

VERMONT TRANSCRIPT, FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 1864.

UNION NATIONAL CONVENTION.

The undersigned, who by original appointment, or subsequent designation, are to constitute the Executive Committee of the National Convention...

PROSPECTUS

THE VERMONT TRANSCRIPT, A NEW WEEKLY UNION PAPER.

Established at St. Albans, Vt. For the free distribution of general notices in every department of American life.

The Vermont Transcript is designed to be a thoroughly English and American newspaper. Its motto will be "Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable."

Its principal objects will be to give to the people of Vermont a full and complete account of the progress of the war, and to give them a full and complete account of the progress of the peace.

We send to persons not subscribers, a copy of the Transcript, to notify them of the enterprise in which we have embarked, and thus, possibly, induce them to encourage us by their subscription.

Volunteer correspondence is solicited. No notice will be taken of anonymous communications. Friends in all sections of the State will confer a favor upon us...

CONGRESS AND ITS DUTIES.

Congress has been in session since the first of December last. It possessed a working majority devoted to the support of the Government. It was expected that it would confine itself to its practical duties.

Mr. Webster was a native, we believe, of Swanton, where his father, Thomas Webster, Esq., now resides. He has been a diligent and highly successful merchant in St. Albans for about twenty years.

It may fairly be questioned whether any permanent good will result by debating the various theories of reconstruction, until the military strength of the rebellion is totally routed.

The Rev. E. W. Hooker, D. D., of Newburyport, now at Havana, writes home that he is improving in health.

Forward! March!!—It is said that the spring campaign will be opened as soon as the first of April. It is thought that it will be simultaneous along all points of the line.

The interest which the national drama is exciting is unparalleled in the history of the world. The problem of self-government is about to be solved. We have no fear of the ultimate decision of the contest.

Our Advertisements.—In calling attention to the advertisements with which we have been favored in this our first issue, we would express a hope that the manner in which they are set up and the type used therein will not escape the observation.

Recent Deaths.—Within a few months past death seems to have been busily engaged in making sad havoc with some of the oldest, youngest and best merchants of St. Albans.

The funeral of the last of these (Mr. Levi Webster) was held at the Congregational Church, March 4th, and was largely attended. The Rev. Calvin B. Cady, of Albany, preached the sermon.

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Death of President Hancock.—The Rev. Edward Hitchcock, D. D., for several years President of Amherst College, died at Amherst, Mass., February 27, aged 70 years.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.—In several of the Counties there was no strife on County Commissioners. Addison County, Rev. H. F. Lovitt, Bennington " F. W. Hoyt, Caledonia " John Morse, Clarendon " Hon. E. D. Mason, Franklin " Hon. H. Northrop, Grand Isle " Hon. H. H. Reynolds, Orleans " Joseph Bates, Essex " S. Lane, Lamoille " N. R. Raymond, Orange " A. G. Button, Rutland " E. D. Sheldon, Washington " Rev. Eli Ballou, Windham " Ira Goodhue, Windsor " Hon. Crosby Miller.

The voters of New York on the second Tuesday of March expressed their views upon the proposed amendment of their State Constitution, extending the elective franchise to soldiers in the field.

The State canvassers are to meet at Albany and declare the result on the 24th of March.

MR. GEORGE AUGUSTUS SALA.—This British writer of sensation novels and minor love stories has been sent to the United States and British North America by the London Telegraph as its literary envoy and special correspondent.

He arrived at Boston in December last and reached Montreal December 24th. He has given in his correspondence to the London paper a glowing account of his trip over the Vermont Central railroad and given a very abusive account of St. Albans, and especially the Tremont House—caricatured the landlord, and lampooned the waiting maids—and made himself especially funny in two or three long columns over everybody he saw or everything he heard, ate, smelt or touched at St. Albans.

At St. Albans he was in an equally sarcastic and vindictive mood. He fell about of Mr. John Myers, agent of the Champlain and Montreal railroad. Upon Mr. Myers who is well known as a faithful and obliging official, Mr. George Augustus Sala pours out a vial, not a bottle of special literary wrath.

Death of Elmer Parks.—Mr. Parks, whose death is noticed under the obituary head, has been a resident of North Hero for nearly half a century and has always been one of its best and most industrious citizens.

The immediate cause of Mr. Parks' death was paralysis. He was buried with Masonic honors on Tuesday, March 8th, 1864, by the officers and members of the "Isle of Patmos" Lodge, North Hero, of which the deceased had long been an active and worthy member.

Death of Chief Justice La Fontaine.—Chief Justice La Fontaine of the Court of Queen's Bench died at Montreal Feb. 26, of paralysis, at the age of 56 years. He is said to have been a statesman of stainless character and a lawyer of the first class among his French contemporaries.

Personal.—The Presiding Judge of the Civil Commission for the District of Memphis, Tenn., is the Hon. Barbour Lewis, a native of Albany, Vermont. Judge Lewis is detailed from the military service in which he held a commission.

Thomas H. McLeod, Esq., of Middlebury, Vt., is also connected with the Civil Commission which is a military-civil Tribunal for the adjudication of civilians and answering the end of our County Courts and Courts of Chancery; only there are no juries.

J. F. Darrow, Esq., formerly a merchant at St. Albans and Winoski Falls, and late of the "Windsor House," St. Anthony's Falls, Minnesota, is proprietor of the Westchester House, corner of Broome street and Bovey, New York City.

Mr. John Mozier, an American Sculptor resident at Rome, Italy, is engaged in modeling a veiled Undine, of which the London Athenaeum says: "that it promises to give equal satisfaction with his other works."

The death of Gen. Samuel P. Strong, of Vergennes, aged 70 years, of Jacob W. Conroy, Esq., a prominent and highly respected citizen of Middlebury, Vt., the Hon. Obadiah Noble, of Timonah, Vt., aged 87 years, are announced. The Vergennes Vermont, Middlebury Register and Rutland Herald contain complimentary obituary notices of the deceased.

HENRY MARTIN, THE FUGITIVE FROM CANADA. Last fall Henry Martin, of Bedford, a convict for an attempt to commit arson, broke jail at Swetsburgh, C. E., and escaped to Franklin county, Vt., where he was arrested by Sheriff Sherman and lodged in jail to abide the event of a requisition for his surrender to the Canadian authorities.

There was a full hearing at St. Albans before George E. Houghton, Esq., United States Commissioner, upon this application under the Ashburton Treaty. Much time was occupied in the examination of witnesses and in carefully prepared arguments for and against the extradition.

After the reception of the order from the U. S. Government and the delivery of Henry Martin, the alleged fugitive from justice, to the Canadian authorities deputed to receive him, he was taken by High Constable Mickel and imprisoned in the Swetsburgh jail to await his trial.

The grand jury also found, at the last term of the court in the District of Bedford, a third indictment against Henry Martin for the crime of arson. Upon this indictment, no trial has yet been had.

OUR PRISONERS IN RICHMOND.

I am haunted day and night with spectres that exist not in the imagination, but in real flesh-and-blood misery. I never sit down to my meals but vacant faces come between me and comfort, and famished hands with imploring gestures crave the very bones upon my plate.

Why, where are the men? Are they all dead? Has the common feeling of humanity vanished from among us? Can we eat and enjoy our comfortable homes, roll on our couches, sing, laugh, dance, and thousands of our countrymen dying in filth—in the agony of slow starvation—in their lives draining drop by drop through the filter of Southern indolence?

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What can I say to stir one heart to valor? Alas! poor souls in prison—

heaven grant that men be not less merciful than death. Let the war-cry sound again, "On to Richmond!" We will suffer gladly while our soldiers go without bounty and without pay, if need be. O, that every voice of the breeze may be as the wail of the starving, smiting the ear of the passer-by till he sees his brother in every dying wretch, his father or his son in each most fleshless skeleton—and for the sake of humanity and liberty resolves to rest not in ignoble peace till our poor soldiers are restored to human love and sympathy. Yours, R.

GRAND ISLE COUNTY COURT.

The February Term of the Grand Isle County Court was held at North Hero, Feb. 23, 1864. Hon. Asa Owen Aldis, Chief Judge Presiding, Hon. Cyrus V. Goodsell, Isle La Motte and Hon. David T. Sweet, Albany Springs, Assistant Judges. Prayer was offered by the Rev. Stephen H. Williams of North Hero. The following Grand Jurors were in attendance:

North Hero, Asa Mooney, Joel Town, Elisha Hubbard. Albany, E. J. Reynolds, D. D. Griggs, Charles H. Clark, G. S. Sweet, Menjah T. Mott, Z. S. Haynes. Isle La Motte, Henry Pike, Hiram C. Fisk, Carmi Hall. Grand Isle, George W. Hyde, Seth Griffin, Guy Reynolds. South Hero, John S. Landon, Wallis Mott, Henry Robinson.

The following Petit Jurors answered to their names when called by Elisha B. Goodsell, Esq., County Clerk: North Hero, William W. Russell, Henry C. Mooney, Frederick Parks. Albany, H. P. Kinsley, Ashley Mott, P. A. Leduc. Grand Isle, Henry Wadsworth. Albany Springs, Charles P. Harvey. Isle La Motte, Carmi G. Holcomb, Samuel Goodsell. Grand Isle, Henry Hoag, Daniel M. Hatch. South Hero, George Phelps, Elijah Martin, Asa E. Hubbard.

Judge Aldis charged the Grand Jury and the Court appointed Hon. Wallis Mott as the Foreman. Serrin G. Macomber, Esq., of Grand Isle, the High Sheriff of the County, designated Ramsay L. Clark and Abner Ladd, Esquires, of North Hero, as special Deputy Sheriffs to take charge of the Grand Jury and Petit Jury, and they were severally sworn for duty.

Upon the call of the docket it being ascertained that there were no jury cases ready for trial by jury, the Court discharged the Petit Jurors the first day. Messrs. Giles Harrington, Hermin R. Beardsley and Henry C. Adams, the Committee of Examination, having recommended for admission to practice Messrs. Solon Eaton and Harrison Eaton of West Addison, and George Parker of Vergennes, they appeared before the Court and took the attorneys' oath and were admitted to the bar.

After calling the Chancery Docket the Court took a recess until morning. WEDNESDAY MORNING, February 24.—There were several cases tried by the Court and disposed of, and summary motions were heard and the docket was called. The Grand Jurors remained in session until Thursday, when after returning a few bills of indictment, the Court finally adjourned.

THE PRESIDENCY.—WITHDRAWAL OF MR. CHASE.—The following is the letter of Mr. Secretary Chase, withdrawing his name from the coming Presidential canvass. It is addressed to the Hon. James C. Hill, Senate Chamber, Columbus, Ohio.

WASHINGTON, March 3, 1864. My DEAR SIR:—In reply to a friendly letter from you, I write briefly and long ago about the wishes expressed by many that my name might be favorably regarded by the people in their next choice of a President, and closed by saying that should our friends in Ohio manifest preference for another, should accept their decision with the ready acquiescence that from one who has been already trusted and honored by their beyond merit or reputation. The recent session of the Ohio General Assembly, held in such a spirit of confidence and honor, and I count it my privilege to give to you my name. It was never more important than now that all our efforts and all our energies should be devoted to the suppression of the rebellion and to the restoration of order and prosperity to our country. It is my duty to do this, and I am sure that all our efforts should be directed to this end. I am, Sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant, J. CHASE.

FOREIGN NEWS. The Danes, Austrians and Prussians have had bloody fights during the month of February. The Danish army is not half so large as that of its opponents but they make gallant resistance. It is now said that there will be a conference at London at an early day, but no armistice is to take place, although England proposes it. In Italy rumors of war grow stronger and stronger. Agents from Italy have been purchasing arms in France preparatory to some sort of revolution. Much of this sort of freight has gone forward to Bologna. In England rumors are rife as to the probability of an abdication, on the part of Queen Victoria. The Prince of Wales would then mount the throne under the title of King Edward VII. A decided change in the foreign policy of England would probably accompany such an event. John Simon, a Jew, has been promoted in England to be a sergeant-at-law. This is to be the first instance known in history. In France there is much talk of a recognition by France of the Rebellion States; but there has been a good deal of such talk heretofore. There is a good deal of sympathy for the Danes among the French.

IN MEMORIAM.

James Stewart Burt, third son of Hon. Augustus Burt, and Mary (Laflarty) Burt, was born in Sheldon, Vermont, 11th September 1825, and died, after a short illness, of diphtheria at his residence in St. Albans, December 29th, 1863, in the 39th year of his age. The death of this gentleman, so highly endowed with mental gifts, in the prime of life and in the midst of a brilliant professional career, has awakened an ordinary degree of regret among a large circle of friends and acquaintances. One of this number, who entertained a great regard for his many excellent qualities of head and heart, must be pardoned if he furnishes as best he may, a brief sketch of his professional character.

James S. Burt was a man of no ordinary stamp. He had the advantage of an excellent academic education and a careful professional training under parental supervision. He attended the Franklin County Grammar School at St. Albans while it was under the charge of Mr. Almon Lawrence. Subsequently he became connected with the Bakersfield Academy, while under the superintendence of Mr. Jacob Spalding, with whom he fitted for college. He entered the University of Vermont in the spring of 1845, but never was graduated. He left the University at the first term of his Junior year, to commence the study of the law in his father's office at Sheldon. He was admitted to practice at the April Term of Franklin County Court, A. D. 1851 and commenced business as an attorney at Sheldon in company with his father. A few years thereafter he removed to St. Albans and entered into co-partnership with the Hon. Asa Owen Aldis, adding him for about twelve months in conducting a large and profitable business. Upon the dissolution of such co-partnership, he continued the practice of his profession until November 1862 when he entered into co-partnership with Myron Buck, Esq., of St. Albans, which expired by limitation in the month of November, 1863, a few weeks before his death. The life of a lawyer ordinarily presents a summary of no remarkable incidents from which a biographical sketch can be prepared. Mr. Burt's life was no exception to this general rule. That he labored for his clients with zeal and fidelity, and prepared his cases thoroughly and managed them with consummate adroitness and skill, is well known in all parts of Franklin County where his reputation was early established after his admission to practice.

He was an able advocate and presented his points to a jury with great skill and power. In one of the recent jury trials in which he was engaged, Hubbard vs. Place, he evinced the keenness of his intellect and the force of his logic to a remarkable degree. Before the Supreme Court, he seldom failed to command the attention and secure the admiration of both bench and bar by the mastery manner in which he argued his cases. Choice in his language, forcible in his logic, and terse and lively in his style, he was never tedious, always interesting, and often eloquent. His argument of the law points arising in the case of Clapp vs. Foster is referred to among many others as indicating a good degree of research and learning and great keenness of intellect.

Mr. Burt was not only regarded as a superior advocate but he was justly esteemed as a prudent counselor. His knowledge of the law was so extensive and accurate that his advice upon important questions was eagerly sought and highly prized. He was remarkable for critical acumen, technical accuracy and a thorough acquaintance with the science of special pleading. In line, while possessing a legal mind endowed with great strength and acuteness he became a superior lawyer both in the knowledge of the theory and in the practice of his profession. To these he added a keen sense of the honor and dignity of his calling and maintained a courteous deportment toward his brethren at the bar.

He was a most genial and generous minded companion. Those who best knew him will longest deplore the loss of a gentleman whose attractive qualities of mind and manner rendered him a general favorite as well as a lawyer of rare ability and promise. His physical constitution was exceedingly delicate and he seldom enjoyed robust health. He fell, therefore, an easy prey to the insidious disease of diphtheria which baffled the best of medical skill and died on the morning after Christmas-Day, 1863. Mr. Burt leaves a wife, father, two brothers and four sisters to lament his loss.

His funeral was largely attended. Messrs. Seymour, Elson, Buck and Dewey, brethren of the bar, officiated as pall bearers. It may be proper to add that his remains were conveyed to Sheldon for interment. There, near the spot where his mother and brother repose, he sleeps the "sleep that knows no waking."

We esteem it a privilege to publish the following extract from the sermon of the Rev. Charles Fay, D. D., which was pronounced at Mr. Burt's funeral, at St. Luke's Church, St. Albans, on Sunday, December 27th, 1863. With it, we close this imperfect sketch of the professional character of our deceased friend:

"These remarks upon the text will prepare our minds for the comfort which we need on the mournful occasion which calls us together this day. Whether our departed friend owed his Lord five hundred pence or fifty, we have reason to think the debt was forgiven before he closed his eyes in death. Distinguished, as you all know he was, by eminent ability in his profession, he had yet in his days of health and strength given to little heed to the concerning truths of religion. But when the solemn realities of eternity were opening upon his view in his last sickness, his soul became awakened to the convictions of christian truth. The

Rector of this church (the Rev. John Bliss,) visited him, and after some conversation proposed to him to be baptized the method of salvation revealed in the Gospel. At first, he said he was too wicked to venture upon such a solemn covenant. But, at last, his mind grasped the greatness of his spiritual necessities, and the ample provision of mercy provided in the all-abounding love of Christ. He submitted to the terms of repentance and faith in the Saviour. He was baptized for the remission of sins, and if a longer term of years should be granted him, he promised to lead a Godly and a Christian life. And why shall we not believe his Saviour accepted him, as he turned to him in the last hour? We need add to the thousand other instances recorded in Holy Scripture and in human experience that the arms of Divine love and mercy were extended out to embrace the penitent sinner, that our gracious Saviour stands ready to open the golden gates of Paradise to him who knicks his forehead over law. And while we commit the remains of our friend to the grave, may we each one of us be impressed with the shortness and uncertainty of human life, and make our peace with God while the opportunity is vouchsafed to us."

NEWS ITEMS.

—Connecticut river is free from ice below Bellows Falls. —The Connecticut election will occur on the first Monday in April. —The United States public debt, March 1, 1864, is stated to be, in round numbers, fifteen hundred millions of dollars. —The Medical Director proclaims the quarters of the Invalid Corps at Burlington the best in the Department. —The New York State Insular Asylum is to be dedicated on the 17th of June, 1864. —A letter from the Army of the Potomac says all ladies have been ordered to leave as soon as possible. —Government advertises for 300 cavalry horses, to be delivered at Mustersville. —During the year ending last December nearly 200,000 emigrants arrived in the United States, 175,000 landing at New York alone. —Navigation on the North River has been resumed already, and the boats ply between New York and Albany. —Hon. L. E. Chittenden, Register of the U. S. Treasury, was on the occasion of the opening of a Grand National Fair at Washington, on the 22d ult. —Capt. Abijah Keith, of Montpelier has moved to Chicago, having entered into a partnership in the wholesale goods business with Keith, Savage & Co., of that city. —A horse fall of friends called upon Rev. Geo. H. Clark, at St. Johnsbury Centre, on the evening of March 8th, and left behind \$75 as a token of regard for their pastor.—Chesham, N. H. —It is supposed that the two companies of drafted men at Bradford will this spring be sent to the front at the company of 1st Battalion Iowa Corps now forming be put on duty at their place. —The Freeman office at Montpelier was discovered to be on fire Sunday afternoon, but by the timely application of a few pails of water a catastrophe was averted. The cause of the fire remains a mystery. —We are sorry to learn that Lett Geo. Dillingham has met with an accident, by stepping upon the cans while in motion, which promises to be serious, and may make him lame for life.—Walden's Daily. —In the late raid of Gen. Kilpatrick on Richmond, honorable mention is made of the gallant part taken in the Lieut. Col. Preston and Capt. Cummings, of the Vermont Cavalry—the Danville soldiers, and both good fighters, as has been shown not only in the but on former occasions.—North Star. —Frederick F. Streeter, who was recently hung at Medina, for the murder of the Gov family, was formerly a member at Bellows Falls, and according to the St. Johnsbury Telegraph is believed to have set the fire which destroyed so much of that village in 1863.

—The Richmond Copper Mining Company, which was incorporated by the Vermont Legislature last November, have duly organized by the appointment of Lucius H. Goff, Esq., of Richmond, as President, and M. S. Dyer, Esq., as Agent. The act of incorporation was granted "for the purpose of mining, working and selling copper and copper ores in the County of Franklin. —The grounds on which Justice Ritchie at St. John's, N. B., before the pirates were brought on shore at Halifax, ordered their release on the 10th inst., were that the U. S. Government had made no requisition for them; that the parties not having been in the United States after their parole and nets were committed, they did not come within treaty provisions, and therefore that no proper officer had had cognizance of the matter and the proceedings did not comply with proper formalities. —The New York Herald estimates that 830,000 are expended each night in places of amusement in that city, or \$10,000 more than in Paris. We trust that "Broadway was never so filled with magnificent dressed ladies. There were never seen before in New York such numbers of privates and splendid equipages, such evidences of wealth and prosperity. Surely we have not as yet realized the amount of success or privations of war. All hotels and boarding houses are filled, and although prices have risen to \$3.50 per day, they are important for further accommodation. In view of this influx of travelers we must have new and more magnificent hotels. There should be a number erected still further up town.