

OUR EDITORIAL BROTHERS will please accept our best thanks for the very flattering manner in which they have so kindly and so graciously received our humble self.

By the way, never having had the pleasure of seeing friend BAILY, of the Hillsboro Democrat, we can say nothing about his being the best looking Editor in the State, but we feel certain that he is one of the cleverest.

A prompt and generous acknowledgment of the enterprise of those who possess the same feeling themselves; as, on the other hand, a contrary course is an almost infallible indication of the absence of such feeling.

REMOVED CHANGE IN THE CABINET.—A statement is made by several Washington letter-writers to the effect that Mr. CLAYTON is about to leave the State Department, which will probably be filled by Hon. HENRY CLAY.

Highly Reprehensible.—The following is an extract from a note of Lieut. SCHENCK Commander of the Steamship Ohio:

U. S. STEAMSHIP OHIO, Nov. 16. I made Charleston Light at half past one o'clock this morning, after a run of 45 hours from Sandy Hook. There were in a strong N. E. gale with heavy sea running; finding it impossible to continue, I here away for Savannah at 8 o'clock, A. M.

Accidental Death.—We learn from Mr. W. A. WALKER, Postmaster on the Wilmington & Raleigh Railroad, that a man by the name of JOHN PRYMAN was run over on Tuesday morning last, before day, by the locomotive, near the 110th mile post, in Edgecombe county, and instantly killed.

A POTATO THAT IS A POTATO.—We have been presented with a sweet potato, raised by Mr. D. K. FURCH on Topsail Sound, in this county, which measures twenty-four inches in circumference, is over a foot long, and weighs eleven pounds and a quarter.

THE RELIGIOUS AND GENERAL INTELLIGENCER, is the name of a new weekly paper, under the editorial management of Rev. J. McDANIEL, the first number of which made its appearance in this place yesterday morning, the 22d instant.

THE GOLDENBORO PATRIOT, we are pleased to see, is again under the editorial charge of Mr. Wm. ROBINSON. Mr. ROBINSON will be assisted in the publication of the paper, by his brother, Mr. JOHN ROBINSON.

It has become quite the fashion with a certain class of Editors, who are either opposed to our line, or interested in the success of the various sea lines between the Northern Cities and Charleston, to decry and vilify the Boats running between this place and Charleston, although the fact is well known that our Boats run at times when the crack Steamships of the Northern lines are totally unable to make any progress.

Our Line and the Charleston Steamships.—It has become quite the fashion with a certain class of Editors, who are either opposed to our line, or interested in the success of the various sea lines between the Northern Cities and Charleston, to decry and vilify the Boats running between this place and Charleston, although the fact is well known that our Boats run at times when the crack Steamships of the Northern lines are totally unable to make any progress.

We also learn from the Charleston papers, that the new Steamship Republic, running between Charleston and Baltimore, left the former place on Thursday, but was forced to return, having run out of coal, and being unable to make any head way on account of the weather.

The Panorama, HUTCHINGS' Panoramas of the Mediterranean is now on exhibition at the Theatre. We have not as yet had the pleasure of seeing it, but hear it very highly spoken of by those who have, and upon whose judgment we rely. See advertisement in another column.

In accordance with the request of many of our friends of both parties, we have published the excellent speech of Judge SHARKEY, President of the Mississippi Southern State Convention. It will be found upon our last page, and will amply repay a perusal from all who admire sound sense and sound views upon a subject which, at the present time, occupies a position of paramount importance in the eyes of, at least, the Southern section of the Union.

Unfortunately, in North Carolina we can witness no such accord. It has been announced, in advance of all action, that the Whig party of this State consider the proposition to hold such a Convention rather as an insult than as an evidence of a wish to promote harmony on the part of their Democratic brethren.

What will the Senate do? This is the question which, in view of the approaching meeting of Congress, is most frequently asked. What course will the Senate pursue in regard to the removals and appointments which have been made during the recess? Of course this only relates to a few of the more prominent offices, for to suppose that body could pay any attention to even one twentieth of the removals which have been made, would be the height of absurdity; in view of the fact that the books of the Post Office Department alone exhibit 2,874 removals of Postmasters, to say nothing of clerks, &c. The Home Department about 4,000 more, and the other departments in proportion.

The occasion of such conduct on the part of the commander of the Ohio, is simply this:—Upon the same day, and within a little of the same time, both the Ohio and the Crescent City left New York, the latter having the start by a few minutes. Lieut. SCHENCK, in the note from which we have made an extract at the commencement of this article, tells how he overtook and passed the Crescent City outside of Sandy Hook. He seems to regard the trip to New Orleans as a race with the Crescent City, and no doubt was unwilling to lose time by calling at Charleston, or waiting for the mails or passengers.

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A most painful excitement has pervaded this community as well as that of Fayetteville for the last week or ten days, arising from the sudden death of a highly respectable citizen of the latter place, Mr. ALEXANDER C. SIMPSON, and the suspicions, which seem to be confirmed by the investigation of a Coroner's Jury that he came to his death by poison, believed to have been administered by his own wife. These are the rumors in the case, and as such we give them. We know nothing of the facts except through the medium of common report. In the last Observer, we find the following article upon the subject. It seems to contain all that is known. Various tales of collusion &c., have been in circulation, but, as we can find no definite authority, we forbear any further allusion to them.

A HORRIBLE CRIME.—In our last, we briefly recorded the sudden death of Mr. ALEXANDER C. SIMPSON, well and favorably known in this place and the surrounding country as the proprietor of one of the Carriage-making establishments of this place. We are grieved and shocked to be compelled now to add, that he died from the effects of arsenic, administered to him, as the Jury of Inquest believe, by the hands of his own wife. We wish we could spare the duty of recording so horrible a crime, and of wounding the feelings of highly respectable connections on both sides. But the press should know no distinction in such cases.

We do not propose to enter into any detailed statement of the horrible circumstances. We leave that to the proper tribunal, and the proper time. But will merely state, briefly, that, in consequence of suspicious circumstances, a post mortem examination was made by several of our physicians, assisted by a distinguished chemist, and that the presence of arsenic in the stomach was palpably established. After which, a number of witnesses were examined, and the Inquest came to the belief that the poison was administered as above stated. A bench warrant was issued by Judge DICK, but the officers have not yet succeeded in arresting Mrs. SIMPSON. We learn that measures have been taken to obtain the offer of the customary reward of \$200 by the Governor of the State for her apprehension.

The Grand Jury of the Superior Court, then in session, inquired into the matter, and found a bill against Mrs. SIMPSON for the murder. Backed Out.—It now appears plain that Russia has backed out from the arrogant position she assumed towards Turkey upon the subject of the Hungarian refugees.—NICHOLAS, no doubt, feels that the time is not yet come when he can swallow Turkey before breakfast; by way of whetting his appetite for the conquest of Western Europe. The mere exhibition of a determination on the part of England to resist any further advance of Russia, at all hazards, has effectively whipped back the great Northern bear to his den.—While we cannot but rejoice at this result, as a triumph of civilization and civilized public opinion over mere brute force, it is equally impossible to forget that the same determination, exhibited a few months sooner, would have saved the cause of humanity in Hungary—prevented the ruin and butchery of the brave Magyars, and erected in their persons a formidable barrier against Cossack aggression and barbarism. PUNCH, ever on the alert, has made the conduct of NICHOLAS the subject of a pair of very clever caricatures. In the first, the autocrat is represented on a spree, with JOHN BULL and LOUIS NAPOLEON trying to coax or force him to be quiet; at which interference, the autocrat aforesaid is very wrath, and tries to break from his friends, singing, "I won't go home till morning, I won't go home till morning, I won't go home till morning, I won't go home till morning, Till Kosuth doth appear."

The second cut is entitled "The Morning after the Spree," and represents the jolly autocrat of the preceding picture in a state of repentance, with the headache and the blue-devils, sitting on a log and assuring himself that he is a fool, and has been guilty of very ridiculous conduct. In fact, the arrogant assumption and ignominious back-out of NICHOLAS, has made him the but of Europe. So mote it be.

New York.—The election in New York was resulted as follows:—The Whigs have elected the Secretary of State, Treasurer, and State Engineer, while the Democrats have elected the Judge of Appeals, Attorney General, Canal Commissioner, and Prison Inspector. The Legislature is equally divided, and stands thus:

Table with 4 columns: Senate, Assembly, Joint Vote, Democrats, Whigs.

The Democratic Advocate, published in Baton Rouge, La., speaking of the late election in that State, uses the following language in regard to the vote in East Baton Rouge, Gen. TAYLOR's own parish. It tells the tale. The Advocate says:

"Tell it both far and near—proclaim it from the highways and thoroughfares of the nation—let it speak forth, trumpet-tongued, from the house-tops and around the White House at Washington—that East Baton Rouge is Democratic to the core!—that 'Old Zack's own Parish,' which came within seven of giving her vote to him, only last November, has tried him in the balance, found him wanting, and now repudiates him! 'Old Joe' LOUIS WALKER, the Democratic candidate for Governor, comes in to supply the void, and walks into the Democratic affections of the people with a 77 horse power! It is glorious, indeed! Still more glorious will it be, if it turns out (which we believe it will) that the rest of the State has done as well—then shall Louisiana take her place in the noble sisterhood comprising Ohio, Maine, Indiana, Alabama, Tennessee, Connecticut, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Kentucky, Georgia, Virginia, Florida, Texas, and Iowa—all of which have but recently, through the voice of the people, declared themselves against the Taylor administration."

DEMOCRATIC GAIN OF SEVEN THOUSAND.—The New Brunswick (N. J.) Times has received the majorities in the different counties of New Jersey at the late election, and although the Whigs have a majority of the Legislature, the Democratic majority in the popular vote is 3,608, making a gain of nearly seven thousand for the Democracy since the Presidential election. "Comment is unnecessary."

MICHIGAN.—The Detroit Free Press, of the 12th instant, states that BARRY (Democrat) has 4,404 majority over LITTLEJOHN, with six counties to be heard from, which will probably run up his majority to 4,700; that the Senate will probably consist of eighteen democrats to four whigs, and the House of Representatives about forty-seven democrats to nineteen whigs.

A fellow who affected to be dumb, and passed himself off as a nephew of Rev. J. N. MAFFITT, has been arrested in Richmond, Va., as an impostor.—The same fellow passed through this place a few weeks since, and we believe "sold" some of our citizens to the tune of some few dollars. He sold a pamphlet of seven or eight pages. It is needless to say, that a second edition of Balaam's quadruped has been presented, the dumb speaking, and with a pretty strong brogue, too. He is said to be quite a good hand at a revival of religion, or a political barbecue.

CALIFORNIA CONVENTION.—The following are the proportions in which the different States of the Union were represented in the Constitutional Convention of California. Of the members, there were From New York 7 From Connecticut 2 " Maryland 5 " Vermont 2 " Kentucky 4 " Virginia 2 " Ohio 3 " Massachusetts 2 " New Jersey 3 " Pennsylvania 3 " Tennessee 1 " Missouri, Maine, each by one, and the remainder are from California, Ireland, France, &c. In the whole number, there are 14 lawyers and 2 physicians.

The steamship America arrived at New York on Saturday. In addition to the telegraphic dispatch which will be found below, we glean some few items of interest from the papers. Some opinion exists in Canton on account of the murder of the Portuguese Governor of Macao by the Chinese. Senor DE AMARAL, the Governor, was murdered on the 23d of August, about 300 yards from the Portuguese fort, by eight Chinamen—it is believed at the instigation of the Chinese government. The naval forces of the different European nations are at Macao, to support the Portuguese authorities. Two American vessels of war are also there to protect our commerce. A rupture is feared, as the Chinese are very jealous and insolent to foreigners. We see nothing else that is not contained in the telegraphic dispatch which we take from the Baltimore Sun:

The English press devotes much space to the consideration of the Canadian annexation address. The London Times says, by whomsoever proposed or concocted, it reflects great credit upon the tact, skill, and address of its author. In speaking of the annexation of Canada to the United States, the Times says, that the conduct of people will be directed by motives of prudence and interest alone if they think they can do without Canada. Then and there only will they give up Canada. They will not cede those borders which must ever command the mouth of the St. Lawrence, and protect the trade of the Atlantic.

The French Ministry has resigned or been dismissed, because of their disinclination to sustain the views embodied in the President's letter to M. Ney, relating to the affairs of Rome. Great excitement existed in Paris in consequence, but the President was firm, and has written a letter to the Assembly, which the London Times characterizes as impudent but spirited. He has formed a new Cabinet, which wholly represents the views of the President and a majority of the Assembly.

The French Ministry resigned in a body on the 30th, though on account says they were dismissed. It seems that the whole ministry assembled that morning, with the exception of O'Dillon Barrot, who was ill, to advise the President respecting the appointment of a successor to M. Falloux, the retiring minister. At their meeting, Louis Napoleon emphatically declared that the Cabinet wanted dignity.—This insult was too deep to be forgiven, and the President added that the Cabinet had been too subservient to the Conservative party of the Assembly; that the Clubs of the Council of State did what he himself could not do, settled the policy of Government, and actually nominated the ministry. This was enough. An explosion instantly followed.

In the evening, M. Dupin read to the Assembly a message from the President, which is very spirited and interesting, for it can hardly fail to provoke angry passions, and it may positively produce the coup d'etat which has long been foreshadowed. The London Times says it is a clear and definite signal of the coming measure by which the French President has changed his whole administration, and we must suppose that Louis Napoleon intends to convey to France and the world his intention to assume, in his own person, the supreme direction of the affairs of the Republic. "Men are needed," says the President, "who can comprehend the necessity of a single direction of a firm character, and a wise necessity of action as well as of works." The Times continues: "Louis Napoleon has placed himself between absolute success, crowned with absolute power, and certain destruction."

M. Thiers, M. Mole, and Gen. Changarnier, support the new ministry, but have too much prudence, it is said, to join it. The proposition of Napoleon Bonaparte for an amnesty for the insurrection in June, came before the Assembly on the 25th of October. After much discussion the proposition was negatived.

The Parisian journals publish the following important dispatch from Gen. Larmoricere to the Minister of Foreign Affairs. ST. PETERSBURG, Oct. 18, 1849. "Count Nesselrode notified the Ottoman Envoy yesterday, that the Emperor, taking into consideration the letter of the Sultan, confined himself to a demand that the Hungarian and Polish refugees should be expelled from Turkey."

Faust Effendi regards the affair as settled. Gen. Larmoricere is to be recalled from Russia and given an important post. Assassinations of the French soldiers continued at the latest dates. It is expected that the Pope will return soon, and that the French army will leave immediately. Great hostility was still maintained towards the Pope.

A correspondent of the London Times says that if the Pope returns to Rome, it must be under the protection of foreign bayonets. Austria and Hungary.—The funds which are nicked for refugees in Austria, not satisfied with the human blood they have shed, still continue their sanguinary career. The wretch Haynau has been appointed civil and military Governor of Hungary.

A circular of Kossuth's is circulating in Pesth, in which he assures his countrymen that he has removed the crown of St. Stephen solely to render the coronation of a Hapsburg possible. Turkey.—There is nothing of special interest from Turkey. The Polish and Hungarian refugees have been provided with new quarters. Kossuth and the leaders remain at Widdien until measures are taken for their ultimate destination.

Sir Stratford Canning has sent passports to Gen'l Guyon, the Irish Hungarian officer, and other British subjects who had been in the service of Hungary. Russia.—There is nothing new from Russia relative to the difficulty with Turkey about the Hungarian refugees. Spain.—The new American minister has formally presented himself and with much tact and skill declined, in the name of the President, the doings of the party who proposed to seize upon Cuba.

BRITISH INDIA.—The country directly subject to the British East India Company, contains about 130,000,000 of people, while the protected or tributary States, whose independence is merely nominal, will amount to 20,000,000 more, making the whole some 150,000,000. It is provided with an army of 300,000 men, whose support costs \$70,000,000 per annum, the revenue of India being only twice that amount. There are thousands of military officers brought from Europe, whose appointment is a source of patronage in the hands of influential men. In 1846, the public debt of India, apart from that of England, was \$187,000,000, the annual interest on which is nearly \$9,000,000. India is certainly an immense appendage to be held by a little island, some ten thousand miles distant.

THE LAPSE OF A CENTURY.—PETER KALM, the Swedish savant, and pupil of LINNÆUS, made a tour through North America just a century ago. Speaking of Pennsylvania, he says: "Coals there are not so plentiful as they are in the province, but it is not likely."

Last year there was nearly three million tons of coal brought to tide-water from the Pennsylvania mines, exclusive of the immense amount consumed in the manufacture of iron, and in the creation of steam, in the interior. Probably the total amount mined will reach four million tons.

A DELIGHTFUL PLANK ROAD.—We learn from the last Fayetteville Carolinian that about a mile of the new Plank Road is already finished and in operation. It must be an extraordinary road, for the Carolinian says: "The wagons which have driven over it, we understand, are delighted with it."

We regret that the Carolinian has not informed us in what way the wagons exhibited their delight.—Perhaps they got on a spree. M. POUSSIN is to be appointed to a diplomatic post near one of the South American governments.

Terrible Steamboat accident at New Orleans. Two Hundred Lives Lost!—A large number wounded, &c. [Telegraphed for the Baltimore Sun.] New-Orleans, Nov. 15. A little after five o'clock, the steamer Louisiana, having on board a large cargo and a number of passengers, while about starting to go up the river, burst her boiler.

The steamer Storm, which had just come down the river, with a number of passengers, was alongside, endeavoring to reach the levee when the explosion took place. Many of the passengers on both boats were buried into eternity within a moment's notice. It is impossible to tell how many lives were lost.—The number is estimated as high as one hundred! Many bodies have been recovered—some dead, some living—and others so much mangled, that it is impossible to tell to which sex they belonged.

There are now more than twenty thousand persons on the levee, some looking for friends with whom they had just parted. The utmost confusion and consternation prevails. The shrieks of the wounded are heart-rending in the extreme. It is impossible to give the names of the missing. The Storm had her pipes blown away and was otherwise damaged. The Louisiana is almost a complete wreck.

NEW-ORLEANS, NOV. 16. It is supposed that altogether 150 lives are lost, and a very great number wounded. Already fifty dead bodies have been recovered, and the levee is strewn with the dead and dying. Hundreds of citizens are assembled around the melancholy scene, endeavoring to recover and recognize the bodies of the victims. Arms, legs and heads are scattered in every direction, making a most sickening spectacle. It is impossible to ascertain the names or the number of those lost.

NEW-ORLEANS, NOV. 17. Captain Kennon, of the steamer Louisiana, has been arrested and held to bail in the sum of \$8,000. The explosion of the boiler is attributed to carelessness, and a searching investigation of the matter is to be had. Many more dead bodies have been found, and it is thought that the number killed will not be less than two hundred, besides many wounded.

The flags of the shipping in harbor are all flying at half-mast, in consequence of this calamity. ANTI-RENTISM IN NEW YORK.—A strange spectacle is presented by the returns of the New York election, which has resulted in a tie all around. There are four State officers of each of the parties; four Judges of the Supreme Court of each, and a tie in the Legislature. To account for this, it is necessary to remember that the Anti-Rent faction made up their ticket equally from names already on the tickets of the great parties—half from the Democratic and half from the Whig ticket—they holding the balance of power. The existence of such a faction, and the control they might obtain over the judicial elections, would go further to stagger our confidence in the propriety of electing judges by the people, than almost anything else. We do not know that such a state of affairs will ever exist in North Carolina, still it is but fair to suppose that what has happened once, in one place, may happen again in another; and it is certainly worthy of consideration, now that the question of popular elections for judicial officers has been agitated in so many of the States, and is likely to be soon discussed in our own. We merely offer these remarks for consideration, and not by way of expressing an opinion, which we have not yet formed, one way or the other.

We respectfully suggest to the Wilmington Journal, that some better evidence than the assertion of the N. York Herald is required to show that the negro voters in New York either resolved to vote the Whig ticket, or did so vote. We have seen it stated in a respectable paper (which certainly the Herald is not) that the did not say what party they would vote for. Fayetteville Observer, 20th inst.

Since the Observer denies the respectability and authority of the Herald, we will furnish it with other authority against which we think it cannot object. The Boston Atlas, the organ of the Whig party in New England, in its issue of the 8th inst. has the following paragraph: "NEW YORK COLORED MEN.—A meeting was held one evening last week by the colored voters of New York city, at which they voted to support the whig ticket unanimously. We hope our colored friends in Boston will imitate the good resolve of their brethren in New York. The Whig party is the party of freedom, and always was."

MISSOURI SENATOR.—Col. DONIPHAN is spoken of as Mr. BENTON's successor as Senator from Missouri, in case BENTON's friends do not succeed in obtaining a majority in the next Legislature of that State.

LOUISIANA ELECTION.—WALKER, Democrat, is elected Governor of Louisiana, by a small majority.—There was a very full vote polled. So far as heard from, the relative loss of the Whigs, as compared with the Presidential election, is over fourteen hundred. This is a dull celebration of the anniversary of old Zach's victory, in his own State.

MISSISSIPPI.—The majority for Gen. QUITMAN, the Democratic candidate for Governor, is from 8,000 to 10,000. All the four members of Congress are Democrats. Mississippi is more Democratic than ever. Good for her.

LAW SUITS AHEAD.—The new suspension Bridge thrown over the Ohio river at Wheeling, Va., proves to be an obstruction to the navigation of that stream, several steamboats having been unable to pass under it. Some of the proprietors threaten to institute suits for damages against the Bridge Company, in order to recover the amount of the loss which they allege they have lost by the delay. The Press of Pittsburgh, Pa., seems quite excited upon the subject.

CALIFORNIA MARRIAGE CONTRACT.—A private letter from a gentleman at San Francisco, to his friend in New York, says: "I have been, as you know, over eight years in California, and am yet unmarried. My friend, Mr. C., has lately left for Scotland, and I have given him a commission to bring me out a wife, of the following description: Not less than five feet, blue eyes and Auburn hair. I am either to marry her, or pay a forfeit of \$10,000. I do hope, as soon as the country is a little more settled, about ten thousand first rate girls will start for California; we have goods enough, and gold enough; now give us some wives."

CULTIVATION IN THE UNITED STATES.—The following is an approximate estimate of the proportion of lands in the respective States and Territories, at this time under cultivation:

Table with 3 columns: State/Territory, Per cent, and another Per cent.

NEW HAMPSHIRE 60 Ohio 50 Vermont 40 Indiana 30 Maine 20 Illinois 15 Massachusetts 60 Michigan 30 New York 65 Iowa 10 New Jersey 50 Texas (proper) 15 Pennsylvania 70 Rhode Island 60 Maryland 20 Connecticut 75 Virginia 40 Florida 15 South Carolina 40 Wisconsin 20 Georgia 40 Missouri 40 Alabama 20 North Carolina 25 Mississippi 50 Louisiana 60 Tennessee 50 Arkansas 25 Kentucky 40

This shows that, without our newly acquired territories, there is 60 per cent. of the United States, or more than one-half, uncultivated.

The amount of California gold received at the Mint up to Saturday last, was three million seven hundred and thirty thousand dollars.

HON. T. BUTLER KING.—The Washington Republic learns with much regret, that Mr. King will probably not be able to reach Washington in season to take his seat at the opening of the next session of Congress. The fatigues and hardships of the voyage, and the passage of the isthmus, in his present state, would probably induce a relapse that might be fatal.

WILMINGTON, N. C., Nov. 17, 1849. In compliance with a call made by the Magistrate of Police, a number of the citizens of Wilmington met this evening, at 7 o'clock, at Mason's Hall, and were organized by the appointment of Col. JAMES T. MILLER, Magistrate of Police, Chairman, and E. W. HALL, Secretary.

The Chairman in a few remarks stated the object of the meeting to be the selection of Delegates to represent the citizens of Wilmington in the North Carolina Fall Road Convention, to be held in the town of Greensboro, on the 23d inst.

On motion of Gen. ALEX. MCRAE, it was Resolved, That the Chairman of this meeting appoint a Committee of 20 Gentlemen to represent the citizens of Wilmington and vicinity, in the said Convention, and make known their names on Tuesday's Commencement. On motion of P. K. DICKINSON, it was Resolved, That this meeting request the Commissioners of the town of Wilmington to vote an appropriation of two hundred dollars for the expenses of the Committee, if that amount should be required.

On motion of Geo. Davis, Esq., the meeting adjourned. JAN T. MILLER, Mag. Pol., Chm'n. E. W. HALL, Secretary.

DELEGATES.—The following Gentlemen have been appointed by Col. MILLER, in accordance with the first resolution in the above proceedings: P. K. DICKINSON, GEORGE DAVIS, O. G. PARSLAY, ALEX. MCRAE, A. J. DEROSSET, JR., L. H. MARBLETT, E. B. DUDLEY, F. J. HILL, JAS. FULTON, THOS. H. WILLIAMS, THOS. H. WRIGHT, W. A. WRIGHT, MILBY ROBERTS, JAMES KERR, GEO. R. FRENCH, J. BALLARD, E. W. HALL, THOS. LORING, DUGLAS McMILLAN, E. KIDDER.

THE FIRST POLITICAL LIBEL SUIT.—We learn from the Pittsburg Morning Post, that LECKY HARPER, editor of its able and fearless editor, has been indicted for a libel, by the grand jury of Allegheny county, on the charge of pronouncing the report of Gen. TAYLOR's speech, delivered in that city last summer, a caricature. We know of nothing more reprehensible than the institution of this suit against the Editor of the Post.

But we anticipate no comment upon this proceeding. Mr. HARPER will, of course, produce the best evidence which the nature of the case affords, and that will be the testimony of Gen. TAYLOR, J. H. CLAY, MUDD, and such other dignitaries of the whig party as were present on the occasion. It being a criminal offence, Mr. HARPER should have the power to compel the General, to attend the trial in person. If not, the Democratic party will stand by him, and we hope, supply him with ample means to make a vigorous and effective defence. It is important to the public to have the question settled, whether or not those speeches published in the whig papers, as General TAYLOR'S, were genuine or mere forgeries.—It is an interesting issue, and we hope it will be fairly tried.

Free-soilism—Its Origin, &c. Mr. S. E. CHURCH, a prominent Free-soiler and Barnburner of New York, appears in the Tribune with what the Democratic organs term a review of the course of the Free-soilers in coalescing with the Democratic party of New York. He charges that the union is an unmanly desertion of the Free Democrats of other States, and involves a total surrender of Free-soil principles. He asserts that

The Free-soil party does not belong to New York—did not originate here;—nay, more, did not originate with the Democratic party in any State, but in W. H. Harts, and at the Philadelphia Whig National Convention."

The origin of the Buffalo Convention, the Convention which nominated Van Buren and Adams, is stated to be as follows: "On the evening of the day that Gen. Taylor was nominated, fifteen gentlemen from seven States met in a lecture-room of the same building where the Convention was held, and agreed to call a National Convention at Buffalo, the second Wednesday of August, without distinction of party, to nominate a candidate for the Presidency. A committee of three was chosen to devise a plan for calling the Convention. This meeting was composed of Whigs, with only one exception, who was a Liberty man. The Barnburners had no hand in calling the Convention at Buffalo."

In regard to the act by which the coalition was brought about, Mr. C. says: "The fact is simply this. The Hunkers held their State Convention at Syracuse, and after laying down the old Baltimore platform in the most offensive form—denouncing the abolition of slavery, and the rights of man—the anti-Union, anti-association, Abolitionism with Federalism in its aim to obliterate 'the ancient landmarks'—approving and confirming the course and conclusions of their late Convention at Rome"—reiterating that they did not regard the Slavery question in any form of its agitation, or any opinion in relation thereto, as a test of political faith or a rule of political action, and the coalition existing in this State. The great feature of our party was 'anti-Slavery; the great weapon, Agitation. The great feature on the other side, 'non-intervention,'—the bond of union, Silence."

NAVAL FORCE OF GREAT BRITAIN.—The naval force of the United Kingdom consists of 571 ships of war, either building in ordinary, or in commission (in the Mediterranean, the West Indies, Coast of America, Coast of Africa, East Indies, the Pacific, &c.), carrying from 1 to 120 guns each, of various calibre. Sixty-nine more are armed steam vessels, constructed from the most approved principles for active sea service, of from 100 to 800 horse power engines. This immense fleet, the largest of maritime power in the world, employs in time of peace from 35,000 to 40,000 able bodied seamen, 2000 strong lads, and 12,000 royal marines, divided into four divisions of 112 companies.

MILITARY SKILL.—The lamented Col. Duncan, of the United States Army, had drilled his men to such perfection in artillery, and to such celerity of aim, that on one occasion when his guns were under their sheds, the horses of the light battery in stable, and the harness hanging up, he accomplished the feat of harnessing up, moving his guns two hundred yards, forming in battery, and firing a round, in a space of a minute and a half from the time the first command was given.

Another feat in war's vast art is said to have been accomplished by the Cadets at West Point, while reviewing before the Board of Visitors. One half of the regular number of men threw a Pontoon bridge on the Hudson capable of supporting cavalry and artillery and two hundred and fifty feet in length, in thirty-two minutes.

THE MIGHTY MISSISSIPPI.—When Louisiana was purchased by Mr. Jefferson, the New England States opposed it, and actually voted against its admission as a State into the Union, and as far back as 1827, Mr. Clay charged Mr. Adams with wishing to give to the British the trade of the Mississippi.—We now see that time, energy, great resources, indefatigable enterprise, and capital will bring about in trading and commercial changes. There are, at present, on the Mississippi and its tributary streams, 30,000 steam, keel, and flat boatsmen, engaged in inland commerce, the imports and exports of which is said, amounts to \$550,000,000 annually, nearly twice the amount of the trade in all our foreign trade.—When we reflect, what a field is open for enterprise in the great West—the Pacific Rail road, the improvement of the rivers, the plentiful supply of provisions, the great staples all combine to make that portion of the Union the richest and most populous in time.

THE WAGON MAN.—A New York paper, after eulogizing a certain article in the fair, hoped that its proprietor might become "as rich as Lazarus!"