

Oglethorpe Meeting.—By way of papers from Augusta and Milledgeville, we have at length received the proceedings of the public meeting held in our neighboring town of Lexington, on the 3d inst. Neither our limits, inclination, nor the necessity of the case, admit their publication entire; yet that our readers may know the results, we will endeavor to give an abstract, embracing every material fact in relation to them.

It is stated that "the company assembled in the Court-House, and were organized by calling John Moore, Esq. to the Chair, and appointing Benj. F. Hardeman and Wm. McKinley, Esq's. Secretaries. The crowd was so great, that comparatively few could be seated: and having nominated Joseph H. Lumpkin, John M. Berrien, Geo. H. Young, Augustin S. Clayton, Burwell Pope, Seaborn Jones, Isaac Collier, Thomas F. Foster and John Billups, to collect public sentiment, and prepare and report at three o'clock P. M., Resolutions in conformity therewith—the meeting then adjourned to the Grove, around the Female Academy, where a sumptuous dinner was provided by a few generous citizens."

After the usual time allotted to the exercise of mastication had elapsed, the cloth was removed, and then commenced the soul-stirring ebullitions of the assembled multitude. Many of the sentiments offered, were generous, unobjectionable and patriotic; but there were some which, despite our wishes to the contrary, impressed us with the belief that the cold water, used as we understand upon the occasion, must have been adulterated. "Temperance" was toasted—and here we would beg leave to suggest, that while they were "nullifying every Dram-shop, Run-hogshead, Brandy-barrel, and Whiskey cask in the land," there are other species of intemperance requiring salutary demolition by this "attribute of State sovereignty." At the head of the list of toasts, we observe one to "Our Senators and Representatives in Congress;" to which Col. Foster, in behalf of himself and colleagues, replied. In his brief, but truly eloquent and convincing address, he advocated a Convention of the people of the State, anticipating the most favorable result from such a union of counsel and action. He then remarks—

"And here I will suggest the course which I hope this Convention will pursue. The cause in which we are engaged is common to the whole South, (Louisiana only excepted)—and there can be no doubt that the most effectual mode of resistance would be by union and concert among the Southern States. I would therefore have our convention propose to the other Southern States a convention of delegates from those States, to be assembled as early during the ensuing winter as suitable arrangements can be made, for the purpose of consulting on the measures proper to be adopted, and of ensuring the action and zealous co-operation of the people in the prosecution of the measures. The convention is also free from all objection.—The manufacturers certainly cannot object to it, for it is by the concert growing out of similar assemblages, that they have succeeded in fixing this system upon us. Do not, however, understand me as suggesting this convention for the purpose of addressing another memorial to Congress. We have had enough of these in all conscience. In our appeals to that body we have employed every form, from the most solemn and spirited protests, down to the subdued tone of supplication; and our appeals have been disregarded, our remonstrances unheeded, and our supplications contemned: a selfish and avaricious majority have laughed at our calamities and mocked at our complaints. I should therefore consider it as humiliating, as descending below your dignity as freemen, to present yourselves again as petitioners for that justice which is thus denied you. But I would have this convention of Southern Delegates address an earnest remonstrance to the other States of the Union, setting forth in a calm and temperate, but candid and decisive manner, our grievances and oppressions, and calling upon them to have our burthens removed. An appeal thus made, and as with one voice, by the whole South, could not, would not be disregarded—and we might hope very soon to see its influence on the legislation of Congress. If, however, we should be disappointed—if no effect should be produced, and our lords and masters should still remain "deaf to the demands of justice," we shall have given additional evidence of our anxiety to avoid extremities—we shall place our oppressors still more in the wrong, and we shall be the more entirely justified to ourselves, and to an impartial world, in any measures which may then be considered necessary for our security and protection.

"I am aware that many of my fellow-citizens, and among them, some whom I am proud to characterize as my warm friends, are opposed to this idea of a Southern Convention, because they think it impracticable—they do not believe that all the Southern States would unite in it. Suppose they should not, do we lose any thing by proposing it? On the contrary, do we not strengthen our cause by giving additional evidence of our moderation and forbearance? And is not the object to be attained, at least worth the effort? There are a great many of our fellow citizens of the South, who honestly believe that the law recently pas-

sed, is the beginning of a gradual reduction of duties, and that from this time the mis-called American System will go down. We as honestly believe that this hope is vain, unless some decisive step is taken. There is, however, a decent respect due to the opinions of those who differ from us; and I have no doubt they will see their error before the termination of the next session of Congress. Should this be the case, and should we fail in the good effects which we anticipate from the proposed Southern Convention, those good citizens who shall have been thus disappointed, will unite more cordially with us in any ulterior measures which may be proposed."

In concluding, Col. Foster recommended that we should exercise forbearance towards our brethren of other Southern States, reminding us that in this "great struggle for constitutional liberty," we should "pursue such measures as, under all the circumstances, may seem best calculated to attain the object; and if we cannot concur in such as may be suggested by our brethren of other States," we should at least "studiously avoid every thing which may tend to paralyze their efforts."

We view it as a right, as a constitutional privilege we enjoy as a free people, to meet in convention for the purpose of taking into consideration any subject touching our rights as a free and sovereign State. The present crisis demands such a movement, and we are perfectly willing to lend our aid to a cause we believe to be so just and necessary. The course laid down for the contemplated convention to pursue, by our worthy and consistent representative, meets with our warmest approbation. We have always admired the prudent, but firm and dignified course of this gentleman, since his very first appearance in public life. He is indeed worthy to be called the *mentor* of some public men, who make twenty times the *noise* that he does in the national councils of their country. The plan he proposes we look upon as the only "peaceful and constitutional" course, and consequently "the rightful remedy;" and we would respectfully advise all those who love their country, its prosperity and happiness, to be particular in instructing the delegates in whose hands they intend to intrust "their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor," to pursue it; believing if it is adhered to perseveringly, unitedly and firmly, by the Southern States, that in a few years the odious American System will be compelled to yield to its influence, and our beloved country saved from nullification, and all its concomitant evils—civil war, bloodshed, anarchy and confusion!

The Hon. A. S. Clayton and Judge Berrien were subsequently toasted, each of whom responded to the compliment; the former in a speech of an hour in length. Col. J. H. Lumpkin, from the committee appointed for that purpose, reported the preamble and resolutions annexed, which were advocated by Col. S. Jones, "who contended; that notwithstanding the taxes had been lessened four millions, still the burthens on the South were not diminished." The vote was then taken on the preamble and each resolution separately, and all carried with scarcely a dissenting voice.

Whereas, it is the opinion of this meeting, that the proceedings of the late Session of Congress, afford abundant and conclusive evidence, that no satisfactory adjustment of the Tariff can be longer expected from a majority, deaf to the voice of justice and reason, and obstinately determined to exercise power, regardless of right. Under the specious name and pretence, of regulating duties on imports, and reducing the same, they are filching from southern labor, its hard-earned pittance—to gratify the cupidity, and inflate the pride, of the Northern manufacturer and capitalist, contrary to the constitution; and to the meaning and intention of the framers thereof. And, whereas, the people of Georgia have only to depend on their sovereignty and reserved rights, for a redress of their wrongs:

Resolved, Therefore, that in the opinion of this meeting, the late law of Congress, to regulate imposts, and all the proceedings and acts of that body, having for their direct object, the encouragement of domestic manufactures, are not only unequal in their operation, but deliberate, palpable, and dangerous breaches of the constitution—to which, as free citizens of Georgia, we ought not, cannot, will not, longer submit.

Resolved, That should the General Government attempt, by force, to coerce into submission, any State which may interpose its sovereignty, to arrest the evil, and thereby preserve the Constitution, we should feel constrained, by a sense of self preservation, to consider her defence essential to our safety.

Resolved, That the people of this county will, on the first Monday in October next, elect four Delegates (the number of their Representatives and Senator in the Legislature,) to meet at Milledgeville, on the 2d Monday in November next, clothed with full powers, in behalf of their Constituents, to maintain, preserve, and defend, the rights and privileges, of the free citizens of this State.

Resolved, That for the purpose of having the sense of the people fully represented in said Convention, and to procure unanimity and concert of action, a committee of seven persons, to wit: John Moore, Burwell Pope, John Banks, John Billups, George H. Young, Joseph H. Lumpkin, J. B. McJunkin and A. S. Hill, be appointed to correspond and confer with similar committees in other counties, and with a central Committee at Milledgeville, (to be nominated by the citizens of Baldwin county) to adopt such measures as will place before the people correct information, and as are best calculated to advance the objects herein contemplated.

Resolved, That the several counties in this State are earnestly, though respectfully, requested to concur in the objects of the foregoing resolutions.

Resolved, That to prevent misconstruction at home or abroad, we aver our confidence in the patriotism of Gen. A. Jackson, unshaken. He is entitled to, and will undoubtedly receive, the almost unanimous suffrage of Georgia.

Resolved, That our proceedings be signed by the Chairman and Secretaries, and inserted in all the public Gazettes of the State.

JOHN MOORE, Chairman.

BENJ. F. HARDEMAN, }
WILLIAM MCKINLEY, } Secretaries.