THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL.

WILMINGTON, N. C., FRIDAY, DEC. 19, 1851.

Our Business—To Contributors.

Newspaper publishers are no doubt patriots—*we* are, but we are forced to confess that with all our patriotism, we cannot afford to carry on business simply for the public good. We have a strong natural propensity for eating and drinking, and this propensity has been indulged in for so great a length of time that we fear it has grown up into an unconquerable habit. There are also certain absurd laws, both social and legislative, which render a return to first principles in the way of costume a moral, if not a physical impossibility. These laws forbid the human animal going at large attired simply in his own innocence and *nothing else*. It is also usual at night to place the body in a recumbent position upon a certain four footed structure called a bed, and this bad habit we have also contracted. In fact, we have got into the way of eating and drinking, wearing clothes, and sleeping of nights, and have become so much attached to these somewhat superstitious observances, that we really believe the dispensing with them would occasion us considerable inconvenience, and might even prove injurious to our health. For the supply of the wants thus created, we are dependant upon the receipt of certain monies, derived from various sources connected with the establishment at the corner of Front and Princess Streets, Wilmington, N. C. In plain terms, we are dependant upon our business for a living, and must be excused if we establish such rules of business as shall enable us to secure that object.

Of course, everybody knows that a business paper is as much, if not more, dependant upon its advertising patronage than it is upon its subscription list. This advertising patronage is simply the price paid by those who make their private business known through its columns, for the privilege of so doing. It is to be presumed, as a matter of course, that all topics of public interest will be noticed in the reading columns. Matters of merely private interest should be inserted as advertisements, and paid for as such.

We have heretofore been in the habit of publishing long obituary notices, and the proceedings of societies, incorporated companies, etc., gratis, and often to the exclusion of other matters of general interest. Frequently, very frequently indeed, those most beloved in their own circle are not known beyond it, and the long obituaries which friends indite as tributes to their memory possess no sort of interest to the public. So with societies. Their proceedings are chiefly interesting to the members, to whom they are already known; assuredly few others care to see them—while incorporated companies are certainly as able and have as good a right to pay for the publication of their business as private individuals. The smallness of our daily paper and the accumulation of these matters in the columns of our weekly, have forced us to adopt the rule which appears in our advertising terms. Obituaries, etc., partake to some extent of both a public and private character, and as such we have adopted a scale of half rates with regard to them. We hope that our friends will perceive the necessity, which, they may be assured, we have *felt*, and which has forced us to adopt the rule alluded to. Original poetry will be charged full rates.

Murder.

We learn that on Saturday of last week, while Johnson & Co.'s Circus were performing at or in the neighborhood of Taylor's Bridge, in Sampson county, a difficulty occurred between persons attached to the concern and some of the citizens, which resulted in the death of Mr. Milton Mathis of that county, from injuries received on the occasion. It is also stated that several other persons were severely wounded.

We have hitherto foreborne all allusion to the matter from the difficulty of obtaining any definite information in regard to the circumstances of the case, and because such allusion might interfere with any legal steps which might be taken with reference to it. Mr. Mathis, the deceased, we learn, was a worthy and respectable citizen, and a peaceable young man.

We are further informed that some 15 or 16 members of the Circus company were arrested here yesterday on bench warrants issued by His Honor Judge Battle. In the afternoon, His Honor admitted those charged with actual participation in the murder of Milton Mathis, in Sampson co., on Saturday last, to bail in the sum of five hundred dollars each. Mr. Johnson, the Manager, and the others, were bailed in the sum of $2,000, conditional for their appearance at the Court House on Friday, the 19th instant, (today,) at 12 o'clock. Mr. R. H. Grant became their security on both bonds. C. C. Battle, Esq., of Raleigh, appeared for the prisoners; D. K. McRae, Esq., and Mr. Solicitor Strange, for the State.

Our Resignation.

We hereby solemnly resign all our pretensions, together with any right or title which we have been supposed to possess, to the appellation of the "venerable." We have been reading Wheeler's History of North Carolina, and learn therefrom that our cotemporary of the Herald is 49 years of age, and Gulick, of the Goldsboro' Republican, 36. These gentlemen can jointly and severally take our hat, and be as venerable as they —— please. We back out.

☞The Whig meeting, for which the call appeared in our town cotemporaries, and which was to have been held last night in the Masonic Hall, did not come off, perhaps because it was so cold, or perhaps, added to the coldness of the weather there is at present a total absence of caloric in the political atmosphere. Our friends on the opposite party act upon our suggestion, to keep cool. They keep very cool. The fact is, the country has been over-excited and *must* have rest. Political questions may be argued calmly and reasonably through the columns of the press, but the time for "enthusiastic" meetings is not yet.

The Late Fire in Raleigh.

We copy the account of the recent disastrous fire in Raleigh from the Star. We commend the remarks in regard to proper provisions for the extinguishment of fires to the attention of our readers, as applicable to this place. We had a full opportunity of noticing our deficiency in this respect at the fire a few months ago on Front Street, near the Railroad. On that occasion, three tenements were destroyed, and the fire had begun to slack in its violence before a drop of water had been thrown from an engine. The machine which stands guardian to the Journal office was just crawling out as we got home, after all was over.

"The Weekly Post."

We have received the two first numbers of a new literary paper, under the above title, published at Raleigh, and edited by Calvin H. Wiley and William D. Cooke, Esqrs. It is very neatly printed in new and clear type, on a sheet of the size of the "Wilmington Journal" weekly. The "Post" is the only journal in the State of a distinctive literary character, and we hope, for the honor of our State, that it will be sustained. The literary reputation of Mr. Wiley is a guarantee for the ability with which it will be conducted. The price is two dollars in advance.

Kossuth Again.

In Congress and out of Congress, publicly and privately, the merits of Kossuth and his mission are the prominent topics of conversation; we may, therefore, hope to be excused for again alluding to him for the purpose of stating the precise nature of that mission, as explained by himself in a speech which he made at a great municipal banquet given to him in New York on the 11th instant.

He wishes that the people of the United States may be pleased to declare, by all constitutional means—"First, that, feeling interested in the maintenance of the laws of nations, acknowledging the sovereign right of every people to dispose of its own domestic concerns to be one of these laws, and the interference with this sovereign right to be a violation of these laws of nations, the people of the United States—resolved to respect and to make respected these public laws—declares the Russian past intervention in Hungary to be a violation of these laws, which, if reiterated, would be a new revolution, and would not be regarded indifferently by the people of the United States—that you, therefore, invite your Government to act accordingly, and so invite Great Britain to unite with the United States in this policy. Second, that the people of the United States is resolved to maintain its right of commercial intercourse with the nations of Europe, whether they be in a state of revolution against their Governments or not—and that with the view of approaching scenes on the Continent of Europe, the people invites the Government to take appropriate measures for the protection of the trade of the people on the Mediterranean, and third, that the people of the U. States pronounce its opinion in respect to the question of independence of Hungary."

This is what he hopes and wishes that the country may do in its public capacity. He begs that those persons throughout the Union who sympathise with this move may form committees, with the purpose to occasion appropriate meetings, and pass resolutions on the subject by way of pressing it upon Congress. His appeal to the people in their private capacity is for pecuniary aid for his country, whether by subscription, loan or otherwise. He says that he has received the following letter:

CINCINNATI, Ohio, Friday, Nov. 14, 1851.

M. LOUIS KOSSUTH, Governor of Hungary—SIR: I have authorized the office of the Ohio Life Insurance and Trust Company, in New York, to hand you drafts on me for one thousand dollars.

Respectfully, yours, W. SMEAD.

He says that he has taken the advice of friends whether it be lawful to express such requests as he does, because he feels it an honorable duty neither to transgress nor to evade the laws, and he has been told that it is lawful. It is plain that he wishes to proceed by no other than legal and constitutional means, and if at times it may seem that he asks more than we can grant, still it must be remembered that he is an exile, begging assistance for his country; and then, what would, under other circumstances, be a fault, in this becomes a positive virtue. Certainly there can be no fair comparison instituted between him and Lopez. It is true that he cannot obtain what he wants, save in the matter of subscriptions, of which perhaps some may be raised, but still there is no use in using insulting twaddle about him as Messrs. Berrien, Dawson, Underwood & Co., have done in the Senate, or introducing, as Mr. Smith, of Alabama, tried to do, the following resolution in the House:

Resolved, That the Secretary of State be required to furnish Louis Kossuth with copies of the acts of Congress, defining treason and misdemeanors against the United States.

Resolved further, That if the said Louis Kossuth, after reading the said laws, shall still persist in making such speeches as he has made since his arrival in New York, inciting the young men of the country to take up arms against a nation with which the United States is at peace, it shall be the solemn duty of the President of the United States to have him arrested and detained until satisfactory assurances be given that he will cease his efforts to enlist the co-operation and aid and armed interference of the people of these States in favor of Hungary.

We have heard and read more old-foggyism babbled out against the man than we would care to read or hear again in an age. Just now, the United States will not move in the matter, and perhaps it is her wisest policy, but certainly there is no necessity for insulting the supplicant, nor forgetting the time still in the memory of living men, when our own ambassador occupied the same position at the court of France.

In the Senate, on Friday, a resolution was passed welcoming Kossuth. The House will also dispose of the matter summarily, and, without committing the country to any aggressive propagandism, will at least show that in the bestowal of our national courtesy we are not forced to await the *permission* of Russia and Austria. The fact is, that the tame submission of our administration in the case of Thrasher, shows that the United States will be made to bear too tamely with monarchical outrage and dictation. The reign of such ideas however, is approaching a close, and the United States will cause herself not only to be known as a people, but respected as a power.

The Compromise Test.

We take the following article from the Baltimore Sun, generally an admirer of Senator Foote. It embodies precisely our views of the sincerity and efficiency of compromise tests in Congress, either openly or by caucus:

THE COMPROMISE RESOLUTIONS.—Politicians are the bane of our system of Government, but they must be endured until the operation of that system, perfected by the intelligence of the people, expels them. No sane man, acquainted with the history of this country during the past two years, could possibly have expected that the present session of Congress would open with a proposition to re-enact laws which have been commonly received and approved in all sections of the country. Existing laws, under whose wholesome operation the Union has proved its strength and durability, require no politico-Congressional endorsement. And the introduction of such propositions, merely with a view to Presidential operations, exhibits a recklessness of character which should forever exclude any man guilty of it, from the object of his aspirations. What sort of an excuse for his conduct could he possibly make to the people of this country, should such a proposition reopen the old theatre of strife, and again agitate the States upon a subject which is amicably adjusted! And what, we demand, is the amount of good that can possibly flow from a vote on the subject, even were it unanimous? We all know very well, that some would vote only at the dictate of policy; while others would disregard such a vote at the first convenient hour, or upon the earliest indications of political necessity. Congress would do better to proceed at once to the despatch of business, and leave the compromise measures to the constituted authorities and the people. If a resolution must pass, let it be done at once or abandoned. There seems to be a long debate anticipated on the subject; and if this should occur, there will be an immense accountability with those who provoke it.

☞James Watson Webb, of the New York Courier and Enquirer, who has been the consistent advocate of Austria and traducer of Kossuth, attempted to make a speech at the Kossuth banquet in New York, but was hissed down. It seems that Mr. Raymond, of the Times, had been selected to respond to a toast complimentary to the press, and that Mr. Webb's speech at the time was an intrusion. Both Raymond and Kossuth begged for a hearing for Mr. Webb, but although not hissed, he was coughed down on the second attempt.

"The Caucuses."

Under this heading the Fayetteville Observer of the 11th inst., takes the Journal to account, and accuses it of concocting ——— blunders. Of course the insinuation is evident, but under the circumstances it may go for what it is worth. The first blunder with which it charged us, is in saying that "not more than half of the members of the party were present" at the Democratic Caucus, which refused to take up the resolutions relating to the compromise at that time and place. It seems that we would have spoken more exactly had we used the phrase "but little more than half" instead of "not more than half." If the Observer can add a trifle to its weak cause by such a criticism as this, it is perfectly welcome. Small favors, we presume, are thankfully received by the destitute.

As for the Observer's argument about Southern men leaving the Democratic Caucus, we need only remark that the so-called "Union party" comprises among its members several gentlemen who claim to be, and perhaps, upon most subjects are, Democrats, and that some of these wished to impose the peculiar tests of their own organization upon the Democratic Caucus. Perhaps these gentlemen, finding that they could not quite rule the party, may have been put out a little. The Whig party being broken up, the fragments may perhaps be more compliant, although we doubt much whether their hasty eleventh hour assent to the compromise can avail them in their party aims. Actions speak louder than words, and nothing more is necessary to enable us to judge of the sincerity of the Whig Caucus, than a reference to the course of the party in the last Congress, nor can the honest portion of the "Union party," fail to see that the real security of the country in times of real danger, is in the Democratic organization and principles.

In regard to the Whig caucus, we take the statement of members of that caucus who were determined that it should be *honestly* reported. There is an old proverb setting forth the advantages which honest men receive when rogues fall out, which no doubt the Observer remembers.

If the Observer can show that the Fugitive Slave Law, instead of being an independent bill introduced by one of the Democratic Senators from Virginia, was a passenger in the Omnibus, we will acknowledge that we have made a blunder, but not otherwise. It may perhaps be as well for the Observer to observe its own ways, lest it stumble most egregiously while rooster-ising over our imaginary blunder.

That Programme.

Our neighbor of the Herald says that the friends of Martin Van Buren are making an effort for their own restoration to power, under the auspices of Wm. O. Butler, of Ky., for President, and Franklin Pierce, of New Hampshire, for Vice President, in which case it says the programme is, that Benton shall be Secretary of State, and Blair and Rives public printers, and that the Union Democrats of the North and South shall be ostracised. The Herald asks us how we fancy this programme. We like it right well—we have a fancy for a good joke, and this would be the best of the season were it not a little *too* ridiculous. In the first place, Wm. O. Butler and Franklin Pierce are not the men to be so used; and, in the second place, if they were, they would stand no sort of chance in the Democratic Convention, nor before the people; and as for ostracising the Union Democrats, North and South, it would leave nobody but the whigs and abolitionists. It is very probable that Benton and Van Buren will do all they can to disturb the party, and so secure a triumph for the whigs, but we hope and believe that they and their allies will be disappointed.

Congress.

On Friday last, Congress passed the following resolution by a vote of 33 to 6.

Be it resolved, &c., That Congress, in the name of the people of the United States, give to Louis Kossuth a cordial welcome to the capitol and the country, and that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to him by the President of the United States.

The following is the vote on its passage:

YEAS—Bradbury, Bright, Brodhead, Cass, Chase, Clarke, Davis, Dodge, of Wis., Douglass, Downs, Felch, Fish, Foote, Gwin, Hamlin, Hunter, James, Jones, King, Mallory, Miller, Norris, Rhett, Seward, Shields, Smith, Spruance, Stockton, Sumner, Wade, Walker and Whitcomb.—Total 33.

NAYS—Badger, Borland, Clemens, Dawson, Morton, Underwood.—Total 6.

The debate on this resolution was one of the most important which has occurred in the Senate for many years, perhaps the most, so far as our foreign policy is concerned. The doctrine is beginning to be felt and recognised that our duty under the laws of nations require our protest against and resistance to palpable violations of these laws.

The Senate has been occupied with FOOTE'S resolution, declaring the compromise a final adjustment of the slavery question. Considerable discussion occurred between Mr FOOTE, and the Senators from South Carolina. Mr. RHETT, declared himself in favor of disunion and secession under existing circumstances He had not concluded when the Senate adjourned.

Notice was given of bills granting lands for the constructions of Railroads in Western States. A bill for the establishment of a branch Mint in California, was passed to a third reading.

In the House, the joint resolution from the Senate tendering a welcome to KOSSUTH, was passed by a vote of 181 to 15.

On Tuesday, after some debate, the Senate adopted a resolution appointing a committee of three to wait on Kossuth and invite him to the Senate.

Mr. Rhett finished his speech upon Mr. Foote's resolution. The bill establishing a branch mint in California passed the Senate.

In the House, nothing of importance transpired.

☞We must confess that altogether too much space has been devoted in the public papers to the movements of Kossuth. We have been excessively moderate, but find that from the force of habit the pen naturally traces the characters of the name without consulting us upon the subject. The American people are certainly different from any other. Having no restraint upon the expression of their feelings, they appear more excitable than Europeans; yet, being virtually their own rulers, and feeling the direct responsibility of governmental action resting upon them, they are perhaps the most prudent and common sense people in the world when the time for action arrives. So we presume Kossuth will find.—If once in war, all Europe could not back them out, but not being in, they will be very apt to count the cost before involving themselves. Kossuth has to make many speeches that we cannot keep the run of them, and shall not attempt it. When anything is done we will note it, but not simply what is said.

☞The Louisville (Ky.) Democrat is out strong for Douglass, of Illinois, for President and Hunter of Virginia, for Vice President, of course subject to the decision of a National Democratic Convention. A strong ticket.

☞The Steamship Fanny has arrived at New Orleans, with advices from the Rio Grande to the 26th ult. Nothing of special importance had occurred. Caravajal still keeps the field, and a battle is expected. The idea of a Sierra Madre Republic or of annexation to the United States is repudiated by the insurgent leader. All they ask is redress of certain grievances.

Judge Grier's Charge.

From the long and able charge of Judge Grier in the Hanaway case, we make the following extracts. Speaking of the constitutionality of the Fugitive Slave Law, and the moral and political necessity for its enforcement, he says:

The learned counsel for the prisoner, having a due regard for the high character which they sustain in their profession, have not made the objection to this law which has been so clamorously urged by many presses and agitators, that it is unconstitutional.—It is true some ecclesiastical assemblies in the north, treating it, we presume, as a question of theology or orthodoxy, have ventured to anticipate the decision of the legal tribunals on this subject. But highly as we respect their opinions on all questions properly within their cognisance, we cannot receive their decisions as binding precedents on questions arising under the constitution.

The Constitution enacts that "no person held to service or labor in one State under the laws thereof escaping into another, shall, in consequence of any law or regulation therein, be discharged from such service or labor, but shall be delivered up on claim of the party to whom such service or labor may be due." This is the supreme law of the land, binding not only the respective States as such, but on the conscience and conduct of every individual citizen of the United States. It is well known that, without this clause, the assent of the Southern States could never have been obtained to this compact of Union. And if, contrary to good faith, it should be practically nullified—if individuals or State Legislatures in the North can succeed in thwarting and obstructing the execution of this article of our confederation and the rights guaranteed to the South thereby, they have no right to complain if the people of the South should treat the Constitution as virtually annulled by the consent of the North, and seek secession from any alliance with open and avowed covenant breakers.

Every compact must have mutuality; it must bind in all its parts and all its parties, or it binds none.—Those States in the North whose legislation has made it a penal offence for their judicial and executive officers to lend their assistance in the execution of this clause of the constitution, and compels them to disregard their solemn oath to support it, have proceeded as far, and perhaps, farther in the path of nullification and secession than any Southern State has yet done.

The Judge then reviews the Law of 1850 as compared with that of 1793, and affirms that the law of last year provides more safe-guard against abuse than that of 1793, but that the real ground of opposition to it is that in some cases it *can be executed*, and the constitutional rights of the master in some measure preserved.

The law and evidence in the case before the court is then examined, and the principles of construction applied to it as follows:

In the application of these principles of construction to the case before us, the jury will observe, that the "levying of war" against the United States is not necessarily to be judged of alone by the number or array of troops. But there must be a conspiracy to assist by force, and an actual resistance by force of arms or intimidation by numbers. This conspiracy and the insurrection connected with it must be, to effect something *of a public nature*, to overthrow the government, or to nullify some law of the United States and totally to hinder its execution, or comply its repeal.

A band of smugglers may be said to set the laws at defiance and to have conspired together for that purpose, and to resist, by armed force, the execution of the revenue laws; they may have battles with the officers of the revenue, in which numbers may be slain on both sides, and yet they will not be guilty of treason, because it is not an insurrection of a public nature, but merely for private lucre or advantage.

A whole neighborhood of debtors may conspire together to resist the Sheriff and his officers in executing process on their property—they may perpetrate their resistance by force of arms; may kill the officer and his assistants—and yet they will be liable only as felons, and not as traitors. Their insurrection is of a private, not of a public nature, their object is to hinder or remedy a private not a public grievance.

A number of fugitive slaves may infest a neighborhood and may be encouraged by the neighbors in combining to resist the capture of any of their number; they may resist with force and arms their master or the public officer, who may come to arrest them; they may murder and rob them; they are guilty of felony and liable to punishment, but not as traitors. Their insurrection is for a private object and connected with no public purpose.

It is true that constructively they may be said to resist the execution of the fugitive slave laws, but in no other sense than the smugglers resist the revenue laws, and the anti-renters the execution laws. Their insurrection, their violence, however great their numbers may be, so long as it is merely to attain some personal or private end of their own, cannot be called *levying war*. Alexander the Great may be classed with robbers by moralists, but still the political distinction will remain between war and robbery.—One is public and national, the other private and personal.

Without desiring to invade the prerogatives of the jury in judging the facts of this case, the court feel bound to say, that they do not think the transaction with which the prisoner is charged with being connected rises to the dignity of treason or a levying of war. Not because the numbers or force was insufficient. But, 1st, for want of any proof of previous conspiracy to make a *general and public resistance to any law* of the United States.

2ndly. There is no evidence that any person concerned in the transaction knew there were such Acts of Congress as those which they are charged with conspiring to resist by force and arms, or had any other intention than to protect one another from what they termed kidnappers. (By which slang term they probably included not only actual kidnappers but all masters and owners seeking to recapture their slaves, and the officers and agents assisting therein.)

The testimony of the prosecution shows that notice had been given that certain fugitives were pursued, the riot, insurrection, tumult, or whatever you may call it, was but a sudden "*conclamatio*" or running together, to prevent the capture of certain of their friends or companions, or to rescue them if arrested. Previous to this transaction so far as we are informed, no attempt had been made to arrest fugitives in the neighborhood under the new act of Congress by a public officer. Heretofore arrests had been made not by the owner in person or his agent properly authorised, or by an officer of the law.

Individuals without any authority, but incited by cupidity, and the hope of obtaining the reward offered for the return of a fugitive, had heretofore undertaken to seize them by force and violence, to invade the sanctity of private dwellings at night and insult the feelings and prejudices of the people. It is not to be wondered that a people subject to such inroads, should consider odious the perpetrators of such deeds and denominate them kidnappers—and that the subjects of this treatment should have been encouraged in resisting such aggressions, where the rightful claimant could not be distinguished from the odious kidnapper, or the fact be ascertained whether or not the person seized, deported or stolen in this manner, was a free man or a slave.

But the existence of such feelings is no evidence of a determination or conspiracy by the people to publicly resist any legislation of Congress, or levy war against the United States. That in consequence of such excitement, such an outrage should have been committed, is deeply to be deplored. That the persons engaged in it are guilty of aggravated riot and murder, cannot be denied. The assault and murder were wantonly committed, after all attempt to execute the process had been abandoned.

This insult upon the laws of the country deserves and I presume will receive, condign punishment on the persons who shall be proved to be the guilty participators in it. But riot and murder are offences against the State government. It would be a dangerous precedent for the court and jury in this case to extend the crime of treason by construction to doubtful cases.

Of course, a verdict of "not guilty" was rendered by the Jury after an absence of about ten minutes. As by the charge of the Judge, it has been decided that the offence at Christiana was one against the State of Pennsylvania and not treason against the United States, the prosecution of the treason indictments against the other prisoners was abandoned.—The trials will be transferred to the State Courts at Lancaster for riot and murder, and perhaps a negro or two may be strangled, while the white culprits go free.

☞We have received from the publishers, Peck & Bliss, Philadelphia, a history of Kossuth and the Hungarian struggle, with biographies of the leading statesmen, and leaders who figured in that affair.—It is a stout 12mo. volume of 288 pages, in paper cover and sold for 25 cents. We know nothing about its authority. We presume it is for sale at the bookstore.

☞The west and southwest are great and multitudinous in the way of poets. The Louisville (Ky.) Journal has, at least, 47½ regular female contributors, all of whom the gallant old Prentice swears are "lovely," "talented" and "sublime." We will bet lemonades that 47 of them have their right hand middle finger stained with ink, a most unlovely thing in woman.

For Commissioners of the Town—People's Ticket.

WM. C. HOWARD,
T. C. MILLER,
MILES COSTIN,
E. KIDDER,
C. H. DUDLEY,
H. R. NIXON,
S. D. WALLACE.

The above names will be acceptable to the citizens of Wilmington for Commissioners of the Town for the ensuing year.

Dec. 17th, 1851. MANY CITIZENS.

Town papers will please copy.

(Communicated.)

For Commissioners.

The following names would be acceptable to many voters for Commissioners of the town for the ensuing year:

ROB'T H. COWAN,	D. McMILLAN,
S. D. WALLACE,	JOHN McRAE,
WM. A. WRIGHT,	P. W. FANNING,
THOS. H. HOWEY,	CHARLES D. ELLIS.

In justice to these gentlemen, we would say that they have not been consulted in the matter, but we feel confident, if elected, they will serve, and make good Commissioners.

MANY CITIZENS.

Mr. Sumner's Speech.

The Speech of Mr. Sumner, yesterday, in the Senate of the United States, was the most comprehensive, chaste and eloquent yet delivered in the Kossuth debate. It should have decided the question immediately. But, unfortunately, the base misrepresentations of Austria have found an echo even here, in the land of freedom, and men are found to argue in newspapers, and even repeat on the floor of the Senate the atrocious calumny that Kossuth is the foe of liberty. We have heard of black being proved white; and this certainly is an attempt at it. Bishop Berkley, when he asserted that men did not live at all, but only seemed to; and that trees, rivers, houses, mountains, this round globe, the eternal stars themselves were but illusions, was not more absurd than the Courier and Senator Clemens, in their attempt to show that Austria was fighting for freedom when she oppressed the Hungarians. We see, with regret, the sophistical, narrow-minded, cowardly course of a portion of the Senate. To invite Kossuth here, and then slam the door in his face, may be good breeding in the eyes of Berrien, Underwood & Co.; but it is positive insult, in the estimation of plain men, who do not happen to be Senators. We are opposed to intervention as much as anybody, but it does not follow, because one is courteous to a guest, that we must take part in his law suits, or share in his personal quarrels. We wish Senators would let nonsense alone, and act honestly, bravely and decently.—*Phil Bulletin, 12th inst.*

Masonic.

The Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of this State adjourned on Friday evening, the 5th instant. We understand that a large amount of business was dispatched.

The following Officers were elected for the ensuing year, viz: Alonzo T. Jenkins, of Newbern, Grand Master; Luke Blackmer, of Salisbury, Grand Senior Warden; James E. Allen, Grand Junior Warden; William T. Bain, Raleigh, Grand Secretary; and C. W. D. Hutchins, of Raleigh, Grand Treasurer.

The M. W. Grand Master made the following appointments, viz: Cyrus P. Mendenhall, Dep. G. M.; Rev. J. M. C. Breaker, Chaplain; Jos. Green, Sen., Deacon; Edward R. Stanly, Jun Deacon; James T. Marriott, Steward; M. O. Outer, Marshal; R. W. Taylor, Sword-bearer; P. H. Winston, Pursuivant, and James S. Terrell, Tyler.—*Raleigh Standard.*

Earthquakes in Dalmatia.

The Dalmatian papers are filled with accounts of earthquakes along the Albanian & Dalmatian coasts. Several violent shocks have occurred recently. Further particulars have been received of the terrific earthquake at Vallona. It was preceded by violent detonations to which succeeded a series of intermittent shocks, which lasted in the aggregate about a quarter of an hour. The waters of the river Volussa, six miles from Vallona, rose two feet above the ordinary level, and many houses fell in the town itself. The town of Beratti, about thirty miles from Vallona, is a heap of ruins; its castle has also been destroyed. Some villages have literally disappeared, leaving scarcely a vestige of their former existence. The shocks, though weaker, continued to be felt up to the latest date, being the 26th October.

DAILY MAIL TO NORFOLK.—We regret to learn from the Norfolk papers, that the Postmaster General has declined to enter into a contract for a daily mail between that city and Baltimore. The boats, therefore, will, in a few days, commence running tri-weekly. This suspension of daily communication between the two cities, will be greatly felt by our business and traveling community; and we trust the Senators and Representatives from Maryland and Virginia will lose no time in bringing the matter before Congress. The sum required is insignificant, and the wants and necessities of a large number of the people of Maryland, Virginia and North Carolina, absolutely require that a daily mail should be kept up on this important route.

Baltimore Sun, 13th instant.

Mr. Clay's Health,

Continues so precarious that he is not expected to resume his seat in Congress. A correspondent of the New York Tribune writes as follows:

His mind is clear, vigorous, and active as ever, but his physical powers have been greatly impaired since I last before saw him. He is much thinner, looks older, and is less able to brave fatigue and exposure than he was even last March. He suffers continually from a dry hacking cough, which has clung to and grown upon him for the last eighteen months, and sometimes causes him much distress. I do greatly fear that this is the very last session of Congress wherein his eloquent voice will be heard and his potent influence felt in the councils of the nation

Mr. Clay's determination is fixed and unalterable that no persuasions nor entreaties shall induce him to be again a candidate for the Presidency. He feels that his earthly career is near its close, and that whatever he has had power to do for the country is nearly accomplished.

Great Meeting in New Orleans in behalf of Thrasher.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 11th.

A great meeting was held last night in behalf of Thrasher. Resolutions were passed asking the government to interfere at once, demand his instant release, and warn Spain against outrage in future. Many speeches were made by Whigs and Democrats. Great enthusiasm prevailed, and a war spirit strongly manifested.

DEATH OF GEN. BELKNAP.—The Fort Smith Herald of the 21st ult., announces the death of Brevet Brig. Gen. William G. Belknap, of the Fifth infantry. This event took place on the 10th ultimo, as the General was returning from the Brazos, between Preston, in Texas, and Fort Washita. Gen Belknap's family was at Fort Gibson, to which post he was proceeding on sick leave. He was between fifty and sixty years of age, and has been a faithful and gallant officer.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN PORTLAND, MAINE.—A destructive fire broke out in Portland, (Me.) on the morning of Sunday, which consumed twenty-seven stores and nine vessels. It occurred in the store of Messrs. Larabee and Johnson, Commercial wharf, and extended down the wharf. On the southwest of Commercial wharf every building was destroyed. The loss in grocieries alone exceeds $100,000. A large portion of this loss is covered by insurance.

Election of a Kentucky Senator.

LOUISVILLE, Dec 13.—The long struggle in the Legislature of Kentucky for a United States Senator, was brought to a close this morning, by the election of John B. Thompson, whig, on the first ballot.

NEW ORLEANS, December 9.

JUDGE SHARKEY GOING TO HAVANA.—Judge Sharkey arrived here to-day, *en route* to Havana, to enter on his duties as consul of that port.

From the North Carolina Star—Extra, 15th inst.

Dreadful Conflagration.

An important part of Raleigh is again laid in ashes. At about half past 12 o'clock last night, our citizens were aroused from their slumbers by the cry of fire, which was discovered in the shoe store of Mr. Depkins, on Fayetteville street, next below the building of Mrs. Stuart, occupied by Wm. White, Esq., as a residence and Post Office. The fire had caught in a sleeping apartment, having been accidentally communicated to the bed clothing, and when it awoke the hands, was so alarming as to drive them out of the room. Had the pump on the opposite side of the street been in good order, it could, however, have been arrested, as a few buckets of water would have extinguished it at once; but, unfortunately, this was not the case; and the building was soon wrapt in flame, which spread so rapidly as to defy all efforts to check it, until every house on the square south of it, except Mr. Hollomon's brick store and blacksmith shop, consumed. Mrs Stuart's dwelling and the post office, with the brick store and residence of Mr. Frentress, were also burnt down; and the progress of the fire was arrested by blowing up the store-house of Col. Roulhac, second door above the Post office.

The buildings destroyed on Fayetteville street are, the large brick building, property of Rich'd Smith, Esq., opposite the Apothecary store of Messrs. Williams, Haywood & Co., occupied by Mr. Creech's Dry Good Store; Mr. Harding's Ready Made Clothing Store; and the Telegraph and Mutual Insurance offices. The goods, furniture and effects of stores and offices were saved. The original cost of building the house was twelve or fourteen thousand dollars. Insured for $5,000.

The Saddle and Harness Establishment of Col. C. W. D. Hutchings. Goods and work all saved. Insurance on the building (wood) $600 Loss $600 to $800.

The confectionary store of Mr. Griffice—goods saved. The building (wood) the property of Mr. J. C. Powell, not insured—worth 6 or $700.

The shoe store of Mr Depkins Goods saved.—House (wood) property of Mrs. Stewart, worth 600 or $700.

Mrs. Stuart's dwelling, with post office—everything in the house and office saved. This wooden building was remarkable for having heretofore almost miraculously escaped several fires. Loss at least $2,500. No insurance.

Mr. Fentress' brick store and dwelling—insured for 3 or $4000. Loss 1,000 to $2000. Furniture and goods saved.

Col. Roulhac's store blown up—goods saved.

On Harget street, five small frame buildings occupied as grocery and liquor establishments, were consumed, as follows: Occupied by Mr. Crocker, property of Richard Smith; by Mr. Dudley, (occupant and owner:) Mr. Womble, (occupant and owner:) Mr. A Adams, (R. Smith owner:) M. L. Adams, (occupant and owner.) Contents all saved—no insurance—loss some five or six hundred dollars each, say, in all, $3,000.

On the back street, three brick tenements, the property of Richard Smith, and Mr. Gill—loss about $1,000.

Thus, in the space of two hours and a half, have at least $39,000 worth of property been destroyed by the devouring element. All for the want of water! for the want of water!

The fire might easily have been arrested at several points, if there had been water and a suitable engine!

Will this not be a sufficient lesson to induce our citizens to provide water and engines for future emergencies! It should be done, and no time should be lost in doing it.

Statistics of Hungary.

Hungary has a territory of 126,000 square miles, and population of 14,000,000. It is divided as follows:

1. Hungary proper, including civil Sclavonia, Croatia, and the Heyduke districts. 2. Transylvania. 3. The Military Frontier. All these countries are, legally, parts of the Kingdom of Hungary, and are subject to the King of Hungary, who, merely by chance happens to be Emperor of Austria. He is not necessarily so—any more than a King of England is necessarily King of Hanover. The following is a more accurate description of the whole Kingdom of Hungary.

Hungary proper comprehends:—

1. Eleven Comitats or Counties beyond or west of the Danube, containing 2,000,000 of people.

2. Thirteen counties on this side to east of the Danube, with nearly 3,000,000 of people.

3. Eleven counties on this side the river Theiss, and Tibiscus, with 2,000,000.

4. Twelve counties beyond the Theiss, including the Banat, with 2,500,000.

5. Sclavonia, with three counties, Syrmis, Verooz, and Posega, and 500,000 people.

6. Croatia and Separate Districts. Thus making Hungary Proper to consist of 10,000,000 of people, and 87,000 square miles.

II. Transylvania, including the Magyar, the Rechler, and Saxon Districts, 2,000,000 of people, and twenty-five counties, on May 30th, 1848, was incorporated with Hungary.

III. The Military Frontier, intended to guard against the Turks, includes six generalatz—of Carlstat, Ban, Varadin, Sclavonia, Banat, and Transylvania, which are divided into twenty regiments, and the same number of communities: with 2,500,000 of people, and 15,000 miles. Thus the whole kingdom of Hungary, *independent of Austria*, comprehends 126,000 square miles, and 14,000,000 of people.

Death of the Hon. Joel R. Poinsett.

It is with deep and sincere regret that we announce the death of this eminent citizen and retired statesman, in the 73d year of his age. A private letter, received in this city, states that he died at Stateburg, on the 12th inst. Mr. Poinsett was born in this city, on the 2d March, 1779. He received a liberal, although not a collegiate education, and in early life improved his mind by an extensive course of travel in Europe, Asia and South America. In maturer years, he bore an important and conspicuous part in the political affairs of both our State and nation. He represented Charleston, with great ability, both in the State Legislature and in Congress. At the close of his congressional career, he served as U. S. Minister to Mexico, and in that capacity, not only ably maintained the interests of the republic, but on a memorable occasion so boldly upheld our national flag, in the Mexican capital, that the art of painting has perpetuated the incident. He was the acknowledged leader of the Union party in the great nullification struggle in our State, and wielded his influence with wisdom, and in a conservative spirit. During Mr Van Buren's Presidency, he was called to preside over the war department, and so administered its affairs as to command general approbation; and, while Secratary of War, took a leading part in founding the National Institute, at Washington.—The residue of his useful life was passed in elegant retirement, during which, however, his pen continued to the last to yield its contributions to the literature and the politics of his country, showing the unabated vigor of his intellect, and his patriotic interest in the welfare of his country. Full of years, and full of honors, he has been gathered to his fathers; and his country will embalm his memory.—*Charleston Courier, 16th inst.*

Election for Major General.

	Winslow.	Morison.	McLean.
Cumberland—Upper Regiment	00	00	28
Lower do	18	4	2
Sampson	17	00	00
Bladen	16	00	1
Moore	4	25	00
Columbus	11	7	00
Robeson—Upper Regiment	3	00	00
Lower do			
Richmond—Lower Regiment	5	5	00
Upper do.	Not heard from		
Anson—No election			
Union	2	2	00
Total	76	43	31

We understand that there are only five Commissioned Officers in the Upper Regiment—so that Col. Winslow is undoubtedly elected Major General of this Division.—*Fayetteville Observer.*

Important Movement—Republic for the Sandwich Islands.

A California letter, in the New York Times, states distinctly, that the object of the large company of emigrants who recently left San Francisco for the Sandwich Islands, is to establish a Republican State there. To this end a constitution had been formed in San Francisco, prior to their departure, containing a clause providing for the introduction of slavery. The Times says its correspondent is a gentlemen of experience and judgment—an old Californian, mingling in and possessing the confidence of the communities of San Francisco, as well as Sacramento, and likely to be in the confidence of parties to the movement in question.