

THE STAUNTON SPECTATOR AND GENERAL ADVERTISER.

STAUNTON SPECTATOR. WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1, 1854.



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The Missouri Compromise.

The editors of the National Intelligencer, in compliance with the request of a subscriber, have prepared and published a detailed account of the action of Congress at the time Missouri applied to admission into the Union as a State.

It seems that instead of one, there were two compromises. On the 8th day of December, 1819, memorials were presented in the House of Representatives from the people of Maine and Missouri asking to be admitted into the Union.

The whole difficulty was now supposed to be settled. But not so. The constitution of Missouri was laid before Congress in November, 1820, and was found to contain a clause requiring the Legislature to pass laws prohibiting the emigration of free negroes into the State.

Although a majority of the Southern members of Congress voted for the first compromise, they do not doubt do so under the stress of circumstances.

At a late meeting of the Directors of the Augusta Savings Bank, Wm. M. Tate, Esq., was elected President of the Institution, in place of B. Crawford, Esq., resigned, and Mr. James W. Hudson was elected to fill the vacancy in the Board.

In connection with this item of news, we take occasion to say a few words on the general subject of Savings Banks. There are two institutions of the kind in Staunton—the Augusta and the Central, of which Robert Cowan and Thomas Blodson are, respectively, Treasurers.

The advantages of this system to a large class of persons is apparent. Many farmers, for instance, have saved money to buy land.—They are unwilling to loan it to individuals, because it is always more or less doubtful whether they can recover it on the precise day it will be needed; and if they deposit it in one of the regular Banks, it may lie there for months without bringing in a cent of interest.

Mr. W. P. Tunstall, Esq., President of the Richmond and Danville Railroad and for some years prominent member of the Legislature, died at his residence in Pittsylvania county, week before last, after a lingering illness.

The foreign news by the Baltic, several interesting communications, and a variety of miscellaneous reading will be found on the first page of this paper.

War in Europe.

The last advices from Europe are more decidedly warlike than any heretofore received. The British Government is vigorously preparing for the struggle, and even the Times newspaper, which until recently inclined to the side of Russia, now asserts that war is the best policy.

The Emperor of Russia lately despatched Count Orloff to Vienna to endeavor to bring about an alliance with Austria and Prussia. The propositions which the minister was instructed to make were, under the circumstances, very extraordinary.

These singular proceedings of the Emperor Nicholas have revived the suspicion that he is afflicted with insanity, a malady which is hereditary in his family. The idea was first suggested in this country, we believe, by the editor of Little's Living Age, some six months ago, and is now rapidly gaining ground.

On the 25th of February, 1850, passed the Missouri bill with an amendment proposed by Mr. Taylor, of New York, prohibiting slavery in the State. In the meantime the Senate had, on the 17th of February, adopted an amendment proposed by Mr. Thomas, of Illinois, prohibiting slavery in territory North of 36° 30'.

As a people they are essentially ambitious, propagandist, and vain-glorious; military fame, it has long been seen, is the road to high office and to public estimation; and the admiral, the general, or the private individual who should plant the national flag on the batteries of Sebastopol, or drive the Russians out of Balaclava, would, beyond all question, find the Presidential chair cushioned for him when he returned home.

Since the above was put in type, the news brought by the Europa has arrived. The most important item of information is that changes favorable to a compromise with Russia have taken place in the Turkish Cabinet. But the truth of this is doubted.

Dealings in Breadstuffs.

The New York Express says a dealer in breadstuffs in that city, purchased in September last, 21,000 barrels of flour at the average price then current, \$5.25, and sold it a few weeks ago at \$9.—net profits, \$67,950!

The stock of flour on hand in New York at a recent date was estimated at 100,000 to 150,000 barrels, and in Boston at about 150,000. The whole export of breadstuffs in 1846-7, the famine year, was 25,400,000 bushels. We have already exported this year two-thirds as much wheat as for that entire year, and if the exports continue for the balance of the year only in the same proportion as in 1847, the export of wheat will be 30,000,000 bushels from New York alone.

Mr. Geo. Heiser, a stage driver in the employ of Messrs. Farish & Co., received an injury a few weeks ago, while attending to his duties at the stage yard in this place, which causes his death. We learn from the Visited that the Company have determined to grant half pay to his widow. This liberality is highly commendable.

An officer arrived in Staunton on Monday night last, with authority from Governor Johnson to remove Wilson to the State Penitentiary, and returned the next morning with the prisoner.—The term of confinement has been fixed at eighteen years. Friday next is the day previously appointed for Wilson's execution.

The 22nd of February was celebrated at Churchville by the Sons of Temperance and the advocates of a prohibitory liquor law. R. P. Kinney, Esq., and the Rev. Mr. Davis delivered addresses, and the company then partook of a free dinner.

The Battle of Cistae.

A private letter to the London Times, gives the following account of the desperate battle between the Turks and Russians at Cistae: On Friday, the 6th of January, the Turkish troops, under the orders of Ismail Pacha and Ahmed Pacha, marched to attack the Russians, who had fortified themselves at the village of Cistae, which is about five hours' march from Kalafat.

The force of Ismail Pacha was composed of three regiments of regular cavalry and one regiment of Bashibozuks, with six guns. Ahmed Pacha was stationed at some distance from the village, with some reserve troops, consisting of five battalions and also six guns. The Russian force in the village consisted of three battalions of infantry, commanded by Colonel Bennigarde, three squadrons of hussars, and two squadrons of Cossacks, with six guns.

The Turkish troops were, as it will be seen, superior in number; but the position of the Russians, who were distributed in all the houses of the village, which is of great extent, and which is surrounded by a double ditch, rendered the attack extremely perilous, as the enemy will fire upon the Turks, without the latter being able to reply to it. In spite of this evident disadvantage, Ismail Pacha gave orders for the attack, and three himself into the village under a shower of balls fired from all the windows. At least the Turks received very serious injury; but, although this circumstance somewhat disorganized their attack, their impetuosity was by no means checked.

After a desperate struggle they attacked the house, and fought hand to hand with sword and bayonet. The massacre was frightful. The Russians in vain begged for quarter. In the fever of the fight the Turks listened to nothing, and slaughtered, without pity, all who fell under their hands. The Mahometans of the Crimea, incorporated with the Russian army, in vain appealed to their character of Mussulmans. No quarter was given to them. Gushes of blood ran down the streets from the wholesale human slaughter. To add to the horrors of the scene, it may be stated that upon that road, which had been lost were seen eating the dead bodies.

While the battle was thus going on in the village, the battalions of infantry of the Russian army, and a squadron of cavalry, with sixteen pieces of cannon, were brought to the assistance of the besieged, and attempted to place the Turks between two fires. Information of this was given to Ahmed Pacha, who, by a signal not understood by the Russians, did not move, but the latter were in three times greater number than the Turks.—In spite of this inequality, however, the Russians were entirely beaten, and fled in the greatest disorder. They were completely routed.—The Turks killed a great number of them, and established another important truth—that the Russians cannot cope with Turkish troops in equal numbers to themselves on open field, and that they can only hope for success when they have a much more powerful ally than their enemy. Their losses in these two simultaneous affairs amount to nearly 4,000 men, among whom are included 50 superior officers. The Turks had about 300 killed and 350 wounded, and were sent to the hospital at Widin, of whom, it is hoped, the greater part may be saved.

Thomson Cemetery.

The Trustees of Thomson Cemetery make a call in this paper upon the lot owners to pay up the amounts due from them. It is desirable that every one should promptly respond to this call, that improvements in progress or on contemplation may be carried out immediately.

The noise in our streets at night is becoming really insupportable. At almost any hour of the night from 10 o'clock on, parties of drunken rowdy men and half grown boys, some of whom pass for "gentle" during the day, may be found roaming the streets and disturbing the peace of the community by their vociferous swearing and singing low and vulgar songs. Not very long since a party of these rowdies congregated in the vicinity of a private residence and one of them for the amusement of himself and companions, threw quite a large stone through the second story window into an apartment where were several young ladies. How long will it be before our town authorities can be induced to put forth some exertions to at least check this spirit of rowdiness in our midst?

We are credibly informed that the sons of some of our most respectable citizens may be found among these street walkers. We would advise among these street walkers, we would advise and parents as they regard their own peace, to inspect their conduct a little more closely. Some few mothers might be surprised to find how often their little pets are seen with a "brick in their hats." Verbum sapienti.

The North Eastern Express papers generally have noticed the snow storm of the 30th as one of unusual violence. The snow drifted in great quantities to the depth of six or eight feet, and the transmission of the mails from that city by Railroad was interrupted for several days. The cars from Philadelphia were arrested by the snow at the Susquehanna river, and the passengers had to spend the night there without fire or food.

Messrs. Kyle & Bro. are now occupying their new store-house, on New Street, nearly opposite the store-room are elegant and complete, and reflect great credit upon the enterprising and reflect great credit upon the enterprising and reflect great credit upon the enterprising.

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Virginia Legislation.

Monday, Feb. 20.—Senate. A communication was received from the Treasurer, in reply to a call, stating that \$185,000 had been paid to the Military Institute at Lexington from its establishment to the close of the last fiscal year.

The bill providing for the revision and completion of the Geological Map Survey of the State, and for the publication of the same—appropriating \$24,000 therefor, was passed—yeas 35, nays 7. The bill for the erection of a statue of Thomas Jefferson at the University of Virginia, by Mr. Galt and appropriating \$10,000 for that purpose was passed—yeas 31, nays 7.

The bill for the incorporation of the Monongahela and Ravenswood Railroad Company, which was introduced by Mr. Galt, and which was referred to the Committee on Public Works, and was reported on the 17th inst., and was passed—yeas 31, nays 7.

The bill for the incorporation of the Medical College was passed. An amendment authorizing the Governor to fill vacancies in the Board of Trustees was adopted. A discussion ensued upon the merits of the whole subject, which lasted till the adjournment.

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Thirty-third Congress, 1st Session.

Monday, Feb. 20.—Senate.—A large number of petitions from various States, against the Nebraska bill, were presented. Mr. Johnson, of Arkansas, introduced a bill which proposes to establish three Indian Territories, under the titles, respectively, of "Oklahoma," "Muskege," and "Chaska."

The Nebraska bill was then taken up, and Mr. Pettit spoke in favor of it. Mr. Cass made some remarks in personal behalf of Mr. Sumner, who favored the Nebraska bill. Mr. Sumner spoke in support of the Nebraska bill.

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MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

The Empress of France having been recommended by her physicians to exercise, has a pair of skates arranged for her use, and on them she skates on the polished floors of the Tuilleries.

The Southern Weekly Post.—The Raleigh Weekly Post has been interested in as to obtain about one fourth more matter than before. It is a large and handsome sheet, and very well conducted.—Richmond Dispatch.

DIPLOMACY AND CLOTHES.—Senator Smith it is said will soon call for information relative to the retirement of Mr. Sandford from Paris, which will probably bring up the whole subject of ambassadorial dress.

The newspaper proprietors of Boston have resolved to increase the rates of advertising in their papers to fifty-five per cent. The high price of paper and the accumulating expense of newspaper publishing are the reasons given.

Go. Houston says that of three hundred members of Congress in attendance when the Missouri Compromise was passed, thirty-three years ago, only three remain—Benton, Everett, and himself.

TANNERY HALL AND THE NEBRASKA BILL.—The Senators of Tannery Hall (Soth.) have adopted resolutions declaring the cordial approbation of the Nebraska bill, and their unshaken confidence in the administration of Franklin Pierce.

The silver quarter-dollar now issued from the U. S. Mint, is unlike the emission of 1853, being without the rays around the eagle; but the arrow head on each side of the date is retained, which was adopted at the same time with the new design to mark the distinction between the present and the previous legal standard of purity.

SOUTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD.—The New Orleans papers state that Col. W. H. D. Ward, agent of a New York Company to build a railroad across Texas by the El Paso route to California has commenced operations at Shreveport, Louisiana, with about one hundred men under his orders, and is expected to start on an early day to a much larger force.

PURCHASE OF MOUNT VERNON.

A movement has been originated among the ladies of Virginia, Georgia, and perhaps one or two of the other Southern States for the purchase of Mount Vernon by contributions raised through the agency of the ladies. At Savannah the ladies held a meeting at which committees were appointed to present the subject to the people of that State.

CROPS IN EUROPE.—The London correspondent of the New York Tribune of 27th inst. says, it is pretty well ascertained, that the deficiency in the wheat crop in Western Europe and England, will amount to one hundred and seventy-six millions of bushels—sixty-four millions in France, and one hundred and ten millions in Prussia, Holland, the Rhenish Provinces and Italy.

The New York "Times" gives an account of a gang termed "Reverendists," in that city, who make their living and their money by stealing dead bodies. They supply not only the anatomists of the city of New York and the State, but many public and private dissecting rooms elsewhere. A regular trade is carried on, and hundreds of dead bodies are stolen and shipped every year.

TEMPERANCE IN MARYLAND.—The House of Delegates of Maryland on Saturday before last, passed a prohibitory "Liquor Bill," which, if it shall receive the approval of the Senate, will be submitted to a vote of the People of that State, at a special election to be held on the first Wednesday in November next. The bill, as it passed the House of Delegates, appears to be very stringent in its provisions.

Mr. Badger, the distinguished North Carolina Senator, in a zealous manner of the Episcopal Church, and a member of the Synod of the Diocese of North Carolina, who sits next to Mr. Badger, was, when only nineteen years of age, pastor of the wealthiest Unitarian church in Boston, and when only about twenty years of age, was a learned volume in defence of Christianity.

SUICIDE OF A MINISTER.—By private letter addressed to the editor of this paper, we learn that Mr. Wm. Tabb, of York county, committed suicide a few days since, by cutting his throat with a razor. He was an estimable and worthy citizen, and his death is a great loss to the community. A regular trade is carried on, and hundreds of dead bodies are stolen and shipped every year.

YOUNG BIGAMIST.—Wm. Forrest, aged 19, has been arrested in Brooklyn, for bigamy. He married his first wife two years ago; his second, Margaret McKim, on the 8th of January last, and the third, Mrs. Stevens, one month thereafter. When brought before the court last week, he was charged with bigamy, and was fully committed to await the action of the Grand Jury.

The recent opening of the British Parliament was attended by all the Foreign Ministers in London on the 10th inst. A London paper says: "Neither the minister or any member of the legation was present, information having been sent by the Master of the Ceremonies that members of the diplomatic corps must appear in court dress, which cannot be worn by the American legation without disregarding instructions."