

MEXICO INDEPENDENT.

Thursday, March 21, 1861.

INTRODUCTORY.

On our first appearance in this county as public journalists, it is fit that we give ourselves a proper introduction, by briefly stating our object and purposes, hereafter. Our object is to establish in this village what has so long been wanted, to place it on an equal footing with other thriving villages in the State;—a public press and local newspaper, devoted to the interests and welfare of this place and adjacent towns. We intend to furnish the citizens of Mexico of their dependence on other places for their printing, and their family newspaper, by furnishing them facilities for having the one done, and by supplying them with the other, at home.

We design to furnish our patrons with a general newspaper, that can be with truth called a family one. The INDEPENDENT will be devoted to the best interests of this community, and we shall sustain and advocate all such measures as may tend to promote the prosperity of this village and its citizens generally. Our readers will find in its columns a large amount of choice miscellaneous reading, together with all the latest general intelligence of the day, and such local matters and items as may be of importance, and a faithful record of all important transactions and events both here and elsewhere.

In politics, we shall be independent of all party organizations free to uphold and defend the right, and free to oppose the wrong. While thus reserving to ourselves the right to comment on any political question, we believe we shall best subserve the interests of this community by devoting less attention to politics, and more to local matters.

We intend to make the INDEPENDENT purely a family paper, and in order to do so, we present it to the public in its present attractive form, which we consider the best we could adopt. It will embrace in its columns matter that will be amusing and instructive to all classes, as well as the man of business, the farmer, and mechanic, as the family circle.

We are fully aware, that in starting a weekly paper in this village, we run considerable risk of meeting with pecuniary loss; but having received strong assurances of support from many of your leading citizens, we have ventured to risk our little all—to cast our bread upon the waters—and await patiently a recompense for our services.

In trusting to the magnanimity and generosity of the citizens of Mexico and vicinity, we hope we have not counted in vain. Without your co-operation, we cannot succeed; with it, we shall, as we believe, be enabled to establish the INDEPENDENT on a solid basis.

We come among you desirous of becoming identified with the interests of the place, and to advocate what will benefit you locally. The press has its influence for good or for evil; and as we believe what little influence our paper may exert will be for the good of this community, we think that our call for a fair support will not be made in vain.

Write for your Local Paper.

Desiring to give as much original matter in the INDEPENDENT as possible, we invite all our friends who are capable of writing for the press (and we learn that there is a goodly number in our village who can write well), to forward us communications, as often as possible, on such subjects as will tend to interest and instruct our readers. In this (our first) issue we have, through the kindness of friends, been able to give insertion to original pieces, both of prose and poetry, on local matters, for which the writers thereof have our thanks. We shall at all times be pleased to receive communications treating on local topics from our friends in any part of the county.

Intending to devote one or two columns of our paper weekly to agricultural subjects, we shall be glad if those of our subscribers who are engaged in tilling the soil, will occasionally furnish us with articles, giving their experience, so that the INDEPENDENT will contain an agricultural department replete with useful information. We know that most farmers dislike writing for the press. They would rather work in the fields for a week than write a brief article for a newspaper. They think they cannot write well enough, and suppose that if they did write, their communications would be thrown into the waste-box, or given over to the tender mercies of the "printer's devil." We believe there are many farmers in this county who are competent to give many

valuable hints on agricultural subjects, and if they will send us their experience, no matter if they do not write in the most approved style, we will cheerfully insert it in our columns.

We hope to have a department for the ladies that will be full of interest and instruction. It will be our aim to give such articles in the "Ladies' Olio" as will prove highly beneficial to all who peruse them. Ladies of Mexico, as well as those who reside in adjacent towns, we want you to assist us in our efforts to make our department valuable. Many of your articles, we do not wish to write on a variety of subjects in an interesting manner, and we trust you will, from time to time, furnish us with communications that will be worth reading and re-reading.

Virginia as a Mediator.

Virginia, through her Convention, proposes terms of adjustment between the Federal Government and the seceding States, which, in substance, are as follows:

1. That the Slave States have a perfect right to uphold Slavery;
2. That the Free States have no right to oppose Slavery;
3. That either Slavery must be allowed freely to enter all Federal Territories in competition with Free Labor, or the Territories must be divided between them.
4. Forts must not be held, nor troops stationed, within any State unless in accordance with the wishes of the ruling power in said State.
5. An "adjustment" may be had, and the Union preserved.
6. There is need of more efficient fugitive slave laws, and more Northern alacrity in slave-hunting.
7. The Federal Constitution must be amended as to render it more satisfactory to the slaveholders.
8. The right of State Secession is recognized by Virginia.
9. But it is not clearly affirmed in the Constitution, and the Federal authorities deem themselves unauthorized to concede and give effect to it.
10. Therefore Virginia proposes to have that right plainly affirmed and its exercise provided for in the Federal compact.
11. Virginia asks the non-slaveholding States to assent to the foregoing propositions; failing which, she will secede.
12. Meantime, the seceded States must not be "coerced" nor compelled to obey the laws of the Union;
13. And the seceded States must not attack the Federal Government, provided it lets them do as they please.
14. The non-seceded Slave State States are summoned to meet by delegates in Convention at Frankfort, Ky., on the last Monday in May next.

The Southern Congress.

The following are the principal features of the permanent Constitution of the Confederate States:

- No person who is foreign and not a citizen of the Confederate States is allowed to vote for any officer, civil or political, State or Federal.
- Under the first clauses South Carolina is entitled to 5 Representatives in Congress; Georgia 10; Alabama 9; Florida 2; Mississippi 7; Louisiana 6; Texas 6, and each State to two Senators.
- The State Legislatures may impeach Judicial or Federal officers resident and acting in said States by a two-thirds vote.
- Both Houses of Congress may grant seats on the floor to either of the principal officers of each executive department, with the privilege of discussing measures of his department.
- Representation on the basis of three-fifths for slaves is continued.
- Congress is not allowed through duties to foster any branch of industry.
- The foreign slave-trade is prohibited.
- Congress is prohibited from making appropriations unless by a vote of two-thirds of both Houses, except the appropriations be asked by the head of some Department, or the President.
- No extra compensation is to be allowed to any contractor, officer, or agent; after the contract is made, or the service rendered.
- Every law shall relate to but one subject, and be expressed by titles.
- The President and Vice-President are to hold office for six years.
- The principal officers of departments and the diplomatic service are removable at the pleasure of the President. Other civil officers are removable when their services are unnecessary, or other good causes and reasons. Removals must be reported to the Senate when practicable. No capricious removals are tolerated.
- Other States are to be admitted to the Confederacy by a vote of two-thirds of both Houses.
- The Confederacy may acquire Territory, and Slavery shall be acknowledged and protected by Congress and the territorial Government.
- When five States shall ratify the Permanent Constitution, it shall be established for said States, until ratified. The Provisional Consti-

tution shall continue in force, not extending beyond one year.

News Miscellany.

—Charles Sumner styles President Lincoln's inaugural "a hand of steel in a glove of velvet."

—Gen. Lane is reported to have given it as his opinion that President Buchanan is "2 kurrup" for the Democracy.

—At the recent election of Post-master in Fremont, O., Mrs. Melter, a Democratic female, bore off the palm.

—There are twelve first-class foreign missions to be filled, with salaries of \$12,000 to \$18,000 each; twenty missions of seventy-five hundred each, besides lesser missions and consularships innumerable.

—Secretary Chase will, it is said, insist that the law requiring subordinates in his Department to be examined before their appointment, shall be strictly enforced, and no applicant will be admitted to office without entire qualification.

—Hon. Daniel S. Dickinson, says in a recent letter: "I am an old line democrat, of the straightest sect, but I acknowledge fealty to no party except such as 'keeps step to the music of the Constitution and the Union,' and so long as a flag bearing the stripes of my country and all her stars, flutters in the breeze, I shall rally under it, and wage battle there."

—Wm. M. Browne, late editor of the Washington Union, has been appointed Assistant Secretary of State of the Southern Confederacy.

—It is stated that the foreign Ministers at Washington are unanimously of opinion that no European power will recognize the Southern Confederacy until the independence of the seceding States is fully admitted by the United States Government.

—Cassius M. Clay, of Kentucky, has been appointed Minister to Spain; and Thomas Corwin, of Ohio, Minister to Mexico. Mr. Lincoln has done well in giving these gentlemen missions so important. They have long labored for the good of the Union, and are well fitted for the posts assigned them.

LEGAL ADVERTISING.—An effort is being made in the Legislature to cut down the fees for legal advertising. We trust it will be unsuccessful, as the profits of newspaper proprietors are already too small.

—The Auburn Advertiser says, that William Boynton, Jr., who recently went into Pennsylvania from that city to try his luck in the oil business, has "struck a vein." A short time since he was a poor man; now his pocket holds seventeen thousand dollars, the product of a successful strike.

—Judge Harris, the successor of Mr. Seward in the United States Senate, is pronounced by Washington correspondents the finest looking member of that body.

—The Rev. Thomas K. Beecher, brother of Henry Ward, walking through Elmira, saw a poor widow, who had no one to help her, sawing her wood. Immediately off went his overcoat and muffler, and sound ministerial muscle soon finished the little pile she had. The next day a cord of wood was laid before the widow's door, and sawed and piled by two men—the pay coming out of the Reverend Beecher's pocket.

—Spelling matches are all the rage in Windsor, Conn. They had one in Camp Hall, Monday night, and collected \$40 in ten-cent admissions. Nine schools of the town sent five picked spellers. First prize, Webster's unabridged pictorial dictionary. They used up the spelling book, two or three geographies, and had to bring out the classics before some of the sharpest spellers would succumb.

—Gen. Beauregard, now in command of the rebel forces at Charleston, has much fame as a tactician. It is said when Gen. Scott's council differed in opinion as to the plan for attacking Mexico, after others had spoken, Gen. Scott called on Lieutenant Beauregard, whose conduct at Vera Cruz, Cerro Gordo and Contreras, had strongly attracted his attention. That young officer observed that, inasmuch as he differed in toto with his brother engineers, he felt great diffidence in expressing his views; but he finally agreed upon the plan of Gen. Scott, it was acted upon, and the city was taken.

—Within a short time we have seen it stated that a certain English nobleman has suspended musical bells on the necks of all his cows, each bell tuned in a different note of the scale, and the whole running through several octaves. A visitor to this farm is charmed by the music, as well as by the sleek sides of the cattle. Sometimes he hears several notes in unison, then a slight discord, and then a sweet harmony, and all varied by distance, and by the rising and falling of the breeze.

—A recent English paper, in an obituary notice, states, with solemn gravity, that the deceased was notable "for the active part he took in the management of the Society for the Preservation of Ancient Footh-paths," and for the fact that he was "Secretary to the Beer-sellers' Association," both of which Pickwickian titles

the writer seemed to think conferred upon their holder a passport to fame.

—A blind man, led by a dog, while wandering in the streets of Paris, had his dog seized by some one passing; instantly opening his eyes, he gave chase, and overtaking the thief, outduged him severely, after which he closed his eyes, and fell to begging again.

Terrible Tragedy in Florida.

The following is an account of the tragedy which occurred in Sumpter county, Florida, on the 13th ult. The Rev. George Andrews, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, killed two men and wounded two others. He was accused of seducing a young girl, fourteen or fifteen years of age, a relative, living at his house at the time. He was reported to have been whipping the young girl, and acknowledged as much to the citizens. For these misdeeds, a summons was issued for him to appear at the Court House, Sumpterville, before the people on Saturday, the 16th ult. Having heard of this, and of the parties who were to serve the summons, Messrs. McLendon and Lang, he proceeded to the house of the former and took dinner with the family. After dinner they went to the workshop. Andrews asked McLendon for the lone of his horse to go to Adamsville, which was granted. He had in his possession one double-barrel gun, one yanger-rifle, two repeaters, and two bowie-knives.

Whilst the horse was being caught a conversation arose about him (Andrews) being summoned before the Regulators. Whereupon Mr. Lang said Yes, sir, and here is the summons for you. During this conversation McLendon was mending a pair of shoes. Immediately after Lang's answer, Andrews leveled his gun on McLendon, shot him in the side and killed him instantly. Turning round quickly, he leveled his gun to shoot Lang with the other barrel. Lang knocked up the gun, and received the whole load in the palm of his hand. Lang then picked up Andrews' yanger to shoot him (Andrews), but could not cock it on account of his shattered hand, threw down the gun and ran. As he ran Andrews shot him through the left wrist with a repeater.

A Mr. Hyatt, in the shop at the time, picked up the yanger, run off about thirty yards and leveled it at Andrews, but the latter was too quick, and shot Hyatt with his repeater, grazing him on the shoulder. Hyatt shot, but missed. Hereupon Andrews took after Lang, and pursued him about two hundred yards. Not being able to overtake him, he returned to the shop, reloaded his gun, and proceeded over to Mr. Condray's, about one mile distant.

At Condray's gate Adams met Dr. McHenry, whom he told he was very tired and thirsty, and wanted a drink of water; stepping inside the yard, and seeing Mr. Condray talking to a negro boy, he observed, "I have commenced my work and here I intend to finish it." Whereupon he leveled his gun and shot Condray through the bowels, who only lived about four hours.

Rev. Mr. Harker, being present, seized the wretch from behind and held him fast until McHenry came to his assistance. As soon as the Doctor caught hold of Andrews, the latter presented his gun to the Doctor's breast; who warned it off and the load went into the ground. He was then tied and confined until six o'clock, under strict guard.

The news having been circulated in the neighborhood, a large number of citizens assembled at Condray's house. After due deliberation he was adjudged to be worthy of being hanged; and about 12 o'clock M. he was hanged accordingly; sixty or seventy citizens of the county signing his death warrant. There was not a dissenting voice on the ground. The last words of this hardened wretch were, "I am only sorry that I did not kill three or four more."

Important from Charleston.

THE FAMOUS FLOATING BATTERY A DEAD FAILURE.

From the Albany Journal.  
Charles Pearson, formerly a clerk for Wendell & Felton, of this city, has just returned home, after several months sojourn in Charleston: He left to avoid being drafted into the regular army of the Southern Confederacy. About every third man is drafted. He had a wish to be shot at by, or to shoot, Northern men.

The much talked of Floating Battery, was abandoned as a total failure. Mr. Pearson was present when Gen. Beauregard first saw it. The General laughed at it; and soon after it was launched it capsized and sunk.

When this disaster befell it, the Charlestonians said it was never intended for service, but merely to amuse the impatient hot-temper, who insisted upon storming Fort Sumter.

A girl advertises in a German newspaper for a situation as her maid, and offers a refreshment saloon. Among her qualifications for such a position, she says she can cut up pieces of bread and butter, of mathematical appearance, out of one pound of bread and two ounces of butter.