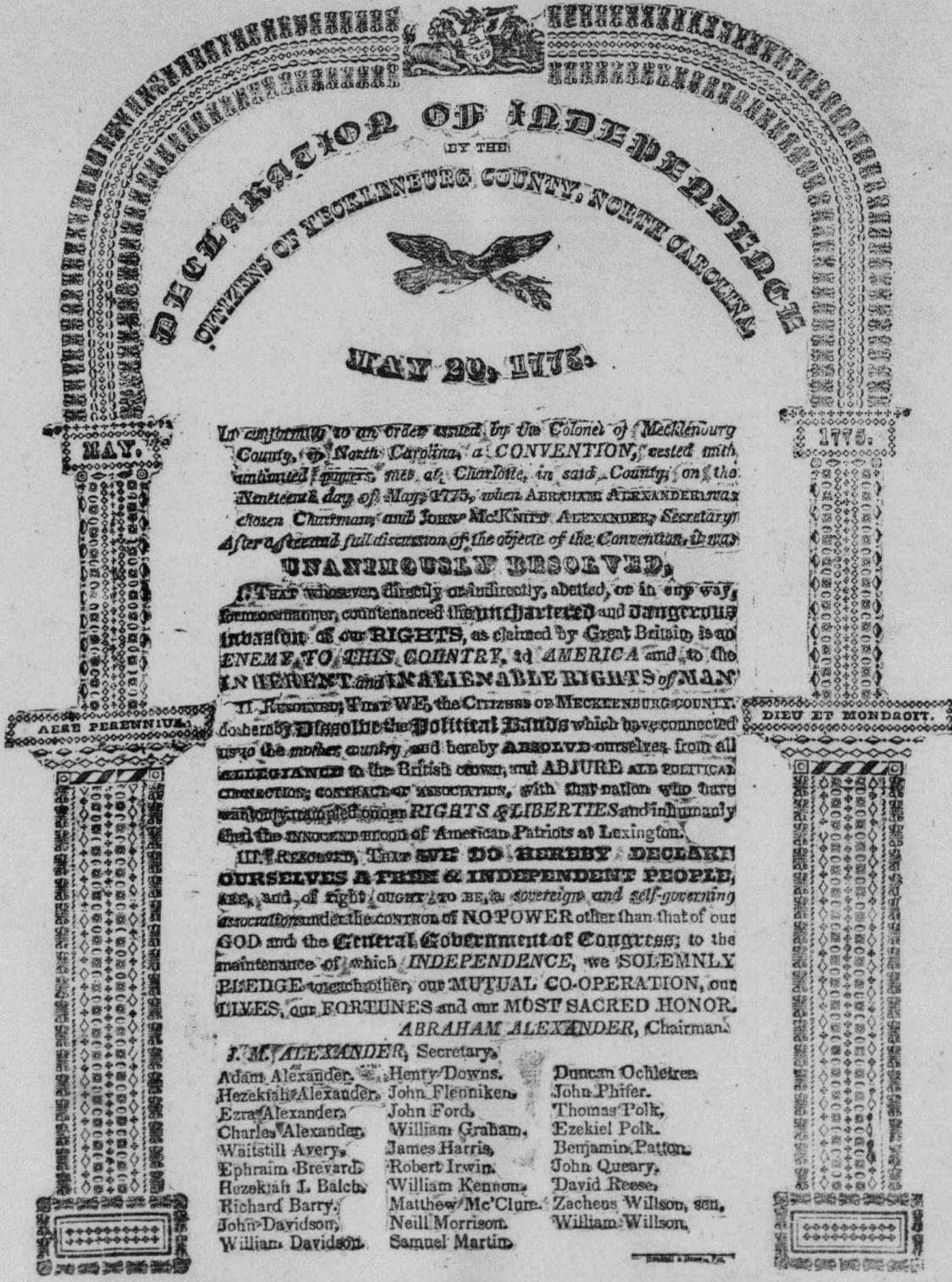


THE MECKLENBERG CELEBRATION.

THE CENTENNIAL POEM.

The following poem, written for the Centennial Anniversary of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence, will be read by its author, the Rev. J. H. Martin, of Georgia—

Below is a fac-simile of a handbill said to have been distributed in North Carolina previous to the year 1800. It is the oldest publication of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence of May 20, 1775, yet discovered in print. It has been stated that it was issued immediately after the adjournment of the Provincial Congress; but, judging from the elaborate bordering, the style and variety of type, old printers agree that it could not have appeared until about the end of the last century.



And land this action to the skies. For here, of all the spots on earth, The patriot finds the place of birth, Where Liberty her course began, The priceless gift of heaven to man.

AUTOGRAPHS OF THE SIGNERS OF THE DECLARATION.

Handwritten signatures of the signers of the Mecklenburg Declaration, including names like Adam Alexander, Henry Downs, John Pifer, and others.



DESCRIPTION OF THE MECKLENBURG MEDAL.

We give on this page correct representations of the Mecklenburg Centennial medals, which are to be distributed to-day during the celebration at Charlotte. These medals are handsome specimens of art, and have been manufactured of both silver and bronze.

THE BATTLE OF THE KEGS.

The occasion of the following composition appears to have been that while the English were in possession of Philadelphia, a schooner, coming down the river, loaded with kegs, met with some mishap, by which the kegs were precipitated into the water.

'Twas early day, as poets say, Just when the sun was rising, A soldier stood on a log of wood And saw a sight surprising.

THE OLD NORTH STATE.

Carolina! Carolina! Heaven's blessings attend her! While we live we will cherish and love and defend her.