

Virginia Free Press and Farmers' Repository

Virginia Free Press.

BY GALLAHER & CO.
THURSDAY MORNING.

FEBRUARY 11, 1852.

KNOCK DOWN ARGUMENTS.

The House of Representatives presented a disgraceful scene on Saturday morning. The after part of the session of yesterday was a stormy one on the subject of Kansas. Mr. Davis, of Illinois, (a Douglas man,) had submitted a proposition for the appointment of a select committee to inquire into all the facts connected with the adoption of the Lecompton Constitution and the election held in that Territory. In this he called the "previous question," and then moved to adjourn, and debate, and therefore caused a system of legislative tactics by the Administration party, who evidently felt themselves in a minority. One member, Mr. Lovins, failed to be excused from this session, and remained for the first part of it. Mr. Coffin, of New Hampshire, asked to be excused from Voting on this, and also called the session over. Motions to adjourn were made from time to time and defeated, and thus the time was spent until nearly 2 o'clock on Saturday morning, when a "free fight" was brought on in the following manner, as detailed by a member:

Mr. Coffin had made a conciliatory proposal, desiring to defer further proceedings until Monday.

"Mr. Grow objected to Mr. Coffin's making any motion. Mr. Kent said, 'If you are going to object to my motion, you will be obliged to object to mine.' Mr. Coffin responded, 'This is a free hall; and every man has a right to be where he pleases.' Mr. Kent then came up to Mr. Grow, and said, 'I want to know what you mean by such an answer as that?'" Mr. Grow replied, "I mean just what I say—this is a free hall; and a man has a right to be where he pleases." Mr. Kent (taking his seat) said, "I want to know whether you know that you are a slaveholder?" Mr. Coffin looked up his hand, saying, "I shall occupy such place in this hall as I please; and no nigger driver shall crush him over me." Mr. Kent then again grabbed Mr. Grow by the throat, and Mr. Grow applied his hand off, and Mr. Kent casted himself down.

The right hon. placed his hands on the shoulders of the popular heart.

Mr. Ward, of Logan county, also made a conciliatory speech, in which he ridiculed the evicting speech of the Treasurer-Treasurer.

His remarks were delivered with characteristic fervor, and though sarcastic, were intermingled with racy allusions, which kept the House in a good humor.

(Richmond Whig.)

BURGLARS ABOUT.

On Wednesday night (say the Shepherdstown Register, of 5th inst.), the store of Mr. John H. McEndree, of this place, was entered by way of the back door. The back door was found the next morning to be standing open, and from indications it was evident that the door was forced open by a crowbar or something of the kind, as the door was secured by iron fastenings. The burglar's object was to lay hands on the key to the safe of the large two-story building, evidently sustained by trying to force the safe open, in which Mr. McEndree had placed all the money, contained in the drawers, before leaving the store. Strong efforts were made to prove that they were in search of money from the last 1852 meeting of the least value had been taken. The papers in the desk and a considerable amount of goods were tossed about, produced no doubt in the search of the key to the iron safe. It behoves every citizen to be on the alert for those graceless scamps.

BERKSHIRE AYRSHIRE.

The Marietta Division of the Sons of Temperance are to have a grand Rally on the 23d instant, by Preceptor, &c. The adjoining Divisions, and the public generally are invited to attend. The Marietta Brass Band has been procured for the occasion.

The law office of Mr. D. B. Chenevib, on King street, was partially burned on Saturday week. The most valuable portion of his library was destroyed. All his papers, account books, &c., were entirely consumed. The building belongs to Mr. P. J. McGahey. No insurance on either the building or its contents.

EFFECTS OF THE CRISIS.

A tract of land in the county of Berkeley in "Whiting's Neck," of which Isaac Long died seized, commonly known as the "Fairfax Whiting Farm," consisting about 104 acres, was sold on Monday last in front of the Court House in Martinsburg, by Edmund Pendleton, Special Commissioner, for the sum of \$17,851 to Mr. John Bentz. This land is well improved, and is assessed upon the Commissioner's books at \$40.

Another 50 acres of the tract lie in river bottom, and only \$17.50 given—four fourths in hand and the residue in 12, 20 and 28 months.

SOUTHERN LITERARY MESSENGER.

The February number is on our table, and filled with its usual variety. The Richmond South, commanding this work to the people of the South, says:

"Through 'good and evil report,' through all the fluctuations of public favor, and amidst the vicissitudes of fortune, we have adhered to the South, which charmed us with its beauty, and disengaged us from its power. We do not regret our course, nor do we fear to have seen in any part of the United States, such handsome and elegant efforts for the diffusion of knowledge, and elegant culture, as we have seen in the South."

The vote upon the proposition of Mr. Haas is considered on all sides a defeat of the Administration on the Kansas question, and an investigation of facts is likely to strengthen the opposition. The "development" from Kansas exhibit scenes disgraceful to the civilization of the age, and show that "popular sovereignty" in that region has been nothing but a mockery and a cheat from beginning to end. If end there can be.

TEMPERANCE CAUSE.

An enthusiastic Temperance meeting was held at the Court House in this town on Thursday night last. Although the notice of the meeting was short, a large number of our citizens were present to hear an eloquent address, and the meeting adjourned to Monday night; and we are sure from the interest manifested at the meeting on Monday evening last, that the cause of Temperance is progressing. Every seat in our Court Room was occupied, and a number of gentlemen were obliged to stand outside. We were pleased to see so many present.

The remarks by Revs. C. H. Ambler and Norval Wilson, were heard with marked attention, and we doubt not, have caused many who heard them, to exercise their thinking faculties.

The Pledge was then presented, and received a number of signatures. As it was suggested that an Association be formed, a Committee was appointed for the purpose of drafting By-Laws, and reporting permanent officers at the next meeting, which will be on Monday night. A full audience is desired.

DEATH OF AN OLD FRIEND.

On Friday last, Peter Ott, one of the Delegates of Baltimore in 1812, died at his residence in Frederick city, in the 74th year of his age.

Mrs. HOPE, OF BIRMINGHAM.

In the House of Delegates, on Saturday, Mr. John Blair, the delegate from Berkeley county, delivered one of the most eloquent and forcible speeches ever uttered in the house, and this opinion is shared by every one who heard it, except, perhaps, those whose welfare were not untroubling. He, in reply to the speech of Mr. Haywood, who opposed the appropriation of the expenses of the approaching celebration, and gave expression to his "aurea and dignitatis" in a dignified and ornate speech, urged the effect of his exertion. He said that if the representative constituency who would take him to task for his vote on the pending proposition, he would consider himself dishonored, and should never again consent to represent the people. He pictured the consequences of a defeat of the bill. The distinguished guests of the Commonwealth would be present on the 22d, and the Governor would say to them, "Gentlemen, there is in the state some virtue in your neighbor's intent, but if

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CONGRESS.

In the United States Senate Thursday Mr. Jones, of Iowa, presented the resolution of the Legislature of that State instructing its Senators to oppose the Lecompton Constitution or to reject it, and, though it was admitted that a majority of the people of Iowa would support that resolution, yet he declared that it was not the most remote idea of the bill which were not untroubling. He, in reply to the speech of Mr. Haywood, who opposed the appropriation of the expenses of the approaching celebration, and gave expression to his "aurea and dignitatis" in a dignified and ornate speech, urged the effect of his exertion. He said that if the representative constituency who would take him to task for his vote on the pending proposition, he would consider himself dishonored, and should never again consent to represent the people. He pictured the consequences of a defeat of the bill. The distinguished guests of the Commonwealth would be present on the 22d, and the Governor would say to them, "Gentlemen, there is in the state some virtue in your neighbor's intent, but if

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