Staunton Spectator.

STAUNTON, VA.

TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 1860.

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LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS.—The undersigned hereby give notice that from this date they will decline the publication of Chancery Orders and other legal advertisements, unless the parties interested agree to pay for them at our regular advertising rates; nor will they certify to the publication of such advertisements unless they are paid for in advance, or unless payment is assumed by some responsible person. They are forced to take this position from the fact that they rarely get any compensation for such advertising, and when they do are forced to take half-pay or nothing.

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Staunton, Sept. 9, 1859.

The Charleston Convention.

As the time approaches for the assembling of the Charleston Convention, the opinion seems to be gaining ground in all quarters that Douglas will be the nominee. We have never entertained a doubt that he would be the man, for the simple reason that he is the only man under whose lead the Democracy can hope to succeed. Without the slightest claim to peculiar foresight, we venture to predict that the "Little Giant" will achieve an easy victory in the Convention, and the Cincinnatti platform be readopted as the ready remedy for all difficulties. The Southern Democracy will take the Cincinnati concern as they understand it, and the Northern Democracy will accept it as they understand it, as expounded by Douglas as he understands it, and thus all parties will be conciliated and all barriers to the support of the candidate be artistically removed. Douglas will then be ingeniously furnished with two faces, as has been done in the case of several Democratic candidates heretofore, and while urged upon the North as the avowed advocate of "squatter-sovereignty"—that "short cut to all the ends of abolitionism"—will be sustained at the South as standing on the Cincinnati platform, and the great expounder and champion of the great Democratic doctrine of "popular sovereignty."—While professing to be strict constructionists upon all questions of constitutional interpretations, the Democracy are in favor of the largest liberty in the construction of platforms. Every individual has the right to make them mean what he pleases, and the same privilege is granted to the candidates who stand upon them.—With this convenient method of adjusting difficulties, every member of the party may consistently sustain every other member without regard to principles—provided only he stands on the one general platform of Democracy.

That this will be the issue of the Charleston Convention we do not entertain a doubt. Southern Democrats have expended a vast amount of breath and wasted a good deal of ink in denunciation of the heresies of Stephen A. Douglass, but when Douglass mounts the Cincinnati platform at Charleston, he will be good enough for them. They will be able to tell the people when they return that Douglass stands on the Cincinnati platform—the same that Old Buck occupied—and therefore he must be all right.—They have all along been mistaken as to his views on the territorial question; it is not "squatter-sovereignty" that he favors, but only "popular sovereignty"—the glorious democratic doctrine of the people's rights and the omnipotence of majorities. Forgetting that Douglass has been denounced by them all as entertaining opinions more fatal to the South than those of Seward himself, they will all knock under and give the Little Giant a hearty support.

The Richmond Enquirer in view of the known and admitted fact that opposite constructions are put upon the Cincinnati platform by the Democracy, holds it as the solemn and bounden duty of the Charleston Convention to say frankly and plainly which of these two constructions is the right and proper one. In its issue of Wednesday the Enquirer says—"*Since* prominent and leading statesmen (of the Democratic party) have, upon the floor of the Senate, *publicly avowed constructions diametrically opposite*, IT IS NOT HONEST, *to permit the platform, unchanged, to practice deception upon the unreflecting and unwary.* Those who endeavor, by the deceptious chicanery of an ambiguous platform, to inveigle men of their vote and influence, *are as morally criminal*, as those who attempt, by outrage and violence, to deprive men of any advantage they hold under the laws. To entrap the Northern man's vote, by the delusive hopes of Freesoil Territories, is as flagitious as to ensnare the Southern man's property by vain promises of *right* to enter, without power to hold, his slaves in the common Territory. Let the Democratic party avoid this act of double treachery—this deception of both North and South. Let there be in the Charleston platform nothing that can deceive—that can do wrong to either North or South," &c.

We are glad to see the Enquirer taking this honest position, but have no idea that its counsels will prevail. The views of the Richmond Examiner, which paper favors the re-adoption of the Cincinnati platform will *take*, as the only "ready relief" for all the ills that Democracy is heir to.

Staunton Lyceum.

A correspondent urges the re-organization of the "Staunton Lyceum," and with a view to the permanent establishment of such an association, asks that a meeting of those friendly to the enterprise be held on Friday night next, in the room over the County Court Clerk's Office. The writer hopes, and we unite in the wish, that the meeting may be attended by men whose influence will insure the success of the effort to organize once more an association for the mutual improvement of its members.

We trust the proposition of our correspondent will meet with an encouraging response.

The "Wooly Horse."

The "wooly-horse" which was on exhibition at this place last week was bought by two Mr. Wellers of this county, from the owner Mr. Paul, of Rockingham, for the sum of $1000—considered by good judges of mutton and horse flesh to be dirt-cheap. This "wooly horse" is a genuine article, raised in the county of Rockingham, and is one of the most decided curiosities in the animal line that we have ever seen. We predict that his present owners will make a pile out of him.

Baltimore Conference.

The Baltimore Annual Conference, which was in session in Winchester during the past week, have fixed upon Staunton as the place for the assembling of the next Conference. They will be welcomed with the same cordial hospitality which was extended to them on a former occasion.

Conference Appointments.

Rev. J. R. Wheeler is the preacher appointed by the Baltimore Conference for the Staunton Church. Rev. E. R. Veitch remains presiding Elder; Rev's. B. W. Smith and W. K. Boyle Augusta Circuit. Rev. G. G. Brooke late station preacher at this place is appointed to Harper's Ferry.

BALTIMORE CONFERENCE AND SLAVERY.—At the recent session of the Baltimore Conference the Bishop presented to the Conference memorials from the following places: Blacksburg circuit, East Rockingham circuit, Staunton station, Augusta circuit, Churchville circuit, Lexington station and Rockbridge circuit. The memorials refer to the *slavery question* and to the unpleasant and unjust position in which they are placed, it being asserted by the Southern Church that they are tainted with Abolitionism, whilst the Northern branch of the Church, with which they are connected, give grounds for these charges, in the fact that they are constantly declaring that the Baltimore Conference is entirely agreed with the Northern Church in their intense hatred of slavery, but are prevented, through *policy*, from declaring such hostility.

The memorialists say they have full confidence in the soundness of the members of the Baltimore Conference, and will remember through life the kind lessons of religious instructions received at their hands. These charges have, however, weakened the effectiveness of the Church, and are daily growing more intolerable. The New York Christian Advocate is referred to, and its sentiments on the slavery question declared, in the opinion of the memorialists, to be odious. The memorial concludes with an appeal to the Baltimore Conference to come out from the Northern abolition branch of the Methodist Episcopal Church, whose principles are in direct conflict with the Ministers and members of the Methodist Church in Virginia, and declares that on the action of the Conference depends the prospects of the Church in the Valley.

On Wednesday the Committee to which the memorials were referred, reported a preamble and resolutions, which were unanimously adopted. We give the resolutions:

Resolved, 1st.—That we sincerely deplore the agitation on the slavery question, both in the Church and State, and earnestly hope and fervently pray that this discreditable and disastrous strife may speedily cease.

Resolved, 2d.—That this Conference disclaims having the *least sympathy* with abolitionism.—On the contrary, we are determined not to hold connection with any Ecclesiastical body that makes non-slaveholding a condition of membership in the Church, and that we are opposed to any inquisition upon the motives underlying the relation of master and slave.

Resolved, 3d.—That the subject of slavery should be committed exclusively to the jurisdiction of the respective Conference in which it may be found to exist.

Resolved, 4th.—That no action of the General Conference can influence us to violate our principles and practices, as indicated in the foregoing declarations; but that we will stand by the rights and interests of our people to the last extremity.

Resolved, 5th.—That our mission, as Ministers of the New Testament, is to preach the Gospel of the Son of God, both to master and slave, and to devote ourselves wholly to our appropriate work of winning souls to Christ.

Resolved. 6th.—That we solemnly remonstrate against the continual aggressive discussion of the slavery question in the newspapers and periodicals of the Church.

Resolved, 7th.—That the publishing funds and establishments of the Church are common property, held in trust by the General Conference for our *common and equal use.*

Resolved, 8th.—That any such use of our common publishing funds, newspapers, periodicals, &c., as precludes our people from the benefits of them, while they are in no false or illegitimate relation to the Union, but are faithful to its covenants, is an *abuse of trust.*

Among the most important business transacted during the meeting was the election of delegates to the General Conference. The following Ministers were chosen by ballot: Rev. Messrs. Alfred Griffeth, John S. Martin, J. B. N. Morgan, Thomas Sewell, E. R. Veitch and Norval Wilson. The General Conference meets in May next, at Buffalo, N. Y.

A resolution from the Providence Conference, proposing to change the Discipline, so far as to forbid slave-holding, was rejected unanimously.

CORRECTION.—A letter from Mr. W. M. Watkins, in reference to the message from him to the recent Whig Convention, delivered by Mr. Imboden, has been published. Mr. W. says:

"On parting from Mr. Imboden, I also jocosely said to him—tell the Whigs to save the Union, as I had also said to another delegate to their Convention, then also with us. As reported in the newspapers, he is made to say that I looked to the Whigs to save the Union. In this he must have misunderstood me, for he is too much of a gentleman to have designedly misrepresented me."

Mr. W. is a Democrat.

☞ Mr. Imboden publishes a letter in the Enquirer of the 9th inst., in explanation of what he did say in the Convention, in which he says he did not represent Capt. Watkins as a deserter from his party, but reported truly what he admits in his card he had authorized Mr. Imboden to say—"tell the Whigs to save the Union."—Mr. Imboden says I did not understand him to mean that we were to become Democrats, in order to save the Union; but that he thought it was in our power, if prudent counsels prevailed in our Convention, to initiate a movement that would break down Republicanism. Nor did I understand, or represent him as abandoning *his* party, but as expressing confidence in the old Whig party, as he knew it and respected it, and not as it might become, if prostituted by a connection with any corrupt or sectional organization.

To Correspondents.

We must again be allowed to say a word to correspondents. For months our columns have been crowded with communications, to the exclusion of general news of more interest to a large portion of our readers than the merits or demerits of candidates for the public offices of this county, and the cry is, still they come.—Now, with every disposition to accommodate the friends of the various candidates, we cannot afford to do so at the expense of that large class of subscribers who live outside the county of Augusta, and who, therefore, feel no interest whatever in the local elections. Articles written for the newspapers in such times as these should be brief and to the point—especially when so many gentlemen are disposed to indulge in writing.—We of course allude to no particular writer, but request *all* to be moderate in length when so many desire to be accommodated. Candidates for the various offices who may feel called upon to answer interrogatories, will oblige us, and probably benefit themselves by responding categorically.

Very Discreditable.

The Charleston papers confirm the statement that $5 a day will be the established price for board at the hotels of that city during the holding of the Democratic National Convention.—We are very much surprised to see the confirmation of a fact so discreditable to a Southern city. It would have been more in keeping with the well-known and often boasted hospitality of the Southern people, if the Convention had been entertained free of expense. Such an attempt to gouge has never before been known at the South, and can only be accounted for on the hypothesis that the hotel-keepers are not "natives to the manor born."

The "Southern Conference."

This disunion enterprise received its quietus in the House of Delegates on Thursday. The vote stood 42 for and 90 against sending delegates. This decision, we are sure, will be heartily approved by the people generally. Our delegates, of course, voted for Mr. Barbour's resolutions and against the Conference.

National Convention.

The Executive Committee at Washington have called the National Opposition Convention to meet in Baltimore on the 9th of May.

☞ We are indebted to the Hon. John T. Harris for a copy of the Report of the Smithsonian Institute and other documents.

TERRIBLE TRAGEDY AT SYRACUSE, N. Y.—A tragedy of a terrible nature has just caused the greatest excitement at Syracuse, N. Y. On Wednesday last, Peter Tinker, whose wife had abandoned him for a Dr. Searles, committed suicide by taking poison, after having first poisoned his two little daughters with strychnine. He was seen staggering in the streets that evening from the effects of laudanum, and was carried to the Park Hotel by his friends, who supposed he was drunk. He died next morning about 9 o'clock. The Standard has the following particulars of this extraordinary affair:

On taking off his boots several letters were found in one of his stockings, one of which was directed to his wife, and another one stated that his two children, girls of six and eight years of age, would be found asleep in the Medical College building. As the children were missing, considerable anxiety was felt for their fate, and Dr. Green proceeded immediately to the College building, where, in the northeast corner of the lower floor, a horrible sight met the eye. The two beautiful little children named Flora and Lucinda, lay on a mattress, dead, with the froth gathered about the mouth, and bearing every evidence of death from the effects of poison, supposed to be strychnine. The potion had probably been administered by means of an orange, and the children had been partially laid out after death, as their arms were folded across their breasts with some care, and the bodies laid out in a straight position. The children were beautiful and intelligent little girls, and had attended school until quite recently.

The statement of the wife of the unhappy suicide is that her husband became very poor, and she went to live with Dr. Searles and his wife in order that her work there might support herself. Some time since, the second Baptist church to which Mr. Tinker belonged, took the matter under consideration, and she was discharged from the church, on the charge that she did not live with her husband and walk with the church, and had attended lectures on spiritualism. It may be proper here to state that Mrs. Tinker is not and never has been a spiritualist, and that the absurd stories that are in circulation about free-love are all false.

Mrs. Tinker is a lady apparently about thirty-five years of age, with no particular pretensions to beauty, and apparently not very gay. She is much more intelligent than her husband, and appears to feel very much depressed by the horrible circumstances that surround her at this time. She evidently feels the loss of her little girls very keenly, although she is not so demonstrative as some females.

Mrs. Dr. Searles, who is a very intelligent appearing lady, indignantly spurns the idea that any improper intimacy existed between her husband and Mrs. Tinker. She says she invited Mrs. Tinker to make her house a home from pure motives of benevolence, as she well understood their depressed pecuniary circumstaces.

For the Spectator.

Reorganize!

We do not mean the "Opposition," or anything connected with the political elements, but the "Staunton Lyceum," which has at several periods been an association creditable to its members and the town. Under different titles, once that of "The Henry Clay Club," its stated meetings were once a place of resort for the purpose of moral and mental improvement, not only of the young men of the town, but of old, steady, professional men, and our most permanent citizens, as participants in the exercises, and as spectators. But for want of energy, and other causes, the last attempt at reorganization proved a signal failure, and as evidently true as the reasons are, which have been urged by the first literary men in our country, why such associations should be formed wherever it is possible, yet Staunton is without such an one, a fact that can probably be said of no other town in Virginia, as large, and enjoying the reputation that Staunton does for all things of this kind.

With the view, then, of permanently establishing such an association, we ask that there be a meeting on Friday night, 16th March, in the room over the county Court Clerk's office, of the friends of the "Staunton Lyceum," and of all such as feel an interest in the young men of the town, which meeting we hope will be attended by such men as will lend dignity and permanence to whatever measures may be adopted.—We mean such of our citizens as Col. Baldwin, Messrs. Harman, Imboden, Skinner, Doyle, Baylor, Watts and a number of others who might be named; all of whom, we think, feel sufficient interest in the subject to encourage with their presence and assistance, this effort which has been set on foot, to once more raise this now fallen association, for mutual IMPROVEMENT.

From Europe.

The steamer New York arrived at New York on the 11th inst. The London papers of the 23d ult. are received by her.

Advices from Rome say the Pope holds in readiness with a *motu proposio*, already signed, realizing his promises made at Gaeta, but before promulgating it demands that the patrimony of St. Peter be guaranteed him.

The Electoral Committee at Florence recommends annexation to Piedmont as the only programme which candidates should profess.

Austria has conceded the Jews' right to hold real estate.

Rumors were current of an address, which was attributed to King Victor Emanuel, calling Naples and Sicily to an insurrection.

The armament preparations in Piedmont are being accelerated.

A congregation held at the Vatican had decided that the King of Sardinia shall not be excommunicated, whatever political events may supervene.

A report was current that a plot against the Emperor Napoleon had been discovered.

A Madrid dispatch says the garrison at Mellila had made a sortie, incurring a loss on the Spanish of 33 killed, 146 wounded, and 21 missing.

The Spanish press are unanimous in their demand for an energetic policy to be pursued by the Government against Morocco.

For the Spectator.

Messrs Editors:—The Judgeship seems to be the only question that is now exercising the minds of your many correspondents. But we must remember we have other important officers to elect, and among them the Sheriff is not by any means the least important. There are eight or nine candidates, I believe; and knowing them all personally to be gentlemen of the highest grade, I have nought to set down in malice against any one of them. But to the voters of the lower end of the county, where he is not so well known, I would say if you want a man for Sheriff, *free from all combination*, an industrious, energetic, business man, John J. Larew is that man. He has acted as Constable in the Greenville district for the last eight years—receiving in his last election every vote, except four, cast in the district, showing that the voters of the district appreciate his services as a public officer. He has, moreover, gained the reputation of being not only a good collector, but *prompt* in paying over all dues.

I say this much in justice to Mr. Larew, without his knowledge, and to call the attention of the voters of the lower end to a man worthy in every way of their suffrages, and one who, from his modesty and independence, will not annoy them electioneering for their votes.

A VOTER.

Death of a Soldier.

The "Winchester Republican" publishes a brief obituary notice of John G. Davis, who recently died at Fort Walla Walla, Washington Territory, of disease of the heart. He belonged to the 1st Dragoons and enlisted in this place about two years ago. His remains were attended to their last resting place by a squadron of Dragoons and their officers, with a horse fully equipped and led by two buglers, all headed by the 9th infantry band.

THE CLAY STATUE.—The inauguration of the Clay statue will take place on the 12th of April, the birth-day of the illustrious statesman, and Benjamin Johnson Barbour, of Orange, will be the orator of the occasion.

Letters received from Hayti state that fourteen hundred dollars have been collected in Port au Prince for the benefit of the family of John Brown.

Among the recent graduates of the Richmond Medical College, was James M. Armstrong, of Augusta.

Legislature of Virginia.

MONDAY, March 5th.—*Senate.*—The House bill making an additional appropriation of $75,000 to defray expenses incurred in consequence of the Harper's Ferry affair, was read and laid on the table.

On motion of Mr. Stuart, the Governor's message relative to the North Carolina and Tennessee boundary line, was referred to a special committee.

The Senate bill concerning the Court of Appeals and the Special Court of Appeals, was considered and then laid on the table.

The bill for the assessment of taxes was next taken up.

House.—After some other business of no interest, the special license bill was taken up and discussed by Mr. Robinson.

TUESDAY.—*Senate.*—The bill appropriating $75,000 to defray the Harper's Ferry expenses was taken up. On motion of Mr. Wickham, an amendment was adopted, disapproving of the principle adopted by the Commissioners, in auditing claims of officers for servants and horses not in actual service; and directing the Commissioners to re-audit said accounts. The bill was then passed.

A resolution communicated from the House was adopted, authorizing the Senate and House Committees on Courts of Justice to sit as a joint committee during the session of both bodies, for the purpose of hearing Mr. Sennott in advocacy of a reprieve of the prisoners under sentence of death at Charlestown.

The tax bill was taken up, and unsuccessful efforts were made to exempt the salaries of clerks and others and State bonds from taxation.

The resolutions, reports &c., relating to the Southern Conference were taken up as the order of the day. The majority report, (adverse to the Conference,) was amended so as to include Mississippi, as well as South Carolina. Mr. August moved that the minority report (in favor of the Conference,) be substituted therefor, which was rejected, and the majority report was adopted by a vote of 38 to 11.

The bill appropriating the public revenue was passed.

House.—The special license bill was advocated by Mr. Jones, of Appomattox, and opposed by Mr. Dickinson, of Prince Edward.

WEDNESDAY.—*Senate.*—Mr. Thomas, of Fairfax, by leave, introduced a bill allowing additional compensation to Robert T. Brown, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Jefferson, for extraordinary services in the trial of John Brown and his associates. Ordered to a second reading.

On motion of Mr. Coghill, the Senate bill to amend the 10th section of chapter 108 of the Code so as to repeal the prohibition against a man marrying his brother's widow, was taken up and passed. Ayes 16, noes 15.

On motion of Mr. Smith, the Senate bill to amend the first section of the act passed April 6th, 1858, entitled an act to amend the third section of the act passed March 17th, 1856 entitled an act to provide for the redemption of the outstanding drafts of the Board of Public Works on the Internal Improvement Fund, so as to exempt the Covington and Ohio Railroad, and the Blue Ridge Railroad, from the restrictive provisions of said section, was taken up and having been advocated by Mr. Smith and Mr. Stuart, it then passed.

The bill amending the charter of the James River and Kanawha Company was made the order of the day for Thursday.

House—A communication was received from the Senate transmitting the report from the Joint Committee on the subject of the Southern Conference, The resolutions were discussed by various members, when upon motion it was resolved that at 1 o'clock on Thursday all discussion on the resolutions from the Senate in relation to the Southern Conference shall cease, and at that time the vote shall be taken.

THURSDAY.—*Senate.*—Mr Stuart presented a Report, rejecting the boundary line between Virginia and Tennessee, as run by Baugh and Black, and authorizing the appointment of new Commissioners to remark the line.

The bill authorizing a subscription of $80,000, on the three-fifths principle to the Monongahela Navigation Company was passed.

The bill to amend the charter of the James River and Kanawha Company came up on its passage and was rejected, but was subsequently re-considered and laid on the table.

House.—The bill regulating special licenses, which was under consideration when the House adjourned on Wednesday night, was made the special order of the day for Friday at 12 o'clock.

The joint resolutions from the Senate on the Southern Conference, which were under discussion yesterday, came up at half-past 1 o'clock as the order of the day. These resolutions are adverse to a Southern Conference.

Resolutions and amendments were offered by gentlemen of every variety of opinion, when the vote on the main question was taken and resulted as follows:

Ayes—Messrs. Alderson, Arnold, Ball, Ballard, Barbour, Bassel, Bentley, Bisbie, Boreman, G. L. Brown, Andrew Brown, Burwell, Carpenter, Cassin, Chapman, Christian, Claiborne, Cowan, Crane, Davis, W. J. Dickenson, Edgington, Frost, Garth, D. Gibson, J. Gilmer, Goodycoontz, Grattan, Hanly, Harrison, Haymond, Hackley, Hoffman, Holdway, Hopkins, Hunt, Hunter, Johnson, Keen, Knote, Knotts, Kyle, Leftwich, Locke, Lockridge, Lucas, Lynch, B. H. Magruder, J. G. Martin, Wm. Martin, Massie, Matthews, Maupin, McCue, McGruder, McKinney, McKenzie, Medley, Miles, D. Miller, Mong, Morris, Myers, Patterson, Phelps, Porter, Preston, Pritchard, Randolph, Reid, Richardson, Riddick, W. Robertson, R. K. Robinson, Saunders, Scott, Segar, Shannon, Sibert, J. K. Smith, I. N. Smith, Tutwiler, Wallace, A. Watson, Watts, Welch, West, Wilson, Wilcox, Yerby—90.

Nays—Messrs. Allen, Anderson, Baskerville, Bass, Bell, Blue, Boisseau, Carter, Childs, Collier, A. D. Dickenson, Duckwall, Earle, Evans, Fleming, Friend, Garret, James, C. H. Jones, W. T. Jones, Kaufman, Kemper, Kinchelue, Lundy, Lynn, Mallory, McCamant, McDowell, McGehee, Montague, Newton, Orgain, Rives, Seddon, H. Smith, Taylor, Tomlin, Tyler, Walker, E. Watson, Witten, Speaker Crutchfield—43.

FRIDAY.—*Senate.*—The Committee of Courts of Justice reported that it was inexpedient to take any action in reference to the commutation of the sentence of Stevens and Hazlett.

Resolutions concerning the boundary line between Virginia and Maryland, and the sending an agent to England to collect informaton, were passed.

Resolutions were adopted instructing the Commissioners appointed to settle Harper's Ferry accounts, to pay claims of Railroad companies, and to pay for two Aids to the Governor. The sum of $350 was appropriated, to purchase silver medals for the Lexington Cadets who went to Charlestown.

The House bill repealing several sections of the act of April 2, 1858, providing a more uniform currency, was taken up. A substitute for the bill was adopted, and the bill as thus amended passed.

House.—The Senate resolutions concerning the State boundary line, were concurred in.

The special license bill was next considered, and occupied the attention of the House till the time of adjournment.

SATURDAY—*Senate.*—The Senate was informed, through Mr. Stuart, that the Executive would, on Monday, transmit to the Senate a message on the financial condition of the State, which might necessitate further prolongation of the session. A proposition to extend to the 19th of March, was voted down; but it will probably be renewed. Bills were passed fixing the tolls on railroads, and providing for a public administrator in each county and corporation of the State. A substitute for the bill amending the charter of the James River and Kanawha Company (heretofore defeated) was reported and ordered to be printed.

House.—The proposition to bestow silver medals on such of the Lexington Cadets as served at Harper's Ferry, was laid on the table. The House passed the Senate substitute for the bill repealing the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th sections of an act passed April 2nd, 1858, providing for a more uniform currency of the banks of the State, adding an independent section, and refusing to adopt a proviso making individual stockholders liable to the extent of their subscriptions. The Senate joint resolution, providing for settling the boundary between Maryland and Virginia, was concurred in. The Committee of Courts of Justice reported that it was inexpedient to take any action in reference to the commutation of the sentence of Stevens and Hazlett. The Governor recommends that the House order the printing of Major Wm. Gilliam's new book on Military Tactics, which has been submitted to, and highly approved by, competent military gentlemen.

Thirty-Sixth Congress—First Session.

MONDAY, March 5, 1860.—*Senate.*—Nothing of interest.

House.—A resolution was adopted referring the Pacific Railroad bill to a select Committee of 15; and another for a select Committee of 5 to investigate whether the President or any other officer of the Government has sought to interfere with the business of Congress, or defeat the execution of any law, or whether money has been used for electioneering in Pennsylvania or elsewhere, and under what authority this was done; where the money came from, etc. Much opposition was made to this resolution by the Democracy. Mr. Reagan introduced a resolution to place $5,000,000 at the disposal of the President for suppressing hostilities on the Rio Grande. Referred to the Military Committee.

TUESDAY.—*Senate.*—Thaddeus Hyatt, the recusant witness in the Harper's Ferry investigation, was brought up in the custody of the Sergeant-at-Arms and given until Friday to determine whether he would purge himself of contempt in refusing to testify before the Committee.

Mr. Brown's Territorial resolutions were taken up, debated and laid over. Mr. Brown gave notice that he would move an amendment to the Democratic Senatorial caucus resolutions presented by Mr. Davis, in effect that immediate legislation was necessary by Congress, to protect slave property in the Territories.

Mr. Wigfall's amendment to the Military Academy bill was taken up and during the discussion a communication from the President and Gov. Houston was received showing the necessity of immediate action to protect the Rio Grande frontiers of Texas.

House.—The bill for the protection of female emigrant passengers was amended and passed. The Committee on Commerce reported a bill for the simplification and codification of the revenue laws. A bill appropriating $64,000 for the improvement of the harbor of Chicago was passed.

The Rev. Thomas H. Stockton was elected Chaplain of the House.

WEDNESDAY.—*Senate.*—After the morning hour, Mr. Brown's resolutions in regard to the Territories were taken up, and Mr. Wade spoke on the subject. Mr. Davis, from the Military Committee, reported a bill making appropriations to equip a regiment of Texan mounted volunteers, but the Senate refused to proceed to its immediate consideration.

House.—The bill donating public lands for the support of State Agricultural Colleges was debated and postponed. Various bills and resolutions were reported, and the House then went into Committee of the Whole, and listened to three anti-slavery speeches from different members; only varied by a little episode growing out of an imputation of Southern courage made by one of the speakers.

THURSDAY.—*Senate.*—Mr. Grimes gave notice of a bill to provide for the retrocession of the District of Columbia to Maryland, and the removal of the Capitol of the United States to some more central and convenient place! The slavery question was further discussed by Messrs. Collamer and Benjamin.

House.—The bill for the correction of abuses in connection with the Government printing was reported. The bills to reduce the expenses of the Post Office Department, and to provide by contract for the transportation of mails between the Atlantic and Pacific States, and the Army Appropriation bill, were also reported.—The resolution authorizing the President to have the Executive documents printed in advance of the meeting of Congress was passed.

FRIDAY.—*Senate.*—Mr. Hyatt, the recusant witness in the Harper's Ferry affair, was brought before the Senate yesterday, and in answer to an interrogatory as whether he was prepared to appear before the Committee and answer such questions as were propounded to him, presented a legal argument against the power of the Senate to compel his attendance. Mr. Mason submitted a resolution to put him in jail for contempt, which was pending when the Senate adjourned to Monday.

House.—After transacting some unimportant business, the House adjourned till Monday.

THE SHOEMAKERS' STRIKE.—A correspondent of the New York Journal of Commerce, writing from Boston respecting the shoemakers' strike communicates the following interesting facts:

"The boot and shoe manufacturing interest in Massachusetts is supposed to be that yielding the largest income. The annual sales in a good year amount to some $60,000,000. There are from forty thousand to fifty thousand persons employed in manufacturing these goods; or say a twenty-fourth part of all the inhabitants of the State. You will thus not wonder at the 'no small stir' among this large class, when its real or financial interests are touched. These people are also found in considerable numbers in southern New Hampshire and Maine, and elsewhere in the Eastern States. Many manufacturers of shoes of our acquaintance have become wealthy, but not more in proportion than the manufacturers of cotton, woollen and other goods. Perhaps the laborers in all our factories have not been paid any too much. If those who work on daily and weekly newspapers are paid better as compositors, it must be remembered that it is a much more difficult art to set types than to make shoes. Those who live here know very well that the most of our shoe towns are the most extreme of any we have in their violence towards the Southern States and their institutions. This is manifested by their votes and by the Abolition Conventions that are entertained by them. Now that they are suffering for the lack of that trade which their bitterness has driven away, they may be led to ask, "what have we gained by waging war upon the domestic institutions of our sister States? What has humanity gained? Aye, how much has she lost by it? For we do not soften men's hearts by raising a whirlwind of violence and denunciation against them, but by reason, by good will and by love."

THE TEXAS FRONTIER WAR.—A Washington correspondent says:

Among the papers communicated by the President in answer to the resolutions of the Senate concerning the alleged hostilities on the Rio Grande, is a letter from General Twiggs, the Commander of the Department of Texas, dated March 28, 1859, some time after the commencement of these troubles, in which he says:—"There is not, nor ever has been, any danger of Mexicans crossing on our side of the river to plunder or disturb the inhabitants; and the outcry on that river for troops is solely to have an expenditure of the public money. At every post that has been abandoned in Texas, an outcry has been raised, and plenty of Indian signs seen.—The citizens in the vicinity of these posts are very unwilling to lose the opportunity of handling a portion of the money necessarily expended by the government and troops."

This plain statement tells the whole story, and discloses the purpose of all the recent clamor.—It may be true that outrages have been committed on the Rio Grande, but they are traceable not to Mexicans or Indians, but to citizens of Texas, under the leadership of Cortinas who is a Texan himself. Yet the Governor of that State informs the Secretary of War that Texas has been invaded, and demands the "interposition of the Federal arm" for her relief.

Before Governor Houston left the Senate of the United States, he advocated a withdrawal of the United States troops from Texas, upon the ground that she was able to protect herself, and the presence of the troops was injurious to the population. His opinion appears to have changed very suddenly, and his letter to the War Department is more remarkable for what it withholds, than for what is bunglingly expressed.

We are informed, says the Augusta *Constitutionalist*, on what we regard as reliable authority, that the hotels in Charleston will charge five dollars per day, for board during the sitting of the Democratic National Convention.—We hear it stated also that this charge will commence several days before the Convention convenes. The opinion prevails that the Convention will be in session from two to three weeks. The expense, therefore, for board alone, will be about one hundred and fifty dollars for each delegate in attendance. Visitors to Charleston will, of course, be charged the same price.

The Harper's Ferry Investigation Committee, after a long deliberation, have formally decided not to call Gov. Wise before them. The minority of the Committee have been very desirous to have the testimony of Gov. Wise, in order that the contents of John Brown's papers captured by him might be brought to light; but the majority refuse.

O. B. Matteson, of Congressional bribery notoriety, has been removed from the Presidency of the Bank of Central New York, Utica, for an improper use of the funds of the Bank.

For the Spectator.

Election of Judge.

Messrs. Editors:—The first part of the communication of your "very humble" correspondent "Quid", was so redolent of the law, had such an odour of the bar, and with all, wore such a "green bag" tinge, that I was certain of finding in him a strong and eloquent champion of the re-election of Judge Thompson; my surprise therefore when he turned out so decided an advocate of Mr. Fultz, was almost equal to that of "many citizens of Bath" upon discovering that "some lawyers" of Staunton were making efforts to secure the re election of the present Judge.

Presuming that "Quid" is willing to be judged according to the principles, and held to the conclusions of his own article, I feel warranted in assuming that Mr. Fultz "endorses his effusion," and acknowledges his responsibility for the logic, as well as the sentiments of his other advocates, who have engaged in the "wordy warfare which is now waging in the columns of your paper."—But for myself I entirely repudiate this doctrine Judge T. is in no manner responsible for nor to any extent endorses any thing I write, whether sacred or profane.

Among the strictures of Quid upon the communications of "Z" occurs the following: "'Tis a pity he showed so much personal hatred and ill will towards Mr. Fultz, which I think entirely destroyed the effect of his extraordinary effort."

After two careful perusals of the article of "Z" I am unable to discover the slightest evidence of personal hatred or ill will towards Mr. F. or any one else.

But then I am not blessed with those
"optics keen
That can see, what is not to be seen."

Without questioning the candour of "Quid," I am yet constrained to think that his "pity" for the imagined "hatred and ill-will" of "Z" towards Mr. F. is much modified by the reflection that it in his opinion destroyed the effect of his piece.

But as profound and acute as Quid is while laying down general principles, and as clear and searching as is his analysis, when exposing the fallacies of an opponent, yet, when he comes to notice the "scriptural argument" of Gascoigne, he superadds, to these fine qualities, a keen wit, a laughter-moving humour and a bounding vivacity, that is in the highest degree refreshing and exhilarating. In truth the excellence of this part of his communication is equalled in degree, only by the quandary in which he is involved about my calling, trade, or profession.—I think it fair to conclude from his perplexity upon this subject, that he is one of those who estimate arguments from a consideration of the source whence they emanate, rather than from their intrinsic merit or force.

The truth is this seems to be a characteristic of his "side of the house" upon this judicial election. One of the great objections to Judge T. being found in the fact that the lawyers of his Circuit requested him to allow his name to go before the people for re election to the office he had so long and ably filled, and one of the chief recommendations of Mr. F. is that he was called out by "many farmers."

If the information will send even one feeble and flickering ray of light into that murky cloud of dubiety that envelopes Quid in its dark mantle in reference to that important matter of "where to place" me, I am free to tell him that I am neither "lawyer, doctor, printer, tailor," nor yet "a preacher," however much my style, according to his critical acumen may smack of the pulpit. I, however, acknowledge that I sometimes read the Bible, especially the historical portions of it.

Quid is unable to see how the passage I quoted about Absalom, "has anything to do with the election of Judge." It may, however, for all that, be relevant and pertinent to the matter in hand.

Absalom desired his father's place, with its honors, its emoluments and its influence, and in order to obtain it, his first step was to convince the "tribes of Israel" that they were miserably governed, that king David neglected his duties and disregarded their interests; that he made no provision for having their controversies promptly tried and settled; in fine, that the "wheels of justice had ceased to roll on." His second step was to persuade them that he (Absalom) with his fair face and flowing locks, was the very man to remedy and remove all these evils: thus he stole the "hearts of the people."

Mr. Fultz takes the same steps and in the same order. He first persuades the people that they are suffering great injuries and grievous wrongs at the hands of Judge Thompson. And in the second place, he exclaims, "O that I were Judge" in this Circuit; you should no longer be harrassed by the "law's delay;" the "sleeping docket should be waked up" into life and activity; and the "wheels of justice should roll on" with the velocity of an express train.

GASCOIGNE.

For the Spectator.

Messrs. Editors:—In our vicinities the question about who is to be our next High Sheriff, is attracting no little attention and interest; and the matter, with our good neighbors, is to know one important consideration on the part of the present aspirants (now candidates) for the office: Will Messrs. James M. Lilley, John J. Larew, Henry H. Peck, Peter G. Steel, William G. Sterrett, Thomas P. Wilson, either of them, if elected to the office of High Sheriff, employ the present Sheriff or any of his deputies for deputies during the next term of Sheriffalty?—We want a direct response from the gentlemen. We hope they will let their reply be Yes or No. If they or any of them, will explicitly state their determination as to whether they will employ the present Sheriff or any of his deputies, during the next term of Sheriffalty, it will relieve many anxious minds, and determine the course of numerous voters along Middle River and

NORTH MOUNTAIN.

For the Spectator.

Messrs. Editors:—The types have made sad havoc with my advertisement. After advertising the Reaper I then say, or tried to say: "I have a supply of *Repairs*—I mean Sickles, Wheels, Cranks, &c., &c.,—at Albert Clark's, Mr. Crawford, Wm. Clark's, New Market, and at my house. The manuscript was also marked 2mo., which is left out. Please correct and oblige.

THORNTON BERRY.

☞ I hope the Vindicator, Rock. Reg. and Spirit of Democracy will correct the mistakes.

TRANSPARENT ATMOSPHERE.—Last Saturday the atmosphere at Newport, R. I., was such that people within the city saw distinctly, with the naked eye, Block Island, 30 miles distant. So clearly could this be done that the slope of the hills and color of the sand was traced. By the aid of a glass, the people moving about were seen, and among other things noticed, was the pushing off of a small boat.

LAND SALE.—Prof. Gessner Harrison, principal of the Locust Grove Academy, has recently purchased Gen. Brown's estate in Nelson county, Va., three miles from the railroad, at $20,000.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

TRUSTEE'S SALE of VALUABLE PROPERTY.—By virtue of a deed of Trust executed to me by Overton Gibson and James W. Gibson, on the 26th day of August, 1858, and duly recorded in the Clerk's Office of