

expenses, the already large existing debt was rapidly swelling in magnitude, commerce and manufactures were depressed, the currency was deranged, banks were embarrassed and general distress pervaded the community. To bring order out of disorder, to replenish the national treasury, to provide means that would enable the government to meet the demands against it, and to pay off the debt, to revive the industry of the country, and to restore its wonted prosperity, these were the tasks devolved on the committee of ways and means. To increase their difficulties, the minority, composed of that party that had brought the country and government into such a condition, instead of aiding to repair the evil they had done, uniformly opposed almost every means brought forward for relief, and too often their unavailing efforts were successfully aided by a treacherous Executive. But with energy and devotion to the public weal, worthy of all admiration, Mr. Fillmore applied himself to the task, and sustained by a majority whose enlightened patriotism has rarely been equalled, and never surpassed, succeeded in its accomplishment.

The measures he brought forward and sustained with matchless ability, speedily relieved the government from its embarrassment, and have fully justified the most sanguine expectations of their benign influence upon the country at large. A new and more accurate system of keeping accounts, rendering them clear and intelligible, was introduced. The favoritism which had so long disgraced the departments and plundered the treasury, were checked by the requisition of contracts. The credit of the government was restored, ample means were provided the exigencies of the public service, and the payment of the national debt incurred by the former administration. Commerce and manufactures revived, and prosperity and hope once more smiled upon the land. The country has too recently emerged from the darkness of Mr. Van Buren's administration—it yet too keenly feels the suffering it then endured, and too justly appreciates the beneficent and wonderful change that has been wrought to render more than an allusion to these matters necessary. The labor of devising, explaining and defending measures productive of such happy results was thrown chiefly on Mr. Fillmore. He was nobly sustained by his patriotic fellow Whigs; but on him, nevertheless, the main responsibility rested.

After his long and severe labors, in the committee room—labors sufficiently arduous to break down any but one of our tripartite constitutions—sustained by a spirit that nothing could conquer, he was required to give his unremitting attention to the business of the House, to make any explanation that might be asked, and to be ready with a complete and triumphant refutation of every cavil or objection the ingenious sophistry of a factious minority could devise. All this, too, was required to be done with promptness, clearness, dignity and good temper. For the proper performance of these varied duties, few men are more happily qualified than Mr. Fillmore. At that fortunate age, when the physical and intellectual powers are displayed in the highest perfection, and the hasty impulses of youth, without any loss of vigor, are brought under control of large experience in public affairs, with a mind capable of conceiving to minute details, as well as conducting a grand system of national policy, calm and deliberate judgment, self-possessed and fluent in debate, of dignified presence, never unimpaired by the courtesies becoming social and public intercourse, and of political integrity unimpeachable, he was admirably fitted for the post of leader of the twenty-seventh Congress.

In 1844 he was selected as the Whig candidate for Governor in New York, but in consequence of the Barnburners and Old Hunkers withdrawing their support upon the late Silas Wright, he failed to be elected. Confident, however, that he could command the strongest vote in New York, the Whigs again selected him as their candidate for Comptroller, in 1847, and succeeded in electing him by an unprecedented majority.

Such was the boy and such is the man whom the Whigs present as their candidate for Vice President. In every station in which he has been placed, he has shown himself honest, capable and faithful to the constitution. He is emphatically one of the people. For all that he has and is, he is indebted under God to his own exertions. Born to an inheritance of comparative poverty, which now, thanks to Whig policy, are enjoyed by the humblest in the land, he struggled bravely with difficulties that would have crushed and crushed a less resolute heart. Nobly he won his laurels, and long may he live to enjoy them.

**A narrow Escape and fearful Retribution.**  
Mr. Editor: During a storm a few days since in Cameron, Sabine county, lightning struck the door of the dwelling house of Mr. I. B. Chase, destroying one side of it entirely, and passing so near Mrs. Chase that it struck her for a moment, and then passed on to a tree which was open, without doing farther injury. But in an adjoining town a man who was admitted for his blasphemous revelry during a storm about the same time, died with his limbs and his possessions impregnated with lightning, and so that he was his own and his wife's death. The inmates of the house fled for refuge elsewhere, and hardly had they passed the threshold bespoken the majesty of him who holds the winds and guides the storm, and quick as thought, the lightning's flash was seen and its power fell upon this proud defier of God's arm, and as suddenly was he prostrated to the floor, a mutilated, lifeless body. The flash had done its work and he lay motioned to the bar of the Being whose lightning he had so impiously defied.

## HIGHLAND MESSENGER.

A small drop of ink,  
Falling like dew, upon a thought,  
Produces that which makes thousands, perhaps millions,  
Think.

Asheville, N. C.

Thursday, July 26, 1848.

For President  
**Gen. Zachary Taylor**  
OF LOUISIANA.

For Vice President,  
**Millard Fillmore,**  
OF NEW YORK.

FOR GOVERNOR,  
**CHARLES MANLY,**  
OF WAKE COUNTY.

A FEW MORE OF THE SAME SORT.

We took occasion, two weeks ago, to speak of Mr. Reid's votes on Western measures, and to publish them as we found them recorded in the Senate Journal. We do not desire to array one portion of the State against another; nothing is farther from our intention, than a wish to excite or foster sectional prejudices; nor would we appeal to the local feeling of our citizens, did not the occasion seem, not only to justify, but to demand it. However, we are not at fault if we examine Mr. Reid's public career, for numerous instances of his hostility to measures, which were necessary and of great importance to the people at large. And although he is now the advocate of Free Suffrage—although he intimated that it was the thunder of his own brain we are of opinion that it is too much like thunder to do him any service in this canvass. It is sound and noise and nothing else.

Mr. Reid's votes against the interests of the West might be accounted for, consistently with the professions of regard he is now making for the people, by attributing them to violent sectional prejudices, but a few more of his votes have not even that excuse. They show that whatever may be his theories now, his practice heretofore has been to allow the people as few privileges as possible.

In 1840, a bill was introduced into the Senate, to exempt all persons under twenty one years of age from mustering. Every liberal minded man of course, approved so just and equitable a measure. It was considered not only right that such a law should be passed, but it was wondered how there should be any necessity for the passage of such a law. The idea of taxing a man with the support of a government, and denying him its privileges—compelling him to do military duty, to work on the roads, and refusing him the right to vote, was a palpable inconsistency. It gave the lie to the assertion that we are all equal. Yet, although this law proposed to extend the privileges of a large class of our citizens although it proposed to release them from onerous duties for which they enjoyed no commensurate rights, on which side do you think Mr. Reid voted? We think we hear some stentor of Progressive Democracy—some credulous Free Suffrage man, who is profoundly in the dark as to the true motives and objects of his leaders shout—he voted in favor of it. The Journal of the Senate says otherwise: *He voted against the Bill.* Here then, is another sample of his inconsistency. How can the people place any confidence in Mr. Reid's professed desire to extend the right of suffrage when his views were so contracted and liberal as not to permit him to vote for a bill to exempt persons under twenty one from military duty.

But this is not all. There are a few more of the same sort yet. What the Locofoos made such an out cry against Harrison for in '40, found in Mr. Reid, in that same year, a zealous advocate. In the very same year, that these Locofoos were leading Harrison with every conceivable abuse, for selling white men for slaves, David S. Reid, in the Senate of North Carolina, cast his vote to retain that portion of the old Vagrant Law which provides for the sale of the vagrant for the costs.

This is an age of Progress. The Democrats assume the name of Progressive, yet they put forth a candidate who, with a mouth full of professions of attachment for the "dear

people," can still sustain and defend a law which, as a remnant of barbarism, is a disgrace to the Statute book of any respectable State. The bill against which Mr. Reid voted, substituted a fine and imprisonment for the sale and whipping which were the penalties under the old law. Who can doubt that this more humane punishment is the most effective in reclaiming and reforming the vagrant? But the crime punished under this old law, was not so much vagrancy as the inability to pay the costs. Poverty then, and not Vagrancy was what Mr. Reid voted to punish. Mr. Reid did not nor does not consider that poverty cannot of itself make a man a vagrant. We have many idle, lounging fellows with their pockets full of money, which, how they got nobody knows, who ought to be punished for vagrancy, yet, under this law they escape. They throw down their money with the air of offended royalty and return to their kingdom of vagrancy, while the poor devil, whom probably ill fortune, sickness or some other mishap has reduced to poverty, and deprived of employment, is taken up, to gratify the malice of some petty magistrate who collects his costs by selling him, and if he fail in that, takes them out of his hide.

Let the people consider—let them remember these two votes of Mr. Reid's, when he talks of Free Suffrage. Ponder these well, and we are assured the Demagogue will receive his reward.

### MR. REID AND THE CHEROKEE AGENCY.

The people of Western North Carolina, at any rate those of the extreme West, cannot have forgotten what occurred in the Legislature of 1840, in relation to the appointment of an Agent, to collect the dues of the State from persons indebted for Cherokee lands. We wish to revive the history of this affair; and in reviewing it, we desire to bring into prominent notice one man who acted a very conspicuous part in this affair which, in his eagerness for gubernatorial honors, he seems now to have entirely forgotten. This is no less a personage than David S. Reid, who, if he could blot out of his splendid career the year 1840, would have a much better chance than he now has—with the recollection of his many misdeeds so recent in the minds of the people—to secure the votes of the citizens of this part of the State. But his acts of hostility to the West, stand out boldly on the official records of the State. He may grieve over them, but they are unalterable. Trusting, as the Democratic party does, in the ignorance of the people, he may attempt to humbug the people into the belief that he has always been their fast friend. Fortified with a large share of impudence and hypocrisy, he is attempting to palliate former faults, by raving about Free Suffrage. But the people cannot be deceived, they are too wide awake to be gulled with such stuff, and they only need to be reminded who this Reid is, to give him his merited reward.

It will be remembered that, in 1838, Messrs. S. F. Patterson and Chas. Hixson, were appointed Commissioners to sell the Cherokee lands. The lands were advertised and sold, at Franklin, Macon county. Previous to the sale, the Commissioners gave public notice of the terms of sale, which were as follows, viz: one eighth in cash, and the balance in one, two, three and four years, all of which payments, according to the contract made by the Commissioners, on the part of the State, with those buying the lands, were to be made in North and South Carolina Bank notes and Georgia money, payable at Augusta and Savannah. The sales took place upon these terms, and many of the purchasers made their payments of one-eighth cash, in Augusta and Savannah bank bills.

In 1840, an agent was appointed to take charge of the Cherokee bonds, and to superintend their collection. The bill for the appointment of this Agent as originally introduced and passed in the House of Commons, proposed, to carry out the contract made by the Commissioners with the purchasers of the lands, by directing the Agent to receive in payment North and South Carolina money,

and Georgia money, payable at Augusta and Savannah. After the bill passed the House, it came up in the Senate, and here Mr. Reid's connection with the matter begins.

It is difficult to imagine upon what motives he acted for the part he took against that portion of the bill, which provided for the payment of the Cherokee bonds in Georgia money, is not intelligible upon any principle of common sense or common justice. The fact that, at that time, Georgia money was almost the only money current in this part of the country—that West of the Blue Ridge it was the only currency, ought to have been sufficient to have restrained him in his violent attempt to harass, and probably ruin the owners of these lands. But if charity for the people of the West could find no place in his bosom, the additional fact that the notes of these Banks, which were so obnoxious to Mr. Reid, were good, that specie was paid for them at Augusta and Savannah, ought to have induced any sensible man, to have willingly accepted them. Again, by moving to strike out, from the third section of the bill, authorizing the Governor to appoint this agent, so much as provided for the payment of these bonds in Georgia money, Mr. Reid was guilty of the rankest and most palpable injustice—injustice of such a character, that if it had been suggested or practiced, between private individuals, in the most common contract, would have branded the suggestor or practitioner as an infamous swindler. This is strong language, but we can use no other, in the face of the facts before us. What are those facts? The Commissioners acting as the agents of the State, had agreed to take Georgia money in payment for these lands. Yes, they had actually received it, for the cash payments they required. How then, can any man pretend to say the State was justifiable in annulling this contract, made by their regularly authorized agents. How can any one, unless he is a fool or a knave, pretend to justify Mr. Reid, or any one else, for attempting to cause the State to violate her pledged faith?

We deal in facts, and to show what course Mr. Reid took in this matter, how zealously he worked to injure the "dear people" of the mountains, whom he is now attempting to gull with his clap-trap about Free Suffrage, we make a few quotations from the Senate Journal of 1840-41. "The Senate took up, for consideration, the engrossed bill, entitled a bill to authorize the Governor to appoint an Agent in the county of Macon or Cherokee; which was read the third time. Mr. Reid then moved to strike out, in the third section, (which specified the kind of money to be received by the agent, in payment for the lands) the words "and Georgia, payable at Savannah and Augusta." The question thereon was decided in the affirmative—yeas 23, nays 22. The yeas and nays were demanded by Mr. Reid, and Mr. Reid voted in the affirmative. "On motion of Mr. Clingman, the bill was laid upon the table."

This will show the active part Mr. Reid took in this matter. He moved to strike out that portion of the bill which the interests of the people of the West—which common justice and honesty imperatively demanded, as the very contract, originally made between the Commissioners and the purchasers of these lands. A few days afterwards, we find the friends of the bill again introducing it to the Senate, modified and restricted in its operation, sufficiently, as they and all reasonable men thought to ensure its passage; but it was still met by violent opposition from Mr. Reid and his party. The Journal will tell the story of this opposition better than we can.

"On motion of Mr. Clingman, the Senate took up, for consideration, the engrossed bill, entitled a bill authorizing the Governor, to appoint an agent in the county of Macon or Cherokee.

Mr. Clingman moved to add, after the words "South Carolina, in the third section, the words and, in addition to which, the agent may, and he is hereby required, to receive, from all debtors, for Cherokee Lands, whose permanent residence may be west of the Blue Ridge, the notes of the specie paying

banks of Georgia, payable at Augusta and Savannah. Which was rejected.

Mr. Edwards moved, that the vote by which was rejected the amendment of Mr. Clingman, be now reconsidered; which was agreed to. The question was then taken on said amendment, and decided in the affirmative—yeas 25, nays 23. Mr. Reid voted against it.

"The question then was, shall the bill as amended, pass the third reading; which was decided in the affirmative—yeas 25, nays 23. The yeas and nays were demanded by Mr. Reid and he voted against the bill as amended." [Senate Journal pp. 160-61-62.]

We offer this to the people of Western North Carolina, to the people of the whole State, as a specimen of Mr. Reid's Legislative abilities. Is it to be presumed, that a man so narrow and contracted in his views—one so unmoved by any sense of justice—so entirely controlled in all his actions by an uncompromising and bitter partisan feeling, would make a Governor fit to preside over the destinies of our glorious old North State? Whatever may be the opinions or action of the rest of the citizens of this State, we firmly believe that the West will set their seal of condemnation on this man, his party and his principles.

### THE BOYS COMING TO VOTE!

THE NORTH CAROLINA REGIMENT.  
We learn from the "New Orleans Picayune," of the 4th inst., that the transport Schooner Major Barbour, brought over from the Brazos three companies of the N. C. Regiment, (companies C, D and F), with the following officers: Col. Paine, Capt. A. Fea and Constable, 1st Lieut. D. S. Johnson, and 2d Lieut. Wiley, Mitchell, Jones, Blackwelder and Nicholls.

The transport Schooner Major Bache, has brought over companies J and K of this regiment, under the command of Captain Kirkpatrick.

The schooner Capt. Page, brought over company H, and a detachment of the same regiment.

All the above left the Brazos on the 28th, and arrived in the river on Sunday, the 2d inst.

P. S. We have just seen a letter from a member of the Buncombe Company, dated Carrolton, La., on the 4th inst., in which the writer states that they are to be discharged at Wilmington, N. C., and would in a few days take vessels for that port. This is a new arrangement, as an order was first given for the Regiment to be discharged at Fortress Monroe. The Buncombe boys expect to be at home, by the last of August.

### FOURTH OF JULY.

We omitted to mention at the right time, that the 4th of July was celebrated in our town in a very becoming manner, and with much satisfaction to our citizens generally. A procession was formed on the public square at 10 o'clock, A. M., under the direction of Col. R. Deaver, and headed by the stars and stripes and a fine band of music, proceeded to the grove near the churches, where a stand had been erected and tastefully decorated and seats prepared for the audience.

After an Address to the throne of glory by Rev. John Reynolds, the declaration of Independence was read in a clear and impressive manner by James H. Norwood, Esq., and an Oration delivered by Mateus Erwin, Esq.; "Jail Columbia" and "The Old North State" were sung by Jas. M. Edney, Esq., assisted by a score or two of our bright eyed lasses. Every thing passed off in the best style, and all seemed to be satisfied with the enjoyments of the day.

The friends of Gen. Cass have lately published two separate editions of his life, one for the North, the other for the South. Look out for the old game, as this is the way in which Mr. Polk so effectually gulled the Pennsylvania Dutch.

Hon. W. R. King has been appointed by the Governor of Alabama, a Senator in Congress, in place of Hon. A. P. Bagby, resigned.

The proceedings on the Fourth of July at Brackettstown will be published next week.

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE MESSENGER.

Franklin, July 26, 1848.

GENTLEMEN:—While the Democratic presses throughout the country are teeming with reports of dissension and discord among the Whigs, in consequence of the nomination of Gen. Taylor, it is altogether proper that facts which prove the reverse of that state of things should be published also. It is known that the Whigs of Macon, Haywood and Cherokee have very recently expressed an unshaken confidence in Henry Clay, and a willingness to engage heartily in his support, should he have been the choice of the National Convention. Now that that question is settled otherwise, how will the matter stand? Will they throw away their votes? Will they unite with the Democratic party in opposition to their principle? Or will they yield a reluctant support to the Hero of Buena Vista? No verily; none of these things will they do. I have not found the first man in either of the three counties, who would have supported Mr. Clay, but will go heartily and warmly for Gen. Taylor. And I have heard scores and dozens of voters come out boldly and fearlessly for him, whoso they never would have voted for Mr. Clay. That the Locofoos are struck with consternation and dismay at the Whig nomination, is too palpable to be mistaken. They see too plainly that Old Rough and Ready is the very man for the people. They also find that it is "an up hill business" to get along with Gen. Cass, even with the broken sword of Col. McArthur, borrowed and vapoured as an evidence of his military prowess.

But my only purpose in this communication, was to assure our Whig friends in the adjoining counties, that if fidelity to our principles, if harmony among ourselves, if admiration for, and unbounded confidence in Gen. Taylor be all that is necessary, then these counties will give a larger Whig vote in November next, than they have ever done.

MACON.

Franklin, Macon County, July 10, 1848.

### "OUR GOVERNOR."

GENTLEMEN: The discussion by the two candidates for Governor, came off in this village to-day, and I wish I had time before the closing of the mail, to give you a full account of it. A large concourse of the people, supposed to be about 700, had assembled and it has been a proud day, for the Whigs. Mr. Manly, our zealous and distinguished candidate, has not only given universal satisfaction to his friends, but has far exceeded their extravagant anticipations. His plain and easy manners in mixing with our people, his eloquence in debate, force of argument and pleasant and familiar mode of illustrating his subjects, have won for him golden opinions. No man has ever been among us who has left a more favorable impression. His speech has roused up the sleeping energies of the Whigs, and you may look out for "some thunder" on the 3rd August.

Mr. Reid's little hobby-horse about equal substance and changing the name of the House of Commons, were exposed by such reasoning and ridicule as will never be forgotten in this part of the great Western Reserve.

MACON COUNTY was, I believe, the first to propose Mr. Manly as a candidate, and he nobly justifies her choice. Let the Whigs walk up, and in August give a sample of the thunder that will roll down from the mountains in November next.

FRANKLIN, N. C., JULY 13, 1848.

Messrs. Editors: In the Raleigh Standard of the 5th inst. I see a communication from a Macon correspondent, in which the author, if we may judge from the article, seems very sanguine as to the success of his party in this County. "This might leave the impression with many that there is some truth in the matter, if we did not know that when there is great cry, there is also "much ado about nothing."

In speaking of the nominees of the Baltimore Convention he says, "one universal expression of satisfaction pervades the community." Now, I ask, when did ever the Macon Democracy express a dissatisfaction at the nominees of their party? Never. Their quiet compliance with the dictates of their leaders at Raleigh and Washington is a sequence as certain as that the effect follows the cause.

But, says the writer, "we will not forget Reid, and if he will only come out here and make a right good popular speech and put Manly in the shade, he will get a majority."

This, we doubt not, was a happy thought of the writer, and since the events of last Monday is somewhat laughable. We here ask leave to concur in the sentiment of the writer, for so universal is the sympathy that pervades this community since last Monday for Col. Reid, that we are justified in the conclusion that he will live in the memory of our people for