

The North Carolina Standard.

THOMAS LORING,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

THE CONSTITUTION AND THE UNION OF THE STATES—THEY "MUST BE PRESERVED."
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FROM THE RICHMOND (VA.) ENQUIRER.
THE PRESIDENCY.

General Harrison and the Missouri Restriction.
"This momentous question, like a fire bell in the night, awakened and filled me with terror."

JEFFERSON, April 1820.
"It is wise to converse with past hours, and to ask them what report they bear," and it is the province of that wisdom which is characterized by humility, to take counsel from the oracles bequeathed us by the sages that are no more. If the great Apostle of Republicanism considered this fire-bell in the night, as the knell of the Union, and the most portentous omen which threatened its existence," it unveiled the anxiety of a mind, whose pure and profound thought, was not surpassed by the magnitude of the question that employed its reflections. The peril of that Union, with all its blessings and its costs, announced to us in language so full of terror and of warning, lays upon every patriot the sacred duty of searching into the acts of those who bore a decisive agency in this question. I have assumed this task, with a reluctant hand, and under obligations to that duty, which cannot be put aside. If in the progress of this enquiry, developments have followed the investigation, inconsistent with existing impressions in the public belief, the voice of justice gives new impulse to the energy of duty, and calls for a fair and full disclosure.

The Congress of the United States, on the 11th of February 1819, was quietly pursuing the harmonious tenor of its way, when Mr. Tallmadge of New York (suddenly returning to his seat, after an absence of leave for the session) moved that amendment to the Missouri bill, which Mr. Jefferson called a fire-bell in the night. The proposition appeared to come with surprise upon the House of Representatives, as unexpected as the sudden apparition among them of the absent member, whose return was pregnant with the scheme. It was expressed in these words: "That the further introduction of Slavery, or involuntary servitude be prohibited, except for the punishment of crimes, whereof the party shall have been fully convicted, and that all children born within the said State after the admission thereof into the Union, shall be free at the age of twenty-five years." After considerable discussion, this proposition to amend was engrafted into the bill, by the House of Representatives; and was sent to the Senate. That body struck it out, and returned it to the House. The question was then destined to a further scrutiny, and two propositions, new in themselves, were submitted; the one by Mr. Taylor of New York, and the other by General Harrison of Ohio; resting in and sustained by the same principles, as will be shown in the sequel. The recorded votes of General Harrison, are found in the opposition to the restriction contemplated by Mr. Tallmadge, the peculiar phrasology of which it is requested may be borne upon the mind, with that also of the stipulation in the treaty by which Louisiana was ceded to the U. S. The conflict of opinion in the two branches of Congress, became decisive of its obstinacy, and the bill perished in the reciprocal adherence of the Senate and the House. The novelty of this experiment upon the passions of interest and ambition, fell upon the popular deliberations that followed in the recess of Congress, and kindled that excitement which aroused party from its paralysis, and inflamed with untiring ardor its sentiments for action. The ancient volcano had burst out—but there stood the mountain; and the elements of discord with which it was embowelled the 14th of February, was enough for a new and more awful eruption. At that moment, when all Nature was awakening its family of love, ambition, (bent to its unholy ends) was brooding over its hopes of desolation and dismay. The popular sensibilities were absorbed by the question, and the Legislative Councils, in most of the States of the Confederacy, yielded to its influence, a monopoly of their cares. Congress reassembled the 6th of December ensuing, and, in the first hour allowed for it, Mr. Scott, the Territorial Delegate, brought the subject once more into the deliberations of Congress. It was quickly ascertained that an extraordinary change of opinion upon this portentous subject, had overtaken the members of the House: and its determination seemed irrevocable by argument, and its majority invincible in numbers.—States that had early spoken their will through the local Legislatures, reiterated its expressions, and those which had uttered no judgment, seemed eager to swell the flood of popular sentiment, that was bearing its full and resistless tide to the Federal councils.—Of these New York stood and acted in the first predicament, in the double expression of its opinion, and Ohio in the second. John B. Spencer, distinguished by that large and splendid intellect which had already shed its lustre upon his services in Congress, was the leading member in his State Legislature. He and Mr. Tallmadge of New York, were both members of that party division at home, powerful in talent, wealth, family influence; and guided by a leader, whose ambition and ability were rivalling with a giant's strength to gain the sceptre of the Confederacy. They were separated in New York by party names (arising from intestine dissension) from the present President of the United States. And it is evident, from the

speech of Mr. Spencer, in the House of Assembly on the Missouri subject in January 1820, that he distrusted the antagonist and political division.

General Harrison retired from Congress in 1819, and at the same election in which Mr. Thomas Ross was chosen his successor to that body, Harrison was elected to the Senate of Ohio. The newspaper files accessible to me, do not disclose any dissatisfaction with his course in the preceding session of Congress, and it is presumed, that none existed. In his legislative career within the State, the public journals show, that doubts in duty to the slave question, neither disturbed his judgment nor paralyzed his activity. Had the circle of Popilius been inscribed around him, by the wand of power, his responses seem as decisive as those of the Syrian King, if they are allowed to be read in his acts, and they interpreted in the plain sense of our mother tongue. The third day of January, 1820, Mr. Thompson brought the Missouri question into the Senate of Ohio, and he, with General Harrison, appear to have been the principal, if not the only actors in the scene. General Harrison made various propositions to commit, to amend and refer to a Select Committee. With a manifest intention to present his views, he adopted portions of the proposition of Mr. Thompson, and moved to strike out and insert, (obviously to the end) that the preamble and resolutions, as advocated by him, might express with fullness and precision his own opinions upon the question they discuss. This document, so approved by General Harrison, and advocated by him on the 3d day of January, 1820, in the Senate of Ohio, is in the following words: "Whereas the existence of slavery in our country, has ever been deemed a great moral and political evil, and in its tendency directly calculated to impair our national character, and materially affect our national happiness; and inasmuch as the extension of a slave population in the United States is fraught with the most fearful consequences to the permanency and durability of our Republican institutions;—and whereas, the subject of the admission of slavery in the new State of Missouri; is at this time before the Congress of the United States; therefore,

"Resolved, That our Senators and Representatives be requested to use their exertions and take every means to prevent the extension of slavery within the Territory of the U. States, West of the Missouri, and the new States to be formed within the Territory, which the Constitution and the treaties made under it will allow."

The Senate of Ohio preferred the original proposition of Mr. Thompson, and refused to commit for the purpose of amendment, by a divided vote of 15 to 13. It will scarce be pretended, that the motion submitted by General Harrison, and the foregoing preamble and resolution advocated with strenuous and unyielding zeal by him, did not embody and express his own opinion upon the question presented for the sanction of the Legislature; and for decisiveness of expression, and directness of design, it may challenge the applause, and defy the scrutiny and cavil, both of Mr. John W. Taylor and Mr. Tallmadge of New York.—The copious energy of the English language, in all its strength and exuberance, could not supply terms more emphatic of purpose and intention. If subtlety itself, perplexing its own wits beyond its wonted character, were to insist that the lock of the dialectic, concealed a latent meaning beneath the words, "which the Constitution and the treaties made under it, will allow," General Harrison has given us in advance a key to unlock its construction to the meanest capacity.—I will place that key in the reader's hand.

On Friday the 19th of February, 1816, followed a very close vote in the House of Representatives, on Mr. Tallmadge's scheme for partial restriction, (partial, because so qualified as to draw it as he contended, within that provision of the treaty of cession, which contemplated the security of private property.) Mr. Taylor of New York, moved to amend the Missouri Bill as follows: "That neither slavery, nor involuntary servitude, shall hereafter be introduced into any part of the Territories of the United States, lying North of 35 degrees and thirty minutes of North latitude." Livermore (one of the restrictionists) followed in the debate and said, "that he conceived this proposition to be made in the true spirit of compromise, which ought to be met, but suggested a different line." General Harrison rose in the debate.—"He assented to the expediency of establishing some such line of discrimination, but for reasons which he explained at large, proposed a different one, by way of amendment to the amendment, as follows: "That all that part of the present Territory of Missouri lying North of a line to be run due West from the mouth of the river de Monies, to the territorial boundary of the United States, shall form a part of the territory of Michigan; and the laws now in force in the said territory, as well as the ordinance of Congress prohibiting slavery or involuntary servitude in said territory of Michigan, shall be in force in that part of the Missouri territory lying North of said East and West line."

This amendment conceded the whole question of constitutional power," unless General Harrison assumes the conceit, that constitutional power has a camelion's hue, and is as the shades in the different degrees of latitude and longitude. Mr. Philip P. Barbour said immediately in reply to Gen. Harrison, that he was opposed to the amendment, and to all others of a similar character, and spoke with much earnestness against the proposition at some length, as partial and expedient—arguing that if the principle was wrong in itself, and the question had been discussed on principle alone, it ought not to be withheld from one part of the Territory, and applied to another.—That it was legislating partially by applying a rule to one portion, and a different rule to another portion of citizens, having equal rights and placed under similar circumstances. If the rule was wrong at the 35th degree of latitude, it was equally so at the 40th.—Mr. Anderson of Kentucky debated the same question on the same side; denouncing the amendment, on the grounds both of policy and the Constitution.—Those various propositions made by General

*This amendment reminds the writer of the French phrase, and its application on one occasion, "C'est le moins que vous puissiez révoquer." "It is the least thing you will be allowed to do."

Harrison, both in Congress and in Senate of Ohio, in the years 1819 and 1820, may be regarded as comprising and expressing his opinions on this subject, in the most solemn and authentic mode. At each and both of those periods the State of Missouri was part of the United States, asking of you admission into the Union. The question of Federal power over the subject, is settled in the judgment of General Harrison by his amendment in Congress of February 19th 1819 after as, Judge Barbour said, "it had been discussed on principle alone." And the preamble with his resolution of the 3d of January, 1820, in the Senate of Ohio, show both the change that had come over the spirit of his dream, and the extent to which he would use that power through his Senators and Representatives in Congress, to avert "a great moral and political evil" which sullied "our national character and materially affected our national happiness." To redouble the force and the keenness of this invective, (uttered in the cause of humanity) it was added, "that the admission of slavery in the new State of Missouri is fraught with the most fearful consequences to the permanency and durability of our Republican institutions," and demanding "the utmost exertions and the use of every means" to avert it, that lay within the legitimate scope of constitutional power.

In recurring to the incidents that associated themselves with the Missouri restriction, those which transpired in New York, cannot pass unnoticed in its dark and protentious history. Yet the curtain has not been raised off the most prominent of its instigators within that State, for reasons that will be briefly recounted. Subsequent events have placed in prominent view, some individuals, participating by force of circumstances, in that agitation; upon whom that subject acted with assuasive influence, in spite of themselves. This opinion is now expressed from a passionless review of our political annals, without consultation with any persons or parties, and its accuracy derives both its guard and its support, from testimony that cannot mislead. Parties and individuals are invariably governed by that master passion which exerts in all times a sovereign sway over the deliberations of mankind. Interest in the moral, like gravitation in the material world, controls and impels, retards and insulates the destinies of men. Dr. Witt Clinton held that pre-eminence, both by power and place, (for they are not always united) in the State of New York, from which he alone could cast ambition's penetrating eye, with hope of success, upon the larger distinctions of the Confederacy.

He held at that time the Chief Magistracy of his State; but the party that conferred the laurel on him, did not suspend it over a bed of roses. That party had already recoiled from his support, and its dissensions created a division in the Republican ranks, which was distinguished by acrimony and invective. The division which had shewn its hostility to Mr. Clinton, adhered with unabated zeal to the administration of the General Government, and enjoyed a full share of its trust and bounty. Reciprocity showed, and the Governor, no longer slow to anger, exhibited both fretfulness and fervor in his official messages. His present possessions, and his hopes of future aggrandizement, were in imminent peril, and all the arguments menaced his overthrow, unless he could bring into the approaching contest a new element of strife that would minister to his aid. It was known, that the President of the United States was hostile to the proposed restriction on Missouri; and that his constitutional power would be interposed, if need be, to defend the unborn State just quickening into life. The party in New York most unfriendly to Mr. C. had common cause and common interest with the Administration at Washington. The exigency of the occasion called for no feebly ally in this (ill then) scarce doubtful contest. The genius of Clinton saw and seized it. The cloud was charged, and the electric chain was in his hand: when its lightning was once drawn towards the earth, he knew that neither parties nor potentates could hold them innocuous and obedient to their will. His ambition which had ached and anguished in the agony of suspense, saw its deliverance. The Missouri agitation started from its ambush, at the touch of his interests. A Northern journal printed at the time, and now before me, whose Editor was both a statesman and a patriot, says of Mr. Clinton and that agitation: "He is the soul of its existence, and it is the stepstone to his elevation."

Mr. Tallmadge was a distinguished leader of the party, whose interests were indissolubly wrapped up in this novel and protentious question. He suddenly brought it into Congress, at his unexpected return to his seat, after a visit to his home on leave of absence for the session. The subject was not in Congress when he left it, though the Bill on which it was afterwards grafted had been long before it. The coincidence of his visit, (on leave, for the remainder of the session;) his coming back unexpectedly to his seat, after his trip to the feet of Gamaliel, which immediately preceded his ringing the fire-bell in the night," was declared by members (and the venerable Macon among the number) to be an omen of mischief—and the prophecy was repined into fact, as soon as he submitted the amendment. It was regarded by the members (as I am assured) as a political manoeuvre of Mr. Clinton, and for ends that were too visible for mistake.

There was no party combination in this confederacy of States, so deeply interested in keeping from the use of their formidable and puissant adversary, so terrible an engine for the conflict, as that division within New York, of which Mr. Van Buren was a member.

Its great interest lay in the quiet acquiescence of that party in the Union, whose majority then held the general Administration. And that Administration (like any other) could never be so safe as when it was at rest; whilst its enemy could never be so powerful, as when all the elements of opposition were in motion. Here lay the springs of action. Yet when the impulse was once given, the history of the times assures us, that ranks, and sects, and parties were carried in the empire State by its irresistible momentum. Still it may be seen in the debates of the Assembly, that the party led by Messrs. Burt, Root, and Ulshoeffer desired to avoid the question, whilst that conducted and marshalled by Mr. J. C. Spencer, the kinsman of the Governor, was determined to press to judgment this flagitious issue. Ambition's guardian angel, was resolved to leave its glowing wing in the muddy cur-

rent of the Missouri, for Bethesda's stained waters were closed to its approach. In that protracted and expanding excitement, it is not seen that Mr. Van Buren did more than give his vote for the Resolution of the Senate of New York of the 20th of January, 1820; and to this duty he was attracted with more than a magnet's force, by that deep and pervading will of the people, which held him in a master's sway. If any evidence exists of his activity in its behalf, no trace of it can be found where it ought to be seen. His support of the re-election of Mr. King to the Senate, after a failure to elect at the usual period, has often been urged as proof to his prejudice. Mr. King's re-election lay in causes that had no relation with the Missouri question, and he was taken up from necessity to defeat Mr. Spencer's election, who had been the Speaker of the Assembly and the candidate of the Clintonian party.

The Legislature was cut into three unequal sections, to neither of which, did there belong a majority of members. The Federalists held the balance of power in the choice of Senator, as well as the election of the Council of appointments, then created by legislative vote, and who held the whole patronage of the State. Mr. King's re-election was favored by the Government Journal at Washington of the 3d of March, 1819—and although Mr. Van Buren wrote a pamphlet for the success of that election, and is said to have pledged himself for its propriety, yet the pamphlet has been scanned, with no friendly eye, to detect in this respect some evidence of a guilty ambition, pressing itself upon the Missouri disturbance. It is silent as to that subject, and cautiously forbears to touch it. Written, too, as that pamphlet was, in the heat of the battle, "it must expressive silence."

Had victory crowned that terrific struggle, it would have born no quiet to Mr. Van Buren. The Crawford contest which quickly followed with its throes and struggles, delivers its history as an unerring witness to the truth of this postulate. A mind engaged in candid enquiry after truth, for the sole ends of justice, may compass its object at a glance. Let the resolution of the 29th of January, 1822, voted for in the Senate of New York, be placed in juxtaposition with that written and advocated by General Harrison on the preceding third day of the same month in the Senate of Ohio, and (apart from the more active agency) if this stronger language mark the deeper guilt, then may Mr. Van Buren trust the award of truth and justice. The Editors of Southern Journals, the newspaper politicians of the day, and even the Statesmen who adorn our national council, are offering oblations and thanksgivings in this behalf, "for the noble championship of General Harrison in the cause of the South," whilst a cloud hangs over his rival, and threatens to waste its rage upon his head. The South will yet deliver impartial judgement, in the spirit of that wise and stern maxim which gives its moral lustre to one of the dramas of Publius Syrus: "Judez dominatur cum nocens absolvitur." Each may learn, as there is mutual error, a lesson of practical morality on this point, which was said to be engraved on his earthen lamp by the Philosopher Epictetus, as the light to his footsteps in the journey of life: "TO BEAR AND FORBEAR, TO ENDURE AND ABSTAIN."

Gratitude is said to be the debt now due Gen. Harrison from the South. And, a word at closing on that subject. If, in her cause, he has sacrificed his personal or political interests, the debt should be paid, promptly and fully—not only in retribution for his indemnity, but for the care of those principles which are sacred to Southern security. There is nothing, however in which our sensibilities practice such mischievous delusions over our understandings, as in this arithmetic of the heart for public benefactors. Much of that false philanthropy which makes humanity its victim and its sacrifice, is the growth of his delusion. And it is destined to become the conductor for that electrical spark to touch the mine, whose explosion is yet to shake into ruin the foundations of this Confederacy. Let, however, unquestioned facts, settle this enquiry. We have shown the agency that he bore, and the part he acted, in Congress and in the Senate of his State. And nothing that ought to affect the most sensitive tenderness to involuntary servitude, can with justice be asserted to his prejudice. He exchanged by his own choice the service of the same people in the federal, for that of the State Legislature. After the penultimate census, and following the first arrangements that were made to conform with it, Gen. Harrison was again seen to prefer the service of his country in the Congress of the United States. The Missouri excitement was at rest, and the compromise in which it was settled for ever, (if faith be sacred and inviolate,) must have kept that element of discord far away from rational deliberations. And in truth upon the main questions, (as debated in Southern minds,) there seems never to have existed in Ohio, any serious discrepancy of opinion. Here, in Congress of the passage of the Missouri law finally, was distinguished by perfect unanimity.

Yet Gen. Harrison was defeated at that election for Congress by his competitor, Mr. Gazlay. New questions had then risen on the public mind, and their assuasive influence, mingled in all the agitations of the popular will. The month of July, 1822, preceded by many moons the day for that election; and in that month, the Legislature of Tennessee had formally presented to the Union, for its highest office, the name of an illustrious man, who had been announced by the earthquake voice of victory, to be first in war, as he afterwards proved to be first in the hearts of his Countrymen. Mr. Gazlay was openly the friend of Andrew Jackson, whilst Gen. Harrison as openly advocated the election of a different candidate; and was soon afterwards chosen on the electoral ticket by the State of Ohio, to bestow the Presidential vote upon that opposing candidate. The people may have pressed into this canvass the wishes of that district for the Hero of Orleans, and have made it turn the scale against General H. They may have pressed into their thoughts and made their decision on the relative merits of the Hero of the 7th of November, 1811; and him who had canonized the glorious 8th. They may have contrasted the tall hickory that lifted its triumphant boughs over the father of waters, with "the willows that

clothed the bank of the small stream,"* at Tippecanoe. Mr. Gazlay was successful; but it is yet to be shewn, that either of the candidates was a victim, or that any sacrifice was offered on the altar of Southern rights or Constitutional devotion. It cannot be shewn. For, in addition to the evidence conclusive in truth, against it, Gen. Harrison retained his popularity which he had risked nothing to lose, and was quickly elected to the Senate of the United States, where he held his seat, in steady resistance by all his votes, to Southern interests; until he voluntarily abandoned it, in 1828, for the profitable mission to Bogota, bestowed on him by Mr. Adams.

But at this late hour for rest, whilst my temples throb and my limbs ache with pain, a newspaper is put into my hand with the extract of a speech of tribute and of thanks from a Southern member of Congress, for his full and glorious sacrifice to the interests of the South. That speech is in my hand, and the journal containing the preamble and resolution advocated in the Senate of Ohio, by General Harrison, the 3d of January 1820, is now open on my table. The Journal assures me that he was doing the deed in the Senate of Ohio. The member believes that he was at that moment "side by side in this House with those that led the van "in favor of slavery." The impassioned orator adds,—"Side by side with the Republicans of the South he made a full and glorious sacrifice of himself, for the people of Missouri. Is the gentleman from Missouri in the House?—Oh Missouri! (Oh misery!)"

I commend to all praise, that noble sentiment, which offers the homage of the heart, in the arduous of its generous delusions; but I commend to serious review, the *scholium* which is entered on the Journals of the Senate of Ohio, and the corollary of the Cheviot speech, and if the Trojan horse be not seen, under the walls of the Constitution, I too, will exclaim, "O! Miveri qua tanta insania, cives!" LACCOON.

*See Gen. Harrison's official report of the 18th of November, 1811, Second *Sheet*, line 42d.

'Nothing circulates so rapidly as a secret.' We are reproached with forgetting others; we forget ourselves a thousand times more. We remember what we hear, see, and read, often accurately; not so with what we feel—that is faint and uncertain in its record. Memory is the least egotistical of all our faculties.'

A Hindoo, named Gobind Chumber Gosain, an inhabitant of Balle, died lately, leaving no less than 100 widows.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLICAN MEETINGS.

FOR THE NORTH CAROLINA STANDARD.
MEETING IN ORANGE.

A meeting of Democratic Republicans was held at the residence of Zaariah Trice, on Saturday, the 11th inst., for the purpose of making arrangements for nominating a suitable person to be placed on the Democratic Electoral Ticket for this District.

The meeting was organized by the appointment of John W. Hancock, Esq., Chairman, and Major John Hancock and John Tilly, Secretaries. The chairman, having explained the object of the meeting, appointed Wm. N. Pratt, Esq., Isaiah Marcom, Z. Trice, King Barbee, Esq., S. Leigh, and Col. W. T. Shields, a committee to prepare business for the consideration of the meeting—who, after a short absence, submitted the following resolutions, which were adopted:

Resolved, That Col. H. Sims, John W. Hancock, Esq., William N. Pratt, Esq., Isaiah Marcom, Harris Wilkerson, and John Tilly, be appointed a committee to meet the committees of Granville and Person to nominate a candidate for this District to be placed on the Democratic Electoral Ticket.

Resolved, That we recommend the committees of Granville and Person to meet in Hillsborough, on Wednesday of Orange Court, the 27th of May next.

Resolved, That we recommend to our friends in other parts of the county, to hold meetings and appoint committees to attend the proposed convention.

Resolved, That the measures recommended by Martin Van Buren are calculated to promote the best interests of the country, and are strictly in accordance with Democratic principles.

Resolved, That we approve of the course pursued by the Hon. Bedford Brown and Hon. Robert Strange, in the Senate of the United States.

Resolved, That we are opposed to a National Bank; and that we cannot too frequently express our hostility to an institution so dangerous to the liberty of the people.

Resolved, That a reform in the Banking system is of the greatest importance; and that it is the duty of all true Republicans to exert themselves in compelling those faithless institutions to return to their duty, and make good their promises to pay specie on demand.

Resolved, That the charges recently made by a portion of the Federal party, that the Administration is "in favor of an exclusive metallic currency"—that it "avows a determination to destroy credit, to reduce the wages of labor, to reduce the value of property, and to destroy paper currency"—are all false, and without the slightest foundation; that neither the Administration, nor the Democratic party, avow such doctrines or advocate such principles; and that these charges are intended to deceive and impose on the credulous and unwary, and to present false issues before the people, for political effect.

Resolved, That, in future, we will not trouble the Editor of the "Hillsborough Recorder" with any of our public meetings; we base this resolve upon reading the poor and pitiful excuse offered by that Editor for not publishing the proceedings of a meeting of our Democratic friends, held in Hillsborough, on the 12th of March last.

Resolved, That we concur in the nomination of candidates for the next Legislature of North Carolina, made by that meeting.

Resolved, That the Editor of the Standard be requested to print 1000 copies of those proceedings, together with the proceedings of this meeting, for circulation in the county of Orange.

JOHN W. HANCOCK, Chairman.
JOHN HANCOCK, } Secretaries.
JOHN TILLY, }

*See National Intelligencer of that date.

MEETING IN GREENE.

A Democratic Republican meeting was held in the Court House in Snow Hill, on the 7th inst. On motion of Col. William M. Albritton, Arthur Speight, Esq., was appointed Chairman; and, on motion of James P. Speight, Col. Wm. M. Albritton was appointed Secretary.

By request of the Chairman, the object of the meeting was briefly explained by Col. Albritton—after which the following resolutions were offered by James P. Speight, and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we have unflinching confidence in the republican principles of our present Chief Magistrate, Martin Van Buren, and recommend him to our fellow-citizens, as a suitable person for re-election to the Presidency of the United States, because in him we have a pledge of his uncompromising hostility to the abolition of slavery—subject in which we feel a deep interest.

Resolved, That we deprecate the nomination of General William Henry Harrison, of Ohio, as a candidate for the Presidency of the United States, by the Harrisburg convention—because by the action of said convention it is clearly proven that he is the favorite candidate of the Abolitionists.

Resolved, That we approve of the nomination of General Romulus M. Saunders, as the Democratic Republican candidate for Governor of this State; and that we will use all honorable means to secure his election.

On motion of Maj. William Dixon, Resolved, That the Chairman appoint three delegates to meet the delegates appointed by the other counties of this Electoral District, at —, on the — day of April, 1840, for the purpose of nominating some person to be placed on the Democratic Republican ticket for Elector for President and Vice President of the United States; and, also, to appoint a delegate to the Baltimore convention to nominate candidates for the Presidency and Vice Presidency.

Whereupon the chairman appointed Edwin G. Speight, Esq., Rev. Henry Swinson, and Col. W. A. Darden, delegates.

Resolved, That we believe the Senatorial District composed of the counties of Greene and Lenoir, ought to be represented in the next General Assembly of North Carolina, by a Democratic Republican Sub-Treasurer man; and having unshaken confidence in the patriotism and republican principles of Gen. James Whitfield, of Lenoir, we do recommend him as a suitable candidate to represent this district in the Senate of the next Legislature of this State.

On motion of Col. Wm. A. Darden, Resolved, That the chairman appoint a committee to correspond with Gen. Whitfield, inform him of his nomination, and request his acceptance of the same.

Whereupon the chairman appointed Maj. Wm. Dixon, James P. Speight, and Col. Wm. M. Albritton, said committee.

On motion of Maj. William Dixon, Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be published in The North Carolina Standard, and other papers friendly to the cause.

Resolved, That the thanks of this meeting be tendered to the Chairman and Secretary, for the able and faithful manner in which they have discharged their duties.

On motion of Rev. Henry Swinson, the meeting then adjourned.

ARTHUR SPEIGHT, Chairman.
WM. M. ALBRITTON, Secretary.

FOR THE NORTH CAROLINA STANDARD.
MEETING IN BRUNSWICK.

At a Democratic meeting held at Smithville, on Monday, the 13th inst., Alfred Galloway, Esq., was called to the Chair, and William B. Townsend and Alexander Matthews were appointed Secretaries.

The object of the meeting having been explained by the chairman—Maj. A. Bryan rose and addressed the meeting, as follows:

Mr. Chairman: The period having arrived, when we shall be called upon to elect a Chief Magistrate for the United States—and the two great contending parties having each their man and name, viz: Whig and Democrat—it then becomes us in Brunswick, having a common interest at stake, seriously to consider, and candidly to express our preference as to men and measures. Possessing an implicit faith in Democratic principles, I deem it but just and fair freely to express my understanding of them. Now sir, Democracy is a government working directly upon the people; embracing within her pale the greatest body, under constitutional regulations. Then, sir, for measures of general policy we should go to our Constitution; and our currency being one of that class, let us read it—Congress shall have power "to coin money, regulate the value thereof, and of foreign coin;" "No State shall coin money, emit bills of credit, or make any thing but gold and silver coin a tender in payment of debts." How plain! and at once proves the wisdom of our fathers, who periled their lives and pledged their sacred honors, that we might be free.

But, sir, has the Constitution been adhered to? No, sir. By that ever-to-be-dreaded power, construction, its sacred injunctions have been violated; and instead of having a fixed and stable standard of value, we have Bank expansions and contractions—ruinous in their effects to all concerned. Is there no remedy proposed? Yes, sir; and our Constitution enjoins it. Our present Chief Magistrate, Martin Van Buren, recommends a disconnection of Bank and Government, and the establishment of an Independent Treasury; and in his last annual message gives facts and reasons, to Congress and the people, enough to satisfy all who will read without prejudice. Sir, I will here read an

EXTRACT:
"Nor is it to be overlooked, that there exists a chain of necessary dependence among these institutions, [the Banks,] which obliges them, to a great extent, to follow the course of others, notwithstanding its injustice to their own immediate creditors, or injury to the particular community in which they are placed. This dependence of a bank, which is in proportion to the extent of its debts for circulation and deposits, is not merely on others in its own vicinity, but on all those that connect it with the centre of trade.—Distant banks

*Clintonian and Buck-tail.