



SPIRIT OF JEFFERSON.



CHARLESTOWN: Tuesday Morning, February 15, 1848. FOR STATE SENATOR.

Democratic Nominee, HEROME L. OPIE, ESQ., OF JEFFERSON. Whig Nominee, JOHN S. GALLAHER, ESQ., OF FREDERICK.

The Editor deems it proper to say to his readers, that he expects to be absent from his post for the next week or two, on business personal to himself.

THE SPRING ELECTION. Upon consultation with many of our Democratic friends of the County, it is deemed best that we should present candidates of our own political faith for the Legislature, at the approaching election.

At the Court-house, on Monday next, (Court-day) at 9 o'clock, P. M. In Smithfield, at the Public School-house, on Saturday, 26th February, at 2 o'clock, P. M. In Shepherdstown, on the 26th, at Joseph Entler's Hotel, at 2 o'clock, P. M.

OUR CANDIDATE. Below we give Mr. OPIE's letter of acceptance, of the nomination recently tendered by the Democratic Senatorial Convention.

WHEELER, Feb. 2, 1848. DEAR SIR—We have been instructed by the Senatorial Convention which assembled at this place on the 1st inst. to inform you of our unanimous nomination by that body as a candidate to represent this District in the Senate of Virginia.

THE CAUSE OF THE WAR.—The Boston Post reports Gen. Pierce as stating on his reception in that city, that while in the city of Mexico, he conversed daily and freely about the war with Mexicans of all professions, and did not find one who attributed its commencement on the part of Mexico to any question of boundary.

Col. Robert Turner presided, assisted by a number of Vice Presidents.

THE CONVENTION.

The Whig Senatorial Convention for nominating a candidate for this District, met in the Court-house, Charlestown, on Thursday last. The attendance of Delegates was very slim; not more than 12 or 15 from the three counties; and we have never before seen a Convention of any kind where there was less interest or feeling manifested.

A Committee was appointed to nominate a candidate for Senator, who presented the name of JOHN S. GALLAHER, Esq., the present incumbent, which nomination was confirmed by the Convention. The peculiar mode adopted for making the nomination, precluded the possibility of the friends of any of the other aspirants, (than the one recommended by the Committee) being heard, or their claims fairly considered, except by putting themselves in open hostility to the nomination of the Committee.

Among the speeches delivered before the Convention, was one by ROBERT Y. CONRAD, Esq., of Winchester, remarkable alike for its inaccuracies, as for its violence and its vindictiveness. The Mexican War was the great topic. The President was denounced for having ordered our troops to take a position opposite to Matamoros, for the sole purpose of goading Mexico to rebellion, and defending by the sword her injured rights and outraged honor!

With singular inconsistency, after denouncing Mr. Polk for bringing on the War, Mr. CONRAD argued throughout his whole speech, that the annexation of Texas was the great cause of all our difficulties. He denominated this act as rash, unnecessary and indiscreet. Now upon whom, sooths, does this measure rest? The question was presented to the American people, and with great unanimity they declared in favor of it.

THE WAR OF THE WHITE AND RED ROSES still continues. The Whigs have not yet decided whether they will run a general or a civilian—Mr. Clay or Gen. Taylor. If they select Mr. Clay, they will put forth more directly the principles of their party. If they run Gen. Taylor, they will resort to more humbug and devices for the purpose of throwing their principles into the shade, under the plea of a no-party candidate, whilst they believe that he is a decided Whig.

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A slight inaccuracy having occurred in the published proceedings as to the Balloting of the Democratic Senatorial Convention, as given in our last paper, we present below a corrected statement of the same.

It appears by the following, that the "Richmond Republican" was in error, as to the rearing of that fine mutton, presented by JAMES CASTLEMAN, Esq., of Clarke County, to Gov. Smith of Virginia, on the occasion of the Shield and Quiltman Dinner, at the Governor's mansion.

AN AFFAIR OF A DUEL. An affair of a duel, between two of the young bloods of the old and staid county of Loudoun, was to have come off on yesterday, according to rumor, at the Point of Rocks, in Md. Its origin was a mere trifle, and if its result has been fatal, it is the more to be deplored.

THE PRACTICAL ADVANTAGE of Insurance has been realized by our townsman, Mr. JOS. S. JACKSON, who had been induced, as we understand, to insure his brick building on the 27th of December last.—On the 12th of January, the building insured took fire, and was burned to the second story; and on the 24th of January, the amount of damage was ascertained by judgment of competent workmen, and the amount paid over at once to Mr. JACKSON by Mr. JOSEPH S. CARSON, the Agent of the Franklin Fire Insurance Company of Philadelphia, for this county.

EXCHANGE HOTEL, WASHINGTON CITY.—The writer of this, who was lately a guest at the Exchange Hotel, kept by T. M. McILHenny, of Loudoun County, begs leave to call the attention of visitors to Washington, to the superior accommodations of this establishment.

COMMON SCHOOLS IN MEXICO.—A "great mass educational meeting" was held in Matamoros on the 5th ult. The object of the meeting was declared to be to establish a general system of education, beginning with Matamoros and extending into the country as far as practicable.

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WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?

The Whigs are responsible at the bar of public opinion for the continuation of the war. If they had acted promptly and energetically during the present Congress, we should have had an early peace. This rests upon the opinion of some of the most distinguished officers of the army.—But instead of co-operating in the vigorous prosecution of the war, they have displayed the most reckless opposition.

THE PROSPECT. The following very flattering exhibit of the strength of the Democracy of the country, as indicated by the latest expression of public opinion, is from the New York Globe. The prospects of our party were never so encouraging as at the present moment. The popular vote of more than two-thirds of the States is Democratic.

NO TREATY OF PEACE. It will be seen, by the report of the proceedings of the House of Representatives, on Friday, that the President of the United States transmitted a message, in reply to a resolution submitted on the 7th inst., stating that no communication has been received from Mexico containing propositions for a treaty of peace, except the counter project presented by the Mexican commissioners to Mr. Trist on the 16th of September last.

DEMOCRATIC WHIG. Maine, Vermont, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, —9.

MR. WISE'S POSITION.—The Richmond Enquirer quotes an extract of a letter, dated Accomac Court House, January 31st, giving an account of a political meeting there, at which Henry A. Wise spoke, which it regards as "showing how firmly Mr. Wise stands upon the broad platform of the Democratic party."

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PROSPECT OF A BATTLE.

APPROACH OF A MEXICAN ARMY.—The Richmond Republican has received a letter from a friend at Buena Vista, dated the 17th of January, which gives information that Gen. Bustamante is at Guanajuato (pronounced Guan-wan-to) at the head of 6,000 troops—there are 1600 at San Luis—3,000 at Durango under Urrea—and that the State of Zacatecas has raised 10,000—making 21 to 25,000 in all.

Col. Hamtramck has under his command 3,600 men—the 18th Regiment at Monterey can soon be thrown up and the Dragoon and Bragg's battery will number 1,000—altogether, constituting a force of 4,600 in the field. We would have 5 batteries of light artillery in perfect order, 4 regiments of infantry, 10 companies of dragoons and 4 of cavalry.

STANDS FAST. The Richmond Republican, in answer to some remarks of the Lexington Star, stating that the former paper would not, that a Whig National Convention had been determined upon, haul down the flag of "Old Zach" and run up in its place the caucous nomines, says:—We don't expect to what we shall do. Oh, no.—But, as the Dutchman said, we can't help thinking 4-nit!

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DOINGS AT RICHMOND.

On the 8th of January last, the Democratic officers of the Virginia Regiment, gave a splendid entertainment at Buena Vista, Mexico, at which all the officers of the Regiment, with a large number of officers, as invited guests, from other regiments and corps, were present.

After being seated at the table, (says a correspondent of the Richmond Enquirer,) the President called the assembly to order, and introduced, as orator of the day, Capt. James L. Kemper, who addressed the assembly in a most eloquent and impressive manner. He enlivened the audience for nearly an hour. His address abounded in lofty and patriotic sentiments.

By Capt. Young, President of the day. John C. Calhoun, the statesman, the patriot and scholar of Virginia, the rights of the South; to him she points as her polar star.

By Lieut. Harrison, Vice President of the day. Gen. Andrew Jackson: His victory at New Orleans over the flower of the British army, flushed with success in the Peninsular War, proclaimed him the greatest chieftain of the age.

By Major Patrick, U. S. A. (an invited guest.) Col. Hamtramck and his gallant Regiment: A living monument to the patriotism and public spirit of Virginia is not dead—the occasion is all that is wanting to identify it with the history of chivalric valor and noble deeds.

By Lieut. A. B. Deane, (an invited guest.) Lieutenant Colonel Randolph: His absence is deeply lamented by his friends and brother officers—they look forward to his return to their midst, with the same ardor a lover would delight to clasp his absent sweetheart.

By Major Strokes, of the North Carolina Regiment, (invited guest.) The Orator of the Day: The originality of his address proves the power of his intellect.



