THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL.

WILMINGTON, N. C., MONDAY, MARCH 24, 1856.

☞ John H. Haughton, Esq., one of the delegates at large from this State to the Know-Nothing Convention, which met last month at Philadelphia, and nominated Millard Fillmore and A. J. &c., has been publishing an address "to the American party in North Carolina." We propose, at our leisure, to look at this address, and show up some of its points in the order in which they are presented. For the present we will content ourselves with considering one charge made against the Democrats in connection with Kansas. Mr. Haughton says:

"Here is the great difference between the platform of the American party, and the position of the Democratic: The American maintains the principle of citizen sovereignty—the Democratic *adds* to it that of squatter *sovereignty*—the American party insists that *only those* who are native born or naturalized *shall take* part in framing a State Government—the Democratic that the alien, the unnaturalized foreigner, shall have *equal* rights with citizens native born—the American party insists that none but *citizens permanently* residing in any territory, whether native born or alien, shall exercise there the elective franchise—the Democratic accords to the squatter the same rights in this respect as to the citizen."

This thing of admitting to the right of suffrage persons of foreign birth who have taken only the first step towards naturalization, seems to be the great engine of attack brought to bear against the Kansas bill and the Democratic party. Now, would it be believed that this very clause of the Kansas bill—this thing so much amathematized by Mr. Haughton—so directly denounced in the so-called platform of the order, as "the reckless and unwise policy of the present administration," as "shown in granting to unnaturalized foreigners the right to suffrage in Kansas and Nebraska,"—this very clause in the Kansas and Nebraska bills is copied word for word, letter for letter, comma for comma, from the Act of Congress establishing the Territory of Washington, "approved March 3d, 1853," by—*Millard Fillmore!* This identical clause, approved by Millard Fillmore, among the very last of his official acts, on the last day of his administration, stands in all three of the bills referred to, as follows:

"*Provided*, That the right of suffrage and of holding office shall be exercised only by citizens of the United States above the age of twenty-one years, and those above that age who shall have declared on oath their intention to become such and shall have taken an oath to support the constitution of the United States and the provisions of this act."

What Mr. Haughton was thinking about, we are unable to say, and it would certainly be as difficult to account for the action of the convention upon any known principles; why it should be reckless and unwise and un-American for Franklin Pierce to do precisely the same thing that Mr. Fillmore had signalized the close of his administration by doing, will be apt to puzzle plain men. Yet, Mr. Fillmore is immaculate, and Franklin Pierce is, in the opinion of Know-Nothing orators like Kenneth Rayner & Co., all that is improper and ungentlemanly. Does not the whole thing show for itself, and mark its own condemnation? It is as plain as that two and two make four.

☞ Again we have an arrival from Europe, and no news of the Pacific. One last, faint hope points to the Azores. A word from there, failing to report her arrival, and all suspense will be at an end, and the Pacific be classed with the President. In the darkness of night, in the midst of ice, and perhaps storm, she and her living freight went down to the depths of the ocean, and not even a ripple remains to mark the spot, which can only be revealed when the last trump shall sound and the sea shall give up its dead.

Death, after all, is a strange thing, and it matters little how or where it is met, whether amid "the wild winds and the remorseless seas," away far from sight of land, or within sight and hearing of the population of a crowded city. We can only imagine the crash, the heel over, then the eddying plunge of the Pacific or the President, while we have all the harrowing details of the burning of the ill-fated "New Jersey," with her crowds of passengers, almost touching her wharf, and yet borne out into the bosom of the icy river, there to meet a horrid death in the very midst of life, and within view of home. These things are horrible to think of, but their very suddenness makes half their horror, and we know that, if it increased the intensity of the painful feelings of dissolution, it abridged proportionately their duration. There was no dull decay—no longing, lingering look behind. For good or evil, the inevitable hour was past. More than this, who can tell. Ere the silver cord be loosed or the golden bowl be broken, many a bitter pang must be experienced by the firmest heart, nor can the last parting be rendered less regretful by witnessing the tears of those we love—the agony of those few—very few, who will remember us after we are gone. It is wisely ordered that the human frame can bear but a certain amount of pain before death or insensibility comes to its relief, and that the mind itself will give way when its agony is greater than it can bear. The pains of dissolution were probably no greater to any of these lost ones than each and every one of us *must* sooner or later experience, when our time comes, when the supreme moment shall have arrived, when to us earth shall be no more.

In April, 1849, a frost and snow visited our Atlantic coast, and cut off nearly all the fruit in Southern latitudes, but it also cut off the bug, or whatever it was that was killing the pines, so that, out of a temporary evil came a permanent good.

For years past, the tendency of things has been towards an increase of the area and the virulence of epidemic diseases. Ports escaping one year were pretty certain to be attacked the next, and [New Orleans, Savannah, and Norfolk and Portsmouth, have been turned into houses of mourning, while Charleston, Augusta, Mobile, Galveston, and other cities, have suffered to a greater or less extent, and the epidemic diseases of the low countries of the coast have penetrated farther into the interior than ever dreamed of before.

It may be that the terrible winter, which, we trust, is nearly past, has had its mission, like the snow of April, 1849. Really severe and continuous frosts may have been actually necessary for the purification of the atmosphere, and the destruction of the seeds of disease, whether existing in the air or other elements. We used to hear an old proverb, connecting an open winter with a fat church-yard in summer—we forget the words, but that is something of the idea, and we incline to the belief that a series of very mild winters, at the South, must be followed by an increased development of that class of epidemic diseases to which is generally assigned a tropical origin—as yellow fever.

It is quite possible that in the course of the three brief paragraphs above written, we may have outraged all the canons established by the medical profession; or, possibly, we may have agreed with them. How this is we cannot pretend to say. We trust that we agree with the profession, whose authority all but fools must treat with respect. However, we venture to believe that from whatever cause, there will be found this Fall a comparative exemption from such visitations, and a higher standard of average health throughout the sea and river port towns of the Southern States.

☞ We would like to say something about Spring, but we are afraid of being made a victim of "misplaced confidence." Spring must come sometime, and "if it's comin' why don't it come along," we're waiting for it. The wee little buds are peeping out in a dubious and uncertain kind of way, tired of staying so long hidden up and buried, and still apprehensive of being cut off in their juvenile innocence as soon as they show their little soft noses. The trees are modest and retiring. They still keep to their winter fashions, but will, no doubt, come out strong and make up for lost time. The Church people—at least the Episcopalians and Catholics—have got over with Lent, and the shad are off duty early in the season. Upon the whole, everything is behind-hand, except Lent and the shad. It is Springtime, but not Spring. Perhaps, when we feel some assurance of Spring really having come, we may spread ourselves in a most magnificent manner in its praise. Just now we feel called upon to stop short. We learn from the advertisements in the newspapers that "Spring Goods for 1856 have come," so there is some prospect of Spring itself, for Spring must shortly be on hand out of deference to the Spring Goods, which, of course, the ladies must wear. The Spring Goods are come, but where the deuce is the money coming from to buy them with? That's a poser.

☞ In looking over the published proceedings of a Democratic County Meeting, held at Wadesboro,' in Anson county, on the 12th inst., we notice the fact that Dr. Wm. Terry, an old line Whig, made a pertinent and forcible speech. In days gone by, we know that Dr. Terry was a strong Whig, as stated. He exposed in just terms the position and conduct of Southern Know-Nothings, and their Northern allies, in Congress, and paid a high compliment to the firmness and devotion to principle of the Democratic representatives, and closed his remarks by acknowledging the well known fact that the Whig party was dead, and that for the time to come he was determined to be found battling in the Democratic ranks, and for that party which has alone proved itself able to withstand the blighting effects of storms already met, and of political tornadoes, which we as a nation are yet destined to encounter.

☞ The N. C. Railroad Bridge over Coates' Creek, near Hillsboro,' was destroyed by fire on Wednesday, the 12th inst., soon after the passage of the down train. The bridge over the Eno, also near Hillsboro,' but upon the opposite side of town, was discovered to be on fire when the train passed over it, between two and three o'clock on Sunday morning. There is no doubt but an incendiary has been at work.

"THE SOUTHERN SENTINEL."—A neat, well-printed, and well gotten up weekly paper, called "The Southern Sentinel," has been started at Wilson, the seat of justice for the new county of the same name. It is edited by J. F. Kenan, Esq.' Its politics are Democratic, and, judging by the numbers before us, we can safely congratulate the Democratic press of the State on the accession to its ranks of an able and efficient co-worker in the cause.

We owe Mr. Kenan an apology for having been wanting in the usual courtesy of a notice until after the issue of his third number, but, really, he must blame the popularity of his paper, which, no doubt, induced some of our friends to carry it off from our sanctum before we had time or opportunity to pay our respects to it. We trust a great many will take papers for themselves. $2 a year, *in advance*.

☞ Commodore David Connor, of the U. S. Navy, died in Philadelphia on last Thursday morning. He entered the service 46 years and 11 months before his death, and was distinguished for the noblest qualities, both as an officer and as a citizen.

☞ The South Carolina papers are full of reports of the proceedings of Kansas meetings. The last *South Carolinian*, (Columbia,) has reports of two such—one in Richlands and the other in Laurens District.

☞ The bell at the Depot will ring half an hour before the starting of each passenger train therefrom.

Albert Pike on the Platform and the Candidates.

Here is, not the language of the North, not the language of a Whig who has turned Democrat, or a Democrat who has turned Know-Nothing and got sick of it, but the language of an old Whig—a constant Whig, until he joined the order—an early and a devoted member of that order—a delegate from an extreme Southern State—Albert Pike, of Arkansas. And this is what he says of the so-called platform and the candidates placed thereon:

From the Washington Union.

To the American Party South.

It is necessary for the rank and file of the American party South to consult together in regard to the PLATFORM adopted by the national council at its called session, and the candidates placed *upon it* by the national convention.

The 12th article of the platform of June, 1855, announced these four propositions as the deliberate sense of the American party:

1st. That the existing laws on the subject of slavery ought to be abided by and maintained, as a final settlement of the whole matter, in spirit and substance, and that there ought to be no further legislation by Congress on the subject.

2d, That, whether it possesses the *power* or not, Congress *ought* not to legislate on the subject of slavery in the Territories.

3d. That it would be a violation of the compact between the United States and Maryland, and contrary to good faith, to abolish slavery in the District of Columbia.

4th. That when a new State presents herself for admission into the Union she has a *right* to come in if her constitution is republican, and she has the requisite population, whether that constitution recognizes or prohibits slavery.

It was a very general feeling at the South that we yielded something too much in "pretermitting" an expression of opinion as to the *power* of Congress to legislate in regard to slavery in the territories. In most of the southern States the State councils made platforms stronger on this point than the national one. None made them weaker.

But in framing that platform we were not making one for the South alone, but one that Northern conservative men could safely stand on; and it was right that we should not ask them to declare one opinion as to the power of Congress, while they entertained another diametrically opposite; if they would agree that Congress OUGHT NOT to exercise the power even if it has it.

The June platform does not declare that Congress ought to do ANY affirmative act about slavery, *but only that it ought to do nothing*.

No southern American, after having once planted his feet upon that platform, can step off of it to another without deserved risk of political ruin and annihilation.

No southern man ought to abandon, nor can safely abandon, any of the four propositions. If he does, the South ought to and will abandon him.

The national council, meeting on the call of States which had repudiated the June platform, was assembled in February for *the purpose* of repealing the 12th article. The Northern men took control of it at the beginning, upon the wrong basis of representation, and kept that control.

The 12th article, with all the rest of the platform, was struck out, and a new one substituted.

That new platform declares that the people of a territory have a right to frame their own constitution and laws [when?] and regulate their own social and domestic affairs; but the word *slavery* is carefully avoided; and it concedes them, not the *right*, but the PRIVILEGE, of admission into the Union when they have the requisite population.

It certainly gives up *the three first* propositions of the 12th article, and it *waters* the 4th so that it amounts to little or nothing.

The 1st proposition was the chief one of the 12th article. The South imperatively demands that the agitation of the subject of slavery in Congress shall cease, and especially that it no longer shall legislate on that subject in the Territories.

The South demands, and has a *right* to demand, to every platform, democratic, whig or American, *specific* language on the subject of slavery. It does not want to be told that laws *constitutionally* enacted are to be obeyed until repealed or decided null by judicial authority. It does not want to be told that a new State shall have the *privilege* of admission. It is tired of ambiguities, and sick of generalities; and as the matter now stands, when a man reclaims his slave at the risk of his life, and at ten times the expense of the slave—when clergymen preach sedition, and States pass personal-liberty acts—ambiguities and generalities are a mere transparent cheat and fraud on the South.

And such a fraud is *any* platform that studiously omits the word *slavery*, and uses roundabout phrases, circumlocutions, to *avoid* expressing plain ideas.

If the *new* platform is the same in *substance* as the old, why the change? If it is not, the South has no use for it.

The new platform leaves the northern men who stand upon it perfectly free to agitate against the fugitive slave law, for the abolition of slavery in the District, for suppressing the trade in slaves between different States, and for the restoration of the Missouri Compromise; and it *specially* donounces the repeal of that compromise by denouncing the President for abetting it.

I do not envy the Southern man who undertakes to defend the new platform after once standing on the old one.

I was a member of the Nationnl Council both in June and in February. In June I desired at first to *exclude* the question of slavery from the platform, denouncing, and not unless I *could* denounce, in doing so, the men of the party in Massachusetts, and elsewhere in the North, who had declared anti-slavery to be part of the National American creed, as having done so without authority, and so perverted and prostituted the organization to improper purposes.

Met by a unanimous resolve on the part of the Northern members to have a declaration that the Missouri Compromise ought to be restored, I aided in establishing the 12th article. Once upon it, and deeming it eminently right in principle, it became impossible for *me* to abandon it, or consent to its modification. When it was struck out, I withdrew from the Council, and destroyed my credentials as a delegate to the nominating Convention, in which I refused to take my seat.

The American party South *cannot* stand on the new platform. It *must necessarily* repudiate it. On it it would not carry a single county anywhere.

It is said that the men nominated are platform enough. That *might* be so, if we had *no* platform; if they were *on* no platform; if we had never *had* a platform.

It is said that the new platform is *substantially* the same as the old one. Then how came it to be offered by a free soiler from Illinois, who declared, after it was adopted, that he would vote for the admission of no State permitting slavery? If this suits *him*, it cannot suit *me*.

It is *not* substantially the same. It was *framed* in Washington, to get rid of the 12th article. It was *offered* and *adopted* for that purpose in Philadelphia; and we may as well look it frankly in the face. It *yields up* all that we fought for and gained the June before.

And now as to the candidates. That I may not be misunderstood, let me say that I was *always* a Whig until I joined the American party. I was a supporter of Mr. Fillmore's administration. I was indignant when he was thrown aside for General Scott. What I thought of him then I think now.

But when we formed the American party, we assured our Democratic friends who joined us that it was *not* meant to be the Whig party in disguise.—They joined us in that belief. On my motion my State council declared that the nominee for President ought to be a Northern man whose antecedents had been Democratic. I was playing fairly.

The old Whig organizations are reviving all over the country. The old Whig committees and clubs are alive and astir again. Our Democratic brethren will say that we have deceived them; and that it *is* the old Whig party in disguise. I think that it was not fit and proper to nominate a man who had been so deeply identified with the Whig party—a Whig and nothing else. I do not say it was bad faith to do it. I do not even insinuate; I do say that, if I had aided in such nomination, I should have felt that my Democratic brothers had some right to complain of *me*.

They do feel all over the South that they have been *trapped; and, my word for it, they will not stay in the trap*. The new platform warrants them in leaving the party, and the *Whig* nomination will *urge* them to do it; and they will go back to their old faith if the matter is left as it is.

Southern *Democratic* Americans can neither stand on the platform nor support the candidate.

No Southern American can successfully defend the platform.

For the Journal.

To the Voters of the County.

At a public meeting, held in Wilmington last week, it was resolved to call "a convention at Long Creek Bridge, on the 29th of may next, to nominate candidates for the Senate and House of Commons of North Carolina."

Having represented you in the last General Assembly, it might be presumed that I would allow my name to go before the next convention for re-nomination, were I not to inform you of my determination to the contrary. Justice and courtesy to you require me to make this known thus early, that you may canvass the qualifications and claims of some one to fill my place. Medical gentlemen of experience admonish me that another winter's labor and exposure in Raleigh would, in all probability, overcome a constitution already sensibly impaired. Self-preservation—man's first and paramount duty to himself and family—compels me, then, to forego the pleasure I have always felt in representing the people of New Hanover County. Allow me, therefore, in surrendering to you the trust I have held at your hands for six years, to assure you that I do it with reluctance, but with a two-fold gratification, a consciousness of having used my best efforts to advance and protect the interest and welfare of a constituency altogether worthy of all I done or tried to do.

Respectfully, T. H. WILLIAMS.

Long Creek, March 18th, 1856.

Congressional.

WASHINGTON, March 18.—A very elaborate discussion has taken place in the Senate on the action of the Naval Board.

In the House, Kansas affairs were discussed until the hour of adjournment.

WASHINGTON, March 19.—The Senate passed today the Military Academy Bill, and debated the Deficiency Bill. The House of Representatives, by a vote of 101 to 92, adopted a resolution in lieu of the majority and minority reports, to the effect that the Speaker should appoint a committee of three to take testimony in relation to the Kansas contested elections, appropriating $10,000 for the purpose, and requesting the President to afford military protection if necessary.

Congressional.

WASHINGTON, March 20.—The Senate chamber today was suffocatingly crowded with ladies, ousting the reporters from their seats, and thus rendering note-taking impossible. Mr. Trumbull, of Illinois, spoke, and will be replied to by Mr. Douglas.

In the House, the Committee on Ways and Means reported the navy appropriations.

The Committee on Naval Affairs reported back a Senate bill for the construction of ten sloops-of-war, with an amendment, providing that the Secretary of the Navy may cause two of them to be built with side wheels, and equipped with a view of procuring the greatest speed attainable, and to be otherwise efficient as war vessels.

Mr. Brenton made a speech against the extension of slavery, after which the House adjourned until Monday.

Later from Kansas.

ST. LOUIS, March 18.—A letter received in this city from Topeka, dated the 8th inst., states that the Kansas Legislature have elected Reeder and Lane United States Senators.

Important Decision in Court of Claims.

WASHINGTON, March 18.—The Court of Claims have decided the case of the privateer Gen. Armstrong in favor of the claimants.

NEW ORLEANS, 20.—The arrival here of the Black Warrior gives us Havana dates to the 16th inst. The U. S. vessels Potomac and Cyane, and several English men of war were in port.

ARRIVAL OF THE PERSIA.

Seven Days Later from Europe.

NEW YORK, March 20.—The Cunard steamer Persia, arrived off Sandy Hook at an early hour this morning, with Liverpool dates to the 8th instant.

The Persia brings no tidings of the Pacific.

The Quaker City left Liverpool on the 6th inst. for New York, and took out the reported signing of the preliminaries of peace, but it appears that it was merely the appending of the signatures to the preliminary formalities. She also took out Napoleon's speech, saying that he hoped for peace, but the country must be ready for either peace or war.

The Persia brings nothing additional to the above, except a general rumor that the negotiations proceed steadily.

The fifth meeting of the conference was held on Thursday, 6th inst. The proceedings were kept secret, as usual.

LONDON, Friday evening.—Funds were heavy today, owing to a continued pressure for money. Advances on government securities were in active demand throughout the day at 6 per cent.; the settlement day and transactions in scrip of the new loan having increased the wants of dealers. Continental advices denote favorable appearances of exchanges at all points.

LONDON, Saturday morning.—The Paris Moniteur of yesterday contains an imperial decree calling out for active service 140,000 young soldiers of the class of 1855.

BERLIN, Sunday.—Two couriers passed through this city en route for Paris, bearing fresh instructions to the Russian peace plenipotentiaries.

HAMBURG, March 6.—Admiral Watson has sailed from Kiel. He has ordered the fleet to assemble off Moar island to announce a renewal of the blockade of the Russian Baltic ports.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.—From the Crimea we learn that delegates of the two belligerent armies met on the 29th of February to concert measures for carrying out the armistice.

Orders have been received at Marseilles for conveying 10,000 infantry and a battalion of artillery to the Crimea, to replace troops returned to France.

The Russians are sending troops in considerable numbers to Finland, concentrating a large force round St. Petersburg, and strengthening the batteries near Constradt.

The ship James Baines had arrived at Liverpool from Melbourne, with upwards of 90,000 ounces of gold.

Insurance has been effected on the Pacific in Liverpool at 80 per cent.

Covent Garden Theatre was burnt on the morning of the 5th instant, at an early hour, just at the close of a ball-masque under the management of Prof. Anderson, the magician. Nearly all the party had left, and but few persons were slightly injured. The destruction of the building and property was complete.

[SECOND DESPATCH.]

The conference now in session in Paris is reported as progressing favorably towards peace, although the strictest secresy is observed in all its movements. It is understood in some quarters that all the preliminaries to a peace have been already agreed upon, while other accounts assert that the plenipotentiaries have simply signed the preliminary convention formalities.

The Independence Belge and Emancipation, two leading newspapers, pretend to give the discussions in the conference, but they are regarded in well-informed circles as totally destitute of foundation.

The speech of the Emperor Napoleon to the National Assembly had been received most cordially.—He alluded to the alliance with Great Britain, and said that while he indulged a hope that peace was near at hand, it was nevertheless necessary to be prepared for either peace or war.

The latest accounts from the Crimea state that hostilities there had entirely ceased. Two Russian ships-of-war and three gun boats had appeared in the Baltic.

The Turkish government had issued a hundred piasters of new paper money.

There was a rumor that Persia was actively engaged in fitting out vessels, supposed to be for the purpose of attacking the English fleet now operating against the coasts of that country.

Lord Palmerston had stated in the British Parliament that the Austrian propositions had been signed and accepted by the conference, as preliminary to peace.

Some new difficulties have arisen between England and Persia, the precise nature of which is unknown. The latter, however, has requested the Bombay government to send some war vessels to the Persian gulf for the purpose of protecting British interests.

Nothing had been said in the British Parliament during the week concerning American affairs.

The most painful apprehensions were felt in Europe regarding the safety of the steamship Pacific.

The loss sustained by the burning of Convent Garden Theatre is estimated at one million of dollars.—It was owned in shares. No insurance.

Age and Respectability.

The News, a Know-Nothing cotemporary of Mobile, says somewhat sarcastically:

"SOMETHING NEW!—The late Democratic State Convention in Virginia adopted, as its 'platform,' the venerable resolutions of 1798 and '99. It should also have added the Declaration of Independence.'

It does not clearly appear whether our neighbor intends to sneer at the Virginia resolutions of '98-'99 or not. We cannot think he would include the Declaration of Independence in his sneer. But the News is quite right—the resolutions of '98 and '99 and the Declaration of Independence might very appropriately be included in the Democratic platform, and had the News only added the Constitution of the United States, the platform would have been complete. State Rights, the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, all go to make up the great creed of Democracy. There is not an item of our platform, but what accords with the Constitution, tends to maintain the Declaration of Independence in all its wide meaning, and is closely woven in with the dignity, the rights and the sovereignty of the several States. Every thing patriotic, every thing American, every thing on which the hopes of future freedom are built, every thing that speaks words of good cheer to those whom tyrants hold in chains, may be found in the platform of Democracy. Should the nation be swept from the face of the earth—our history perish—the words of our Constitution be lost, and nothing be reserved from the wreck but the Democratic platform—from that alone the wise men of a future age would be able to reproduce our Constitution, and to portray the character of a noble, an independent, a tolerant and a Democratic nation.—As from a column here, and there an arch, here a pedestal, and there a crumbling wall, here the head of a broken statue and there a fragment of an inscription, the thoughtful traveller may draw the picture of the ruined temple—may learn the character and genius of the people who built it—so might the whole spirit, scope and history of our people and our government be inferred two thousand years hence from our Democratic platform, if that was all that should then be known of us. It is the very essence of the Declaration of Independence—it is the echo of the Constitution—it is the image which the mirror of truth gives back when Liberty stands before it. It is Americanism, and "Americans will rule America" as long as they are actuated by its spirit. It is the standard by which to measure all other party platforms; in proportion as they vary from it, to that extent are they wrong.

But we are surprised that the News should sneer at the Democratic platform because it is old like the Declaration of Independence. It is nevertheless true that Democracy and the declaration are about cotemporaneous and that the Constitution was the fruit of both. The Democratic party is no spinster that must take offence when told her age. She heard the guns of Yorktown in her infancy and is proud of her age, trusting that she may live some hundreds of years, yet, ever growing more vigorous and sagacious as she grows older. She mourns sometimes for her dead sons, her Washington, her Madison, her Jefferson, her Jackson and her Calhoun, but dries her tears when she remembers that she has still left sons, numerous, strong and wise enough to maintain the constitution and support the honor and dignity of the nation in spite of Black Republicans in the North and Know-Nothings anywhere.

Would our Mobile friend, in his intense desire for "something new," have the sober, sensible, conservative Democrats of Virginia, making new platforms once or twice a year like the Know-Nothings?—Would he have us imitate the lanternites and adopt platforms with nothing to recommend them but their novelty? If so, he quite mistakes the spirit of Democracy, which always holds old truths as a higher value than new absurdities.—*N. O. Courier.*

Steam Tug Burnt.

NEW YORK, March 21.—The steam tug Leviathian was burned yesterday near Sandy Hook. Loss $70,000—no insurance.

Speech of the Emperor of the French.

The session of the Senate for the year 1856 was opened on Monday, by the Emperor in person.

His imperial Majesty delivered the following speech:

"Peers and Senators—On the last occasion of my assembling you, serious anxieties prevailed. The allied armies were engaged in a siege, where the obstinacy of the defence raised a doubt of success. Europe, uncertain, seemed to be awaiting the end of the struggle before pronouncing itself. To maintain the war, I asked of you a loan, which you voted unanimously, though the amount might have appeared excessive.

"The rise in the price of provisions threatened the laboring classes with general inconvenience, and a disturbance of our monetary system caused a fear that business and labor would slacken. Thanks to your aid and to the energy displayed both in France and England, and above all to the assistance of Providence, these dangers, if they have not entirely disappeared, have been for the most part averted. A grand feat at arms at last decided in favor of the allies a struggle unexampled in history for its inveteracy. From that moment the opinion of Europe was more openly expressed. Our alliance were everywhere extended and strengthened.

"The third loan was completed without difficulty. The country gave me a fresh proof of its confidence by subscribing for a sum five times larger than that I asked for. It has supported with admirable resignation the sufferings inseparable from the dearnesss of provisions—sufferings alleviated by private charity, by the zeal of the municipalities, and by the 10,000,000 distributed to the departments. The arrival of foreign grain has now produced a considerable fall; the anxiety caused by the disappearance of gold has diminished, and never has labor been more abundant or wages higher.

"The hazards of war have revived the military spirit of the nation. Never have there been so many volunteer enlistments, nor so much ardor amongst the conscripts designated by lot. To this brief expose of the present situation must be added the facts of great political significance.

The Queen of Great Britain, desiring to give a proof of her confidence, and of her esteem for our country, and to make our relations more intimate, has come over into France. The enthusiastic welcome she received has proved to her how profound were the sentiments her presence inspired, and was of a nature to strengthen the alliance of the two peoples.

"The King of Piedmont, who, without looking behind him, embraced our cause with that courageous spirit which he had before exhibited on the field of battle, has also come to France to consecrate a union already cemented by the bravery of his soldiers

"These sovereigns have beheld a country, lately so agitated and disinherited of its rank in the councils of Europe, now prosperous, peaceable and respected—making war, not with the momentary delirium of passion, but with the calmness of justice and the energy of duty. They have seen that France that was sending 200,000 men across the seas, convoking to Paris at the same time all the arts of peace, as if she meant to say to Europe—"The existing war is to me only an episode. My ideas and my powers are always directed towards the arts of peace Let us neglect nothing for a good understanding, and drive me not to throw into the field of battle, all the resources and all the energy of a great nation.

"The appeal seems to have been understood, and the winter, by suspending hostilities, favored the intervention of diplomacy. Austria resolved on a defensive step, which introduced into the deliberations the entire influence of the sovereign of a vast empire. Sweden linked herself more closely to England and France by a treaty that guaranteed the integrity of her territory. Lastly, the advices or entreaties of all the cabinets reaching St. Petersburg, the Emperor of Russia, the inheritor of a situation he had not created, seemed to be inspired with a sincere desire to put an end to the causes that led to this sanguinary conflict. He determined to accept the propositions transmitted by Austria. The honor of his arms satisfied, it was to his own honor to give way to the clearly expressed wish of Europe.

"The plenipotentiaries of the allied and beligerent powers are now assembled in Paris to decide on the conditions of peace. The spirit of moderation and equity that animates them all, necessarily creates the hope of a favorable result. Nevertheless, let us wait with dignity the end of the Conference, and be equally ready, if necessary, to draw the sword anew, or to extend the hand to those whom we have fairly fought.

"Whatever may happen, let us occupy ourselves with the means calculated to augment the strength and the riches of France. Let us, if possible, draw closer the alliance formed by a community of glory and sacrifices, and of which peace will far better exhibit the reciprocal advantages.

"Finally, in this solemn moment for the destinies of the world, let us put our trust in God, to the end that He may guide our efforts in the direction most conducive to the interests of humanity and civilization."

The Emperor was most enthusiastically received in his passage to and from the Salle des Marechaux.

New Hampshire Election.

We have now returns from the whole State with the exception of four small towns, which gave last year Baker, 133; Metcalf, 70; scattering, 15.—This would make the vote stand:

Wells	32,070
Metcalf	32,120
Goodwin and scattering	2,480

The whole vote (says the New Hampshire Patriot) will exceed 66,000, or 2,000 more than that of last year when the largest vote ever cast was thrown.

The Senate will stand 4 democrats to 8 abolitionists and Know Nothings. In regard to the complexion of the lower House the Patriot says:

"Whole number of representatives elected, 314 democrats, 150; all others, 164. This gives an apparent majority of 14 against the democrats; but among those reckoned against us are a number who cannot be relied on for Metcalf."—*Union.*

Nominations Repudiated.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, March 21.—The American State Council last night, after a stormy session, adopted the majority report of the committee appointed on the subject, repudiating the nominations of Fillmore and Donelson, and endorsing the course of the seceders from the Philadelphia Convention.

HENRY CLAY ON CATHOLICISM.—The following letter from Kentucky's—America's—eloquent son, was addressed to Gardner Jones, President of the University of Notre Dame du Lac, near South Bend, Indiana:

WASHINGTON, March 23, 1850.

DEAR SIR—I have received and attentively perused the letter which, at the instance of the President and Faculty of the University of Notre Dame du Lac, you addressed to me the 14th inst. In that letter they have done me the honor to express their approbation of a speech of mine in the Senate of the United States, the object of which was to heal all differences, and amicably to adjust all controversies, arising out of the existence of slavery in the United States. Such testimony proceeding from a highly respectable body of gentlemen, retired from the world, and regarding justly the interests which belong to another and future state of existence as paramount to all others, affords me an inexpressible degree of satisfaction.

Nor is this at all diminished by the fact, that we happen to profess different religious creeds. For I have never believed that that of "the Catholics was anti-American and hostile to civil liberty." On the contrary, I have with great pleasure, and with sincere conviction, on several public occasions, borne testimony to my perfect persuasion that Catholics were as much devoted to civil liberty, and as much animated by patriotism, as those who belong to the Protestant creed.

I am not surprised that, in the seclusion of those whom you represent, great solicitude should be felt for the safety and preservation of that Union which is our surest guaranty of peace, order, liberty, and public happiness. I hope and believe that dangers which appeared to threaten it have diminished; but there is still great occasion for the exercise of a spirit of concord, mutual concession, and harmony.

I request you to present to the President and Faculty assurances of my respectful acknowledgements, and accept yourself those of your respectful and obedient servant, H. CLAY.

Triumph of the Republicans in the Kansas Matter.

WASHINGTON, March 19.—The Republicans claim an important triumph in the passage of Mr. Dunn's resolution to-day authorizing the Speaker to appoint a committee of three members to proceed to Kansas and investigate the affairs of the Territory generally—present and past. The Republicans say the adoption of the resolution is equal to their success in the election of Speaker. They are accordingly jubilant.

The United States Steamer Arctic.

NEW YORK, March 20.—The United States propeller Arctic has returned from her cruise in search of the steamer Pacific. She saw nothing of the missing steamer. The Arctic has gone to sea again.

RAIL ROAD MEETING.—The annual meeting of the Western Rail Road Company was held in this place on the 17th inst. Col. John McRae presided. The report of the President shows that the work has been prosecuted as vigorously as time and means would permit. Action was taken to secure the completion of the Road as soon as possible.

The old officers were re-elected, viz: C. B. Mallett, President; John M. Rose, Secretary and Treasurer; Geo. McNeill, A. J. O'Hanlon, Wm McLaurin, A. A. McKethan, W. T. Horne, J. H. Cook, T. S. Lutterloh, H. L. Myrover, D. G McRae, Directors. *Fayetteville Carolinian.*

WALKER "DISHONORED."—The Journal of Commerce states that a draft for $4,080, being twenty dollars toll levied by Walker upon each passenger who came over on the Nicaragua Transit route, on the last trip, has been presented at the office of the company in New York city, where acceptance was refused.

DISTRESSING CASUALTY.—We are pained to learn that a son of Mrs. Thomas, of this town, aged about 10 years, was thrown from a cart yesterday morning, and almost instantly killed. He was in the employ of John I. Shaver, Esq., and was engaged in hauling dirt on Mr. S.'s contract on the Western Railroad.—He had just commenced work with Mr. S., and was returning from emptying his first load of dirt when the unfortunate occurrence took place.—*Salisbury Banner, 18th.*

MARRIED.

At the residence of Mr. Isaiah Williams, on the night of the 16th inst., by Rev. W. F. Bryant, Mr. SOLOMON M. SESSIONS, of Conwayboro', to Miss HELEN, daughter of Abram Bellamy, Esq., of All Saints Parish.

At the same time and place, Mr. J. P. BESSANT, to Miss MARGARET, daughter of Abram Bellamy, Esq., all of All Saints Parish.

LIVERPOOL, March 8.—Cotton is steady and unchanged. Sales of the week 64,000 bales, of which exporters took 5,500 bales, and speculators 8,500. The estimated sales on Friday were 8,00 bales. The Brokers' Circular quotes prices easier, but not quotably lower. Orleans middling, 5 15-16d.@6d.; fair, 6¾d. Uplands middling, 5¾d.; fair 6¾d. Stock in port 371,000 bales, including 257,000 American.—Breadstuffs—The Brokers' Circular quotes flour advanced 3s.—western canal, 31s.@32s.; Philadelphia and Baltimore, 34s.@35s.; Ohio, 36s. Wheat declined 6d.—red, 9s. 3d.@9s. 9d.; white, 10s. 6d.@11s. Corn declined 1s. ℔ quarter. Provisions—Richardson, Spencer & Co.'s circular quotes provisions quiet and generally unchanged—eastern prime mess pork 84s. Lard, 54s.@56s. The Brokers' Circular quotes rice quiet and unchanged. Naval stores are quiet, and without important change. Common rosin 4s 5d.@4s. 6d.; fine, 8s.@9s. Coffee is steady at unchanged prices. Sugar has advanced 6d. ℔ cwt. In the London market Welsh bar and rail iron command £8@£8 5s. on board ship. The bullion in the Bank of England has increased £24,000.

SECOND DESPATCH.—In the Liverpool market flour had declined 2s., wheat 6d., and corn 2s.; all the articles of breadstuffs closing firmer. Cotton was ¼ lower on ordinary quotations, other descriptions unchanged. Provisions were dull and unchanged. Consols closed at 91½.

WASHINGTON, March 18.—Naval stores—Last sales of Dip Turpentine $2 60, Scrape do. $1 60, at which they are all dull. Recipts of all kinds light. Grain—No sales of Hyde Co. to report since our last; a contract for some 5000 bushels of up River has been made at a price not made public. No sales of wheat.

TARBORO', March 21.—Turpentine, Dip, $2 00 to 2 25. Tar, $1 00 to $1 25. Scrape, 40 to 45 cts ℔ 100 lbs. Corn, $2 25 to $2 50 ℔ bbl. Bacon, 10 to 11 cents. Lard, 9 to 10 cts. Cotton, 9 to 9¾ cts.

NORFOLK, Va., March 22—Corn—receipts light. Sales at 57 cents for mixed, 58 cents for white, and 60 cents ℔ bushel for yellow. Cotton dull at 9@9¼ cents. Flour—large quantities arriving and market drooping—superfine, $7 50, extra, $8 50, family; $9 50. Mollasses—N. O. 48 cents, and Cuba 43@45 cents ℔ gallon. Rice, 5¾@6 cents ℔ lb. Wheat, $1 45 for red, and $1 50 for white. Bacon 11½ cents for hog round.

Marine Intelligence.

PORT OF WILMINGTON, NORTH-CAROLINA

ARRIVED.

March 20—Schr. George Davis, Neff, from Boston, to E. Flanner; with ice.

Schr. Ellen Randall, Justice, from Little River, to D. A. Lamont; with naval stores.

Steamer Flora McDonald, Hurst, from Fayetteville, to T. C. & B. G. Worth.

Steamer Fanny Lutterloh, Stedman, from Fayetteville, to Lutterloh & Elliott.

March 21—Steamer James R. Grist, Williams, from Fayetteville, to J. S. Banks.

Schr. Wide World, Dickinson, from New York, to Petteway & Pritchett; with hay.

Schr. Sarah Ann, Charlotte, from Lockwood's Folly, to Petteway & Pritchett; with naval stores.

Steamer Sun, Rush, from Fayetteville, to A. McRimmon.

22—Schr. Lizzie Russell, Bennett, from Baltimore, to Russell & Bro.; with mdze.

March 23—Schr. Henry Travers, Wilson, from Charleston for Baltimore, laden with cotton and rice. On the 22d carried away head of foremast, and put in for repairs. To Russell & Bro.

Schr. Wm. H. Smith, Alden, from New York, to A. D. Cazaux; with mdze.

Brig S. P Brown, Freeman, 5 days from Cardenas, to J. & J. L. Hathaway & Co.; with molasses.

Brig Emily, Richardson, from Boston, to T. C. Worth; with mdze.

24—U. S. mail packet David Reid, Price, from Smithville, to master.

CLEARED.

March 21—Schr. H. E. Weston, Maloy, for Philadelphia, by George Harriss; with naval stores, &c.

Steamer F