

THE ORGANIZER

BENJAMIN F. DILL, WILLIAM DELAY,
Editor, Printer and Publisher

OXFORD, MI.,

Saturday, Dec 7, 1850.

PROBATE CLERK.

We are authorized to announce R. S. BROWNING, as a candidate for Probate Clerk, of Lafayette County, at the general election in November, 1851.

The Editor has been absent during this week.

We have had very strange weather the last few days—hot, cold, rain, hail, snow and freezing.

Hon. R. H. Buford, member of the Legislature, arrived at home on Thursday last.

THE LEGISLATURE.—This body adjourned on the 29th ult., after a session of eleven days. They passed a bill calling a State Convention, and a levee bill.—The convention bill is in another column of this paper—it passed the Senate 22 to 7, and the House 51 to 40.

Hon. J. E. McDonald, member of Congress from Indiana, has published an address to his constituents, excusing himself for voting for the fugitive slave bill. He says he will vote for its repeal.

The election of Delegates to the convention in this State takes place in each county on the first Monday in September next. This county will be entitled to two delegates.

Congress met on last Monday. No news from it.

It is reported that the submissionists have a majority in the Georgia Convention.

SPEECH OF Hon. Langdon Cheves in the Nashville Convention.

We have read, with inexpressible delight, this masterly and incomparable production, of the highly gifted and most venerable statesman and patriot now living in the South.

Had we the power to do it, and if it were desirable on the part of that great and good old man—Langdon Cheves—we would instantly metamorphose him into a young man of twenty-five years, and give him a lease on his life of a thousand years. We regret that it is impossible for us to publish the speech entire, and to give parts of it would mar its just proportions, and not satisfy the reader.

"The Star of the Union." Our neighbor has dropped his former name, "Whig Star," and adopted the above. He says under that title he is willing to sink or swim, as the people of Lafayette may determine. We think he would do well to prepare himself with a life-boat; there are breakers ahead!

PLANK ROAD.

A petition signed by a large number of respectable citizens of our county was mailed a few days since to our members of the Legislature asking a charter to build a Plank Road from Oxford to the Mississippi River. We regret that this petition was not got up sooner, as the Legislature adjourned before it reached the Capitol. Some of the petitioners having traveled over, and thoroughly examined the country through which the Road is proposed to be built, they thus described it in their petition:

"The Road to be located on the best ground, to cross Tallahatchie River below the mouth of Tobetuby Creek, thence by or near Rices Roads, in Panola county, thence to Brown's Ferry, on Cold Water River thence across Walnut Lake at Loney's Ferry, thence by Bever Dam Lake, thence by Flower Lake to the Mississippi River, ten or twelve miles above Helena."

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION IN MEXICO.—Gen. Arista, has been elected President of Mexico. He received the vote of eleven States. If the late war had not taught Mexico an important lesson, a revolution would most surely follow the election of that monarch to the Presidency.

See several new advertisements in another column. Notice next week.

NASHVILLE CONVENTION.—We publish to-day, the Preamble and Resolutions of the late Nashville Convention. They are of the right sort—highly creditable to the wisdom and firmness of the body from which they emanated, and deserve the serious consideration, and hearty approval of every free man and patriot in the South. Let the people in five or six of the Southern States, if no more will act, carry out the recommendation of the Convention, to hold a Southern Congress or Convention, at as early a day as practicable; and our prospects will soon begin to brighten, in the rising glory of the South. Let us discard all fear of evil consequences, in the course which right, and peace, and destiny alike urge us to pursue. A bright and glorious future awaits us, if we shall be true to ourselves!

For the Organizer.

Had the "North Carolina Preacher" kept himself out of the newspapers, the "SOUTHERN PREACHER" would have done the like. Had the Star withheld its endorsement from the one it would never have heard of the other. We supposed that the Star would have been content to leave the two anonymous writers to the judgment of the public, without the aid of its twinkling light; but we were mistaken. It takes up the cudgels in defence of the North Carolinian, and reads us a lecture for not according with him. This is quite natural. The farther off the friend, the better the Star likes him; the more remote the government, the more devoted the Star's allegiance to it. At least this is true, if words and actions are any signs of the affections. What word has it ever spoken in favor of the South; what reproach has it ever uttered to the South, a worst enemies at the North? We regret that the Editor of the Asteroid has forced himself into our controversy, 1st because we really and truly like the man; and 2d, because we do not see what is to be gained by a victory over him. That we really esteem him, is proved by the fact that we take his paper and actually read it—the most tormenting sheet that ever afflicted a man of southern predilections, home-born attachments, manly spirit and devotion to the fundamental principles of his government.

We verily believe that if a band of infuriated abolitionists should march into the capitol, gag every southern Congressman, usurp all the offices of the country, exclude the South from every foot of the common domain, forbid her to deal in slavery, or to remove them from State to State, or to recapture them when runaway and then tax her unmercifully to pay the expenses of these usurpations, the Star would neither encourage resistance, nor justify disunion. We believe it, because much of this has already become history and the Star has not even flinched under it nor hinted at a measure of redress or protection; and that the whole of it is soon to become history is just as certain as anything that lies in the future. To be sure, it will all take place under the forms of law but it will only be the more despicable and fatal on that account. And yet this, and its kindred Presses throughout the land, are not only unmoved by the dangers which surround us, the disgrace which has befallen us, and the ruin which threatens us, but they fasten themselves like bodies of death upon all who cherish the pride of freemen, and the spirit of their noble sires, and there hang weakening by their dead-weight and suffocating by their exhalations to such a degree, that already there is scarcely a ray of hope, that the South will ever command the strength needed to escape the destiny which is full in view before her. Her honor is gone. Plaster over the matter as we may with patches from the "Stars and stripes," and lull the pain of it as we may by charms from the tomb of Washington, our honor is gone, and if the generation which is rising up around us be no better than that which is passing off, all that is dear to us as a people will soon go with it.—But the Star—wandering in the gloom which surrounds us, we forgot the little blinker—our respects to it now.

"We thought" says the Star "that the sentiments contained in said extract" (from the N. C. Preacher) as well as the spirit in which they were given, might with propriety have been adopted by every Christian in the land." No doubt the Star thought so. The sentiments were briefly these: That the talk at the South, of resistance to the lawless encroachments upon southern rights by abolitionists and free-soilers of the North is no better than "rebellion," "sedition" & "conspiracy," with which Christian Ministers should have

nothing to do; and that such of them as express their indignation at these ceaseless encroachments are led off from their duty by a worldly spirit of demagoguism. The writer speaks contemptuously of what he is pleased to call "the continual harping" upon "southern rights." Such are the "sentiments." And now for the "spirit." A number of southern men of both parties seeing what every attentive observer of passing events for the last ten years could not fail to see, namely, that the people of the South were kept in ignorance by the party presses in the country of the mischief plotting against them at the North, resolved to establish a press that should look to southern interests alone, and which should be free from the old party trammels. Accordingly they got up the "Southern Press"—that is to say, they offered such encouragements to the establishment of such a press, that the Editors of that Journal were led to establish it. Whatever may be said against that Paper, every candid man must confess, that it has kept the South faithfully warned of the dangers which threaten her from all parties of the North. And this is more than any other Press in Washington city now does, or has ever done. It is conducted with dignity and talent. Its Editors believe that there is no hope for the South, nor indeed for the Union, but in prompt efficient, united resistance and that at all hazards, to the reckless, desperate spirit of fanaticism which is raging at the North against the institutions of the South. So think thousands of as pure patriots as ever graced this or any other land. This is the Press which the "North Carolina preacher" singled out from all others, as the object of his marked contempt; and peradventure his clerical character, might not diffuse his "spirit" abroad among southern Christians, he appeals to them to know whether they "the disciples of the crucified" are to be "distorted by a Jew—a despiser of the Nazarine." That a Gentle is a co-editor of that Paper the North Carolinian forgot to inform his fellow-Christians. The particular sins of that Paper, he forgot to enumerate. That the same paper, in its advocacy of Southern Rights has not gone a nail's breadth beyond the resolutions of almost every Legislature of the Southern States, the "North Carolina preacher" probably did not know—or knowing, chose to lash over the Jew's shoulders. Here is his "spirit" which commends itself so potently to the Star. We confess that we like neither the "sentiments" nor the "spirit." We regard them both, as decidedly partisan and uncharitable. Who can read the articles, without seeing precisely where the author stands? Who can read it, without perceiving that under the guise of pastoral counsel, he was commending one of the great political parties of the day, and stabbing the other with all his might? We have no objections to Christians, and Christian ministers, having and vindicating political opinions; but in so doing let them be frank and above-board. If they will teach politics, (as they surely have a right to do) let them fling off the gown in the mean time, and neither confuse their lessons to Christians, nor give them in the form of lectures upon clerical duty. The North Carolinian preferred his course and we ventured to suggest to his readers the impropriety of it. The Editor of the Star has very kindly volunteered to become umpire between us, and though he is the last man in the world who should obtrude himself into the office, for the plain reason that he has not a single qualification for it; still we have no objections to his interference seeing that an appeal lies from his decision to a higher tribunal—the public.

After stating that he supposes we are really what our name imports, the Editor proceeds: "How far he is justified under the commission of his Divine Master in preaching secession disunion revolution and subversion of the government under which he lives, we leave for others to determine." We beg leave to assure our Pope of the Star, that our article in the Organizer was not a sermon, nor intended as such. We excuse him for not discovering the difference between strictures upon an insidious piece, and a sermon; because we consider his lack of discrimination his misfortune rather than his fault. But we cannot excuse him for making us preach near half a dozen things not one of which is to be found in our piece at all. Whatever may be his native infirmities, they are certainly not to be changed with this fault at least. We put cases to the North Carolinian to show that the southern churches gained nothing from the Union. The Baptist and Methodist Churches, the two strongest in point of numbers, in the country, are already divided. But for the split in the Presbyterian Church some years ago upon other grounds, it would doubtless be now divided upon the ground

of slavery. And even undivided as it is, what southern slaveholder would be allowed to preach in any Presbyterian Church in New England? In what light are the preachers of the South of every name regarded by their brethren of the North? Why with hardly the common decencies of society, not to say kindness of brotherhood. Does the Editor of the Star covet a union of this kind with northern churches? If he does, welcome be to his humility and Christian forbearance, and to all the dignity and self-respect with which they invest him. And if his North Carolinian Oracle is of the same "spirit," then as Paul did to Peter, when he found him trimming between two branches of the primitive church, we are ready to withhold him to his face, because he is to be blamed.

The Star correctly interprets our commission, and when we preach, we endeavor to follow it to the letter: though we verily believe that if ever there was a time when a minister of the gospel would be justified in preaching resistance to northern interference with southern institutions, this is that time; when the northern pulpits of every name, are sending forth anathemas against the South, and justifying a most glaring infraction of the Constitution, by infuriated mobs of negroes and fanatics. To preach resistance to such wretches, would be to preach obedience to law and the arrest of anarchy. To preach the obligations of truth upon those numerous assemblies, legislative and popular, who have vowed in the face of heaven and the world that they would not submit to further aggressions from these desperadoes, we are not sure, but that such preaching would at this time be allowable; but in our sacred office we are not disposed to tread upon doubtful ground and therefore we never touch them in the pulpit.

It seems that a statement which we made upon the authority of four or five papers, is disputed by the Memphis Eagle, and the Star, with terrific solemnity holds us to a strict accountability for our want of respect to the edicts of that august Journal. We assure the Star, that we were profoundly ignorant of the exalted prerogatives of the Memphis Eagle. We did not know that its word was decisive of all matters of history, or we should certainly have enquired of it whether we were at liberty to believe any other Journal but it, before we made our statement. Now that we are better instructed, we would most humbly enquire of the Memphis Eagle, through the Star, what induced it on the 12th Nov. to proclaim to the South that the Pittsburg Synod "closed its session last week without any action on the fugitive slave bill?" What had it to do with the fugitive slave bill, that its taking no action upon it, became a matter worthy of notice by the Memphis Eagle? If the Memphis Eagle please, was not that matter discussed and warmly discussed by the last Pittsburg Synod? Did not the opposers of action upon it, oppose it upon the ground, that the opinions of that body, (as its members) had so often expressed their opinions upon the subject of slavery that it was needless to reiterate them: and that there was no necessity of their passing upon the fugitive slave bill, as a body,—because every member could interpret it for himself and act accordingly. Will the Memphis Eagle allow us to believe those papers which reported the discussion upon it, as actually in progress, and the grounds assumed by the disputants? If it will grant us this privilege; then we say, that the proceedings of that synod were as pointed to our purpose as though the resolution to which we referred had actually passed that body. They show the elements which make up that synod, and we cannot see what glory there is in fellowship with a people who can gravely deliberate in an Ecclesiastical assembly, whether they shall set themselves up against a fundamental law of the land.

"We always thought" says the Star, "that the religion of Christ—taught emphatically obedience to the laws of the country;" and yet it sees the supreme law of the country trampled under foot by northern legislators, preachers, mobs and fanatics, and never breathes one word of censure against them. But let a southern preacher talk of bringing them to law and order, or cutting his connection with them, and then forthwith, this peace-loving Editor deals out his castigation and his scripture upon him, with wonderful intemperance and piety. "Laws of the country?" Is Congress the country, nah? Are its edicts higher than the constitution? Does it stand above the States in point of prerogative; or is it only the creature and servant of the States? Have you forgotten your allegiance to your State? Does not your paramount allegiance belong here? Are you for letting madmen, your enemies confessed, break down all the safeguards of

of your life, your liberty and your property, without lifting a finger to oppose them? and cannot you distinguish between calling upon the southern people at every hazard to defend the constitution, and calling upon them to revolt against a plain equitable righteous law? "Obedience to the laws of the country!" Yes that is just what we want; and we would have it, at the peril of life, or we would cut our connection with those who disregard it, and cannot be coerced to respect the laws of the country. You on the contrary are so ultra pacific that your rights are of no consequence to you if you must needs defend them—laws are of no value to you, if they cannot be sustained without force—and constitutions are nothing, if they must be supported at the peril of the Union! If this be your religion; why in the name of conscience cherish it; but it does not happen to be the religion of

A SOUTHERN PREACHER.

From the Mississippian.

Resolutions Censuring Senator Foote.

The following are the resolutions concerning Senator Foote, as adopted by the House on Monday, 25th November.

The first resolution was adopted by yeas 50, nays 30.

The second resolution was adopted by yeas 48, nays 35.

Whereas, In a special message of the Governor of this State, bearing date the 11th of July, 1850, the following communication from the Senators and Representatives of Mississippi in the Congress of the United States, was presented to the Legislature then in session, to wit:

WASHINGTON, January 21, 1850.

His Excellency,

JNO. A. QUITMAN, Governor, &c.

Sir—We the Senators and Representatives in Congress from Mississippi, feel it incumbent upon us to advise you and through you, our common constituents, that we have a well defined opinion, that California will be admitted as a State of this Union, during the present session of Congress. The President earnestly recommended it, and we cannot be mistaken, in supposing that a majority of both Houses of Congress will be found to vote for it—our individual positions have undergone no change. We regard the proposition to admit California as a State under all the circumstances of her application, as an attempt to adopt the "Wilmot proviso" in another form. But separated, as we are, from our constituents, and having no convenient means of consulting them as to their views on the new phase of this perplexing question, we desire, through you to submit the single fact to the people and the legislature, that California will most likely obtain admission into the Union with her constitutional prohibition of slavery—and we beg leave to add, that we shall be greatly pleased to have such expression of opinion by the legislature, the Governor, and if practicable, by the people, as shall clearly indicate the course which Mississippi will deem it her duty to pursue in this emergency.

Very respectfully,

Your ob't servants,

[Signed]

JEFF. DAVIS,

H. S. FOOTER,

J. THOMPSON,

W. S. FEATHERSTON,

WM. MCWILLIE,

A. G. BROWN.

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,

Jackson, Feb. 11, 1850.

I do certify that the within and foregoing letter is a true copy of the original as filed in this office, the 11th day of Feb., 1851.

JAMES McDONALD,

Private Secretary, &c.

And whereas, The Legislature, after mature consideration of the subject matter of said communication, adopted in accordance with the suggestions therein contained, among others, the following resolutions, as instructions to the Senators, and as expressive of their opinions to the Representatives in Congress from this State, to wit:

Resolved, That the policy heretofore pursued by the government of the United States in regard to said territory (California) in refusing to provide territorial government therefor, has been, and is, eminently calculated to promote, and is about to effect indirectly, the cherished object of the abolitionists, which cannot be accomplished by direct legislation, without a plain and palpable violation of the Constitution of the United States.

Resolved, That the admission of California into the Union as a sovereign State, with its present constitution, the result of the aforesaid false and unjust policy on the part of the government of the United States, would be an act of fraud and oppression on the rights of the people of the slaveholding States, and it is the sense of this Legislature that our senators and representatives should, to the extent of their ability, resist it by all honorable and constitutional means.

And whereas, The Hon. Jeff. Davis, one of the senators, and the Hon. A. G. Brown, Wm. McWillie, W. S. Featherston and Jacob Thompson, members in Congress from this State, in accordance with said resolutions, and with interest and will of the people of Mississippi, did by their action in Congress resist by all honorable and constitutional means, the admission of California, with her existing Constitution, into the Union as a sovereign State;—and whereas, the Hon. Henry S. Foote, one of the senators in Congress from this State, in violation of the spirit and intent of said resolutions, and in opposition to the interest and will of the people of Mississippi, did not resist by all honorable and constitutional means the admission of California into the Union as a sovereign State, with her existing constitution, by giving his

support to the miscalled compromise, reported by the committee of their own in the United States Senate, violated the instructions of the Legislature as contained in said resolutions, based upon his own request, and disregarded the interest and will of the people of Mississippi; therefore,

Resolved, By the Legislature of the State of Mississippi, that the course of the Hon. Jeff. Davis as senator, and the Hon. A. G. Brown, William McWillie, W. S. Featherston and Jacob Thompson, as representatives in Congress from this State, on the question of the admission of California is approved, as representing the interest and will of the people of Mississippi; that the course of the Hon. Henry S. Foote on this question is not approved, being in the judgment to the Legislature opposed to the interest and will of the people of Mississippi.

Be it further Resolved, That the course of the Hon. Jeff. Davis as senator, and Hons. A. G. Brown, Wm. McWillie, W. S. Featherston and Jacob Thompson, as representatives in Congress from this State, in their firm and consistent support and able advocacy of the rights and honor of Mississippi and the south, on all the questions before Congress at its late session, involved in the slavery controversy, is approved; that the course of the Hon. Henry S. Foote on all these questions is not approved, and that this Legislature does not consider the interests of the State of Mississippi, committed to his charge, safe in his keeping.

In the Senate on the 26th inst., the following proceedings were had:

SPECIAL ORDERS.

The resolutions of the House of Representatives, passed Nov. 25th, in relation to our senators and representatives in Congress, were considered in committee of the whole, Mr. Catchings in the chair; and after some time spent therein, the committee rose, reported said resolutions to the senate, recommending their passage. The report was agreed to.

The amendment passed on yesterday requiring the governor to furnish a copy of said resolutions to our senators and representatives in Congress, was reconsidered and withdrawn.

The preamble and resolutions were then put upon their passage.

Those who voted in the affirmative are—Mr. President, Messrs. Bell, Berry, Boone, Catchings, Cannon, Carter, Corthran, Drane, Davis, Gillette, Green, Hughes, McDougald, McAfee, Pettus, Ramsay, Singleton, Stone, Stewart, Tallafiero, Thompson and Whitefield—23.

Those who voted in the negative are—Messrs. Alcorn, Brooke, Hodges, Reynolds, Sharkey, Torrey, Tait and White—8.

VOTE ON THE CENSURE RESOLUTIONS.

"The Flag of the Union" gives the following as the yeas and nays in the House of Representatives, on the censure resolutions. This vote must have been on the first resolution, as the vote was taken on the resolutions separately.

The question being taken, the vote stood thus:

YEAS—Mr. Speaker, Messrs. Anderson, Barton, Brown, Buford, Bynum, Byrn, Bell, Barry, Burden, Blythe, Brooks, Beem, Casedy, Clement, Calhoun, Dampier, Durr, Echols, Ellis, Guy, Gatlin, Hinds, Harrison, Jenkens, Kelley, Kirkland, Lynch, Lewis, Malone, Mott, Maggs, Martin, Matthew, Metcalf, Nelson, Noble, Neill, Rozell, Rawls, Suratt, Stewart of Marion, Seal, Thomas of Marshall, Thomas of Yazoo, Thames, Trussell, Thurmond, Weathersby, and Webb—50.

NAYS—Messrs. Adams, Armstrong, Asher, Ashe, Aldridge, Baker of Hinds, Baker of Pontotoc, Collins, Catching, Cruise, Ford, Foote, Farrar, Griffin, Hemmingway, Hule, Henry, Johnson, Kimball, Marb's, Myers, McNis, McNabb, Nabors, Powell, Regan of Claiborne, Regan of Yazoo, Rogers, Stuart of Wilkinson, Starke, Smelton, Talbert, Tison, Wilcox, Welch, West, and Young—37.

PRESIDENT FILLMORE'S OPINION OF THE FUGITIVE CRAFT CASE IN BOSTON.

"President Fillmore is resolved to execute the law of his country, and preserve untouched the dignity of the general government. The highest patriotism is exhibited in his various acts."

He has intimated to them that the government troops are at their command, wherever forcible resistance shall be offered to the law.—*Jackson Southern.*

If the "Flag of the Union" (the "Southern") will publish President Fillmore's letter to Robert Collins Esq., Macon, Ga., the owner of the fugitive slaves, Crafts, and who has been compelled to lose them by the nullification of Massachusetts, he will find the following extract:

"It is equally clear, that NO CASE IS PRESENTED, justifying a call upon the militia, or the use of the army to execute the law; THE PRESIDENT HAS SO MUCH CONFIDENCE IN THE PATRIOTISM AND DEVOTION TO THE LAWS which have always characterized a large majority of THE PEOPLE OF BOSTON, that he cannot for a moment believe that it will ever be necessary to call in extraordinary aid to execute the laws in that community."

Now, let us ask the "Flag of the Union" if it believes that President Fillmore is resolved to execute the law of his country?