From the Greensborough Patriot, of June 29th

Mr. Shepard and Mr. Gilmer at Germanton.

The annexed account of the political debate in Germanton, last Saturday, between the Democratic candidate for Governor, James B. Shepard, Esq., and our townsman, John A. Gilmer, Esq., has the leading place in this week's paper. The positions of Mr. Gilmer we esteem to be impregnable. The explicit manner in which they are here set forth makes this communication worthy to be the text-book of the campaign.

GERMANTON, Stokes Co., June 15, 1840.

Editors of the Patriot:

On Saturday last an interesting affair came off at this place, which I presume one of the parties, thinks a crucial affair to his interest. The military officers had appointed that day for their companies to meet, in order to raise volunteers for the Mexican war. By some of the Democratic leaders this was thought to be a favorable opportunity for their candidate for Governor to appear and address the people. This was thought to be a most favorable time, as the occasion would necessarily draw together a large number of persons from every part of the county; the waving of plumes, the ear-piercing fife and soul-stirring drum would arouse muteness into eloquence; every thing was prepared for a tremendous outpouring of patriotic sentiment; and the star of Democracy was anticipated to rise high in the ascendant.

As expected the militia attended promptly—a fine sturdy-looking set of men, too, in every way looking as if they were worthy of being the county men of Guilford and Forsyth. They were assembled and addressed by that stirring patriot, Col. Shober, who formerly commanded the regiment, in a speech of about an hour in length, in a strain of lofty patriotism and burning eloquence. The result was that fifty-two sturdy well-looking men turned out, and vowed that they were ready to march to glory or the grave whenever the interest of their country required it.

Now was conceived to be the time for Mr. Shepard to address the people; every preparation was made for his convenience and accommodation.

In the commencement of his speech, he expressed the pleasure he felt in meeting that portion of his fellow citizens; informed them that he was a candidate for the Gubernatorial chair, which he hoped to receive; and after a few jumps he alighted upon the poor Whigs—Whig sayings—Whig villany, and many other such handsome things. This was all done in a style evidently showing that he wished to find a champion worthy of his steel. During his remarks he commented at large upon the Tariff of 1842; touched softly and lightly on the Sub-Treasury; spoke in high strains of the Mexican War and the deeds of valor which covered Gen. Taylor and his army with glory. He undertook to show how ruinous and oppresive the Tariff was upon the poor; how it served to fill the pockets of the rich; that the policy of the Whigs was to aid foreign interests, at the expense of the great mass of our own, (in which he was most unhappy.)

The Whig policy in relation to the public lands came in for a full share of his thunder and lightning: could not perceive what interest any State had to expect a bonus from the Government: and said that the policy of the Democratic party was that the proceeds of sales should be paid into the general coffers.

His next subject was a denunciation of a U. S. Bank. He praised in unmeasured terms the State bank system, and pronounced it to be the safest and most uniform, that could be devised for regulating exchange.

After having thus disposed of all subjects relative to the General Government, he descended to State affairs, when he took a ride on the Railroad for a considerable length of time, in which his competitor, Gov. Graham, and the Whigs came in for a full share of his remarks. In this, however, he was extremely careful never to go back further than the session of 1838. He admitted that the bonds which were given in 1841 to indemnify the State against all and every liability, for its endorsement of the bonds to the amount of $500,000, were good at the time they were received; but that many of them had since become insolvent; and ultimately gave it as a legal conclusion that it was doubtful whether these bonds could be collected.

The conduct of Gov. Graham for bidding the sum of $363,000 for the Road, the amount limited by the Legislature, was an outrage upon the rights of the State, as the same might probably have been purchased for a mere nominal sum.

After he ended his remarks, loud calls were made for John A. Gilmer, Esq., who happened to be present in attendance at our County Court.

I confess that I have never before witnessed such a rout. We are all proud of the noble bearing of Gen. Taylor, and his little army; but their rout of the Mexican army was not so complete as the overthrow of the "talented young senator from Wake."

Mr. Gilmer, like a bold and gallant leader, reversed the order of his adversary's speech; and with a fearless confidence, which truth and honesty inspires, opened his battery, and at every fire the hull of his opponent received a hot shot, which soon told with remarkable effect; and the "talented young senator" called for a parley, which was not granted until a full rout had taken place.

He stated that he had heard much said against his absent friend, Gov. Graham, and much said against the Whig party, in relation to the Railroads. He wished that all had been said; but as Mr. Shepard had not thought proper to give a full detail of the subject, he would raise the curtain and look something footing into it. If blame there was to any body, he was proud to have an opportunity to contrast the course of the two parties on this subject, if the gentleman thought he could gain any thing by it. It is well known that the system of internal improvement was first fastened by the Legislature of 1836—by that act the State invested $600,000 in the Wilmington and Raleigh Road—that she became a partner, by the terms of her contract, with the Company, to the full amount of their charter, which was $1,500,000. And every man of common sense, lawyer or no lawyer, well knew that a firm was liable for the contracts of any member. It was true that the State could not be sued; but he was unwilling to believe that the old North State had a bastard son who was willing to see her tarnish her honor, or take shelter under the panoply of sovereignty, from the performance of any legal or moral obligation.

That it was a well known fact that the Legislature of 1836 was Democratic; that the plan submitted by that Legislature pledged the State to embark in internal improvements with railroad companies to the amount of several millions of dollars, provided individuals would take three fifths of the stock; that as he was informed, this was done by the agency of the leading and most prominent Democrats. The plan was embodied in a series of Resolutions understood to be drawn by *William H. Haywood*, then a member from Wake, and advocated and sustained by *Michael Hoke*, a leading member of the "progressive" Democratic party from Lincoln. At the time of the adoption of these Resolutions, the Simon Pures had elevated Mr. Haywood to the Speaker's chair in the House of Commons; and, as they are progressive in all their notions, they have been progressive with him, having since elevated him to the Senate of the United States. Mr. Hoke occupied a high rank in their affections, and they since tried to elevate him to the Executive chair.

In 1838 the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad came forward and asked the aid of the State. This Road, (of much more importance to all western North Carolina,) had been conducted upon individual responsibility. They came forward not as beggars, but asked that the name of the state might be loaned to them, and as an indemnity executed a mortgage on their property, and became individually bound to the State to the extent of their stock. In 1840, their work not being completed, they asked a further aid of a loan of $300,000; they gave as an additional security the bonds of individuals to the amount of $500,000, and executed a mortgage on the whole of their property, which cost $1,400,000. That the Legislatures of 1838 and '40 were Whig; that to the passing of the first act they had been strongly urged by many of the leading Democrats of the State. A large Internal Improvement Convention had been held in the city of Raleight in November, 1838, at the commencement of the Session, over which *R. M. Saunders* presided, and in which *L. D. Henry* and *William H. Haywood*, (names not unknown to the progressive party,) figured largely. That Convention passed resolution urging it upon the Legislature to aid works of internal improvement to the extut of three millions of dollars; that the Whigs had only gone to adopt the recommendation in part, and then took the precaution to take a mortgage and hold the individual stock holders hable.

Mr. Gilmer here made a strong appeal to the common sense of every man, to determine who had acted prudently; Democratic counsels had plunged the State into an absolute investment of $600,000, with the hazard of swelling the sum to millions; and Democratic leaders had recommended and urged upon the Legislature to involve the State in three millions more, without security or indemnity.

Mr. Gilmer then took a review of the legal opinions of Mr. Shepard, and his notions of the law of mortgage, and indemnity jurisdiction and sale, &c.; also of the validity of the bonds executed under the act of 1840. In all which a more complete exposure was never witnessed. Democracy itself was brought to the blush. After his exposition of the different views of the "talented young senator," he wound up this part of his speech by simply asking the people a few plain simple questions. The State is interested in the bonds to the extent of $500,000; Gov. Graham, (who is admitted to be a good lawyer,) asserts with out doubt these bonds are valid and can be collected; while Mr. Shepard thinks they cannot be collected! at all events, that it is very questionable: The question is, *In whose hands shall these bonds be placed for collection?—in the hands of Gov. Graham, who thinks there is no doubt of their validity; or in the hands of Mr. Shepard, who thinks they cannot be collected?* An individual has an important law suit; two lawyers are consulted; one is clearly of opinion that his client's claim is well founded—the other thinks the case hopeless:—which of the two would any prudent man retain in his cause? The conclusion was so logical that its effect stunned Mr. Shepard and his friends and *struck them dumb.*

Mr. Gilmer next took a view of Mr. Shepard's course on the subject of the Railoads, and charged that Mr. Shepard or his friends were directly interested in the Raleigh and Gaston Road—hence the mortal offence to Gov. Graham, in not letting them purchase the Road for a mere trifle. Mr. Shepard disclaimed any interest, as he sold his stock in the Road in June, 1845. Ah! then, exclaimed Mr. Gilmer, the gentleman has been of and among these soulless corporators who have practiced such fraud upon the State!—It is an old adage, that "there should be honor among thieves;" and becomes one to abuse his former companions! Mr. Gilmer then stated he of course took it for granted that Mr. Shepard was not now a stock-holder, (as Mr. S. stated he was not.) But nevertheless, according to the provisions of the act of 1838 and '40, *he is still liable to the State to the amount of his stock.*

After clearing this subject, Mr. Gilmer then took a review of Mr. Shepard's financial ability—his power and practical notions for the "*relief of the people*," and his notions of political economy. No surgeon ever performed such a dissection; and no culprit ever writhed under the lash more than did Mr. Shepard. You could almost hear him think aloud—no more of that, Hal, and I will love thee.

The humbuggery of his doings was so severely handled, that whole was turned into ridicule; his sincerity was doubted by many of his friends. His folly was exposed in offering to issue paper, bearing interest at only two-and-a-half per cent, and when loaned, the holder was forbidden to *pass or circulate it as money.* This was believed to be an electioneering scheme—so intended, and for nothing more. Because, at the same session Mr. Shepard had an opportunity to vote for a bill authorising $1,200,000 to be issued, which would have passed and been received as money, which he voted against. At the same session he voted to dispense with the Bank of the State, which would have brought ruin upon the large mass of our people; that in giving this vote he voted solitary and alone—not even one of his own party going with him. That this looked more like the genius of ruin and destruction, than like one who cared for or had sympathies with the people. That he had moved to strike out "two thousand" and insert "fifty thousand" in the report made by the committee appointed to have the Capitol square enclosed. Mr. Gilmer stated that he did not vote much like a man of economy, or one who cared for the "*relief*" of the people.

Mr. Shepard's Tariff notions came under review, in which he was handled without gloves. Mr. Gilmer stated that he really did wish that the progressives could or would come to some satisfactory conclusion on this subject, as all honest men wished to do right. But no man knew when to believe or have confidence in the *progressive party.* It was well known that the Tariff was passed in 1842 in part to redeem the Treasury Notes issued to support the prodigate administration of Mr. Van Buren. That at that time the most violent of the party denounced the scheme as ruinous, and that the duties were so high it would operate as a prohibition, and consequently but small revenue would arise from that source. That within three years thereafter *Sir Robert Walker*, the progressive Secretary of the Treasury, had actually ascertained that the miserable Whig Tariff had worked so well as to improve the manufacturing interest of the country, enable the banks to sustain themselves with credit and usefulness, and equalize the exchanges and had actually brought in more revenue than was sufficient; and its present working would in a short time produce a surplus of $50,000,000!—indeed some of the little pimps and parasites had actually figured it up to a period, when there would be an excess of $100,000,000. His Report to Congress was hailed by the Democracy as a great state paper, which found a response in the British Parliament, where it was forthwith ordered to be printed, in order that the views of the Democratic Secretary might be known to the British nation, and inform them that in the conflict in which the Whigs of the United States were endeavoring to protect the labor of their own countrymen against the pauper labor of England, England had strong friends and allies in the *Democratic* Secretary, and his party.

Mr. Gilmer then gave many instances and facts, clearly showing the deceptive policy of the *free traders.*

He then showed clearly the disposition of the Democratic party to concentrate power in one man; that many of their leaders could not do an act without placing in the hands of the President powers which he ought not to have, and which he could exercise to answer any purpose however foul. That in the Tariff bill recently reported in the House of Representatives, power is given to the President to tax or not at pleasure, the articles of Tea and Coffee at 10 per cent. In this every principle of republicanism is outraged. The Whigs acknowledge no power to lay taxes except in the Representatives the people; the *one man power* they now disdain, as their fathers did in '76. That in this progressive Democratic bill, those *exclusive patriots and guardians of the people* have put it in the power of the President to act corruptly, fraudulently and oppressively under the sanction of law and without responsibility.

For instance, but view this bill. The President whenever he thinks proper, may issue his proclamation to the revenue officers, who are bound to collect a duty of ten per cent upon Tea and Coffee. It stands the President in hand to secure friends in the large cities; or he has favorites;—he has nothing to do but to give them the wink—they understand it; make heavy importations of these free articles—and as soon as this is done, they in turn give the President the wink, from which he understands they are ready. Forthwith he issues his proclamation, and all Tea and Coffee then imported must pay a tax of ten per cent: thus clearly giving his friends the advantage of ten dollars in the hundred over all competitors.

The odious Sub-Treasury was taken under review. On this subject Mr. Shepard spoke as if he had rather let it alone. His adversary showed many of its odious features—the fallacy, unfitness and impracticability of the scheme. On this subject I do not think Mr. Shepard had one friend.

It was amusing to hear an exposition of Domocratic fondness for State Banks. A few years since the Progressives encouraged these institutions, and called them in to aid in putting down the "Munster." So soon as this was done, a split took place between these allies, the Progressives and the Banks, in which many of the latter were blown up; and those that survived were driven to take shelter under suspension. Their former ally and friend then pronounced them heartless, soulless, without honor or honesty, and the very hot beds of rogues, swindlers and scoundrels. Now they wish to return to their former love—and nothing is so handsome and well calculated to regulate the exchanges of the country as State Banks!

Here again Mr. Gilmer wished to know what confidence any honest man could have in the judgment or honesty of a party which had no principles—who would recommend to-day and denounce to-morrow?

The next subject taken under review was Mr. Shepard's denunciation of Whig policy in relation to the public lands. He clearly showed that from the deeds of cession made by the States after the formation of the Federal Constitution, the whigs were right; and that no man, who understood the English language could entertain a different opinion. He defied the most keen-sighted of the Progressives—yea, even the great author of the "Bill for the relief of the People," to put a different construction on them.

That as to Mr. Shepard's denunciation of the bonus given the new States, Mr. Gilmer expressed surprise. He stated that here again was presented one of the beauties of *progressive* consistency. That Mr. S. must be wholly uninformed on the subject or he must have supposed that he was addressing a people who were uninformed, and with the silliness of young birds would open their mouths and swallow any thing which might be offered them. He then showed that this bonus had been given to the new States in every act which had been passed on the subject from the foundation of the Government to the present time; every Republican President had sanctioned; and the system had worked well both as a revenue system and as one under which public domain had been taken up and settled with a rapidity heretofore unknown in the history of civilization.

He stated that charity would prompt him to believe that Mr. S. had not turned his attention to this subject; otherwise he could not come to such conclusions as those he wished to enforce. Here Mr. G. gave some reasons for the bonus to the new States which had governed Congress in many instances on this subject. The first settlers of a country underwent great privations and hardships; their lives and property were always endangered by an exposure to the savage foe. With great labor and expense they made settlements, cleared out roads, erected churches, mills, planted out orchards and made many other improvements—making the country more desirable, which led many people to leave the old States and seek a home in the new States,—which led to a demand for the public lands and enhanced their value. Then as a mere abstract question of right these people had a right to demand a bonus.

But there was another view which he wished to present. (This might also be new to the honorable gentleman.) It was this: Our history showed that the aggregate population of the United States increased one hundred per cent every twenty-five years—four per cent per annum. That every census which had been taken from the year 1790 to 1840 showed that in some instances the proportion of the old States did not increase more than one or two per cent; while the new States increased from three to five per cent. per annum,—which would be an increase of some thirty per cent. in ten years. Now all fair-minded men wished to do right: would it then be just or right to put the old States upon an equal footing with the new States, and let that ratio of distribution stand for ten years! It has been shown that in some instances the federal population in one State would not increase more than from ten to twenty per cent. in ten years; while in the new State it would increase quadruple that number. If then nothing were allowed the new States, we should have all the excess of increase of population in the new States over the old States entirely cut off from sharing in any portion of the proceeds of sales of the public domain—which would be unjust. At least the Whigs think it unjust. Every Administration heretofore acted upon the principle that it would be unjust. They have all united in giving the bonus. But in these days of progressive democracy, it is discovered that the Fathers of the republic have been in error, and new lights have burst upon the favored party.

In reply to Mr. S. on the Mexican war, Mr. G. insisted that the Whigs, as they had begun, would continue to do their *duty*; that their patriotism forbid hesitation when our common country was involved in war; that they valued too highly their country's honor to be wanting when their aid was required; that they would be the first on the battle field and the last to leave; and that they were honestly ready to spend their last dollar and shed their last drop of blood to bring the war to a speedy and honorable termination. But at the same time, they had courage enough to inquire into the causes and circumstances which have induced and brought this war so suddenly on the country. They were not to be deterred from this, from any fear which the gentleman could excite by heaping upon them anti-republican names, impute motives, and opprobrious epithets. They were not to be forced into a false position by the hard names which he had so ready at hand. They would be found *warriors* good and true, in the field of blood, doing battle side by side with their Democratic friends for victory over the enemy. But in the midst of this *peril* they would not forget their duty as citizens. That the safety and permanency of the Republic required patriotism, properly directed, and exerted at the polls, as well as in the field.

Mr. G. insisted that it was anti-republican to denounce and abuse those who would not at once fall down and worship those who had *blessed* the country with *war*, and who had invited the plain yeomanry to leave their homes, their wives, their children, their brothers, sisters, and parents, and expose their lives in distant and unhealthy climes to the dangers and hazards of war, at the *liberal* wages of seven dollars *per month*, while those who were doing them such essential favors were making war speeches in Congress at eight dollars *per day*. (That the Whigs in Congress were for giving the poor soldier ten dollars per month; but were voted down by the progressive Democracy.)

Mr. G. argued that no honest citizen could read the President's Message of December last, without perceiving from its general tenor a disposition to involve the country in war on the Northwest with Great Britain; and that almost as soon as we were informed that Congress, in conformity to the popular will, had declined to hurry the country to war in that direction, we were told that war was *already begun* on the Southwest, and that volunteers were needed. That might turn ought to be all right and unavoidable, consistent with honor, interest and welfare of the Government; but it was certainly not *treason* to inquire into these things—on the contrary, it argued want of that firmness and independence which every voter ought to have, not to do so. He proceeded to give many reasons why he conceived there was more at the bottom of this whole affair than pure and disinterested patriotism, or concern for national honor and the general welfare. He warned his hearers against the *anxiety*, becoming so common, to extend our territory to the South, to the North and to the West; held up the fate of the republics of Greece and Rome, in a similar on the part of each; the probable perils to the Union by embracing under one Legislature such a vast territory, with such variety of climate and so much people, different in education, interests, and pursuits; and presented other objections to such adventurers as merit the serious consideration of all thinking men.

These views could not be answered by Mr. Shepard. He evidently wished for night to come, and longed to hear the bugle sing "truce." Every thing passed off as well as heart could wish. It was a glorious day for old Stokes whose population is honest and patriotic and will do right if they know it.

You may expect a full Whig representation from this county in the next Legislature.

Yours truly,

PEMBROKE.

The Senate.

What a solemn and dignified rebuke has been administered to the rampant and unscrupulous Spirit of Party, by the action of the Senate on the Oregon question! Even President Polk, swayed by the ill-considered resolves of the irresponsible Baltimore Convention, and roundly asserting title to the whole of Oregon—swell by, the Senate, at last shirks the responsibility of settlement upon that body. But in that grave forum, none is desired to share responsibility even involving the fate of nations. The great spirits there are equal to the protection of a mighty nation's honor and the salvation of its peace. Well may the Republic "Look to the Senate!"—*Greensborough Patriot.*

WHIGGERY vs. DEMOCRACY.

In a debate in the House of Representatives on the 20th ult., on the pay of the Army, Mr. Stewart made some remarks to which we desire to direct the attention of our readers, showing as they do the true position of the two parties in reference to the gallant defenders of our country:

Mr. Stewart said that he thought the committee were expending too much of their time in making provision for the officers of the army, and not enough in making provision for the privates in the ranks. He inquired of the Chair whether it would be in order to move an amendment to the amendment now proposed, making an increase in the pay of volunteers? The officers were well paid and could take care of themselves, but what was to become of the families of the poor volunteers, who encountered all the hardships of military service for seven dollars a month. It was a very comfortable thing to have an officer's berth and ample provision from Government, while the men did the fighting.—Now, he thought it was these very men, who after all had to bear the brunt of the battle, who ought first to be provided for.

Mr. S. had risen mainly for the purpose of vindicating himself and those who acted with him from a false and calumnious charge.—The Whigs in that House had been charged with throwing cold water upon the war, disheartening the nation, and decrying and discouraging the volunteers. Now, actions spoke louder than words, and he should, on this occasion, appeal to facts to show who were and who were not justly liable to this charge. What were the facts?

A few days since a bill had been returned from the Senate reducing the pay of the volunteers from ten dollars a month to seven dollars a month, and on concurring with that reduction the yeas and nays had been called; and what was the result? The Whigs in that House went in a body against concurrence and for giving the volunteers ten dollars, while every member of the Democratic party, with the exception of *eight*, had voted to reduce their pay to seven dollars. Was that the way patriotic gentlemen encouraged volunteering? Mr. S. looked at votes, not at speeches. He did not ask who flattered the volunteers, but who voted to pay them. Apply this test, and how stood the two parties? Who voted to give them ten dollars a month? The Whigs. Who were for reducing their pay to seven dollars? The Democrats. Mr. S. had produced this stubborn fact for the vindication of himself and his friends. He appealed to the record. There stood the yeas and nays. Let gentlemen deny their own votes if they choose.

What more? Mr. S. had introduced a resolution which proposed to increase the pay of volunteers to ten dollars, and to give them a hundred acres of land. Here was another test. Every Whig but *five* voted in favor of the motion, but it was voted down by gentlemen on the other side.

Mr. S. had renewed the same proposition yesterday in Committee of the Whole, but it was again voted down by gentlemen on the other side in a body. Now, he wanted the country to understand this matter. A strong effort was making to cause the people to believe that the Whigs were opposed to the war; that they were throwing embarrassments in the way of the Administration, disheartening the army, and discouraging the volunteers.—These slanders were repeated every day in the official, (the Union,) and copied from it into all the party papers, the followers of the Union, in the country. Yet how stood the fact? Who was it that discouraged the volunteer? Was it the Whigs, who were ready to pay him ten dollars a month and give him a comfortable farm, or was it the so-called friends of the Administration, who wanted him to fight for nothing and find himself?—Seven dollars a month! A pretty amount of pay for a farmer or mechanic, who could get a dollar a day by laboring at home, but who forsook his business and his family, and went into the sickly climate of Mexico, encountered the dangers of the camp, the fatigues of the march, and the blood and carnage of the battle-field! It was said he went for glory. Yes; but could his wife and children live upon glory? The Whigs were ready to give him a tract of land: the Democrats voted it down two to one. The Whigs wanted to give him ten dollars: the Democrats gave him seven. Was not this very patriotic? Here were gentlemen, flaming patriots too, who received their eight dollars for spending a few hours a day in legislation, and who then returned to all the comforts of a plentiful home, and could very coolly vote a man seven dollars a month (less than what they themselves received a day) for going to Mexico, a distant and uncongenial climate, and exposing himself to the lances and the bayonets of the foe! These were the men who encouraged our volunteers! These were the friends of the war! These were the supporters of the President! While the Whigs, they say, threw cold water on the war and the volunteers, and all patriotic men who were ready to fight for the honor of their country.

Mr. S. wanted to fix the responsibility just where it belonged. When it was proposed to give the volunteers ten dollars per month, there were but eight Democrats in favor of it, and but five Whigs against giving them ten dollars and one hundred and sixty acres of land; yet the Whigs are discouraging volunteers! Reverse the case, let but eight Whigs vote to pay the volunteers, and *five* Democrats against, and what tremendous denunciations would follow. Whigs would be expelled the House as tories and traitors outright! After their votes were spread before the people, let these gentlemen go home and meet the patriotic and honest farmers and mechanics of the country, and try to make them believe that Whigs were their enemies, and Democrats their friends, and the mechanics would hold up to them the yeas and nays, and tell them that actions spoke louder than words, the wives and daughters of the volunteers who were left destitute to scuffle for a living as they could, would frown upon these men with unalterable abhorrence and indignation. For his own part, Mr. S. said he had voted for every measure to strengthen the arm of the Executive, and bring the war to a speedy and successful termination; and he should continue so to vote. He wished to see this war brought to a successful termination; and he should do every thing in his power to promote such a result. War was a terrible calamity to any country, and especially to a country like this; and no matter what he might think of the conduct of the Executive in bringing on this war without consulting Congress, then in session: no matter what he might think of the Executive in determining upon his own responsibility that we had good cause of war, and acting upon that determination without the concurrence of Congress, with whom alone resided the war making power; no matter what might be thought of the conduct of the President in blockading the Rio Grande, and marching the army from Corpus Christi to Matamoras and pointing our guns into that city, within the acknowledged limits of Mexico, itself an act of hostility, and leading inevitably to war: how far the President could be defended in such a course without first submitting the alleged causes of war to the consideration of the Representatives of the people, who had to fight the battles and bear the burdens, were questions he would not now discuss. The President had assumed the responsibility, and he would have to meet it. The war is upon us; no matter how or by whom brought on; it is our duty to prosecute it to a speedy and honorable conclusion; and to this end he was ready to give all the money, all the men, all the energy and power of the Government. He would not now further detain the committee; he wished not to assail others, but this much he felt constrained to say in vindication of himself and his friends against the false charges made on this floor and in the public press, that the Whigs were endeavoring to discourage volunteers and embarrass the Government in the prosecution of the war.

As to the provisions of the present bill, Mr. S. was opposed to making the office of paymasters permanent; and he hoped, therefore, either that the amendment of the gentleman from New York (Mr. Hungerford) would prevail, or that the second section which repealed the existing law would be stricken out. He then said that if the motion was now in order, he would move to increase the pay of volunteers in the existing war to ten dollars, and to make to each of them a donation of one hundred and sixty acres of land.

From the National Intelligencer, June 20.

The Treaty Ratified.

It is with unfeigned pleasure that we announce to the public the ratification, by the Senate, of the Treaty for the settlement of the Oregon controversy.

The injunction of secrecy has not been removed by the Senate, but enough of the proceedings is known, and certainly known, to enable us to state that the ratification passed by a vote of *forty one* to *fourteen*—a majority, we believe, unequalled on any important treaty except the treaty of 1842.

Let all beside be as it may, this fact must spread no little light over our public affairs, and cheer the heart of many a true citizen, gladdened and grateful with the thought of averted desolation—of the horrors and crimes of war escaped.

The occasion cannot but be one of a wide and deepfelt public joy, let who will attempt to check, and let what may remain to dash it. It is a moment of restored good-will, of renewed friendship, towards that great body of mankind to which custom and all its conformities, kindred and all its sympathies, commerce and all its interests, bind us the most; and we behide the man or the homicide faction, who at such a time hankers still for strife, who will not suffer even a just and honorable and beneficent peace to banish, between two great and generous nations once more freshly drawn together, disgraceful and pernicious rancors, which they have wisely put aside!

Such a settlement with England offers on all sides (as it seems to us) cause for congratulation. It secures not only our mutual peace, but that of the world, largely endangered by any contest between us. It promises a new permanency to that pacific policy of which civilized nations have at last begun to taste and to esteem the blessings. It has proved that hitherto presumptuous pride and passion can no longer plunge Governments into fatal wars.

At home, this compromise with Britain renders us secure from tasting, and unable to inflict on another the scourge of war. On that side, we shall feel it only in a form easier to bear—expenses that will be bloodless at least, if heavy—an invigoration of the Executive powers, of which we are fast growing insensible; a violation of all our own maxims, which none on this continent are strong enough to make us remember.

To us, in particular, who were the earliest to withstand that headlong course into which this matter—now so happily adjusted—at first threatened to be driven, the issue is full of encouragement, fit to re-animate our confidence in the strength of public prudence and the redeeming force of the conservative part of our institutions. A little twelvemonth ago, and we were set upon by the minions and mouthpieces of power and obloquy here, for daring to speak what has now been nationally affirmed. Never moved to any keener feeling than contempt by absurd or venal vituperation, we shall ask no vengeance beyond the innocent one of seeing what hymns of praise will be pealed to the Treaty, from the very organs that called us traitors for venturing to think that such a treaty could be made.

None can have forgotten the gloomy aspect which this question wore during the earlier part of the present session of Congress. Every thing like reason or moderation seemed to be overborne. In the Lower House, on a question itself so open to compromise and so often before offered to it, almost every thing but violence was silenced, and he only was the patriot who, setting at naught every former recognition, trampled upon the adverse claim and breathed the lowest defiance. The bad strategy of party deepened the danger which it had at first created—the one driving on, and the other not venturing to decline, a calculated extravagance; and in this manner the question passed, in the most perilous form and by an extraordinary majority, from one House to that of the other, where alone it could now be saved.

It was then (as our readers must remember) that, to overbear and intimidate the gravity of that body—our last refuge for prudence and peace—they whom we need not name resorted to hypothetical denunciations of those fathers of the State themselves: spread warnings of meditated treason against them, and raised, as if they were an assembly of Arnolds, the cry of, "LOOK TO THE SENATE!"

We answered that cry, in its own words, affirmed that the country *did* look and might look to that body, with unshaken confidence, and now, when it has made good our position, we call upon the country once more "To look to the SENATE," and bid it Hail!

Read the account of a "skinning" Shepard received at Germantown.