayton moved that the thanks of the Convention be tendered to the President and Secretary for the and impartial manner in which they have discharged their duties as officers of the Convention, and the question being put by him, was unanimously agreed to.

The Convention then adjourned *sine die.*

JOHN HARDEMAN, PRES.

JOHN F. JACK, Sec'y.

Botts, of Richmond, Va., has issued an address, announcing his final retirement from public life, in consequence of his recent defeat by Whig votes in a Whig District, as a candidate for Congress.

The Countess Montesquieu, of France, has lately presented a magnificent illumninated and jewel-studded Missal to the Choteau family, of St. Louis, for their kindness to her two sons, who were tried for murder some time since, and escaped under the plea of insanity.

The late accounts from Mexico state that a hill of pure gold and silver had been discovered in Sonora.

Mr. Hobbs, the Yankee lock-picker, has, we see, obtained another triumph, having had his lock restored to him uninjured, after a fortnight's persevering attempts on the part of a skillful mechanic to open it. He has also received a report of a Committee affirming its impregnability. Hobbs, however, comes out, in the London Times, and says he should be most happy to give any other person an opportunity of trying his skill on the lock.

☞The following is from the Natchez *Courier*, the ablest and most zealous *Whig* paper in this State. We give it a place in order to show our readers the way Union Whiggery, or Federalism is tending.

The Test.

The Republican affects of late considerable zeal in favor of the Compromise bills. Now, we desire to know whether, if Gen. Scott is nominated by a convention of the whigs for the Presidency, the Republican will support him? Out with it, like men.—*St. Louis Times.*

And so we will. We will not support General Scott, nor any other man, unless he is in favor of the Compromise, and is willing to let that adjustment stand as the law of the land, to be carried out in good faith, so long as the Slave States shall require its strict observance. With us, this is the touch-stone, because in this, we seriously believe, is involved the preservation of our glorious Union, and no true patriot ought to hesitate about giving his pledge.

So says the St. Louis Republican, a straight-forward, consistent national whig paper. We say so too. No Southern whig can ever sanction, or even tolerate, the nomination of any candidate for the Presidency, who is not out and out committed to the Compromise as it is. We are glad to see Southern whig papers speaking out boldly their sentiments upon this subject. We desire our whig friends at the North to understand precisely how we stand upon this question, so that there may be no misapprehension hereafter.—*N. O. Commercial Bulletin.*

And that is precisely the position that Southern Whig papers ought to stand upon. The late contest in Mississippi has almost entirely obliterated former partizan bitterness among the members of the Union party. Whigs and Democrats, standing together in a common struggle against secessionists, have abandoned much of their former antagonism. If party shackles have not lost their binding obligation, party differences, as between Union Whigs and Union Democrats, have lost all their former acerbity. They have mutually learned of each other; they know each other better; and while neither have changed on the important questions that have divided the past, still the good feeling that has been engendered during the twelve months back, and the knowledge that, in the onward march of the country, many of the old issues have been laid to rest, has caused all to wear party harness but lightly.

On this subject we shall have more to say anon; suffice it for the present to aver, that in this State, as in Georgia and Alabama, the Union organization will in all probability remain untouched.—Here in Mississippi, we shall rally around Governor Foote's administration, letting its acts speak their own recommendation, prepared to give it in advance our best wishes and our warmest encouragement, and hesitating not to expect from a successful and a brilliant career.

With regard to national politics, the Union party of the South has yet a great work to do. Union whigs have to say to their former whig brethren at the North, what the Republican and the Bulletin have so justly said in the quotations given above; and they have also to show by their actions that they mean what they say. If their warnings and advice are disregarded, with yet remain a national whig party; if rejected, the glory has departed. And so with Union democrats. The call we published in our last on their part, was a manly avowal of intention.* Secessionism and State Rights-ism are eschewed here at home, and they intend that abolitionism and free-soilism shall be equally repudiated by Northern democrats. Union democrats will go to Baltimore from Mississippi, and Compromise democrats must meet them from the Northern States, or there can be no harmony of action. Union whigs and Union democrats in the South intend to have Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates, pledged to abide by and sustain the Compromise; and if they cannot get them at the hands of their respective parties, they will unite and have them of their own joint selection. Nor will non-committalism, and studied silence, or mere 'clap-trap' private understandings, suffice. It must be in open, above-board, manly, honest declaration of sentiment, or the course for true Northern and Southern Union men, of all shades of political opinion, is a clear one. Those who are not for us openly, must be reckoned as against us. The South asks nothing but a firm adherence to the Compromise, but that she is determined to have, and mere partizanship, at least, will sink, if it conflicts with that determination.

If candidates in favor of maintaining the Compromise, as a finality, and of standing by it, are selected at Baltimore and Philadelphia, the Union party at the South will probably, as far as national action is concerned, have done its work, and be again divided as usual; but with this great difference from the past; mere acerbity, bitterness and denunciation will have all gone. We shall differ as friends should differ, in questions of principle, because we have fought side by side as friends, on questions of still higher moment. If candidates are nominated at both Philadelphia and Baltimore unfriendly to the Compromise, a Union ticket will be nominated, that will sweep three-fourths of the States. If the one party proves sound, and the other unsound, Union men at the South will most assuredly feel that duty to the country outrides all party allegiance.

In expressing our concurrence in what the Republican and Bulletin have said, we feel bound to add, that if unfortunate nominations should be made at Philadelphia, they can derive no support from this paper. The Union men in Mississippi will be, as they are now, a unit, in support of the Compromise measures.

*We give the call alluded to here a place in our paper to-day.—ED. STANDARD.

At a recent Democratic meeting in Tammany Hall, New York, the following Resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That we hail with delight *the recent democratic victories achieved by Cobb in Georgia*, Bigler in Pennsylvania, Foote in Mississippi and Wood in Ohio, and we rejoice that the patriotic people of these States have thus evinced their determination *to stand upon the established principles of the Democratic faith*, a strict construction of the Constitution, and a faithful adherence to the laws.

It is strange, passing strange, that in N. York as elsewhere, so little is known of the real state of parties in Georgia. No one in Georgia will dare deny, that almost the entire mass of the whig party voted for Mr. Cobb; and that his opponents, the great body of the democratic party with a few consistent republican whigs, opposed him because he did not "stand upon the established principles of the democratic faith—a strict construction of the constitution." The election of Mr. Cobb was a whig triumph, and it is whigs that are now reaping its reward. The party that elected him is the party now dominant in the Legislature.

Federal (Ga.) Union.

The National Washington Monument has reached the height of one hundred and two feet.

National Politics.

Now that the storm of the past election has blown over, and we begin to breathe a more serene atmosphere, we turn to contemplate the political aspect of the country at large. We see on all sides the greatest prosperity and happiness prevailing; we see everywhere the elements of progress, and progress itself, and nowhere the slightest sign of decadence. We have become the wonder of the world, as a nation, and, all things considered, we are, in fact, the first nation on the globe.

As a nation, it must no longer be said of us that we are, as yet, but an experiment, for we have tried it long enough to know, that our theory of government works perfectly well, better even than any government in theory that has ever been devised before; better even than any of centuries standing of the old world, not excepting even that of England. We are therefore no longer an experiment. Our political theory is probably as near perfection as any thing of the kind that the human mind can devise; much more perfect than humanity itself, under its developments thus far.

The great work now before us is, not so much to seek to improve our political theory, as to endeavor to live up to it, and to preserve it. The great theory developed in the Declaration of Independence and in the Constitution, needs only to be carried out to secure to us the greatest amount of prosperity and happiness; and the great question of the day is, how can we best carry it out?

This question has given rise to the two great political parties that now exist in our country; the Democratic and the Whig. The former think that the great principles of the Constitution can be preserved and best carried out only by a strict adherence to its letter, and the spirit in which it was framed. They contend for a strict construction of it, and that if we once begin to depart from this rule there would be no stopping. For the precise meaning of certain disputed passages they appeal to the records left of the proceedings and decisions of those wise fathers of the Republic who framed the Constitution.

On the other hand, the whig party pursue the opposite course. They contend for the broadest construction of the Constitution, making a single clause serve as a basis for the assumption of powers, and the performance of acts which might, under certain circumstances, completely change the real character of our Government, leaving to it only its name.

The tendencies of the doctrines of the Whig party are manifestly towards a state of things that can never exist under a pure democratic republican government. Those tendencies point to the concentration of wealth and power in the hands of the few, while the great mass are sunk into the deepest poverty and dependence. It is true that such a state of things could result in a short space of time, but the lapse of a century or two could bring it about. Those who know the history of the world cannot be too watchful of the tendencies of political doctrines; and if they err they had better err on the side of honest democracy; for gentryism and aristocracy are the curse of the world.

Such, then, are the characteristics of the two great parties of our country—the Democratic and the Whig. Let those just entering into that period of their lives, when politics first begin to attract attention, weigh well the merits of the two great political systems. Study the Constitution, and the political views and acts of those great and good men from whom we have inherited our present happy government and institutions. Try to discover the intent and meaning of the Constitution. If you persuade yourselves that the broad construction system is the right one—that the Constitution can be made to mean almost anything, then you are Whigs. If, on the other hand, you find that the Constitution is not a loose indefinite document, but that it admits of only one construction, and that that construction was intended to guard the rights of the States of the people against the dangers that might arise from latitudinarianism in construing its articles, then you are *Democrats.*

Democratic principles call for the largest liberty of the largest number—for the greatest possible diffusion of knowledge and property—for a perfect equality of rights, an exemption from all monopolies, and from all laws that enable one class to establish a monopoly of any thing. They call, too, in that spirit which impelled our fathers to establish this free government, for the widest possible developement and extension of republican principles and institutions—for the annexation to this Union of every nation on earth that applies for admission, and is found worthy and well qualified. True democracy scouts that narrow-contractedness of soul, that miserable selfishness of aristocracy, that would shut out from the enjoyment of our privileges and institutions all other nations. It opens its arms to all, and invites them to come.—*N. O. Courier.*

☞W. H. H. Patterson, our newly elected Sheriff, seems to enjoy something of a "national reputation." We cut the following from that excellent paper, the N. O. *Daily Delta.*

LOWNDES COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI.—We are pleased to note the election of W. H. H. Patterson to the sheriffalty of Lowndes county, Mississippi, by an overwhelming majority. He was a gallant officer in the first Mississippi Rifles, and greatly distinguished himself in the Mexican war. An old college friend, and a gallant companion in arms, neither of whom are exactly on his political side, celebrated his election with a bumper.

The Vicksburg *Whig* says:

In the late election we observe that two of our particular friends, John O. Young, of Carroll, and Lt. Wm. H. H. Patterson, of Lowndes, have been elected to the office of sheriff of their respective counties. Their friends in Albermarle county, V., will be glad to learn that they are so appreciated in their adopted State, and we trust that their offices may prove valuable to them, as we are satisfied that they are well qualified to perform the duties of the stations to which they have been called.

KOSSUTH'S LIBELLER.—The American Consul at Marseilles is John L. Hodge, whose brother is now assistant Secretary of the Treasury. The Washington *Telegraph* points to the Consul as the coiner of those infamous libels upon the character, conduct and motives of Kossuth.

Mr. Fillmore's administration will be particularly distinguished in history for the character of its officials abroad. Owen at Havana, and Hodge, at Marseilles! The former, synomymous with heartless cruelty, the latter, with black-hearted falsehood—both for the chilling inhumanity with which they deported themselves toward the victims of tyranny.—*American.*

The vote for Governor in Pennsylvania, this year, shows an increase over the vote for the same office in 1848, of 28,794 votes. Johnston's vote is increased over that he received in 1848, by 10,512 votes. Bigler over Longstreth by 18,272. Notwithstanding this increase of vote, the aggregate does not come up to the last President vote by 4,219.

Democratic State Convention.

In our last issue, we briefly stated our position with regard to Mississippi taking any part in the National Convention. We have but little or nothing to add to the remarks then made, save and except, that the more we reflect on the subject, the clearer it appears to our mind that we are right. Our friends in De Soto, however, differ with us, not in all, but in part, and they are for sending delegates to the State Convention. In the appointment of delegates, we trust the selection will be made from the body of the Democracy, when thus selected, it is presumable that they will be best formed, as to the will of the people, relative to the subject of the South meeting the North in a National Convention, for the selection of candidates for President and Vice President.—We are so firmly impressed with the inexpediency of this movement, on the part of the Democracy of Mississippi, that we beg to be excused for dwelling a little while on this matter. We are fearful that the South, in meeting in Convention with the North at this momentous crisis, will commit the former in supporting candidates for the offices spoken of, which might be of serious detriment to the rights of the South. The elements brought to bear in the late struggles for party ascendancy in the States of Ohio, New York and Pennsylvania, were of a character, in our judgment, greatly to mar the harmony of the Democracy. We would remind our friends of these things; they should claim their attention, as they are entitled to some weight in the consideration of this very important subject, before taking any determined steps. The South, it seems to us, from past events, cannot flatter itself of receiving a restitution of the things complained of in the coming canvass for the Presidency. We are confirmed in the opinion, the South would be the gainer in standing aloof from a National Convention. It is more than probable that there will be three party candidates in the ensuing election, one Whig, one Democrat and one "Union." The South taking no hand in this political game will lose nothing, and compromit none of her rights.—*People's Press.*

☞We clip the following from a letter we find published in the New Orleans Daily Delta. If the material statements are true, the country will hear more of this Thrasher affair.

The trial of Mr. John S. Thrasher, "*for treason,*" was announced in the public papers of the 11th inst., for the 12th,—very much to the surprise of the community, native and foreign,—to take place at the head-quarters of the Regiment of Barcelona, at the Barracks La Force, at the north-east angle of the Plaza de Armas.

The Court assembled,—an ordinary court-martial, Brigadier General Vargas, President, with six members,—at the place and day appointed, at 10 o'clock. The Crown Attorney, or *Fiscal*, read over the declarations and proofs of the charge, and the prisoner was brought forward to answer, being under guard. The counsel, or attorney, for the prisoner, with whom he had had no opportunity of advice or counsel, read to the Court, some thirty lines of defence; for a Spanish captain, I presume, it was a grand perpetration—for the prisoner, it was fatal;—in brief, making the declaration, as near as I can render it, "That he did not think the crime had been proved against the prisoner, whereupon, he urged upon the Court to consider the *propriety of commuting* the punishment to banishment, or *something lighter* than to the quicksilver mines or presidio for eight years." Heaven save the mark!

Mr. Thrasher was asked by President Vargas, (let no honest heart forget him,) "if he had anything to say," in a bull-dog gruffness of voice.—He replied that he had—bowing to the august tribunal with a courtesy that annoyed the chief;—"that he had been surprised in these proceedings—he had not been advised of the nature of the charges against him—that he had not been allowed the defence gurrantied by treaty—or time to produce testimony." Vargas put in, about this point, "an hour of time before a tribunal of this character, is an age!" Pregnant with meaning, the bombast sentence of his judge, Mr. T. replied, "that the Government had had twenty-two hours to his two, in the three days that he had been permitted to communicate with his friends, besides the uncounted time of secret preparation." Mr. T. protested in firm and manly tones against the whole proceeding, as contravening Spanish justice and law, as well as in violation of the first law of nations, written in our treaties with the Spanish Government. He read a strong defence, which was appended to the proceedings. At all points where he alluded to the United States—to the primary obligations of treaty, he was coarsely interrupted by the *noble Catalan President;* but, with unaltered tone—unmoved nerve, he proceeded, always bowing with natural and iniuitable composure to his judges, in acknowledgement of their *remarkable courtesy* and *nice sense of justice.* On one occasion the court was cleared to settle some matter *of consistency*, which, when "*pro forma,*" the decision asked for by the Queen's counsel to be approved by the judges, was read to the prisoner and the public. This was the public trial of John S. Thrasher, wherein I could not discover the *proof of any one fact*, save that it was a hearing of words—that the arrogant chief was there, and the noble prisoner before him unsubdued—not craven in the dust. We think the gross error of the tribunal, showing the ignorance and pride of its composition, will be corrected by the *justness of Gen. Concha*, and that he will decline approval of the sentence.

NADA MAS.

The New York Tribune utters a well known truth when it says:

"We have not understood that whigs were deemed any the less whigs by Southern statesmen of our party because of their avowed and well known anti-slavery predilections. We do certainly know that such statesmen have been willing that whigs such as we are should vote for them; and we have not supposed that this was a case for one-sided reciprocity. And, down to the last fifteen months, we cannot remember ever to have heard it disputed that an anti-slavery whig was as good as any other, and might as properly be supported by the Whig party for any office within its gift—at least, any State office in a Free State."

TELESCOPES.—A new and most important invention in telescopes, possessing such extraordinary powers that some three and a half inches, with an extra eye-piece, will show distinctly Jupiter's moons, Saturn's ring, and the double stars; with the same telescope, weighing only three ounces, can be seen a person's countenance three and a half miles distant, and an object from sixteen to twenty miles. They supersede every other kind for the waistcoat pocket, and are of larger and all sizes, with increasing powers accordingly.

An immence crowd collected around the wharf [illegible] Father Mathew off in the Pacific, which [illegible] at 12 o'clock. The multitude cheer[illegible] for the venerable old man, who [illegible] the poop of the ship with his hat off, [illegible] acknowledgement of the compliment.